

The Oban Times

& WEST HIGHLAND TIMES

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Driving Force

NEW REGISTRATION SPECIAL Pages 14 - 17

Business owner canvasses support for fish farm

A BILLIONAIRE businessman proposing a fish farm on Loch Etive near Oban canvassed local people for support - including a councillor who will decide on the application.

Alastair Salvesson CBE, owner of Dawnfresh, says he received a 'very positive' reaction from locals he visited.

But Mr Salvesson received a guarded response Councillor Iain MacDonald, who lives on the shores of the loch.

Mr MacDonald told *The Oban Times*: 'I told him straight away I was on the planning committee. I can't say much to him. I kept asking him why he was there.'

'He was asking for my support. He was just trying to talk people into supporting it.'

Mr Salvesson refused to answer when asked if he considered the visit to Mr MacDonald appropriate.

But he is increasingly confident the proposal for a 10-pen trout farm will be approved by Argyll and Bute Council.

The entrepreneur said the farm would be of benefit to the entire area - and hit out at what he claimed was 'mis-information'.

Mr Salvesson criticised the Friends of Loch Etive (FOLE) for its approach to opposing the fish farm.

He told *The Oban Times*: 'It's very important we get some true information as opposed to false information being banded about by those against the fish farm, and we have visited quite a few people. We've never suggested

EXCLUSIVE

REPORT by

STEVEN FLANAGAN
sflanangan@obantimes.co.uk

there will be lights on our farm. Navigation lights, yes, but it won't be lit up at night.

'We are a real employer that has invested in the area. We have two fish farms in Loch Awe and five in Loch Etive. We have the agreement of SEPA for this site.'

'We are doing something that is sustainable. This isn't just important for us, it is important for Scotland.'

FOLE chairman Keith MacMillan said: 'I think everything to do with this application should be discussed in public and transparently. People going behind the procedures that are set out undermine the local democracy.'

Mr Salvesson accepted the wording of a Dawnfresh email canvassing support for the farm could have been better.

The missive, sent by Etive farm manager Sean Lydon, asked for '2000+ names in support', suggesting eight possible reasons to support the farm including 'creation of jobs to local area'.

'It was referring to indirect jobs as opposed to direct jobs,' Mr Salvesson said. 'There's no shadow of doubt it will create jobs.'

Mr Salvesson said the new farm would mean temporary jobs becoming permanent and local firms being used for construction and maintenance.



Lorn Show dancers smile through the rain

Tiny Highland dancers braved the wind and rain at this year's Lorn Agricultural Show and they didn't come much smaller than eight-year-old Rachel Johnston, who travelled from Bowmore, on Islay, to compete in the show's dancing section. The leach won the Highland and National competitions for novice dancers during the well-run event at Keil Common Grazings, Benderloch.

For a report and pictures see page 8. 13210rn03

Shopkeepers resigned to more town supermarkets

Council launches study into where new large stores could be accommodated

FRUSTRATED Oban retailers are resigned to more supermarkets opening locally after *The Oban Times* learned the council is looking at how to accommodate new large stores.

Councillors were notified last week of a study, which is looking at the potential for additional retail space following interest from supermarkets such as Asda and Sainsbury's in recent years.

Independent traders in Oban fear the plan will mean more money leaving the town - while expressing frustration that inadequate town centre parking still isn't being addressed.

Some conceded however that more supermarkets would bring new jobs.

In an email to local councillors seen by *The Oban Times*, Robert Pollock, head of economic development, said: 'Such a study will be important for informing the development of the master plan for the Oban south area and potential future investments

that may occur in relation to the Tax Incremental Finance (TIF) project.'

'The retail study will also help inform the council's response to potential retail investors.'

Iain Darling of Wynne's Butcher in Oban, has mixed feelings about the study. 'If the council are going to do it, they're going to do it. There's not much we can do about it,' he said. 'My daughter does very well working in Tesco and they employ a lot of people. The jobs picture is getting worse in Oban so a supermarket would employ a few more people.'

But parking in the town should be a priority for the authority to support existing business, he said. 'Something has to be done. Rockfield would be ideal.'

However, another retailer said: 'I'd be very wary of another supermarket, especially at the edge of town. Parking is something we desperately need looked at first though.'

The BID4Oban board, representing local businesses, will discuss the report at the end of the month.

Councillor Duncan MacIntyre believes the inward investment is essential given the development of the Dunbeg corridor.

He said: 'There will be 1,500 new houses in the area over next 10 years. That's a lot of people.'

'Sainsbury's and Asda have been interested in different parts of the town.'

Mr MacIntyre added that the Lochavullin Industrial Estate in the town was ideal for further development.

Councillor Fred Hall agreed parking should be a priority, saying: 'If we can increase footfall by providing additional parking so that the 725,000 people who go through our ferry port do not just drive up to Tesco's, load up the car, and head straight to the ferry then that will work some regeneration magic.'

174 local objections

MORE than 540 people have so far commented on Dawnfresh's application, with the majority against the proposal.

Of the 193 local representations lodged at the time of going to press, 90 per cent - 174 - objected to the proposal.

The topic will be discussed

at two community councils at length next week.

Taynuilt Community Council will meet at the village hall on Monday from 7.30pm, while Ardchattan Community Council will hold their meeting on Tuesday at Ardchattan School, Bonawe, from 7.30pm.

Readers call for councillors to stand down

SHOULD Argyll and Bute councillors stand down in the wake of the political leadership row that has stifled the authority?

Eighty per cent of people who voted in our poll think so. Of the 71 people that voted on our website, 57 thought all elected members should quit and trigger a by-election, with just 14 saying they were happy for their councillors to continue.

Immigration officials detain 12 illegal workers in raids on three Isle of Mull restaurants

IMMIGRATION officials detained 12 illegal workers after raiding three restaurants on the Isle of Mull.

Officers from the Home Office's Scotland Immigration Enforcement Team carried out raids last Thursday afternoon and seized £8,000 under the Proceeds of Crime Act.

Five Bangladeshi men aged between 55 and 31 were arrested at Sagar Balti House while at Crystal Palace, two Bangladeshi

men aged 34 and 48, a 39-year-old Chinese man and a 44-year-old Chinese woman were arrested.

At Golden Dragon, two Thai men aged 19 and 23 and a 20-year-old Thai woman were arrested. All three restaurants are on Tobermory's Main Street.

One Tobermory resident, who didn't wish to be named, said: 'There is shock in the town - nobody can believe it was on the

national news - who thought this could be going on in our little town.'

Immigration officers who raided the restaurants on Mull also detained a man in Oban on arriving back on the mainland.

Those arrested are currently in Home Office detention while steps are taken to remove them from the country.

The three restaurants remain closed at the time of going to press.

Shinty fan wins £850 jackpot

A SHINTY fan who follows the game he loves through the pages of *The Oban Times* has won the £850 jackpot in the paper's Spot the Shinty Ball competition.

Spean Bridge native Ivor Milen, who now lives in Callander, says he is frustrated at not being able to see his beloved Lochaber Camanachd as often as he would like but enjoys playing Spot the Shinty Ball every week. After receiving news of his win, the 75-year-old, who

has previously won £1,500 in the competition, said: 'That has made my week I usually have a good think about where the ball is, so there's quite a lot of work involved!' Ivor said there were 'a few things' he could spend his money on.



BOOK TOUR PARTING / FÒGRADH

TWO NEW BOOKS ON THE HIGHLAND CLEARANCES

PRESENTATIONS AND READINGS with June Skinner Sawyers and John Alick MacPherson

August 9 - Helmsdale, 7 p.m., Timespan Museum, Official Launch
August 10 - Ullapool, 2.30 p.m., Village Hall
August 11 - Thurso, 2 p.m., Caithness Horizons
August 12 - Inverness, 2 p.m., Inverness Library
August 13 - Portree, 7 p.m., Aros Experience
August 14, Glasgow, 7 p.m., Centre for Contemporary Arts
August 15, Edinburgh, 3 p.m., Writers Museum
August 20, Oban, 6 p.m., Oban Library

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Plan to cut fuel duty across Argyll

MOTORISTS across Argyll could finally see prices at the fuel pumps fall as the UK Government proposes to extend the fuel discount scheme to remote parts of the mainland.

The government this week confirmed the 5p discount in fuel duty could be opened up to 36 regions across the UK, including Argyll and Bute. The scheme has been in operation on Argyll islands since January 2012.

The UK treasury has called on fuel retailers in Argyll to reveal how much they charge for diesel and petrol in a bid to persuade the European

Commission to approve an extension to the scheme. It is keen to identify areas where prices are consistently similar to those on the islands, where petrol cost 139p per litre (ppl) of unleaded petrol and 144ppl of diesel in December 2012. In Lochgilphead it currently costs 136.9ppl for unleaded petrol and 141.9ppl for diesel. Jane MacLeod of Mid Argyll Chamber of Commerce welcomed the announcement but fears Mid Argyll may lose out in the scheme. 'We are 2p a litre behind the prices that they are looking at; I think we may not be seen as remote,' she said.



Oban War and Peace Museum founding member Nancy Black, left, and chairman Charles Struthers present a quail and certificate to French couple Francois Xavier de Grandpre and Laurence Regnier. 16_132wap02

Oban museum welcomes 500,000th visitor

OBAN'S War and Peace Museum welcomed its 500,000th visitor on Tuesday - all the way from Paris.

Laurence Regnier and her husband Francois Xavier de Grandpre are currently on a sailing holiday around Scotland and were shocked when handed a quail and certificate by Charles Struthers, chairman of the museum's board of directors, and Nancy Black, a founding member.

A delighted Laurence said: 'We have sailed all over the world, including the North Pole and South Pole but had never come to Scotland. We came to the museum because my husband loves the history of the sea and I feel very honoured to be the 500,000th visitor.'

The museum is in its 19th year and has seen a 20 per cent rise in visitor numbers in 2012. Mr Struthers said the museum was going from strength to strength and praised the volunteer watchkeepers who keep the museum running.

Eric Smith worldchoice

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Tiree soldier climbs Paps of Jura in aid of memorial garden

A TIREE soldier has raised £1,000 towards the cost of a memorial garden after climbing the Paps of Jura in less than ideal conditions.

Captain Gordon Rowan, who is based at the Army School of Bagpipe Music and Highland Drumming in Edinburgh, completed the climb despite a low cloud base and dense fog.

Captain Rowan was accompanied on the climb by Dr Stephen Bradshaw and also Robert Cameron from Police Scotland Mountain Rescue Team, whose expertise along with his iPad navigational system came in handy. Although the climb was challenging and at times rather scary, Captain Rowan said that it felt fantastic to have accomplished it successfully and with no blisters.

While there, he ceremonially launched the Captain John A MacLellan MBE Piping Championship, due to be held in October in Edinburgh.

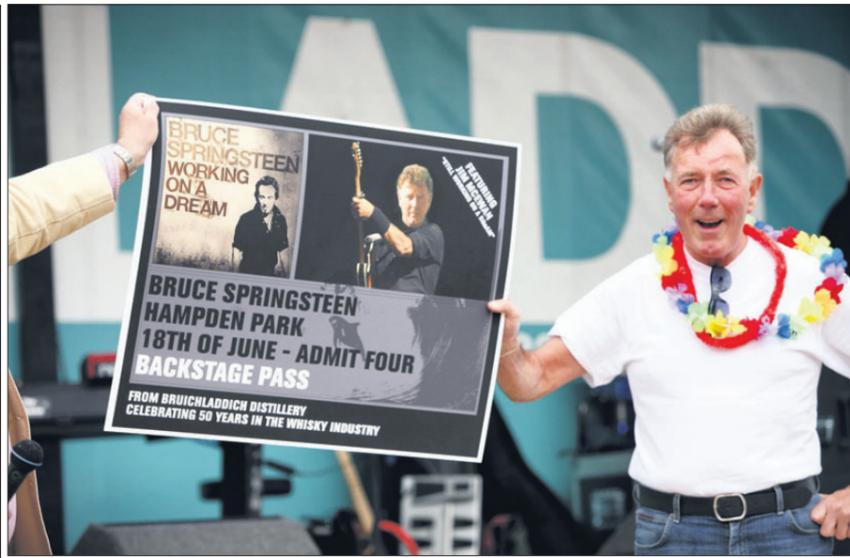
The cash raised will go towards the £40,000 cost of the garden, which is being built at Inchdrewer House in Edinburgh, the home of the Army's piping and drumming school. He thanked the crew on the Jura ferry for their words of encouragement before undertaking the climb.

Port Appin shellfish warning

RAISED levels of bacteria have been detected in a cockle harvesting area at Castle Stalker, Port Appin.

Argyll and Bute Council's Environmental Health team has identified the shellfish that may pose a risk to human health and cannot be placed on the market.

Notices to warn the public and casual gatherers have been posted at various locations on the shore. Commercial harvesters have been contacted by the council and steps have been taken to postpone harvesting until bacterial levels subside.



Jim McEwan at 'Laddieday' during Feis Ile in May this year after being presented with tickets to see Bruce Springsteen at Hampden Park.

Council leaders welcome 'bedroom tax' cash

HIGHLAND and Western Isles council leaders have given a guarded welcome to new UK Government cash designed to help tackle problems with the 'bedroom tax'.

However, fears have already been expressed the extra £5 million will have little effect because it will be shared between the UK's 21 least densely populated areas.

The money aims to lessen the impact on housing benefit claimants hit by the removal

of the spare room subsidy - the Government's official description of its welfare reform, introduced on April 1, to financially penalise tenants deemed to be under-occupying their homes.

The move is an acceptance on the Government's part that moving to a smaller home is not a realistic possibility in remote areas with a shortage of affordable housing.

Highland Council will receive an additional £32,690 for 2013/14

to provide targeted support to the 2,702 claimants affected and £771,009 for its discretionary housing payment fund.

Leader Drew Hendry said: 'This is a welcome response to the repeated representations we have made on this crucially important subject.'

'It is good news for many tenants affected by housing benefit reform in our rural area where there is limited stock of social housing and it is almost impossible for tenants to move

to a smaller house. What we need is a guarantee that this level of funding is provided year on year.'

Comhairle leader Angus Campbell said: 'I am pleased to see that the UK Government has now accepted the particular challenges that remote and rural communities face under welfare reform though it remains to be seen how far the additional funding of £66,930 will go in addressing the problem of the 'bedroom tax' in our islands.'

Cancer charity hits the road to raise awareness

A CANCER Research UK roadshow to raise awareness of the disease is heading for Fort William, Oban and Inveraray next week.

The charity's mobile unit will be in Fort William High Street on August 13, at George Street, Oban, August 12 and 14, and in Main Street South, Inveraray, on

August 15. Visitors can talk to a nurse in a private room, take a BMI test to find out whether their weight is within a healthy range and pick up health information to take away.

The events are being organised in partnership with the Marie Keating Foundation, which was set up by Ronan Keating and his

family following the death of the singer's mother Marie from breast cancer aged just 51.

Risk
Mr Keating said: 'This year we hope many more people will step on board the roadshow to find out what they can do to help lower their risk of cancer.'

Christine Campbell, cancer awareness nurse manager added: 'We hope to talk to members of the public - men and women, young and old - about how cancer can be prevented and detected.'

'We also invite local health workers onto the unit to inform people of health services in their area.'

Whisky legend marks 50 years in industry

AN ISLAY man who has become one of Scottish whisky's greatest ambassadors, having started as an apprentice cooper, has marked 50 years in the industry.

Jim McEwan is currently master distiller at Bruichladdich Distillery on the island but is known around the world for his passionate support of Scotch whisky, particularly the Islay malts.

And as he celebrated his golden anniversary in the industry last Thursday, he was this week described as a 'legend' by whisky writer Charles MacLean.

Jim started work for Bowmore Distillery on August 1, 1963 as an apprentice cooper and gained experience in every aspect of distillation, before becoming cellar master at the age of 22.

He later moved to the Roseburn Bonding Company in Glasgow's Bridgeton as a trainee blender,

before becoming manager of The Tannochside Bonding Company.

His return to Islay came in February 1986 when he took up the position of distillery manager at Bowmore and from there he began travelling to various whisky events around the world, blazing a trail for many others to follow.

As the Scotch whisky industry exploded in popularity, he was travelling for up to 30 weeks of the year.

In the spring of 2000 Jim was approached by Gordon Wright who, together with Mark Reynier and Simon Coughlin, were at that time hoping to buy Bruichladdich Distillery. He has since steered the distillery onto the world stage and oversaw the takeover of Bruichladdich by drinks company Remy Cointreau.

In his biography, Jim says: 'The decision to leave Bowmore was fairly easy as I really wanted to get back into the distillation side again.'

'The last 12 years with Bruichladdich have been a roller-coaster ride but to see the progress we have made and the friends we have gained, has been the most wonderful experience.'

'For Bruichladdich to become the cult figure it is, whilst employing so many good Islay people, is for me my greatest reward.'

'It has been a journey of 50 years for me and like all journeys it has had its ups and downs but you learn from the experiences and become the better man for them.'

Jim was recently forced to deny rumours of his retirement, committing himself to Bruichladdich for at least three more years.

Mr MacLean, who runs the Whisky Max website, told The Oban Times: 'Jim is potentially the greatest ambassador, not only for Scottish malt whisky but for Islay and Scotland in general.'

'In recent years he has eased off a bit on the travelling but in my earlier days travelling on behalf of various whisky companies people would invariably tell me of their great affection for him. He was a legend and he remains so.'

Among Jim's many accolades and honours are the International Wine and Spirits Competition (IWSC) Distiller of the Year titles in 1995 and 2000. He was also the first recipient of the Industry Leader of the Year USA title in 1998.

Boom in demand prompts new Harris tweed training

BOOMING demand for Harris tweed has prompted the development of a new training programme in Stornoway this autumn to ensure traditional skills are maintained within the industry.

The SQA-accredited courses, being delivered by Western Isles Council skills and training staff, will include loom maintenance and tweed darning skills.

Additional workshops are planned for craft and artisan businesses working with Harris tweed ensure correct use of the Orb Mark on their

products. There will also be an opportunity for a limited number of new weavers to participate in a 12-week weaver training programme starting on September 16. Programme backers include the European Social Fund, Comhairle Nan Eilean Siar, Highlands and Islands Enterprise and the Harris tweed industry.

For details contact St Lenann's Youth Services Centre, 22-24 Point Street, Stornoway, HS1 2XF, 01851 822715 or email chris.campbell@cnc-siar.gov.uk.

Record crowds at Dunvegan Show



The children's tug-o-war provided great entertainment. Photograph by Dennis Harrild.



The sheep shearing demonstration proved a popular attraction at Dunvegan Show. Photograph by Dennis Harrild.

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DUNVEGAN'S 65th Anniversary Show on Saturday July 27 pulled in record crowds through the gate as a beautiful sunny day prevailed for the seventh year in succession.

Although sheep numbers were down slightly, there was a larger number in the cattle classes and Morag and Flora, John MacLeod's Highland cattle, made a popular guest appearance this year again. There is no class for them as yet, but perhaps that will change in 2014!

The overall champion between horse, cattle and sheep judged this year by Alistair Nicolson, Amer, was a Limousin calf owned by Chris Campbell, Drynoch.

The dog show proved popular once again and an extra class 'Any other Breed' was added at the end to accommodate a number of dogs which had been unable to enter any of the official classes. Best in Show was Bonnie, a Patterdale owned by Donna Montgomery from Ose.

Afternoon entertainment was provided by Portree High School Pipe Band, the primary school Jaggie Thistles, Janette MacDonald's bodyzorb and bouncy castle and Dunia del Campo from Cuillin Fools on stilts.

The show finale was as usual, various tug of wars and some heavy events followed by the prize giving, raffle and auction.

Vintage tractors on display grew to eight this year with Neil Beaton's 1941 Fordson awarded the winner's prize donated by West Coast Energiee, a Uist based renewable energy company, one of the many stall holders at the show. The tractors were joined this year by three vintage cars - all of which were a great attraction for everyone.

Under cover there was plenty to see with good displays in Home Produce, Handicrafts and Horticulture classes in the school.

The Archive Centre provided a display of old agricultural photographs and there was an album of photographs taken at the 50th Anniversary dinner for Dunvegan Show committee.

Representatives from NFUS, the Scottish Crofting Federation, the 'Yes Scotland' campaign, Rhona the Vet, NW Skye Recreational Centre and Wellness Hub, and West Coast Energiee were all available with information.

A long day finished with a well-attended show dance in Dunvegan Hall with Kyle Ceilidh Band providing funds for Dunvegan Primary School and enjoyed by young and old.



John Mackinnon and son Jamie from Struan scooped an armful of trophies in the sheep sections. Photograph by Dennis Harrild.



Vintage tractors graced the 65th anniversary show. Photograph by Dennis Harrild.

Lorn Lines

THREE Oban charities are sharing £1,000 after receiving public votes in a local building society's project.

Yorkshire Building Society Charitable Foundation launched its Charity Choices initiative last month by choosing local good causes to receive a cash boost.

The chosen three charities were put to a public vote, with customers and members of the public invited into the branch to vote for their favourite.

Oban's Multiple Sclerosis Therapy Centre has received £500, Oban and Lorn Riding for the Disabled has been handed £300 while Lorn and Oban Healthy Options got £200.

Sally Jackson, manager of the society's Oban branch, said: 'The three charities we chose to support provide invaluable services to our local community and we felt it was important that the decision on the amount of money received by each was placed in the hands of local people.'

'I'd like to thank everyone who voted and I hope these donations will make a real difference locally.'



A cheque for £457, raised at this year's Rotary Club of Oban Am Am Golf Tournament has been donated to Mary's Meals. Am Am convener David Finlayson, left, and president Iain MacKinnon are pictured handing over the cheque to charity representatives Marie Rowan and Mary MacInnes.

BIG-HEARTED Oban residents could be rewarded for their good deeds thanks to a local heating oil supplier.

Brogan Fuels is looking to reward charity champions in Oban who deserve a special treat for all their hard work and dedication to a worthwhile cause.

Bryan Main, Brogan Fuels regional manager, said: 'Offering a reward is our chance to give something back to the people who add so much to this community.'

To nominate, email bursary@brogans.co.uk describing the person, their address and in no more than 200 words, what they've done for charity and why they deserve to be rewarded.

Full contact details of both nominator and nominee should also be included. Rewards will total £200, whether the winner requests a charity donation, a treat or both.

THE BAND Peat Reek gave a rousing performance at last week's Tainnuil ceilidh. Consisting Kirsty Duncan, Chris Beveridge and Ron Pirrie, the band delighted the audience with a lively set and Chris Beveridge later produced enjoyable solo spots on her clarsach.

Benderloch piper Emma Law had started the proceedings with a rousing selection of tunes and later accompanied the two Isla Sinclair Dancers, Lynn and Amanda MacLean, who gave excellent displays of Highland dancing.

Local accordionist Alasdair MacDonald also had feet tapping in the audience during his selection of well-known tunes.

Soloists Morag Smith and Freddy MacKenzie, together with the duet pairing of Tainnuil's Audrey and Davy Paterson, provided some fine singing throughout the evening.

Fear an Taighe was the Reverend Brian Wilkinson.



Accordion player Alasdair MacDonald.

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Six weeks of A82 night closures

WORK to remove the bottleneck at Pulpit Rock on the A82 will see six weeks of overnight closures from tomorrow (Friday).
Contractor McLaughlin and Harvey will start piling works along the existing road required to support the improved road structure.
Earthworks will also be started which will enable the sharp bend in the existing corner to be smoothed out.
The A82 will remain open on either side of the closure but the work will see the Pulpit Rock section closed between 10pm and 6pm through to September 20.
Transport Scotland say that while there will be no significant changes to the landscape, passers by will notice gradual widening of the existing road and works to the slopes above.

MSP demands better mobile phone coverage for rural areas

THE MSP for Argyll and Bute, Michael Russell, has written to George Osborne, Chancellor of the Exchequer, demanding better mobile phone coverage for the area.
The move follows a petition from residents on the Isle of Seil calling for investment in better rural mobile phone coverage.
Mr Russell said: 'I want a significant review of the areas being prioritised in the Mobile Infrastructure Project and ask that Argyll and Bute be treated earlier than phase 4.
'Argyll and Bute is a vast constituency and includes 25 inhabited islands. Rural mobile coverage here is a vital service for people both commercially and for emergencies.
'Most recently I have been contacted by the island community of Seil where islanders are confused about why the UK government's £150m plan to improve rural mobile coverage is still nowhere near the island.
'Mr Osborne claimed 'personal' credit when making the announcement and now my constituents are demanding that he delivers, I am happy to support them in that and have written to him on their behalf.'



Vincent Kennedy had served with the TA in Afghanistan.

Tributes paid after A85 death crash

War veteran and pensioner perish

TRIBUTES have been made to a young father and Afghan war veteran who was one of two people killed in a collision between two cars west of Connel.
Territorial Army (TA) soldier Vincent Kennedy, aged 32, from Oban and 74-year-old Mary Gillies from Claggan, Fort William, both passengers in separate cars, died in the A85 crash, in which three children and four adults were also injured.
Mr Kennedy's partner Veronica MacKenzie, who was driving a Vauxhall Vectra, was airlifted to hospital following the collision at around 6.30pm last Thursday and was in a critical but stable condition as
The Oban Times went to press. Their three children, who were also passengers in the car, were treated for minor injuries at Lorn and Islands Hospital, Oban.
Mrs Gillies was a back-seat passenger in the Honda CRV involved in the crash. Three other women in the car were treated at Lorn and Islands Hospital.
Mr Kennedy, known as Vinnie, was set to be a best man to his friend Darren Brown next year. And having previously toured Afghanistan with the TA where his roles included training the Afghan Police Force, the former Seil man had told friends of his desire to do more work with the army.
Mr Brown told The Oban Times his friend would be sorely

missed by many, adding: 'He was full of life and was always smiling. Nothing ever got him down and he was a devoted father and hard worker.
'It didn't matter if he had lots of money, or no money, he would always be on top form.'
Another close friend, Graham Campbell, said: 'There was never a moment in his company that you didn't have a good time, he was such an outgoing guy.
'When you had a down moment he would always be there to pick you up. If you go through pictures of him you'll see he's always smiling. That's not posed, he was a genuinely happy guy. It was an honour and pleasure to have known him.'
Mrs Gillies, known as May, and her late husband Ronald formerly ran the butcher's shop in Ballachulish.
Monsignor Donald MacKinnon, parish priest at Mrs Gillies' church St Mary's in Fort William, said the parish had been shocked by her death.
Police Scotland are appealing to anyone who witnessed the crash or saw the blue Vauxhall Vectra or the blue Honda CRV just before the head-on crash on the A85 to come forward. Any witnesses, or anyone with information that may assist police enquiries is asked to contact Divisional Road Policing Unit based at Dunoon on 01368 763001 or alternatively contact 101, the non-emergency number for Police Scotland.

Dunbeg hotel plans submitted

DETAILED plans for a proposed luxury spa-hotel on the hills above Dunbeg will be submitted to Argyll and Bute Council towards the end of October.
An open meeting was held at Dunbeg Church recently, where outline plans for the hotel with self catering cottages and leisure facilities were shown.
Nearly 40 locals turned up for the meeting, which architect Alex Dobbie welcomed.
'It went very well,' he said. 'It was all quite positive and there were a couple of suggestions made. Now we just have to take it through the process. There's a pre-application consultation period we have to go through first, so we should be making a planning application at the end of October.'
Some 40 chalets are proposed for the site at Tom Liath, while the developer is also planning to build a footpath to the nearby chapel, Cladh Uaine. The leisure facilities will be open to locals.
Access to the site will be via a roundabout on the A85 near the Halfway Filling Station, which recently received planning permission.

Businessman evades distillery questions

A BUSINESSMAN aiming to establish a distillery on Barra refused to answer questions on whether he has managed to secure investment to start building - as the deadline to start looms.
Peter Brown evaded several questions put to him by The Oban Times this week as concern grows on the island that Barra's first distillery will never be built.
After being asked how much progress had been made to secure investment for the Borve plant, Mr Brown said: 'To be honest, I think there's a lot of organisations where a member of the press would get through to the boss. We're having a nice chat but that's as far as it will go.'
Mr Brown was granted permission in 2009 for the

distillery said to cost £1million - on the condition construction starts by July 2014.
Construction has not yet begun, but Mr Brown has erected four separate wind turbines measuring 11.5m to blade tip on the shores of Loch Uisge.
Mr Brown had previously asked investors to buy 'limited edition casks' at £1,000 each to help fund the distillery.
Share equity
The offer closed in January and Mr Brown's website claims the sale raised £45,000 in addition to £10,000 raised in share equity.
'Of course there's interest,' he told The Oban Times when asked if he had received any solid investment. Asked again if investors had committed and if the distillery could be built, he responded: 'I don't make promises unless I'm absolutely sure.'
Asked when construction would start - having first said in 2009 that it would begin in autumn of that year - he said 'soon' but he refused to talk about any projected timeline.
Mr Brown also claimed global financial troubles that started in 2007 impacted on his plans, but the UK Government's bail out of three UK banks happened prior to his claim of starting construction in 2009.
Mr Brown added: 'There are people out there who will feed you a line and exaggerate. They'll tell people stories. They'll make it up. I'm not going to do that.'
Mr Brown has attempted to establish a number of businesses on Barra in recent years. Among them is a driving school and a car hire firm.
He also attempted to run cafes

Police files

A THREE-figure sum of cash has allegedly been stolen from an honesty box at the Shore Street car park, across from the Kelvin Hotel.
The incident happened between 2pm and 3.30pm on Tuesday, July 30.
Oban Police are asking anyone who noticed anything suspicious in the area at that time contact them on 01631 510 500.
THIEVES have stolen tools from a works van parked outside a house on the Glen Lonan road.
Police are seeking any information in relation to the incident, which took place between 5.45pm last Thursday and 7.45am the following day.
A WOMAN who had abandoned her car near to Connel last Thursday evening was allegedly found to be under the influence of alcohol.
The 57 year old was found in Connel, sitting on a kerb, and was charged with drink driving.
A HOMEOWNER returned from a week away to find a horse head ornament stolen from her gate post.
The horse head had been concreted to the post but was removed sometime between July 25 - 30 in the Polvinster area of Oban.

Visitors reveal surprising home truths

TOURISM chiefs in the west of Scotland are sure to have their heads in their hands at some of the most popular questions asked about the area.
Despite expensive marketing campaigns to promote the best the west has to offer, internet giant Google reveals some surprising home truths about opinions on the area.
The most common questions searched for include 'why is the west of Scotland so cold, violent, wet, boring or crap'.
The only positive comes with people asking why the region is so beautiful and 'able to produce hydroelectric power'.
The islands fare no better with the most common questions including why are the islands of Scotland so bad at football, rugby or sport in general.
And lastly a common question asked of Google is one regularly queried by islanders: 'Why are the islands of Scotland so expensive?'

Marina midnight rescue

A YOUNG man suffering from chest pain was the subject of a midnight rescue by Oban lifeboat last weekend.
The volunteer crew were wakened by their pagers going off at 12.30am on Saturday morning. They rushed to the aid of the 22-year-old, who was on a yacht in Oban Marina on the island of Kerrera.
The casualty was taken back to the mainland where an ambulance picked him up at the lifeboat slipway and took him to Lorn and Islands District General Hospital in Oban.

Clocking up the Euro miles to boost charities



The Argyll Dumballers pause the Stelvio Pass during the rally. Pictured are, from left, are Damien Martin, Davy Wren and Marlin Collins.

THREE cars set off for Devon, two made it to Europe and two returned to Oban after a nine country journey - all helping to raise cash for a host of charities.
Winding a route around Europe, the Great European Rally Challenge is one of the most challenging routes for any car, never mind cars bought for less than most people would spend on a television set.
The teams, Team V and C, CJ Auto Repairs, aka the Argyll Dumballers, and the Argyll Retrobates, set off from Oban keen to raise as much money as possible for their chosen charities, Macmillan Cancer Support, Glencoe Mountain Rescue and Cancer Research UK respectively. Akin to a mammoth Top Gear challenge, the journey started well enough - for two of the teams. The Porsche 944 driven by Team V and C suffered a fan-belt problem by St Albans, ruling it out of making the trip to Europe. For the other two teams, it remained an arduous journey, starting in Belgium, before driving through Germany, Switzerland, Italy, Slovenia, Hungary, Slovakia, the Czech Republic and the Netherlands.
To donate to the teams, visit justgiving.com and search for either TheGreat-Rally2013 or llanasandislands.
Damien Martin, a member and resident mechanic of the Argyll Dumballers, said: 'It was actually pretty hectic. We were up at 6am every day and leaving for 7am. Then you were driving until 8pm. It was hard going.'
The BMW 3-Series driven by the Dumballers suffered a few overheating problems on the way, leaving them a little late for a lot of the pit stops, while the Argyll Retrobates' alternatively decorated Audi 100 - which resembled a well used stock-car in drag - suffered no mechanical problems. It did, however, enjoy a fair few 'friendly dunts' from other vehicles taking part in the rally.
Among the roads travelled was the world famous Stelvio Pass, Italy, and the route through the Swiss alps.
Damien added: 'There wasn't a pothole to be found. When we got back to Devon we thought there was something wrong with the cars with the way they were bumping about.'
So far, the Dumballers have raised £800 for Glencoe Mountain Rescue, while the Retrobates have hit £1,110 for Cancer Research.
To donate to the teams, visit justgiving.com and search for either TheGreat-Rally2013 or llanasandislands.

Cash boost for youth projects

FIVE local youth projects have received a funding boost as part of a £138,000 payout from the Scottish Government's CashBack for Communities Youth Work Fund.
Two Oban based organisations, three Mid Argyll based and one island group received a total of £9,836 from the fund to help pay for summer activities, which has now paid out a total of around £7.7million to 1,400 different projects across Scotland.
Argyll and Bute Council's Youth Services in Oban received £3,552, Oban Youth Café £1,368 and the Mid Argyll Youth Forum received £2,620.
Mid Argyll Youth Development Services received £1,656 and the Islay and Jura Youth Action group received £640. The projects will deliver diversionary youth work activity for young people who could be at risk of becoming involved in anti-social behaviour. Announcing the awards, justice secretary, Kenny MacAskill said: 'The initiative takes ill-gotten gains from criminals and invests it in community activities and facilities for young people at risk of turning to crime as a way of life.'

Councillor seeks islands clarification

CLARIFICATION has been sought by Barra councillor Donald Manford as to how increased powers to the islands would work.
The Comhairle nan Eilean Siar's SNP Group leader has written to Derek Mackay MSP to ask for more clarity following the announcement by First Minister Alex Salmond to devolve more powers to island communities.
Mr Manford wants to know just how such a scheme would work.
He said: 'If properly empowered, there is an enormous amount individual island communities could do to better their services and contribute to the national good. It is therefore absolutely vital to be certain how these resources are to be transferred to the individual islands and communities.
'It is imperative also, that we establish at an early stage what powers and services should be transferred to enable genuine local decision-making.'

Nova Scotia community celebrates Barra man

A COMMUNITY in Nova Scotia is celebrating the role a Barra man played in helping establish a town called Iona there more than 200 years ago - even naming a day after him.
Donald 'Og' MacNeil found the Bras d'Or Lake and the location of the village of Iona, Cape Breton, in 1802.
Now, 201 years on and the community of the tiny village decided to dedicate August 1, 2013, as the first ever Donald 'Og' Day as part of the Louisbourg 300 celebrations.
Donald helped the British defeat the French during the Battle of Louisbourg in 1758. His travels there led him to discover the Bras d'Or Lake, somewhere he thought would be perfect for fellow islanders to emigrate to and settle.
He returned to his native isle and spoke of the Canadian lake, persuading many fellow islanders and family members to emigrate and create a settlement there in 1802.
Renaming August 1 in his honour, villagers in Iona held a special celebration to mark the occasion, serving marag bheal - white pudding - to locals, while tales of his travels were told by Gaelic speaker Rod C MacNeil, Donald's great, great grandson.
He said: 'He never settled here because the following year, he took part in the capture of Quebec and was killed, but his children settled here.'

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Mull Lines

INVESTORS are being sought for the Garmony Hydro Scheme on Mull as organisers try to raise enough money for construction to go ahead.

A new company, Green Energy Mull (GEM), has been set up to run the hydro scheme which will cost between £800,000 and £1.1 million to build. Around £330,000 must be raised by GEM.

Shares will be available to purchase for £50 each but in order to become a voting member a minimum of £250 worth must be bought. Shares will never go up in value but a favourable annual interest rate will be paid to shareholders.

Garmony Hydro Scheme will aim to generate between £30,000 and £50,000 per year to be donated to local projects during its first 40 years.

A spokesman said: 'While it is intended that there will be a reasonable return on investment, purchase of shares in GEM should be seen principally as a social rather than a commercial investment, which enables profits to benefit the local communities.'

Garmony Hydro Scheme is estimated to generate more than 900MWh of green electricity each year - enough energy to power more than 200 homes.



Tobermory's brand new Severn Class lifeboat, Elizabeth Fairlie Ramsey arrives in Tobermory in August 2013, led by the Arun Class, Ann Lewis Fraser. Photograph by RNLI.

TOBERMORY lifeboat's 10th birthday will be celebrated in style this month at the town's annual Lifeboat Day.

Elizabeth Fairlie Ramsey, a Severn Class lifeboat, will be the star attraction at the event on Sunday August 18.

Ian Stevens, Tobermory's lifeboat operations manager, said: 'It seems like only yesterday that our brand new Severn arrived in Tobermory Bay to be welcomed by a pipe and a cacophony of fog horns from the boats in the harbour.'

'In the 10 years she has been on station, she has saved countless lives. We're very much looking forward to celebrating her first decade in style at this year's Lifeboat Day and look forward to seeing everyone there.'

The day will feature a joint exercise between Tobermory RNLI lifeboat and the Royal

Navy's search and rescue helicopter, Rescue 177, while ashore there will be stalls, games and a barbecue.

The RNLI's sea safety caravan will also be present to give advice about how to stay safe on the water and there will be a lifejacket clinic offering free safety checks.

In addition to the main raft race, there will be a hotly contested race between the local emergency services where the volunteer lifeboat crew will renew their rivalry with the local fire brigade and coastguard teams.

And at the centre of it all Elizabeth Fairlie Ramsey will be moored alongside the pontoons to give everyone an opportunity to have a look around and meet her volunteer crew.

The event runs from 12pm until 4pm.



The walk will take in the famous white sandy beaches of Iona.

A GUIDED walk to explore some of Iona's most beautiful natural wonders is on offer later this month.

The island may be best known for its religious buildings and history but it is also home to some eye-catching plant life.

Habitats include heather moorland and machair, both of which are ideal for a wide range of wildflowers and other wildlife.

Emily Wilkins, the local National Trust for Scotland ranger, will be joined by resident, Joyce Watson, as they guide visitors along a gentle walk sharing their knowledge of the island.

This specially planned walk takes place on August 13 from 10.45am until 1pm. It will provide an insight into the often unseen and unexplored parts of Iona. Booking is advised and you should meet up at the NTS notice board on the pier.

IMPROVEMENTS to the islands of Mull, Iona, Ulva and Gometra should be seen by the end of the year, according to the founder of a new community company.

Cothroman, a community interest company for the four islands has been established by Andrew Kain to take advantage of the public motivation following the failure of the Business Improvement District proposal.

Mr Kain said: 'What we're looking to do is create something that we believe can involve everyone as shareholders with equal say.'

'We already have significant numbers signed up and we have growing support from people who have never been involved in community projects. They now believe they will have a voice.'

The company will be split into four regions with equal representation for all parts of the islands and several

projects are already in the pipeline. These include the Clann Wall, a fundraising scheme which uses social media to connect with people outwith the islands but who have ties there.

There are also suggestions of a water taxi service to Bloody Bay and Penalanach, improvements to access of the MacQuarrie Mausoleum at Gruline and ideas for a better way to commemorate Mary MacDonald, the woman who composed *Morning Has Broken*. But Mr Kain said he wouldn't 'waste time doing something other people are doing, it is counterproductive and lessens the chances of success.'

He added: 'We have had to hold back some people because they want to get out and get things done but we have to be more structured to how we approach things although we'd expect people to see a difference this year.'



Keith McGregor helped with the dig.

Lost clan history set to be unveiled

PART of the lost history of Clan MacGregor looks set to be unveiled after an archaeological dig at Stromilchan, near Dalmally.

The clan, infamously banished by King James VI in 1603, was reduced to banditry to survive despite earlier illustrious feats fighting Scotland's cause in battle against invading English armies.

Persecution led to almost all traces of former MacGregor homes in lands they once possessed being either destroyed or forgotten.

Mr McGregor, who lives in New York, said: 'The clan has

been looking for the fortified house of McGregor chiefs for hundreds of years and we have been researching the history books, which point to Stromilchan.'

Keith McGregor and professor Richard McGregor, the current chairman of Clan Gregor, have been leading the project, which has used a GPS survey, among other methods, to help detect items of interest.

So far, an unspent bullet from around 1840, a nail and a flint that could be an arrowhead have been dug up. But perhaps more importantly, the dig found traces

of a foundation, walls, a ditch and moat. Keith McGregor added: 'This is very important to the history of the clan. Aside from Rob Roy's grave we don't have much to show of our history, as most of it was not written down, or lost. That tends to happen when you are the underdogs and outlaws.'

Post dig analysis will be done by Northlight Heritage in the next few months and may lead to a second phase of digging.

The dig was financed by Clan Gregor Society members from the South East Chapter USA and the society secretary.

Training in croft byre sets Kilmartin powerlifting queen up for bid to break two world records

A FEMALE powerlifter from Argyll, who trains in a byre on her croft, will attempt to break two world records in a bid for the world championship title on November 1.

Jo Gaskin, from Kilmartin, won the title of best female lifter at the British Drug-Free Powerlifting Association (BDFPA) Scottish Nationals in Glasgow on July 28, following up her third

place at the Home International, where she represented Scotland.

But the former British champion now has her sights set on the World Championship, which will this year be held at Scotstoun, Glasgow.

Powerlifting differs from the Olympic discipline of weightlifting, as it is more about brute strength and less about technique. Competitors take on three disciplines: deadlift, squat and bench press.

Aiming to beat the world records in the deadlift and squat, Jo must lift more than 150 kilograms (330lb), the weight of an American Black Bear, and squat 117.5 kg (260lb), the weight equivalent of a Giant Panda.

Jo only started powerlifting two-and-a-half years ago after being encouraged by husband

Pete to share his hobby. 'My husband has always done weight training and he thought it would be fun to see how much I could lift, said the 43-year-old. 'We discovered that I was actually quite strong and Pete thought I had a lot of potential.'

Jo, an electronics technician, also looks after 90 sheep on her croft at Tibertich, where she and Pete train in an open byre five nights a week, for up to three hours each session.

Jo added: 'I am very busy with work and the sheep - I couldn't defend my British title this year because of lambing - so it takes a lot of commitment to keep training. We have our own equipment in the byre but it is open-fronted, so in the winter you get snow coming in and during the summer there are midges. It soon

toughens you up.' Jo admitted she was wary at first of how the training would change her body shape but would recommend the training to any woman.

'I did a bit of running before but never did weights because I thought that was for guys.'

'But the training has given me quite a favourable shape; I'm the same dress size but have more muscle and less fat.'

Fort William Sheriff Court

Former Argos manager admits embezzling £15,000

THE FORMER manager of the Argos store in Fort William has admitted embezzling £15,000 over the course of nearly a year.

Dion Gibb, of 58 Blar Mhor Road, pleaded guilty to stealing the money from the company between February 1, 2012 and January 14 this year, Fort William Sheriff Court heard.

Sheriff Noel McPartlin deferred sentencing the 39-year-old until August 28 for reports.

Admonished for good behaviour

A GLENCOE man who tried to drag a teenage girl out of a chair by her hair has been admonished after being of good behaviour for three months.

Charles Lear, of Croft 2, Tigh Phuir, admitted assaulting the girl in his home on March 5. He also pleaded guilty to grabbing the girl's arm on the same day.

The 60-year-old crofter had been the teenager's Highland Council-appointed tutor before her standard grade exams.

Man denies assault

A KINLOCHLEVEN man has denied assaulting a woman in his home.

Stuart Simmers, of 49 Lovat Road, is accused of punching the woman on the arm, grabbing her arm and pushing her, all to her injury.

The alleged incident occurred on May 28.

Simmers, aged 51, is due to stand trial at Fort William Sheriff Court on September 12.



Jo Gaskin is aiming to break two world records at the powerlifting world championship.

Man denies being drunk in charge of child

A KINLOCHLEVEN man has denied being drunk while in charge of a child in Fort William town centre.

Robert Fordham denied being intoxicated on Fort William High Street while looking after the youngster on June 8.

The 34-year-old is also accused of obstructing three police officers by lashing out at them and threatening to burn down one of their houses at Fort William police station on the same day.

Fordham, of 14 Gordon Square, is due to stand trial at Fort William Sheriff Court on August 29.

Three-day trial expected

THE TRIAL of a Caol man accused of fabricating a story about being mugged by a masked man in Canal Parks is expected to take around three days.

James Mathers, aged 35, told police he had been struck on the face by a man who then stole his wallet which contained £180 as he cycled through a wooded area on November 27. The 35-year-old denies falsely representing the crime to police.

The claim raised fears in the village, coming just 12 days after an elderly shopkeeper was held up at knifepoint in Caol shopping centre.

Prosecutor Fiscal Andrew Laing said a 'large number of witnesses' had been cited to give evidence during the trial.

Mathers, of 16 Cameron Place, is due to stand trial at Fort William Sheriff Court on September 12, with a preliminary hearing set for August 28.

Man denies charges

A NORTH Ballachulish man has denied causing his ex-partner fear or alarm over a five month period.

Iain MacAskill is accused of engaging in a course of conduct which caused fear or alarm by repeatedly calling and texting the woman and driving past her Inverlochy home between January 1 and June 22.

The 33-year-old also pled not guilty to shouting and swearing at the woman on June 22.

MacAskill, of Loch Leven Hotel, is due to stand trial at Fort William Sheriff Court on September 12.

Caol woman guilty of drink driving

A CAOL woman caught behind the wheel of her stationary car after having consumed nearly an entire bottle of wine has been fined £200 and given 10 penalty points.

Lisa Strang, of 59 Blar Mhor Road, admitted being in charge of a vehicle while more than twice the legal alcohol limit at the Underwater Centre car park in Fort William on May 31.

Defending Strang, Stephen Kennedy said the 29-year-old had been drinking near the centre with two friends and had intended to leave her car and get taxi home, but police found her in the vehicle with the keys in the ignition and an empty bottle of wine in the footwell.

Brother and sister deny assaulting each other

A BROTHER and sister have denied assaulting each other during a fight in Caol.

Dean Coutts, of 11 Strone Place, pled not guilty to repeatedly punching Donette Coutts, of 17 Moss Road, on the body and pushing her to the ground to her injury, while Miss Coutts, 30, denies

Sheriff's warning after altercation

A LOCHABER man who shouted and threw coins at his then-partner during an argument has been admonished after being of good behaviour.

Roderick Smith, of 2 Garvan, Lochelside, admitted behaving in a threatening and abusive manner towards the woman, and punching and damaging a wall.

The altercation took place in his home on April 24.

Fort William Sheriff Court heard the pair separated following the fight. Sheriff Noel McPartlin told the 46-year-old: 'There should of course be no repetition of this kind of behaviour.'

Accused of stalking

A CAOL man has been accused of stalking four women in the Fort William area over a period of 16 months.

Robert Bloomfield is accused of four charges of engaging in a course of conduct which caused fear or alarm to the women on numerous occasions between January 1, 2012 and April 30 this year.

The alleged offences occurred at the Co-op store in Corpach, and in Fort William at High Street, the Middle Street bus stop and the People's Dispensary for Sick Animals (PDSA) charity shop on Cameron Square. The charges include making repeated phone calls, staring and asking intimate questions. The 53-year-old is also

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JURA

FERRY passengers travelling regularly between Islay and Jura can soon be notified of disruption to sailings via text message.

From September 1 route operators ASP Ship Management will be launching its free SMS text alert system to accompany the email alert system which is currently in place.

It will be used in the event the Jura ferry service suffers delays or cancellations because of adverse weather conditions, mechanical failure or surveys.

Passengers wishing to receive SMS alerts should forward their mobile telephone number, surname, forename and, if applicable, company name to juraferry@aspships.com.

ARDUAINE

A PLAY with a sinister twist will be taking place in the atmospheric surroundings of Arduaine Garden later this month.

The Walking Theatre Company will be bringing its murder mystery play to the National Trust for Scotland run garden on Friday August 16.

The evening will kick off at 7pm with a drinks reception before the spine-tingling drama begins at 7.30pm. The event is in aid of the Arduaine Garden Support Group.

KILMARTIN

PLANS to develop Kilmartin House Museum have taken a major step forward as the project secured £19,000 from Argyll and Bute Council.

The money will be used to help the museum put forward an application for funding to the Heritage Lottery Fund (HLF).

Expansion plans were announced last year and the museum is now looking to submit its first application to HLF by December.

Among the proposals will be larger display areas, a community room and dedicated space for education events.

Negotiations are also nearly complete to secure an architect to help create the vision and design a museum that will fit the needs of community groups.

Development manager Bill Young said: "We are delighted to have secured the funding. The council is keen for us to look at ways Kilmartin House Museum and Kilmartin Glen can be used to bring tourists beyond Inveraray and Oban. We will look at ways to bring them into Mid Argyll."



Sue Johnson, Don Bruce, Hamish Gillanders and John Stannard. 16_132skiff01

New boat named after well-loved resident

A 'WELL' loved' resident of Kilmelford is the inspiration for the name of the community's new boat.

The 22-foot skiff, *Gill of Melfort*, will be officially launched later this month after villagers banded together to raise money and build the vessel.

Don Bruce, one of the main organisers behind the project, said: "The whole community decided to build the boat. We sold 64 shares at £60 each in the village and within six weeks we had all the money - we raised £3,800 in six weeks."

"A group of us were working on Wednesday evenings and Sunday afternoons building it - it's not very difficult

- and we really want people to know that a community project works."

Sue Johnson, who is also part of the project, said: "We had experienced sailors as well as complete novices building - a whole range of the community got involved."

The group now plans to form a rowing club and launch the skiff later this month. There will be a range of rowing teams using the boat, including children and older people - there is no age limit.

Don added: "It doesn't have to be about racing so much as exercise and leisure and having fun. It hasn't been in the water yet, people are anxious to get it in, we haven't

even tested it out." Gill of Melfort, which takes a crew of four rowers plus a coxswain, is named in memory of Gill Wilkes who worked at Kilmelford boat yard for more than 10 years.

Gill sadly died of cancer in January but the community voted in favour of naming the skiff after her as she had been so 'well known and loved'.

The skiff was also built at the boat yard and Don wanted to thank David MacColl for letting the group use the area.

He said: "They gave us good premises. Some people have gone in barns and it is a struggle compared to what we had with stacks of room."

ARISAIG

RAINFALL at Arisaig during July was below average, local amateur meteorologist Randal Coyne reports. Just 65mm - around 2.5ins fell, bringing the 2013 total to 631mm, or 25 ins.

Average daily minimum temperature for July was 13°C, while the average maximum was 20°C, both slightly above average. Coldest night was 10°C and the hottest day was 28°C, both above average.

Meanwhile, output from solar panels Randal and wife Sue installed three years ago is slightly up in the first seven months of this year compared with the same period in 2012.

MINGARRY

A WELL-PRESERVED arrowhead has been found at former stronghold of the Lords of the Isles.

The discovery of the artefact during excavation work at Mingary Castle near Kilchoan in Ardnarnachan created huge excitement on site. Archaeologists believe it could provide clues to bloody clan warfare on the western seaboard.

The mediaeval castle has already yielded coins, pottery, bone fragments and a cannonball in the first investigation of the largely intact ruin.

The excavation is part of a Mingary Castle Preservation Trust project to save the crumbling fortress from the elements. Ross Cameron of Addyman Archaeology, the firm hired to uncover the castle's past, said: "We cannot fit the shape of the arrowhead into any known or accepted typology that we can lay our hands on, but when it goes to a specialist, I am sure they will give us a date."

"George Buchanan in his *History of Scotland* completed in c1579 and published in 1582, observes that Highlanders fire arrows 'for the most part hooked, with a barb on either side, which once entered within the body, cannot be drawn forth again, unless the wound be made wider'. It is clear that the arrowhead could easily be in use in the 17th century at the time of the Wars of the Three Kingdoms such as MacColla's siege and subsequent siege by Campbell."

He added: "The context is not particularly helpful, as it lies just underneath the topsoil. It could also be a hunting arrowhead, unrelated to warfare, although it is tempting to think otherwise. None of us on site have ever found an iron arrowhead before, so we are all tremendously excited about it."

LISMORE

LISMORE Parish Church Sale of Work on July 19 was opened by Dr Iain MacNicol.

Sales from a variety of stalls raised £860 for church funds.

On SATURDAY July 20, the hottest day of the year, Lismore Gaelic Heritage Centre hosted a highly successful Crofters' and Crafters' day which attracted visitors from all over the world.

It was extremely well organised by Beth Campbell, with 12 hours of events and entertainment starting with a treasure hunt for the children at 11am followed by Freda Drysdale showing children and adults how to make oatcakes and butter and cook them on the griddle in the cottage.

She later demonstrated her spinning skills while Sarah Campbell showed how felt was made.

Next up was Sgioba Luaidh Inbhirchluidh who entertained with storytelling in Gaelic song as well as their famous waulking the tweed. Meanwhile stalls were selling a range of goods celebrating all the island's produce including Sailean Highland beef, Black's

seafoods, Camas garden produce, hand painted stones, baking, jams and preserves, knitwear, Mogwaii textiles for the home as well as home made cosmetics.

The tombola was very popular all afternoon raising money for the Vine trust and the café was extremely busy serving a stream of hungry and thirsty customers.

During the afternoon Dot Hay and her pony Cass ran pony and trap rides for children and adults and, at 6pm in the hall, there was the chance to learn Scottish country dancing with Anne Livingstone.

A unique day of celebration ended back at the café with a barbecue of Lismore beef, lamb, fish and local vegetables prepared and served by Beth Campbell after which the instruments came out and the music began.

Congratulations to everyone who had any part in this amazing day.



Liosach Duncan MacCormick, right, now of Appin, with his hand made walking sticks, and John Livingstone at the Lismore crofters' and crafters' day.



Sgioba Luaidh Inbhirchluidh waulking the tweed.



Dot Hay and Flora Maclean on their pony and trap.

The iron arrowhead uncovered at Mingary Castle.

CAMPBELTOWN

RAISED levels of bacteria has led to Killadoig Bay in Campbeltown Loch being closed for common cockles.

Tests carried out by Argyll and Bute Council revealed cockles from this area may pose a risk to human health and should not be collected or consumed and cannot be placed onto the market between August 1 and September 30.

Commercial shellfish harvesters in these areas have been contacted by the council and steps taken to postpone harvesting until microbiological level subsides. Notices to warn the public and casual gatherers will be posted at various locations on the shore. When the situation subsides, the warning notes will be removed.

KINLOCHEWE

BEINN Eithe National Nature Reserve is the venue for a free beginner's guide to butterflies and moths on Saturday.

The 'Learning Lepidoptera' event at Anancaun Field Centre, Kinlochewe, takes place from 10am-4pm and is free of charge.

Down Your Way

Fort Augustus

OUTLETS in Fort Augustus have reported a slight drop in visitor numbers, despite the village still proving popular with holiday makers.

Like much of the rest of the country, Fort Augustus has seen the number of European and North American visitors drop, but seems to be attracting many more tourists from Asia.

David Thornton of the Clansman Centre told *The Oban Times* the season had picked up after a slow start.

He said: "At the moment it's about the same as it was last year, but up until a few weeks ago numbers were down quite a bit. But now we're running at full tilt."

Mr Thornton put the drop in numbers partly down to the financial crisis which has hit most of Europe in recent years.

He said: "It's the Europeans we're missing, from France right across to Russia. They're suffering, so they're not coming over here. We're getting a lot more Chinese and Indian visitors now though."

Caledonian Canal Visitor Centre supervisor Caroline MacPherson said the tourist season had been busy, but was continuing a slight downward trend of recent years.

She said: "I would say it's been slightly less busy, but there's not a big difference. Over the last few years there's been slightly less people."

"We've still got people coming from all over - I think there's been slightly more Oriental visitors in the last few years."

The local tourist information centre, however, said it had been as busy as usual with visitors from across the world, particularly the Far East.

EFFORTS are continuing to restore a walking route above Fort Augustus to its former glory.

Local women Julie Fowers and Liz Proudlock are leading the project to bring back the Battery Rock pathway, which has become overgrown in recent years.

A total of £2,000 needs to be raised to fund the necessary work and Ms Fowers admitted it had stalled recently but told *The Oban Times* she hoped the project would move forward 'in the next few months'.

She said: "If anyone is wanting to help, we're always looking for people to raise a bit of money."

The 500-yard circular track runs from the site of the old school at the bottom of Bunoich Brae to Battery Rock and offers scenic views up and down the Great Glen and across to the Monadhliath Mountains.

The work will see two new benches installed at the highest point of the path as well as non-native trees cut back and other plants pruned.

To help, contact Ms Fowers at tighnamairi@yahoo.co.uk



The recent Fèis Gleann Albainn went down a treat with local youngsters recently, with Christina Stewart's drama class proving particularly popular.

THE FINAL stage of renovations to Fort Augustus Village Hall were completed last week, with solar panels being installed.

The hall re-opened for a fundraising ceilidh on Saturday night.

Hall committee chairman Mike Anderson told *The Oban Times*: "The solar panels will allow us to keep costs as low as possible, which will benefit the local community."

Last year a kitchen and meeting room extension were put in place. Meanwhile, a village hall website to keep locals up-to-date with news and upcoming events is expected to be launched in coming weeks.

THE BLAS music festival is set to return to Fort Augustus after an absence of several years. All-female band The Shee will be performing a combination of folk, bluegrass and Gaelic music at the village hall on Monday September 9.

Next week Down Your Way visits Portree with Northern Editor Stephen Norris.

BROADFORD

TWO OTTER cubs being cared for at the International Otter Survival Fund's (IOSF) sanctuary in Broadford are making good progress.

According to IOSF director Grace Yoxon, Isleornsay and Shamrock are becoming more independent.

She said: "Isleornsay is starting to get more wary of us now and no longer comes straight up to the gate of her enclosure to collect her fish. This is an encouraging sign that her wild side is still there."

"And Shamrock is behaving in an even more wild manner."



Isleornsay: becoming more wary of humans.

If she is out when I go to her enclosure she immediately dives into the hole she has dug under her sleeping box, so often I just see a tail sticking out - or a nose."

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Nigel and Antoinette in their formal rose garden. 16_131garden01

Garden opens to public for first time

A GARDEN created from nothing into a blooming spectacle in just seven years opened to the public for the first time last weekend.

Nigel and Antoinette Mitchell opened their gardens at Barochreal, Kilniver, for charity as part of Scotland's Gardens' scheme.

The couple moved into Barochreal in July 2005 but didn't start working on the garden until April 2006, when they put a 700m fence around the land to become the gardens.

KILNIVER

The area now features a formal rose garden where there was formerly a sheep fold, a rock garden with water feature, Japanese garden, tiered garden and beehive.

Antoinette said: "I think people go past in the car and they don't really realise how much is here. I think they are surprised how much can be done in just seven years."

Barochreal, meaning Hill of the King, was used in ancient times as the point where the Kings of Argyll were laid out before being ferried to Iona.

The house was built in 1870 as the shepherd's home on Kilniver Estate before being tastefully extended in 2003.

The gardens which now surround the house have been painstakingly created by Antoinette and Nigel, who went on a stone walling course before tackling the project. Progress can be followed on www.barochreal.co.uk.

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Annual Sunart and District Show

STRONTIAN is getting ready for the annual influx of cattle, poultry, sheep and spectators for the 63rd annual Sunart and District Agricultural Show on Saturday.

Strontian Show Field will play host for the event, which gets underway at 9.30am.

Thai boxing champ in 47 seconds

A FORT William martial artist has become Scottish Muay Thai boxing champion by knocking out his opponent after just 47 seconds of the final.

Jonny Cliffe, originally from Lochside, took part in the Scottish championships in Edinburgh on Saturday, and defeated Steffan Parente in the katana final.

The 25 year-old, who fights for Corpach-based club Highlanders Muay Thai, is Lochaber's first national champ since his coach Stephen Lavery held the title.

Cliffe's clubmate Mark MacMaster, of Upper Achintore, also took part in the championships but lost to Graham Milne.

Anne Kyle from the Highlanders told the Oban Times: 'The boys have trained very hard and all their hard work has paid off.'

The Highlanders train on Mondays and Fridays in Kilmallie Hall.

Pensioner killed in car crash

A FORT William pensioner was one of two people killed in a head-on crash near Oban last Thursday.

Mary Gillies, 74, of Grant Place, Claggan was returning from a trip to Oban in the back seat of a Honda CRV when it collided with a Vauxhall Vectra on the A85 near Connell Bridge.

Oban man Vincent Kennedy, 32, also died in the crash and several other passengers were taken to hospital for treatment.

Mrs Gillies, known as May, and her late husband Ronald formerly ran the butcher's shop in Ballachulish.

Monignor Donald MacKinnon, parish priest at Mrs Gillies' church St Mary's in Fort William, said: 'May was a woman of gentle character and great faith. The parish is shocked and our deepest sympathies go to her family and everyone involved.'

See full story, page 3.



John and wife Jan celebrate his safe return to Lochailort with members of the Blue Knights motorcycle club. 20. f32john01

Jan's joy as fund-raising campaign continues

JAN BRYDEN was a happy woman when her husband John rode up to the couple's Lochailort home accompanied by members of the Blue Knights motorcycle club.

She had no worries about John's safety on the 8,104-mile trip on their daughter Kirsty's 125cc Honda, which took him through the Netherlands, Germany, Denmark, Sweden and up Norway to Nordcap, only 650 miles from the North Pole.

From there, John travelled through Finnish Lapland to the Russian frontier town of Kirkenes, then on to Moscow, Estonia, Latvia, Lithuania,

Poland, Germany and France. His trip attracted huge media attention in Germany and Russia. German Blue Knights accompanied him from Berlin to the French Border while UK members rode with him over the Scottish border back to Lochailort.

Obstinate

Jan told *The Oban Times*: 'I was asked by a friend if John was in the SAS and I said no - he's just an obstinate Scotsman.'

'If anybody can get themselves out of any difficulty, John will. In one town he was accosted by a bunch of young drunkards who tried to pinch the toys off his bike - but needless to say they did not get any. The target was £15,000 and between the website and other donations we have raised more than that, which is fantastic.'

The Brydens' charity endeavours include moving into a converted flat above the garage so their house next door can be turned over to those in need when required.

Jan said: 'We want to open our home for families dealing with conditions such as autism or those needing time away from someone with an alcohol or drug addiction, for example. We are keeping it very open and have not got any barriers on who can come up. This would be a place just to draw breath together. We have the first family coming tomorrow - a mother and an autistic child. In the longer term would love to gradually convert the house to being fully disabled-friendly.'

Kirsty Bryden was killed in a tragic car accident near the family home three years ago. She had devoted much of her young life to helping children across the world.

The Blue Knights are a worldwide motorcycle club whose members are retired or serving policemen.

John's trip leads to hospice hope for Russia

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

A LOCHABER father has returned from a gruelling fund-raising trip to Russia with an official invitation to help set up the country's first ever children's hospice.

John Bryden was asked by officials at No 10 Hospice in Dovatora Street in Moscow to bring experts from Scotland to advise on creating the new unit on a site allocated by the Russian Government.

Mr Bryden received the invite during a fact-finding tour of the adult hospice, where dying children are allocated just a single room. He is now hoping a team from the Children's Hospice Association of Scotland (CHAS) will accompany him back to the Russian capital.

His Moscow visit was part of a marathon European motorbike ride to raise £15,000 for Kirsty's Kids, the charity he and wife Jan set up in memory of their daughter.

Mr Bryden told *The Oban Times*: 'Initially the reception was not warm. It was full of 'them and us' and I did not know anything about Russian culture. I felt it was important that children obtained access to the same facilities we have in Scotland.'

'I reminded the authorities I was there as a friend of the children. I explained I wanted to show them the hand of friendship and I did not have any other agenda - and I was graciously accepted.'

'I said using Scottish experience with hospices the opportunities are there for us to build together a real model hospice in Moscow, the best in the world.'

He added: 'The Russians are just like us. I wanted Kirsty's Kids to be special and if we can



From Russia with love: John is welcomed home by wife Jan. 20. f32john02

benefit so many children that we can't not let this happen. What is the alternative - to let children die with two days of their life left? That's what is happening now.

'There are no children's hospices facilities in Russia at all. Land has been released by the Russian Government - so let's get over there and get it done.'

Also in Moscow, Mr Bryden presented the Sheradar Fund with £1,000 from Kirsty's Kids for a trampoline at the children's cancer rehabilitation they are building.

Children at Banavie and Upper Achintore primary schools chose the gift as a token of friendship between the children of Scotland and Russia.

In a letter to Mr Bryden, Michael Bondarev, the fund's founder said: 'The Sheradar Fund heartily thanks you for your concern for children's lives which made you accomplish this beneficial motorcycle ride to help children from Scotland and Russia.'

'The Sheradar Fund expresses its sincere gratitude for the valuable present Scottish children from Kirsty's Kids have chosen for Sheradar kids.'

'We absolutely agree with you that friendship between children of our countries can make the world better.'

'We were happy to meet a person like you for whom help to children has become the most important thing. We look forward to seeing you again.'

Couple's delight at club's cuddle tot donation

A FORT William couple's fundraising efforts have allowed NHS Highland to install its first 'cuddle cot' to help parents of stillborn and neonatal death babies.

Colin and Rebecca Stewart's son Kyle was stillborn on May 13 2011 and since then bereaved parents have been looking for ways to improve facilities at the maternity unit at Raigmore Hospital in Inverness.

They approached Lochaber Rotary Club who agreed to provide the funds for a cuddle cot - a specially designed, internally cooled

carrycot which allows parents prolonged time to spend with their baby before burial.

Rebecca said: 'This cuddle cot will provide many parents with the opportunity to spend as much time as possible to bond with their babies and create precious memories to help with their sad loss.'

'Colin and I extend our sincere thanks to the Lochaber Rotary Club for kindly donating the cuddle cot to Raigmore in memory of our son Kyle Alan Stewart.'

Rotary president John Rosie said: 'The

club had no hesitation in agreeing to fund this vital facility for the benefit of bereaved parents in the Highlands. It will assist with the grieving process and also allow some parents to take their baby home for a short period, if they so wish.'

Rebecca's father Alan, a past-president of the rotary club, said that he was grateful to the club for financing the carrycot.

Meanwhile, Colin and Rebecca gave birth to a baby girl, Cara Grace Stewart, on July 26.

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Blackface sheep overall champion at Lorn Show

Surprise result as working dog beats Highland Cow to reserve title

A BLACKFACE sheep from J and J MacPherson, Balliemeanoch, Dalmally, was named overall champion at this year's Lorn Agricultural Show in only its second outing.

But on a day of mixed weather at Keil Common Grazings, Tralee, last Saturday there was a surprise result when a New Zealand Huntaway working dog from Achnacreebeag, North Connel, beat a Highland cow from Mottistone to win overall reserve champion. Three-year-old Buddy, shown by Julie Campbell, was a popular choice as dog show winner.

In a strong Blackface competition, Balliemeanoch's gimmer beat a tup lamb from Donald MacVicar, Lephinchapel, to the championship. The champion was by a £6,000 Connachan sire called The Skull and out of a Lurg-bred ewe by an £800 Crookston. She was reserve champion at Cowal and was due to be at Mid Argyll, Dalmally and Bute shows.

The confined Blackface championship saw a head-to-head battle between two Mull folds. A Midlock-sired, three-shear home bred ewe from Norman and Caroline MacPhail, Woodside Croft, Salen, beat an April-born lamb from Tom Nelson, Glengorm, which is by a Pole sire bought at Dalmally last year for £3,200.

The overall sheep championship saw Balliemeanoch's Blackface preferred to a Texel from Malcolm MacDonald, Whitegates, Lochgilphead. The gimmer was a surprise winner in the non-Blackface sections,

even for its delighted owner, who was showing the gimmer for the first time.

The Highland champion Charlotte 3rd of Mottistone, owned by Michael Poland, West Ferlochan was shown with calf at foot and was also named overall cattle champion. The four-year-old first time calver, sired by Eoin Mhor of Miungairigh and out of Charlotte 1st of Mottistone, had previously won at Stirling and took first in class at the Royal Highland Show.

In the overall cattle championship Charlotte 1st of Mottistone was preferred to a May-born Limousin cross calf from Messrs MacGillivray at Barcaldine Home Farm. Named Miller Time, as a mark of appreciation to show judge Catriona Miller, the calf was sired by the bull Atilla and out of a home bred cow sired by Tweedside Upstanding.

Reserve Highland champion was a three-year-old in-calf heifer, Sorca Dubh of Cladich, owned by Queenie Strickland.

The show's organisers paid tribute to committee stalwart Robert Love as a trophy in his memory was presented for the first time. Mr Love had an association with the show for more than 60 years and his memorial trophy, for best home-bred Blackface ewe with lamb at foot, went to Tom Nelson, Glengorm, Mull.

Duncan Buchanan, Shenavallie, now stands down as president of the show and will be succeeded by Mary Morrison, Kilmore.



Overall reserve champion of the show was Buddy, a three-year-old New Zealand Huntaway from Achnacreebeag, North Connel, shown by Julie Campbell. 13210rn13



Reserve overall cattle champion was a May-born Limousin cross calf from Messrs MacGillivray at Barcaldine Home Farm called Miller Time. 13210rn05



The confined Blackface championship was won by a three-shear home bred ewe from Norman and Caroline MacPhail, Woodside Croft, Salen. 13210rn07



Above: Runner up in the confined Blackface championship was an April-born lamb from Tom Nelson, Glengorm 13210rn08



Left: Reserve Highland champion was a three-year-old in-calf heifer, Sorca Dubh of Cladich, owned by Queenie Strickland. 13210rn04



Overall champion in the poultry section was a Pekin Bantam cockerel called Luigi, owned by Taynult's George Campbell. 13210rn14



Reserve overall sheep champion was a Texel gimmer shown by Malcolm MacDonald, Whitegates, Lochgilphead. 13210rn06



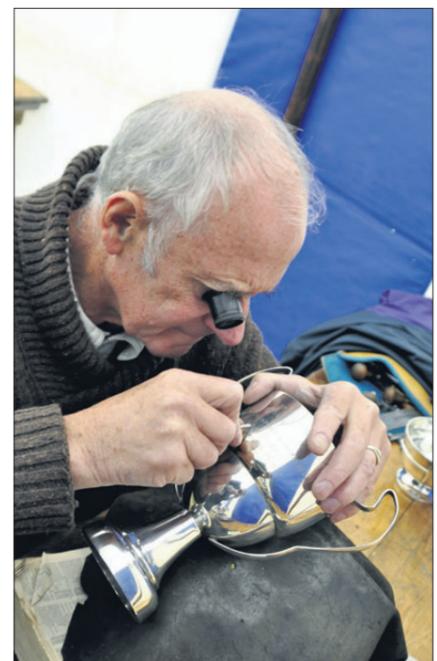
The best animal on show at Lorn this year was a Blackface gimmer from J and J MacPherson, Balliemeanoch, Dalmally, which is by a £6,000 Connachan sire called The Skull. 13210rn09



The Highland champion and overall cattle champion was Charlotte 3rd of Mottistone, a four-year-old first time calver, sired by Eoin Mhor of Miungairigh. 13210rn02



Above: Jim Heward from Macmillan Cancer Support, second from right, was at the show to collect two cheques on behalf of the charity. Father and son Ian and John MacPherson, Balliemeanoch, left, managed to raise £1,054 at Ian's 80th birthday party, while Dan McLaughlin handed over £300 on behalf of the Blackface Sheep Breeders Association's North Argyll branch. 13210rn11



Right: Hand engraver Tom Mashed, from Glasgow, has been working at the Lorn Agricultural Show for 25 years, ensuring prizewinners have their names on the cups when they lift them. 13210rn01

Street League tournament

FOOTBALLING youngsters will have the chance to show off their skills at the Lochaber Street League tournament at Claggan Park, the home of Fort William FC, this Saturday.

Anyone between the ages of seven and 16 is invited to take part, with registration open between 9.30am and 10.30am on the day.

The street league has run across the summer holidays, with children from across Lochaber taking part.

Committee member Eileen Ross said: 'All young people and parents are very welcome even if you have not been able to take part during the summer holidays.'

Tools stolen from housing site

A NEW housing development in Lochside was broken into with thousands of pounds worth of tools stolen.

Thieves entered the Sheraton Homes development site between 4pm on Wednesday July 31 and 8am the following morning.

Police said the stolen items were a mixture of power and hand tools with an estimated value of around £2,000.

A Police Scotland spokesperson said: 'Given the quantity of items taken a vehicle would have been required for their removal.'

Best exam results in five years

PUPILS in the Highlands have recorded their best exam results in five years, with more than 83 per cent of S4s achieving five general level passes.

And the number of youngsters getting five grades at credit level is up by 4.4 per cent to 41.1 per cent.

Some 27.6 per cent of S5s achieved three or more higher, with 300 pupils passing five higher. In S6, 440 got at least one advanced higher.

The youngsters received their results by text, email and post on Tuesday morning.

Highland Council's adult and children's services committee chairman Alasdair Christie said: 'These are very good results and testimony to the hard work of students, their families providing support and our staff in Highland schools. Congratulations to them all.'

Police files

TWO TYRES were slashed on a white Volkswagen Golf parked on Fife Place, Fort William overnight between Monday July 29 and the following day.

A NEWLY-planted cherry tree was damaged at Aird Mhor, Mallaig between Tuesday July 25 and Sunday July 28.

TWO houses in the Kentallen area were broken into overnight on July 12, with a large quantity of jewellery stolen from one. A vehicle described as a dark coloured Ford Mondeo was seen in the area around 1.30am.

Any person with any knowledge of these incidents is asked to contact local police on 101, the confidential line on 01397 702000 or independent charity Crimestoppers anonymously on 0800 555 111.

Ballachulish summer fayre

BALLACHULISH'S second annual summer fayre will be bringing fun and colour to the village this Saturday.

The fun starts at the village hall 11am, with a tug of war competition, a family treasure hunt, bric-a-brac and cake stalls and a barbecue. A raffle will also be held, with a tablet computer up for grabs.

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Roadworks rescheduled to start in September

WORK to improve the A87 near Sconser on the Isle of Skye originally planned for July will start at the end of September.

Resurfacing work between the village and the head of Loch Ainort will start on September 24 and is due to finish by October 11.

The road will be closed overnight between 8pm and 6am from September, and a convoy system will be in place Monday to Friday from October 3 to 11.

The BEAR Scotland works were delayed until after the summer tourist season following local consultation.

Mysterious world of moths revealed at Glen Nevis

THE MYSTERIOUS world of moths will be revealed in Glen Nevis near Fort William tomorrow (Friday) night.

Traps will be set at dusk to attract the insects, which will be released unharmed the following morning. Meet at the Ben Nevis Highland Centre at 8pm and/or 10am on Saturday. Families welcome.

Nevis Landscape Partnership and Friends of Nevis are organising the event. Book via www.friendsofnevis.co.uk or 07770 648330.



Vision of the future: an artists impression of how the Cameron Square will look following its £540,000 makeover.

Fort man left friend needing surgery on jaw after punching him in the face

A FORT William man left his friend needing surgery on a broken jaw after drunkenly punching him in the face.

John Lawrie's attack on the man during an afternoon drinking session on June 9 last year was 'unprovoked', fiscal Andrew Laing told Fort William Sheriff Court.

'For no apparent reason, the accused walked over to the sofa and assaulted him, Mr Laing said. 'He punched him two or three times on the right side of his face.'

The victim was taken to hospital for treatment and it was later discovered he had a fractured jaw which required metal plates to be put in place.

The court also heard the man had lost some feeling on that side of his face.

Defending Lawrie, Stephen Kennedy said the victim had been behaving aggressively, brandishing two knuckledusters and challenging Lawrie's uncle to fight.

Last chance

Sheriff Noel McPartlin decided against jailing 27-year-old Lawrie, but warned him: 'This is your last chance. If you're in trouble again you'll be at grave risk of imprisonment.'

Sheriff McPartlin ordered Lawrie to carry out 200 hours of unpaid work, to attend alcohol addiction treatment and put him under a supervision order for six months.

Lawrie, of 78 Kennedy Road, pled guilty to repeatedly punching the man on the head to his severe injury and impairment at 22 Glenpane Street in Caol.

Call to extend cheap transport fares scheme

A CAMPAIGN to broaden the cheap transport fares for the elderly scheme rolls into Fort William next Tuesday.

Shoppers passing Age Concern Scotland's table in High Street will be encouraged to sign the 'Still Waiting' petition.

It calls on the Scottish Government to extend concessionary fares on public transport to community-based initiatives.

Lochaber Transport Forum is among those supporting the charity's campaign - and is calling for a strong public response.

According to development worker Benny MacDonald, people in Lochaber with mobility difficulties and those in greatest transport need were losing out.

He said: 'Given the vital role of community transport in Lochaber, and transport problems surrounding our rurality, local support for this campaign will help highlight these issues nationally.'

Jo Cowan, Age Concern Scotland development worker for the North, said many older folk get no benefit from a bus pass either because public transport is either absent or inaccessible.

Pay

She said: 'Consequently, many people in our area rely on our superb community transport organisations to meet their transport needs but, unfortunately, this means they are having to pay and are 'still waiting' for any benefit at all from the national scheme.

By extending the scheme to include all forms of community transport, more older people will be able to benefit from the bus pass - and there will be better financial support for the work of community transport providers.'

Anyone wishing to lend their support can sign the petition in Fort William High Street outside the former Clark's shoe shop from 9.30am to 2.30pm or online at www.agescotland.org.uk/stillwaiting.



Able Cadet Hannah Calder, one of the TS St Christopher's longest serving cadets, holding the 2013 pennant at Lochaber Yacht Club on one of the unit's powerboating nights.

Award-winning cadets' urgent appeal for more adult helpers

LOCHABER sea cadets at TS St Christopher have been awarded an efficiency pennant for the sixth year in succession - the first time that has happened since the 1970s - but could still sink due to lack of support.

Unit commanding officer Derrick Warner said: 'It's been a tremendously successful year for us and while it could not happen without the help of the committee and cadets, it would have been utterly impossible without a team of committed adult instructors.'

'But sadly it looks as if the TS St Christopher will not do as well this year due to a lack of adult helpers. We badly need more adults to help us and we have a number of roles that need filling. No previous experience is needed as full training is provided.'

The pennant award from the Sea Cadet Corps came after the youngsters passed their annual inspection of all systems and procedures with flying colours. Highlights of the year included cadets sailing round the Western Isles, meeting dolphins in the Moray Firth and 29 kayaking qualifications. More information on 01397 712605 / 07584 096787.

Woman slammed husband's hand in drawer

A KINLOCHLEVEN woman drunkenly slammed a kitchen drawer on her elderly husband's hand in a fit of rage.

Heather Cavin admitted assaulting her 87-year-old husband to his severe injury in their house at 8 Lovat Road on June 17.

The man was left a deep cut on his hand and was taken to Belford Hospital for treatment.

Fort William Sheriff Court heard Cavin, aged 64, had been drinking for much of the day before the incident.

Claim

But Sheriff Noel McPartlin accepted defence solicitor Stephen Kennedy's claim that Cavin was unaware her husband's hand was in the drawer.

Mr Kennedy said: 'It was reckless rather than being done with any intent to cause injury to her husband.'

Sheriff McPartlin ordered Cavin to be under social work supervision for six months.

Early sign of Cameron Square's hidden past

Post mediaeval drain unearthed

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



Unexpected find: the post-mediaeval drain unearthed in Cameron Square.

FORT William's main square could yield archaeological secrets after an unexpected find during preliminary excavations ahead of a major redevelopment.

Five test pits were dug in Cameron Square in June to check for underground water pipes and electricity cables ahead of a £540,000 makeover starting this autumn.

Ross and Cromarty Archaeological Services (Rocas) were hired to carry out a 'watching brief' during the work and, together with observer Robert Cairns, the chairman of Lochaber Archaeological Society, expected nothing of interest to turn up.

But in one metre-long pit at the north end of the square next to the pedestrianised High Street, a cobble-lined drain covered by a thin schist capping stone was unearthed.

The drain, just six inches wide by seven deep, contained glazed pottery shards, slate fragments and animal bone, apparently post-mediaeval in date.

The discovery suggests the square, where the town hall once stood until it burned down in the 1970s, could contain significant intact archaeology because the layer of ground disturbed over the centuries is relatively shallow.

Rocas archaeologist Mary Peteranna told *The Oban Times*: 'We did not expect to find anything

particularly dating to the origins of the Post Mediaeval town, on the site.'

She added: 'The historical mapping and historical records indicate there is significant potential for archaeological remains to survive below the present surface on the site, for example the footings of the 19th century Kennedy Monument, the footings of the old church/town house at the southeast end of the site and remnants of earlier structures in front of the West Highland Museum.'

'It is recommended that site clearance during development work be conducted under archaeological supervision.'

Under the regeneration project, Cameron Square will be levelled to create a new performance area with seating, public art and lighting in a bid to bring new life to Fort William's commercial heart.

Lochaber wards manager Dot Ferguson said: 'We will go out to tender during the third week in August, which keeps us to the programmed timetable.'

'All works have to be completed by February to ensure the money is spent in this financial year, which is a condition of the funding.'

Traders will kept informed as work progressed, Ms Ferguson said.

Cameron Square was last renovated 20 years ago.

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The Oban Times

& WEST HIGHLAND TIMES

Local traders must come first for council seeking new retailers

LOCAL retailers are the lifeblood of any successful town centre and their views should be some of the most important to the local authority.

This mantra, surely, applies even more strongly to a town that has such a dependence on tourism. Nobody wants to holiday to a town where the streets are lined with empty windows and for sale signs.

Nor will they visit a town centre when they cannot find convenient parking nearby.

These points are indisputable, yet businesses in Oban feel like their voices are unheard - as exemplified by their reaction to news Argyll and Bute Council is to look at how to accommodate additional national retailers in the town.

If the interests of our existing businesses are to be served properly, it is imperative we ask - do we preserve and support existing business that draws people into the town centre, or potentially encourage new retailers to the outskirts of town and risk taking business away from small companies which can ill afford it?

While fresh investment is always to be welcomed, one can only hope that any decisions taken are not to the detriment of businesses that have been trading in the town for years.

GLASGOW LETTER

Piping Live 2013

ALTHOUGH the main programme of Piping Live 2013 starts on Monday August 11, the tenth anniversary of the event will be celebrated the previous day from 2.30pm until late.

Highlights include performances from Finlay MacDonald and Chris Stout at 5pm, the Scott Wood Trio at 8pm and Barlutha at 9pm, all in the Street Café outside the National Piping Centre.

Each day of the festival will follow a similar pattern of events with the National Piping Centre and St Enoch Square being the major focal points.

All day visitors will be able to visit the Glenfiddich Experience at St Enoch where there will also be a craft fair featuring the best in Scottish foods and crafts and each day, at 11am and 2pm, two of Glasgow's best known restaurants will be running taster sessions.

At the same venue, from 11am until 3pm, there will be performances from a selection of pipe bands from various countries and this will be followed by Sessions, featuring a range of artists, in the Glenfiddich Tent. Come and try sessions will be available at both the main locations at various times throughout the week and for those interested in learning some Gaelic, taster classes will be held in the National Piping Centre.

An important part of the festival throughout the years has been the Pipe Idol competition when from Monday to Thursday four young pipers will compete each day in the Street Café for a place in the final which will take place in the auditorium on the Friday with a set of Fred Morrison Reel pipes being awarded to the winner.

Also as in the past, the CLASP competition will take place with Grade 3 on Wednesday, Grade 2 on Thursday and Grade 1 on Friday all from 10.30am in the IET Building in St Enoch Square.

The College of Piping, Otago Street, will also be a venue throughout the week. At noon each day there will be a Probaireachd of the Day featuring different pipers, followed at 1.30pm by a pipe band performance from a selection of bands.

For the first time the World Pipe Championships in Glasgow Green will be held over two days, on Saturday and Sunday, with all the supporting activities being present at the venue for the duration.

For those with enough stamina, the Festival Club, featuring artists performing at the festival, will take place each evening in the National

Piping Centre from 10pm and on the final Sunday there will be a 'wrap party' involving Glenfiddich Whisky Tasting at 7.30pm in the Piper's Tryst followed by a Tryst Session at 8pm, a concert featuring Fred Morrison, Mathew Watson and Cartriona Watt at 7.30pm in the auditorium and a late celebration ceildih from 10pm until late.

Gaelic classes

PRIOR to the start of East Renfrewshire's Gaelic Learning Classes, most of which will start week beginning September 9, there will be the opportunity to attend a taster session in Carlibar Primary School, Barrhead, from 7pm-8.30pm on Wednesday August 14. More information is available from Sine MacLean, telephone 0141 577 3306 or Sheena.Maclean@eastrenfrewshire.gov.uk.

Diary dates

Monday August 12: Open Pipe Night, Coopers Bar, Great Western Road, 7pm. Ceol na Pioba is Ceol na Gaidhealtachd with pipers Simon McKerrell and Finlay MacDonald, fiddler Chris Stout and clarsach player Karen Marshalsey, St Cecella's Hall, Edinburgh, 7.30pm.

Tuesday August 13: Gaelic Quiz, Park Bar, 7.30pm. Live at the Star, Admiral Bar, 72, Wellington Street, 8pm - Alasdair Roberts.

Wednesday August 14: Steak and Whisky Pairing at the Butcher Bar and Grill, 1055 Sauchiehall Street.

Thursday August 15: Ceilidh Dance with Deoch'n Dorus, the Tall Ship, 8pm. Blas Festival at Piping Live with Kathleen MacInnes, Darren MacLean and Feis Glaschu, St Enoch Square, 5pm-7pm.

Friday August 16: Phil and Aly, Carnegie Hall, Dunfermline, 7.30pm.

Saturday August 17: Phil and Aly, Motherwell Civic Centre, 7.30pm.

Sunday August 18: Brunton Theatre, Musselburgh, 8pm. Big Shoogle Ceilidh Band, The Assembly Rooms, Edinburgh, will be the venue for the following performances: Saturday August 10 - Dougie MacLean; Sunday August 11 - Peatbog Fairies; Thursday August 15 - Ross Ainslie and Jarlath Henderson.

Pub scene

IN THE Park Bar this weekend it will be Deoch'n Dorus/ Martin Pottinger on Friday, Scott Harvey on Saturday and Nicky McMichan while in the Islay Inn it will be Ragaels on Friday and the Keelies on Saturday.

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

YOUR LETTERS

THE EDITOR welcomes letters of approximately 200 words in length for publication on this page.

The editor also reserves the right to shorten, to amend or to refuse to print them. Names and postal addresses must be supplied, including an email, to indicate good faith. A daytime telephone number is also required for verification.

Anonymous letters or those supplied without a contact telephone number will not be printed.

Please write or fax to: Letters page, The Oban Times, PO Box 1, Oban, Argyll, PA34 4HB. Fax: 01631 568001. Email editor@obantimes.co.uk.

PRESS POLICY

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

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

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

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



Sopwith Waterplane in Oban, August 1913

Bearing in mind the forthcoming arrival in Oban of the World War Two Catalina aircraft on August 22, reader Neil Owen submitted this week's flashback photograph. The Catalina is re-enacting the round Britain flight of two aviation pioneers in 1913 who included Oban in their itinerary. The date of the above photograph is August 24 1913 and the setting is Oban Bay, just off the Corran Esplanade. The aircraft is a Sopwith Waterplane shown with its crew Henry Kauper, left, engineer, and Tommy Sopwith, pilot. Sopwith went on to design aircraft such as the Sopwith Camel and many other famous aeroplanes. He was familiar with Oban and the area, having been brought here on several occasions during family holidays. He was taught to fish salmon on the River Awe by Walter MacGregor of Barachander. Sopwith's father was tragically killed in a shooting accident on the Creag Islands. The photograph was traced in Australia. Please send prints to The Oban Times, PO Box 1, Oban, Argyll, PA34 4HB, or email editor@obantimes.co.uk. Prints or emails must be accompanied by a caption, name, address and telephone number. Anyone wishing their prints returned must supply a stamped addressed envelope.

Letters to the editor

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

www.obantimes.co.uk

Telephone: 01631 568000
Fax: 01631 568001

Vital role of community councils misunderstood

Sir,
I was disappointed to read the comments which appeared on the letters page last week about the forthcoming community council elections.

With one exception, all the Facebook comments showed a complete misunderstanding of what community councils are about.

Most correspondents confused community councils with Argyll and Bute Council. They are completely different and act in totally different capacities.

It's true community councils are the lowest tier of government but, properly used and supported, they are a vital part of our democracy.

Increasingly, Argyll and Bute Council and the Scottish Government do consult us and, frequently, we deal directly and successfully with statutory authorities and other bodies to try and resolve local issues.

The fact so many readers fail to understand what community councillors do - completely unpaid and with minimal financial support - £400 per year for the smallest community council, demonstrates there is a huge mountain to climb to explain the situation.

I hope you might allow space on your pages during the coming weeks to develop debate and understanding before these important elections take place in the autumn.

Les Stewart, secretary, Connell Community Council.

The Murder of Colin Campbell of Glenure in 1752

Sir,
I was astonished to read in the Oban Times that 'evidence' pointed towards two men shooting Campbell by sniper fire.

The Rev Adrian Fallows is quoted as saying that it was impossible for the two bullets to have been fired from the same gun.

All the witness accounts I have read describe a single shot as being heard in the wood of Lettermore. The new evidence must surely show that the two shots were fired instantaneously, sounding as one, and the two bullets entered Campbell's back at the same instant.

It was common practice to insert two musket-balls in the muzzle of a smooth bore long gun for maximum effect at close range. One ball would be larger than the other and match the bore. The 'rugaire' or 'the chaser' was a smaller size. In modern parlance the dram in the half and half pint is known as 'the chaser'.

The surgeon who performed the autopsy stated that two musket balls entered the factor's back on each side of his spine two and a half inches apart. They pierced his liver and exited in the region of his navel.

This was consistent with a single shot firing two musket balls and their transit through a human body.

The evidence led by the prosecutor at the trial was riddled with bribery and corruption and the fate of the dispensable Colin Campbell was closely bound to the Hanoverian resolve to eliminate the clan system and any semblance of Jacobite loyalties.

Anyone seeking the true story should study the court proceedings and the political background as well as preconceptions made. Take a look at the interchange of the party of four proceeding through the wood and the dropping of the great coat by John MacKenzie who then fell to the rear of the party behind Glenure.

Mungo Campbell's letter of 23 May 1752 questioned MacKenzie's 'attachment'. John Roy Livingstone's presence in the wood and his emergence to converse with John MacKenzie deserves close examination and of course the exclusive figure of Alan Breck was also hovering in the vicinity of Lettermore.

The Barons of Exchequer were already investigating the loyalty of Glenure who was on amicable terms with James Stewart and dined with him at Aucharn on New Year's Day 1752.

James Stewart was the acknowledged leader of the

Stewarts in Appin and his judicial murder was a clear warning that government vengeance would fall on anyone contemplating a fresh Jacobite Rising.

The skeleton hanging in chains at Ballachulish Ferry was a grim warning to those with Jacobite sympathies and ill-disposed to the government.

The devious Hanoverians needed no advice on political 'dirty tricks' to achieve their objectives. If they could not find and catch Alan Breck Stewart then an alternative would serve equally well or indeed better.

Peter MacLeod, Ganavan, Oban.

Young musicians a credit to town

Sir,
On Saturday July 27, when visiting Oban for the first time, just after taking the sailing to visit Mull, we were making our way along the quay when, fortuitously, we bumped into a group of young musicians, their conductor and 'helpers'.

They were about to play for the pleasure of the passing public and in doing so raise funds for their band. I was given to understand they had been successful when they participated in competitions.

In spite of reduced numbers, they played a piece of popular and classical pieces with great skill and confidence.

What a delight to see their enthusiasm and hear their bright singing sounds. I had fun dancing to some of their tunes. Before leaving I emptied my cash purse into their 'collection hats'.

I wonder if the people of Oban are fully aware of their great good fortune in having these young musicians, each of whom are prepared to give up their normal free time, who are ready, willing and very able, to demonstrate their creative skills for the delight and enjoyment of all?

Never in the arena of free accessible musical entertainment, have so few brought so much pleasure to so many!

The people of Oban are fortunate to have such young, talented and dedicated musicians. They deserve all the

encouragement and they can get. All the participants of the band deserve your support - please give it.

Peter Cooper, by email.

Praise for Argyll Ceilidh Trail youngsters

Sir,
I was delighted to be able to attend the ceilidh in Tarbert Village Hall where the young musicians from Argyll Ceilidh Trail performed.

These young people, from throughout Argyll, are tremendously talented and should be applauded for bringing such entertainment to all parts of Argyll.

Thanks must go to the people and parents who support them and funders and organisers who make it all possible.

Thank you again to the young people for providing such a great night's entertainment.

Anne Horn, lead councillor for adult care.

Lorn Agricultural Show 'just champion'

Sir,
Whilst holidaying in Oban last week - something we do regularly for we love the district and everything about it, especially the people - we visited the Lorn Agricultural Show and were overwhelmed by the event.

Despite the inclemency of the morning weather and the bracing wind, all day we found the standard of the show to be truly impressive - from the Oban School Band to the girls' Scottish Dancing to the friendly staff throughout and above all the high quality of the exhibited cattle and sheep.

It was a magnificent show and a credit to the organisers and participants, especially the local farmers.

Back home our local show is the Great Yorkshire Show - England's biggest and best - and we consider that the description 'great' could justifiably be added to the Lorn Show.

As we say in Yorkshire: 'It were champion'.

Roy Bramwell, Ilkley.

ISLAY LETTER

Home are the sailors

THERE were scenes of great jubilation at Port Ellen harbour on July 13 when family and friends gathered to welcome home Caroline and David Thomson following their two-year circumnavigation of the globe.

The Thomsons set off from Port Ellen in the Rustler 44 yacht 'Peat Smoke' in August 2011 to begin their ambitious adventure.

Their journey saw them crossing three oceans and visiting 30 countries. They crossed the Atlantic three times and sailed a total of 36,500 miles. They had the added bonus of meeting up with family and friends at St Lucia in the Caribbean and in South Africa.

All was not plain sailing as placid waters often gave way to rough seas, hurricane winds and five to six metre ocean surges.

On the evening of the homecoming, the circumnavigators were entertained by family members at a 'welcome home' evening in the St Columba Gaelic Centre.

This was a happy family reunion where tributes were paid to their endurance and relief was expressed at their safe return.

Caroline and David, who live at Ardnave House, in the Grunart district, now plan to be confirmed landlubbers with their feet securely planted on terra firma.

Any future sailing plans will be courtesy of the CalMac ferry service to Kennacraig.

Welcome home Caroline and David. Didn't you do well.

Open air worship

AN ECUMENICAL act of open air worship will be held at the foot of the Kildalton Cross on Sunday August 11, beginning at 4pm.

There will be input from representatives from various denominations on the island and the service will be conducted by the Rev Dr Rob Barlow, minister of

the triple-linked parishes of Kilarrow, Kildalton and Oa and Jura.

This will be one of Dr Barlow's last official preaching engagements on the island before he and his wife Gwen leave Islay shores to continue their ministry at Auchterarder.

The Kildalton Cross, probably carved in the second half of the 8th century AD, is a monolithic high cross of Celtic design and situated in the grounds of the former parish church at Kildalton.

The original church was named after St John the Divine and was also referred to as the Church of the Foster Son.

The cross is closely related to crosses of similar date in Iona and is considered to be the finest surviving Celtic cross in Scotland. It is also one of the most perfect monuments of its date to survive in western Europe.

With its carved depictions of Biblical subjects, it remains one of the island's most visited tourist attractions and is situated in an area rich in Celtic and Christian tradition.

Lifeboat assists

THE ISLAND'S lifeboat launched on July 21 to assist the 8.4metre RIB 'Thalassa', with seven crew members on board after it went on rocks at the Isle of Oronsay.

The lifeboat landed the crew at Colonsay and the damaged RIB was taken back to Port Askaig. It was later transported for repair to Tayvallich by Sandy Campbell, owner of the RIB 'Venture West'.

On August 1, the Helmut Schroeder 11 of Dunlossit was called out again to render assistance to the 28ft motor vessel 'Marda' after she developed electrical troubles at Post Rocks, two miles north of Rhuvaal Point.

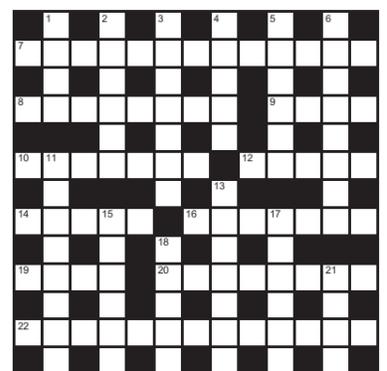
The stricken vessel was towed to Scalasaig in Colonsay where the local coastguard offered further assistance.

Hugh Smith, 4 Flora Street, Bowmore, Islay PA43 7JX. Tel: 01496 810 658.



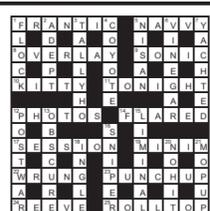
Round the world sailors Caroline and David Thomson are welcomed back to Islay.

GENERAL KNOWLEDGE CROSSWORD



- | | |
|---------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| Across | Down |
| 7 Knowledgeable testifier (6,7) | 1 Shaft for wheels (4) |
| 8 Of necessity (8) | 2 Bell tower (6) |
| 9 Bill (4) | 3 Metallic element used in lasers (7) |
| 10 Used before paper (7) | 4 Flow of water (5) |
| 12 Cliffside dwelling (5) | 5 Can't (6) |
| 14 Transplant of tissue (5) | 6 Frequent trelis (8) |
| 16 Mischief (7) | 11 Treating fier (8) |
| 19 Cycle (4) | 13 Take away (7) |
| 20 Sea biscuit (8) | 15 Carnival (6) |
| 22 Guarantee (13) | 17 Altogether (2,4) |
| | 18 Larceny (5) |
| | 21 Choke (4) |

Last week's solution





Games chieftain Charles Kennedy enjoying the day at Morar with organiser Colin Buchanan. 20_f32games01



Lochaber brothers Sandy and Finlay Cameron excelled in the junior piping competitions 20_f32games08



Eilidh Buchanan in full flow during the adult Highland dancing competitions. 20_f32games04



Mallaig girl Aimee Sneddon impressing with her sword dancing skill. 20_f32games05



Scott Clark of Arran. 20_f32games02



Fort William man Andrew Johnston in action during the hotly contested heavy events. 20_f32games07



Four-year-old Imogen East follows in her Invergarry grandmother Helen's footsteps by winning the girls' under fives race. 20_f32games03



Runners in the 100m race showed good speed despite tricky conditions underfoot. 20_f32games09

Mallaig and Morar Highland Games

MALLAIG and Morar Highland Games drew in big crowds to watch Highland dancing, piping competitions, athletics races and heavy events on Sunday afternoon.

The rain held off for much of the day, and the gloomy skies overhead didn't deter locals and visitors taking over Lady Lovat Memorial Field for the day.

One of the largest fields of competitors in living memory took part in the heavy events, with 14 men entering.

And it was an international event this

year, with two Americans and an Australian competing. Colin Buchanan was again at the helm of the games, and he said the weather had nearly proved disastrous for the annual event.

Speaking to *The Oban Times* on the games field, he said: 'We nearly had to cancel yesterday [Saturday], not because of the rain but because of the wind. But it's calmed down today. I was delighted with the mix of locals and visitors which have come to the games and taken part in the competitions

and I've been delighted with the standard of competitors on display.'

Youngsters were able to take part in junior heavy events and the running races, as well as enjoying the stalls and food and drink on offer. Ross, Skye and Lochaber MP Charles Kennedy was chieftain for the day, and Lochaber Pipe Band took to the field during the day to entertain the crowds.

A post-games barbecue was held at the West Highland Hotel in Mallaig, with the party continuing into the small hours.

Kintyre show maintains high standards

KINTYRE Agricultural Show maintained its standing as one of the finest in the UK, particularly for dairy cattle, last Friday.

Not surprisingly, the area's winners at this year's Royal Highland Show were to the fore, with J & M Barr, of Clochkiel, Machrihanish, producing the Ayrshire champion; David

McPhail Jnr of Moy having the top Clydesdale filly or colt; and J & M Turner, Kildallioig, winning champion blue Leicester.

With dry, sunny weather right until the end of the main events at 4pm, the show organisers were delighted it had not been scheduled for the previous day which was hit with heavy rain.

John Armour, show secretary, said: 'We were delighted with the numbers, turnout and quality of the stock at the show and with no runaway winners in any section it made for healthy competition in all classes.'

'It was heartening that the papers on Saturday said the Kintyre show was where you

can see some of the best dairy animals in the UK. The takings at the gate were similar to last year and there were more trade stands, and trade stand holders seemed happy with their business on the day.'

There was a special award at the end of the show to retired electrical contractor Archie

Smith from Campbeltown 'in recognition of loyal service to the farming community in Kintyre over many years'.

Society president Stewart MacMillan said: 'The dairy farmers were keen to show their appreciation to Archie who was always there to fix anything needing done at 4am.'



John Smith from Drumalea with his Holstein champion. 08_c32show15



Jean McLaughlan of J & M Turner's Kildallioig Farm with her winning bluefaced Leicester. 08_c32show03



Archie Smith, right, receives his 'loyal service' award from Kintyre Show Society president Stewart MacMillan. 08_c32show18



Robin Barr, senior, and Robin, junior, of Clochkiel, with their prize winning Ayrshire cattle. 08_c32show09

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what's on

THE OBAN TIMES FREE EVENT LISTING

THURSDAY - August 8

Craignish Arts Festival.
 9.15am, Ramblers Scotland Tyndrum walk, meet Oban's Longdale Road car park or Glencoe Village car park.
 10am, Drawing the human figure with The Life Group, Nether Lochaber Community Hall.
 10am, In the Footsteps of St Columba art exhibition, Three Villages Hall, Arrochar.
 10am, ArtyFacts, Craignish Village Hall, Ardfern.
 10am, Salen Show, Mull.
 11am, Coffee morning, St John's Cathedral, Oban.
 11.15am, Family inflatable fun session, Atlantis Leisure, Oban.
 12pm, Summer lunch, Connel Church Hall.
 1.30pm, Medicinal and edible plant trail, Moine Mhor National Nature Reserve.
 1.30pm, Mull Musical Minds, An Roth, Craignure, Mull.
 7pm, Clay pigeon shooting, Lorn Clay Target Club, North Connel.
 8pm, Oban Pipe Band and Eilidh MacInnes Highland Dancers, McCaig's Tower, Oban.
 8pm, Summer Ceilidh, Taynuilt Village Hall.
 9pm, Pub quiz, Coasters, Oban.
 9pm, John 'the box' Turnbull, The Lorne Bar, Oban.
 11.30pm, Thursday night disco, Skippinich Ceilidh House, Oban.

FRIDAY - August 9

Craignish Arts Festival.
 10am, In the Footsteps of St Columba art exhibition, Three Villages Hall, Arrochar.
 10am, ArtyFacts, Craignish Village Hall, Ardfern.
 11.15am, Family inflatable fun session, Atlantis Leisure, Oban.
 2pm, Faerie Stories, An Tobar, Tobermory, Mull.
 8pm, Orchestra, An Tobar, Tobermory, Mull.
 9pm, Two Man Jam, The Galley of Lorne Inn, Ardfern.
 10pm, Disco, The Lorne Bar, Oban.

SATURDAY - August 10

Craignish Arts Festival.
 8.30am, Ramblers Scotland Ballachulish walk, meet Ballachulish tourist info.
 10am, New community choir first meeting, Royal Hotel, Oban.
 10am, ArtyFacts, Craignish Village Hall, Ardfern.
 11am, Lorn Organic Growers open day, old Highland Heathers site, Glen Lonan.
 11am, Craft fair, Corran Halls, Oban.
 7.30pm, Ceilidh, Seil Island Hall.
 8pm, Solid Gold Seventies, Mull Theatre, Druimfin, Tobermory, Mull.
 8.30pm, Scottish Show, Royal Hotel, Oban.
 9pm, The Lush Puppies, The Galley of Lorne Inn, Ardfern.
 9.30pm, Chunks, The Lorne Bar, Oban.

SUNDAY - August 11

Craignish Arts Festival.
 10am, ArtyFacts, Craignish Village Hall, Ardfern.
 11am, Beach clean, Scor Cave, near Bunessan, Mull.
 12pm, Stramash family fun day, Inverave Smokehouses, near Taynuilt.
 12pm, Mull Half Marathon, Craignure start, or juniors start at Salen at 2pm.
 2pm, Producers' Market, Craignure Hall, Mull.
 2.30pm, Live accordion music, Tartan Tavern, Oban.
 3.45pm, Sunday Session, Barn Bar, Oban.
 8.30pm, Contours of Cairngorm, An Tobar, Tobermory, Mull.
 9pm, Kevin Fraser, The Galley of Lorne Inn, Ardfern.
 9.30pm, Pub quiz, Markie Dan's, Oban.
 10pm, Disco, The Lorne Bar, Oban.

MONDAY - August 12

10am, In the Footsteps of St Columba art exhibition, Three Villages Hall, Arrochar.
 11am, Community Cafe, Bunessan, Mull.
 11.15am, Inflatable fun sessions, Atlantis Leisure, Oban.

TUESDAY - August 13

10am, In the Footsteps of St Columba art exhibition, Three Villages Hall, Arrochar.
 10am, Lorn Quilters exhibition, St John's Cathedral, Oban.
 10.45am, Ranger Service's wildflower wander, Iona.
 11.15am, Inflatable fun sessions, Atlantis Leisure, Oban.
 12pm, Summer lunch, Connel Church Hall.
 1.30pm, Leaf pounding, Kilmartin Museum.
 8.30pm, Iain Thomson and Marc Duff, An Tobar, Tobermory, Mull.

WEDNESDAY - August 14

10am, In the Footsteps of St Columba art exhibition, Three Villages Hall, Arrochar.
 10am, Lorn Quilters exhibition, St John's Cathedral, Oban.
 11.15am, Inflatable fun sessions, Atlantis Leisure, Oban.
 7pm, Oban High School Pipe Band busking, Station Square, Oban.
 7.30pm, Summer Fayre, Aros Hall, Tobermory, Mull.
 9pm, Quiz, The Lorne Bar, Oban.

THURSDAY - August 15

9am, Ramblers Scotland Fort William walk, meet Woolen Mill.
 10am, Lorn Quilters exhibition, St John's Cathedral, Oban.
 10am, In the Footsteps of St Columba art exhibition, Three Villages Hall, Arrochar.
 11am, Coffee morning, St John's Cathedral, Oban.
 12pm, Summer lunch, Connel Church Hall.
 1.30pm, Pottery workshop, Kilmartin Museum.
 2pm or 5pm, Guided walk with professional photographer Sam Jones, Aros Park, Tobermory.
 8pm, Final summer ceilidh, Taynuilt Village Hall.
 9pm, John 'the box' Turnbull, The Lorne Bar, Oban.

FRIDAY - August 16

10am, In the Footsteps of St Columba art exhibition, Three Villages Hall, Arrochar.
 10am, Lorn Quilters exhibition, St John's Cathedral, Oban.
 7pm, Murder mystery play, Arduaine Gardens.
 9pm, Beats Diggin' Holes, The Galley of Lorne Inn, Ardfern.
 10pm, Disco, The Lorne Bar, Oban.

SATURDAY - August 17

10am, Lorn Quilters exhibition, St John's Cathedral, Oban.
 12pm, Raft race, Oban Bay.
 9pm, Jono, The Galley of Lorne Inn, Ardfern.
 9.30pm, The Democrats, The Lorne Bar, Oban.

SUNDAY - August 18

9.40am, Ramblers Scotland Newtonmore walk, meet Fort William Woolen Mill or Spean Bridge WM at 10am.
 12pm, Lifeboat Day, Tobermory, Mull.
 2.30pm, Producers' market, Dervaig Hall, Mull.
 9pm, Captain Stupendous does ceilidh and stuff, The Galley of Lorne Inn, Ardfern.
 10pm, Disco, The Lorne Bar, Oban.

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



Eye to eye with John Wallace

In the Wallace household preparation for the return to school of our beloved offspring is nearing fever pitch. The list of requirements seems to get longer each year. Not only is he moving into a new school year, he is starting a new school. Every year he seems to take a growth spurt during the holidays. Have you noticed how clothes that seemed to fit perfectly well at the end of term in June no longer fit in August?

As well as children growing taller each year their eyes also grow. Perhaps the period of most rapid change is when they hit puberty. The rate of change in a child's eyesight can be phenomenal during puberty. Your child can rapidly go from seemingly perfect eyesight to barely seeing the white-board in the classroom in matter of months. You can imagine what effect that has on your youngster's ability to learn. Despite this sobering fact most parents simply don't bother having their children's eyesight checked regularly.

John Wallace BSc (Hons), FCOptom, DipCLP
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Ganavan plays host to pyramids



School's Out playworkers Mel Williamson, left, and Ronnie Guthrie, right, with the youngsters. 16_t31egyptian01

ONE OF the Seven Wonders of the World has been transported to Oban thanks to the efforts of the area's school children. Youngsters at the School's Out summer programme enjoyed an Egyptian themed day at Ganavan Sands recently - building a pyramid and sphinx in the process.

Jean MacPherson, children's coordinator, said: 'The theme has been Egypt. The children have been making head dresses and clothing and learning all about Egypt and we have all come together today to put this fun day on for them outside. The kids have thoroughly enjoyed it.'

The youngsters also went on a hieroglyphics treasure hunt, had a scarab beetle drive and sampled some Egyptian delicacies. The event was supported by Active Schools and Early Years. The youngsters are currently working on a Wild West topic.

Rachel leads innovative Blas Festival

ULLAPOOL Celtic harpist Rachel Hair is to lead an innovative approach to the Blas 2013 Festival's outreach programme. The first class Music Honours graduate and Alexander Stone Award winner already has two highly acclaimed solo albums under her belt, and has performed at venues worldwide. But her concerts on September 13 during the final Blas weekend will be in the much more intimate surroundings - Cameron House and High View House residential care homes in Inverness. The concerts, for care home clients, residents and staff, together with visiting family and friends, are being organised by Music in Hospitals Scotland after the charity received part-funding from the Highland Common Good Fund. The new departure for Blas organisers has been welcomed by festival director, Donna MacRae. She said: 'The ethos of the Blas Festival from its inception has been that it should be firmly rooted in the community, taking music to people all across the area, including those who for one reason or another are unable to attend events.'



Rachel Hair: playing two gigs in Inverness residential homes as a part of the Blas Festival.

Spooky goings on at Arduaine

SPIRITS and phantoms will be on the prowl in Arduaine Garden this month. The National Trust for Scotland property will host the Walking Theatre Company on August 16 for a performance of The Haunted Garden. Head gardener, Maurine Wilkins, said: 'Hallowe'en might not be for a few months, but we're still expecting some ghosts and ghouls to put in an appearance - or should that be performance?' The event starts at 7pm.

Ardlussa Sports day basks in sunshine



THE SUNSHINE brought out a record attendance to the 63rd annual Ardlussa Sports day, run by the Fletcher family, at the north end of Jura. The event, held on July 27, attracted islanders and holidaymakers and served up the usual games, such as the tug of war, barrel rolling and the open mile, alongside some new games involving the over 40s, namely a potato and a Jura whisky bottle race. Profits from the day went to MS Revive Scotland, which supports those affected by multiple sclerosis and the island's sports committee, which is fundraising for a sports pitch on Jura.

Above: There were plenty games for the children at the Ardlussa Sports Day.

Left: Jurach Jamie Darroch proves his expert balance in the barrel rolling.

Photo: Konrad Borkowski

August Edition



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Shirley Kinsella, left, and Katie Shearer of law firm Stevenson Kennedy helped raise £265 for Marie Curie Cancer Care by holding a Blooming Great Tea Party at Linnhu House in Oban. Meringues and cupcakes were among the best-selling treats at the event last week, which colleagues and local businesses contributed baking to.

Performance arts reach out to Skye

PERFORMANCE, art installations and a film screening exploring personal concepts of faith are coming to Portree next Saturday.

The Nation/Live - Faith, a National Galleries of Scotland communities outreach project in partnership with ATLAS Arts, Skye Dance and Sabhal Mòr Ostaig, will see Skye Dance performances at 3pm and 5pm on 'The Lump', plus 'pop-up' performances at various sites around town.

Art installations at Somerled Square and Scottish Hydro Electric, and a new film screening in the Church of Scotland Parish Hall also feature in the free-admission programme, which runs from 12pm to 6pm.

Multimedia event artist Catherine Weir and Skye Dance, directed by Lorayne McLucas, will have as their theme St Columba's conversion of the people of Skye in the late-sixth century.

The Lump, a dramatic natural amphitheatre, was chosen for the dance performance as it resembles the setting of William Hole's mural depiction, in the Scottish National Portrait Gallery, of St Columba addressing the Picts in 597 AD, which is the inspiration behind the project. St Columba's Isle can also be seen from the Lump across the loch.

The film, by director Daniel Warren features young dancers from Skye Dance performing at the site of the ancient Columban monastery at Kilmuir in north Skye, and attesting to their faith and trust in their families and friends.

Faith has been working with young people on Skye to investigate sites associated with St Columba's mission and assess whether such a fundamental shift in belief could be possible in Scotland today.

Faith is the fourth of five projects comprising The Nation/Live, which connects the portraits and personalities of the recently refurbished Scottish National Portrait Gallery (SNPG) to communities across Scotland.

Nice one Ewan



HOLLYWOOD superstar Ewan McGregor paid a flying visit to the West Highlands last week - with a stop for fish and chips on the way. The actor was on a bike ride to Oban with family and friends last Wednesday when he stopped in at Connel's Oyster Inn for a bite to eat. Ewan posted this photo on the internet with the caption: 'Myles, Dad, Stephen and I after our ride to Oban today. Nice one!'

Oban Phoenix Cinema	Despicable Me 2	Thurs 8th	15:00 2D
	The Worlds End	Thurs 8th	20:30
	The Wolverine	Thurs 8th	17:30 2D
	The Smurfs 2	Fri 9th	15:00 2D, 18:00 3D
		Sat 10th	12:00 3D, 15:00 2D, 18:00 3D
		Sun 11th	12:00 3D, 15:00 2D, 18:00 3D
		Mon 12th	15:00 2D, 18:00 3D
		Tues 13th	15:00 3D, 18:00 3D
		Wed 14th	15:00 2D, 18:00 3D
		Thurs 15th	15:00 3D, 18:00 2D
	Red 2	Fri 9th	20:30
		Sat 10th	20:30
		Sun 11th	20:30
		Mon 12th	20:30
		Tues 13th	20:30
	Wed 14th	20:30	
	Thurs 15th	20:30	

Despicable Me 2 (U)
BACK BY POPULAR DEMAND! In this equally hilarious sequel to 2010's "Despicable Me" Gru is recruited by the Anti-Villain League to help deal with a powerful new super criminal. With Steve Carell once again voicing this Anti-Villain single father of three, it promises more laughs, more fun but most importantly more minions! This fun filled sequel really is more "despicable" than the original.

The Worlds End (15)
 20 years after attempting an epic pub crawl, five childhood friends reunite when one of them becomes hell bent on trying the drinking marathon again. They are convinced to stage an encore by mate Gary King, a 40-year old man trapped at the cigarette end of his teens, who drags his reluctant pals to their home town and once again attempts to reach the fabled pub, The World's End. As they attempt to reconcile the past and present, they realize the real struggle is for the future, not just theirs but humankind's. Reaching The World's End is the least of their worries.

The Wolverine (12A)
 In modern day Japan, Wolverine is out of his depth in an unknown world as he faces his ultimate nemesis in a life-or-death battle that will leave him forever changed. Vulnerable for the first time and pushed to his physical and emotional limits, he confronts not only lethal samurai steel but also his inner struggle against his own immortality, emerging more powerful than we have ever seen him before. Hugh Jackman returns as Wolverine in this second solo outing for one of The X-Men's most iconic members.

The Smurfs 2 (U)
 The evil wizard Gargamel creates a couple of mischievous Smurf-like creatures called the Naughties that he hopes will let him harness the all-powerful, magical Smurf-essence. But when he discovers that only a real Smurf can give him what he wants, and only a secret spell that Smurfette knows can turn the Naughties into real Smurfs, Gargamel kidnaps Smurfette and brings her to Paris. It's up to Papa, Clumsy, Grouchy, and Vanity to return to our world, reunite with their human friends Patrick and Grace Winslow, and rescue her! Will Smurfette, who has always felt different from the other Smurfs, find a new connection with the Naughties Vex and Hackus or will the Smurfs convince her that their love for her is True Blue?

Red 2 (12A)
 He was once one of the CIA's most eminent agents, but the (still) retired, Frank Moses (Bruce Willis) is living a quiet, but unfulfilled life when he's forced to reunite with his unlikely team of elite operatives for a global mission to track down a missing nuclear device, code name Nightshade. Outgunned and outmaneuvered, the team must rely on their cunning wits and distinctive old-school skills in an attempt to once again save the world. With an all-star cast including: Bruce Willis, Helen Mirren, Anthony Hopkins and Catherine Zeta-Jones you do not want to miss the best of the best doing what they do best!

BOWfest goes bigger than ever



BOASTING a bigger musical line up than last year, unlimited access for children's activities, geo-caching and even a foraging course, Best of the West 2013 is promising to be better than ever.

Family activities

Inveraray Castle, the home of the Duke and Duchess of Argyll, will host BOWfest over September 14 and 15, which returns for its third year featuring a newly designed stage and bar area, increased number of family activities and a plethora of the finest local produce available to try.

Nearly 6,000 people attended last year's event and Mike Story, of organisers Argyll and the Isles Tourism, said: 'This is a fan-

tastic event which showcases the very best of what our area does so well, combining great music with world-class food and drink and some of the best outdoor activities, all set in the grounds of the historic Inveraray Castle.

'Once again, a huge thanks to the Duke and Duchess for their generosity and community spirit, and getting stuck in at every level. Gifting the castle grounds provides us with an amazing venue to welcome friends and visitors from near and far.'

More than 70 musicians are set to perform at the event, ranging from the world famous to local bands, young talent to experienced campaigners and even Gaelic music and trad

acts to contemporary acts.

Three's Skerryvore will headline Saturday's musical offerings, while internationally acclaimed Red Hot Chilli Pipers will lead the Sunday line-up.

While visitors are being entertained, food and drink will feature strongly with the Best of the West Whiskies tent pitting all 22 west coast distillers against each other in a light-hearted 'people's tasting'.

Food from Argyll will provide local food to eat, sample and take home, with something for everyone, from oysters to beef, tablet to salmon, whisky to ale.

Included in this year's child tickets will be unlimited access to a host of activities

including a four-sided climbing wall, laser blast arena, bungee trampolines, children's workshops, face painting, a supervised play area, storytelling and much more to make this a great family day out.

Part of the entertainment will also include foraging. Mark Williams, from Galloway Wild Foods, will demonstrate how to find, identify, harvest and eat an amazing array of fine free foods from Argyll and surroundings.

The craft tent will feature Harris Tweed, plants and flowers, pottery including the award-winning Loch Long Stoneware range, jewellery, paintings, photography, glassware, interior design and much more.

Open day ushers in new plans for Oban Phoenix cinema



Visitors to the Oban Phoenix Cinema open day are greeted by staff and volunteers.

OBAN Phoenix Cinema revealed plans to re-open its second screen and stream live events when it held an open day to mark one year in business.

The community-owned cinema celebrated a very eventful first year on Sunday by welcoming visitors on tours and giving out 30 free tickets to a showing of the hit film Despicable Me 2.

To date, the cinema has had 50,000 visitors viewing an average of 17 to 22 screenings throughout the week, with an average attendance of 42 for any film.

Currently 86 per cent of tickets are being bought in person, four per cent online and 10 per cent on telephone bookings.

A committee report said the community support had been 'overwhelming'.

Opening on August 3, the cinema screened the movie Brave, selling 4,410 tickets in the first two weeks.

The cinema was also involved in the Winter Festival and held a special one off brass band concert. It has also established a close relationship with schools in the area and recently held three nights of the Lorn Film Festival, showcasing a variety of films made by school pupils. Oban High School also visited in December and had an exclusive preview of the James Bond film Skyfall.

In May, the cinema switched to digital and 3D projection, thanks to funding from

Creative Scotland, Crerar Hotel Group, Highlands and Islands Enterprise, Oban Common Good and Hugh Fraser Trust.

There are currently 10 members of staff, making up the equivalent of five full-time posts, supplemented by a bank of more than 80 volunteers, aged between 12 and 70-plus.

Next month the cinema will be hosting the Argyll and Bute Youth Awards, while working on refurbishment plans for the small studio and reception area.

There is also a plan to install a satellite dish to allow streamed events such as National Theatre Live, Scottish Opera, the Bolshoi Ballet and the potential to screen national sports events.

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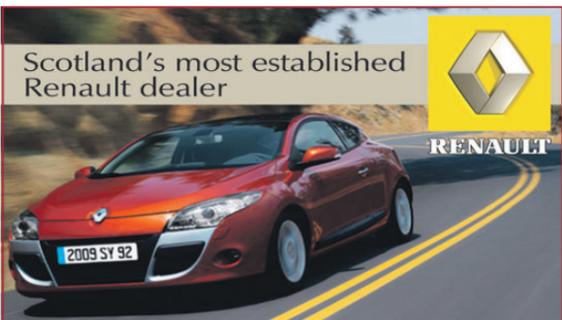
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FOR SOME, the number 13 is unlucky - so many will welcome the 63 registration mark when it starts adorning newly registered cars at the start of next month. In truth, the 13 plate didn't make too much of a difference for dis-

cerning drivers, with a host of new models introduced for the year - but there is no question that many motorists skipped the notorious number in favour of waiting for the September registrations.

As usual, the introduction of the new plate brings the perfect opportunity to upgrade your vehicle - or even change style completely.

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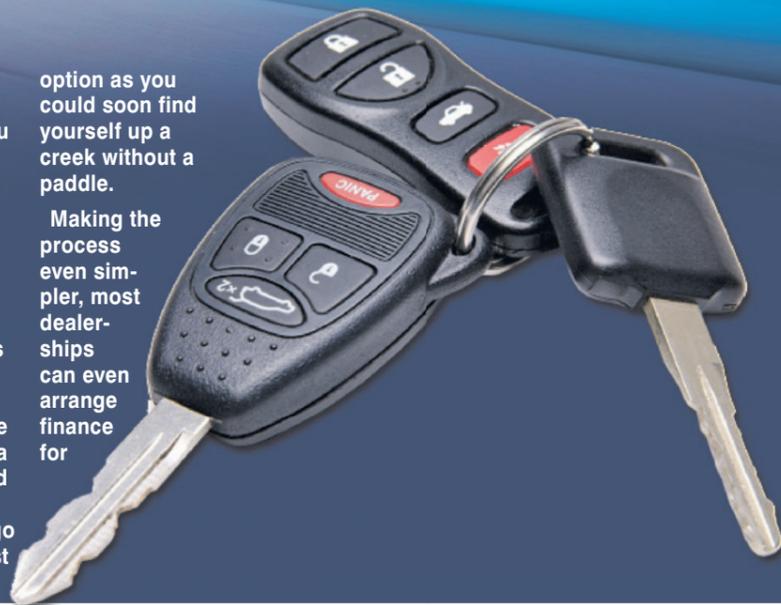
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...continued from page 15

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Tourism businesses urged to take step back in time

TOURISM businesses are being urged to adapt into ancestral tourism opportunities ahead of next year's anticipated influx of tourists.

With two huge sporting events taking place next year, the Ryder Cup and the 2014 Commonwealth Games, together with Homecoming 2014, Scotland is set to welcome an influx of visitors.

However, Tourism Intelligence Scotland (TIS) is keen to take advantage of those likely to want to trace their ancestral roots and has produced an Ancestral Tourism in Scotland guide

to aid this. It claims the market could be worth £2.4billion to the Scottish economy.

They claim ancestral tourism has the potential to grow from 800,000 visitors per annum to 4.3million per year within the next five years.

The guide was launched last week at the National Archives of Scotland and is available to businesses by registering at tourism-intelligence.co.uk.

There are also a raft of practical hints, tips and ideas to help businesses make the most of the year-round opportunities.

to help them access intelligence quickly and easily, plus it is optimised for access from a variety of devices.

Businesses can also benefit from tailored information based on their preferences and enhanced social media functions so information can be shared with one click.

The new guide provides tourism operators with the latest intelligence on Scotland's ancestral tourism markets. There are also a raft of practical hints, tips and ideas to help businesses make the most of the year-round opportunities.

Audrey MacLennan, senior development manager for tourism at Highlands and Islands Enterprise (HIE), said: 'With an increasing number of people interested in tracing their roots, ancestral tourism can offer new and exciting year-round commercial opportunities to business across the Highlands and Islands.'

In addition, HIE's recent Ancestral Tourism webinar is still available to view on the HIE website.

Marc Crothall, chief executive of the Scottish Tourism Alliance (STA) said: 'Tourism Scotland 2020 the National

Strategy for Scottish tourism, being led by the STA, identifies our distant cousins in the USA, Australia and Canada as a key growth market for Scotland, and research tells us that one of the prime reasons for this market is to discover and learn more about their ancestors.'

'We are therefore delighted with the development of this relevant resource which will help the industry to better understand this key market and inspire them to develop memorable experiences tailored to their needs.'



Mhairi Killin shows off some of Aosdana's jewellery. Photograph by Gordon Bruce.

Iona jewellery firm Aosdana forges links with USA

AN IONA business is embarking on a new venture with a gallery in the USA.

The new relationship between Mhairi Killin's gallery Aosdana and Pilgrim's Landing, Cape Cod, will see items supplied by Aosdana sold in the States for the first time, a move it is hoped will eliminate some of the seasonal variation in business experienced on the island.

Mhairi said: 'This is an exciting venture for Aosdana. It's important for us to do business with people who share an appreciation of Iona's cultural heritage and whose ethos reflects our own.'

'Like many other small businesses in the Hebrides, it is crucial for Aosdana to try to reduce our reliance on the seasonal market and, in addition to our growing e-commerce business, this new relationship with Pilgrim's Landing will help us address the feast and famine nature of running a rural small business.'

Established in 1997, Aosdana is situated in a restored farm steading, a joint project with the National Trust for Scotland,

completed in 2006. The company seeks to combine the historical creativity of the island with its contemporary equivalent. With family roots on Iona stretching back over 300 years and as a relative of Iain MacCormick, who was renowned Iona silversmith Alex Ritchie's apprentice, Mhairi is uniquely placed to develop the tradition of creativity on the island.

With the blessing and support of the families of both men, Aosdana has a full range of the traditional Celtic jewellery developed throughout the 20th century by Ritchie and MacCormick.

Aosdana employs five local people including a young trainee silversmith from Mull and showcases not only Mhairi's contemporary artwork but also jewellery from Scotland's best designers.

Mhairi said: 'For those closer to home, a visit to Aosdana is a truly inspiring experience offering the opportunity to browse original artwork and jewellery whilst absorbing the unique historical creative influence of generations of island artists.'

Arran Brewery battles on despite shortage

ARRAN Brewery has been a victim of its own success after warning customers of a beer shortage - adding 'feel free to panic buy'.

The shortage is as a result of lengthy power cuts earlier in the year. While the outages didn't affect their core brands, Arran Blonde, Arran Sunset and Arran Dark, they prevented the company keeping its periphery brands in stock.

Elsewhere, the company has attracted a host of new fans in Spain after attending its first Spanish beer festival, with 600 bottles of the three main Arran brands selling at the Zaragoza event.

It's been an interesting time for the company.

Managing director Gerald Michaluk said: 'We are having difficulties in keeping our peripheral speciality brands in stock. They require more tanks than we have so we are needing to wait while beer matures - the beer on the shelf is selling out faster than we can make it and mature it.'



Luis Romero Pascual, Arran Brewery's European sales manager, was on hand during a beer festival in Zaragoza, Spain.

Highlands and Islands broadband speed inquiry welcomed

ROSS, Skye and Lochaber MP Charles Kennedy has welcomed a Royal Society of Edinburgh inquiry into the availability and speed of broadband connection in the Highlands and Islands.

Mr Kennedy attended an RSE consultation in Fort William last week, one of several being held to inform its upcoming report 'Spreading the Benefits of Digital Participation', which will be published in November.

The inquiry comes as BT prepares to open its first fibre-cable exchanges under the Highlands and Islands Next Generation Broadband Project in April 2014.

The mostly public sector-funded programme will see the company lay more than 800km of fibre cable on land and 400km more via sub-sea crossings to the islands.

The £146m scheme aims to connect 84 per cent of the region's premises to fibre-based broadband by 2016.

Project leaders Highlands and Islands Enterprise wants everyone to have access to broadband download speeds of at least 30 Mbps by 2020.

But inquiry vice-chairman Professor Alan Alexander fears some remote pockets of population will struggle to secure broadband - even when both Scottish and UK governments' top connection targets are met.

Mr Kennedy said: 'This report will be an important and influential contribution towards the correct development of digital technologies across Scotland - not least in our own area.'

'So it is important that any interested individual or

organisation - public, private and voluntary - contact the Royal Society and feed in their experiences, views and needs.'

'In the Skye and Lochalsh travel-to-work area alone there are now over 19 digital companies employing an estimated 437 people. These figures are highly significant.'

'So the challenge is to enable more people to become skilled in digital technology and to make it more available. It represents a great opportunity for our area - but we need a level playing field.'

Lochaber Citizens Advice Bureau were among taking part in the Fort William consultation, which also covered challenges posed by government welfare reforms to people with no access to or proficiency in using the internet.

women in business

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My name is Amanda MacPhail and I have spent most of my childhood life and all my adult life in Oban. I have been married to Alan MacPhail also from Oban for over 27 years and we raised our three children in Oban.

I took up my role as manager of a family business The Argyllshire Gathering Halls in August 2005. I continued to manage the business until April 2011, organising a wide range of functions.

The opportunity arose in April 2011 to take on the business on my own and whilst it felt like a

daunting prospect I was sure that it would be straight forward enough as I had already been running the business for my stepdad John MacGregor who is always on hand when I need his advice and who had the ingenious idea of taking on such a challenge back in 2005.

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My favourite part of the business is organising

weddings. There is no better feeling than making a Bride and Groom's big day extra special, and here at the Argyllshire Gathering we go out of our way to make sure that everything is perfect.

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I regularly attend courses and conferences, in order to keep up-to-date with and ever changing profession, new ideas, treatments and regulations. It is important to meet up with colleagues, as working single-handed can be rather daunting at times. Being self-employed is not for everyone, it is very demanding, but brings rewards more than financial. You really have to be committed, self-reliant, reliable, have the necessary 'hands-on' skills, and above all believe in yourself.



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D.M. MacKinnon Solicitors

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D M MacKinnon, Solicitors is well represented when it comes to women in business, and the recent additions of newly qualified solicitor, Jane Thomson, and paralegal, Linda Duncan, serves to increase the strength and depth of the existing female team in the firm.

Jane Thomson recently started with D M MacKinnon, Solicitors as a court solicitor, dealing in both criminal and civil litigation and all aspects of employment law. Born in Taynuilt, Jane studied in Glasgow and returned to Oban to begin her legal career in 2011. She also has a keen interest in all types of licensing work, in particular liquor licensing. Jane finds this is an ever

growing area of law which is immensely important to Oban, with tourism being a major source of income in Argyll and Bute.

Linda Duncan is a native of Oban and recently qualified as a paralegal specialising in family law. Linda advises clients on all aspects of family law including separation and divorce, dissolution of civil partnerships, cohabitation agreements and termination of cohabitation, contact and residence issues, parental rights and responsibilities and child support and maintenance. Linda has been with D M MacKinnon, Solicitors for over 20 years and her interest in family law originates from

her involvement with the Childrens Panel of which she remains a panel member.

Jane and Linda join the existing female team in D M MacKinnon's legal business, namely Karen MacAllister who is a partner specialising in Wills, Trusts and executors, elderly client advice, commercial and private leases and general private client business; Laura McManus, an associate specialising in criminal defence work; Louise Fraser, an associate specialising in employment law and conveyancing; Alison Dunn a senior paralegal specialising in conveyancing and Isla McColl a paralegal who specialises in Wills and executors.



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Milestone for tool and plant hire firm

Business expands with three significant acquisitions

AN ARGYLL business has announced three significant acquisitions as it aims to become the one-stop-shop for construction in Argyll and Bute.

West Coast Tool and Plant Hire, director Darran Mellish will this coming week conclude deals to purchase Lochgilphead firms Mid Argyll Skip Hire and environmental services firm Dr Eco Services, as well as Benderloch's Keil Engine Services.

The deal marks a major milestone for Darran's business, which has enjoyed rapid expansion in recent years.

Darran's enterprise started as Mellex Plant and Construction in Tarbert in 1998 and he first took on staff in 2003.

He then purchased the Ardrishaig-based West Coast Tool and Plant

Hire in 2008, later expanding the business into Oban in 2010. In 2011 Darran opened the company's Dunoon depot and last year, the Oban depot moved to larger premises, near Tesco, securing dealership status for Honda and Husqvarna to complement the Stihl range of garden and forestry carried by the company.

Explaining the purchases, Darran said: 'We want to be the one-stop shop for DIY and commercial construction - whether you want to hire or buy a drill, lawnmower or digger and do it yourself or get someone else to do it for you.'

The expansion will mean a restructuring for the company, resulting in wider coverage for their services.

Dr Eco specialise in septic tank emptying, repairs and drain

surveys, including unblocking, while Mid Argyll Skip Hire will, like West Coast Tool and Plant, provide coverage for all of Argyll, including the islands.

Keil Engine Services will merge into West Coast Tool and Plant Hire's business, bringing motorbike and quad bike servicing and MOTs, as well as for outboard engines, garden machinery and quad bike sales.

It is hoped that the company's dealerships - Countax Lawn Tractors and Tohatsu Outboard Motors - will also be carried over into West Coast Tool and Plant Hire.

Darran added: 'We're always looking at new ways to improve customer service and satisfaction and we think these acquisitions will help do this.'



Darran Mellish, pictured, has confirmed three new acquisitions as West Coast Tool and Plant Hire expand to cover all of Argyll, including the islands. 15. 12800landplant1

Family rewarded for top reviews

TWO FAMILY businesses operating under the same roof on Mull have received certificates of excellence from reviews website, TripAdvisor.

Turus Mara, the long-established seabird and wildlife cruise tour operators, and Am Birinn, Mull's purpose-built restaurant at Penmore, are both owned and run by the Morrison family, headed up by Iain and Pat.

Both were presented with TripAdvisor Certificates of Excellence as a result of many positive reviews and Iain said the family are 'very, very chuffed' with the recognition.

'Like it or not, 85 per cent of people who go on holiday look at TripAdvisor first and take some consignment of what it says, so it is a major part of the industry now.'

'That's why it's so heartening to get as many good reviews as we've got.'

Turus Mara run passenger vessels to Staffa, the Treshnish Isles and Iona from Ulva Ferry, providing visitors with the benefit of many years' knowledge of the wildlife in their area, including their renowned 'puffin therapy'.

MV Hoy Lass, the boat usually providing the daily Staffa and Treshnish Isles landing trips, was featured in the recent BBC *Islands on the Edge* documentary.

Iain Morrison was a consultant in relation to the habits and behavioural peculiarities of the many thousands of birds which make the Treshnish Isles their breeding place during the summer months.

Since its opening in July 2009, Am Birinn has gone from strength to strength attracting increasing numbers of locals and visitors. Managed by Richard Killet the restaurant has an emphasis on low food miles.

Good weather boosts retail sales

RECENT good weather and a slowly recovering economy has seen retail sales increase by half a per cent in the second quarter of the year.

The Scottish Retail Sales Index has also reported that retail sales by volume increased by 2.4 per cent on the same period last year.

The value of sales, without adjusting for inflation, was up to 0.9 per cent on the quarter and 3.6 per cent compared to the same period in 2012.

While Scotland has outperformed the UK on year on year figures, quarterly figures show the British retail sales grew by 0.7 per cent in the quarter - 1.7 per cent annually.

The value of UK retail sales, again without adjustment, increased by 1.2 per cent in the quarter and 3.2 per cent annually.

Elizabeth Mackay, managing partner of advisory and restructuring firm Zolfo Cooper, said: 'Today's Scottish Retail Sales Index shows that Scots have been waiting for a much needed dose of sunshine before venturing out to spend their hard earned cash.'

'Scottish retailers will be hoping the good weather continues throughout the summer to ensure consumers enjoy the best of what the high street has to offer.'

men in business

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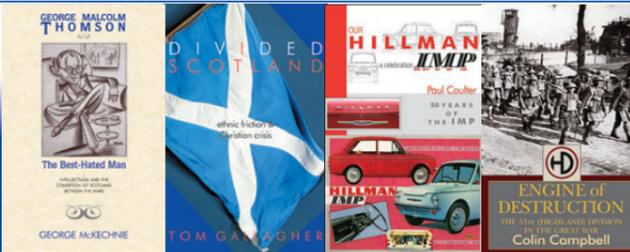
When Alasdair Redman took over Portnahaven Post Office, he became the youngest Post Master in Britain at only 17 years of age. Since then, Alasdair has built and expanded the business, going from opening only a few hours a day, to opening full time and expanding with a wide variety of products and services available including confectionery, chilled and frozen goods,

household goods, Lottery and much more. As if running a thriving local business wasn't challenging enough, Alasdair also a passionate politician after recently standing for in the local council elections and, most promisingly, taking a step further in his career by being accepted onto the approved list of candidates for parliamentary selection.

Ever the entrepreneur, Alasdair also runs his own, small, share-trading portfolio which has proven great success. Even with such a busy professional and social life, Alasdair always finds time to dedicate to the local recycling charity, Re-Jig, where he has implemented many changes and helped turn the charity into a success.



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Argyll Publishing, operating from premises in Glendaruel, has built up a reputation for quality books and other publications over the last 21 years. An established name in the world of books.

Several Argyll books have won prizes and have been shortlisted for awards. The website shows a wide and attractive range of titles produced in Argyll - history, biography, Scottish interest and fiction.

Now owner Derek Rodger plans to retire and is looking to sell the business as a going concern. 'It is a great opportunity,' he says, 'for another party to come in and take the whole thing forward. I think I've done my bit and it's a business with a lot of growth potential.'

(l) some new and recent Argyll titles

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market (Dixons group, John Lewis and Tesco's). I have been in Oban for 12 years, initially with Sky TV working in the Fort William and Inverness area, I started my own business 8 years ago. For the past 5 years I have been able to work back in the Oban district, although still cover the Fort William area as well as a radius of up to 50 miles from Oban.



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The Clark family have presided over the proceedings at the George hotel since 1860. Three generations, five, six and seven presently live at the hotel. It has the distinction of being the longest continuously run hotel in Scotland. The family influence is evident when you enter the premises. Hiding behind the black and white Georgian facade is a well maintained interior influenced by exposed walls, flagstone floors, antique furniture and four open fires on the ground floor. The Cocktail bar is a stunning design mixing Olde World with the modern demands of customers. We provide Fyne Ales, Czech lagers, a huge whiskey selection, an extensive wine list, cocktails and quality coffee. The kitchen is headed up by two classically trained French chefs. They marry their knowledge with an understanding of the Scottish palate.

They have twice been awarded silver for best gastropub in Scotland and 2011 saw. The Clark family have presided over the proceedings at the George hotel since 1860. Three generations, five, six and seven presently live at the hotel. It has the distinction of being the longest continuously run hotel in Scotland. The family influence is evident when you enter the premises. Hiding behind the black and white Georgian facade is a well maintained interior influenced by exposed walls, flagstone floors, antique furniture and four open fires on the ground floor. The Cocktail bar is a stunning design mixing Olde World with the modern demands of customers. We provide Fyne Ales, Czech lagers, a huge whiskey selection, an extensive wine list, cocktails and quality coffee. The kitchen

is headed up by two classically trained French chefs. They marry their knowledge with an understanding of the Scottish palate. They have twice been awarded silver for best gastropub in Scotland and 2011 saw The George being awarded the Best Pub in Scotland from The Soup Guide. All the products are fresh. The hotel also has its own langoustine boat providing fresh prawns daily. The bedrooms have been extensively and sensitively restored, renovated and refurbished. They feature whirlpool baths, roll top baths, working fires and antique furniture. With the hard work and dedication that the team at The George commits to, we try and ensure that the customer has a good quality product and service at a fair price.

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Quality Meat Scotland's sceptical response to first lab-grown burger

NEWS this week that scientists had produced the world's first lab-grown burger has been met with a sceptical response from Quality Meat Scotland.

Boffins at Maastricht University produced the burger by taking stem cells from Dutch cows and growing them into tiny pieces of muscle to form the burger.

QMS chairman Jim McLaren said: 'It is important to recognise that the laboratory product which was unveiled has been developed using science which is at an extremely early stage. There are also a huge number of unknowns about this technology such as the environmental impact of this type of production system - in sharp contrast to the top quality natural meat our farmers take pride in producing in Scotland.'

'In Scotland cattle and sheep graze on land which is generally unsuitable for other types of food production making it environmentally sustainable. This type of mixed farming is recognised by leading wildlife organisations as critical to the maintenance of many hill and upland habitats, enhancing biodiversity and supporting a landscape which contributes more than £2 billion to Scotland's economy and supports around 50,000 jobs, many in very fragile rural communities, Mr McLaren said.

He added: 'Naturally-produced red meat is also an important source of protein, vitamins, minerals and iron and our extensive grass and forage-based beef and lamb production systems lead to a higher content of essential fatty acids such as omega 3.'

Animals star at Bunessan Show

THE ANIMALS were the stars of Bunessan Show last week with entries to the annual event higher than in recent years.

This year's show featured a new Cheviot sheep section judged by Archie MacGillivray from the Isle of Lismore, who also took on the task of judging sheep other than Cheviot or Blackface.

The overall sheep champion also took the champion of champions title for 2013. Lachlan and Donald MacLean from Knock Farm walked away with the accolade thanks to the quality of their three shear ewe, by a Dalchirla tup.

Michael Simpson, of Berrydyke Farm, Braco by Dunblane judged the Blackface sheep and said: 'I was surprised how good the sheep were. The quality was first class.'

John Kyle from Stirling judged the cattle classes this year. He was assisted by vice convenor Stewart MacDougall, who was impressed by the amount of entries. He said: 'This has been the biggest show of animals we have had for quite a few years.'

Entries in the horse section also had a good showing but judge Jamie Craig from Lettershuna Riding Centre in Appin said despite the overall good numbers some classes were low in entries.

He said: 'There was a good standard with wide scope, some novice young horses and older ones too. The wide variety can make judging difficult but it is good to see the young horses coming through.'

Ronnie Campbell the president of Bunessan Show told *The Oban Times* the day had gone 'very well' considering the previous day's weather. He said: 'There was good stock, the judges were very pleased with the stock - some said we could compete anywhere with the livestock. Everyone enjoyed the day - even the doctor who got plastered with wet sponges.'



The Bunessan Show champion for 2013 is this three shear ewe by a Dalchirla tup out of a home bred ewe from Lachlan and Donald MacLean of Knock Farm. 16_132bunessan13



John MacInnes from Culbhuirg, Iona, had the overall cattle champion with his one-year-old Limousin cross heifer. 16_132bunessan07



The champion Mull Young Farmer is Jamie MacLean, 22, from Knock Farm, with his one-year-old gimmer. 16_132bunessan09



The champion of the cheviot sheep section is Lola, a ewe lamb off a burnside sire, out of a home bred ewe, shown by Sis MacDougall, of R and S MacDougall, Woodcottage Croft, near Tobermory. 16_132bunessan12

Market reports

UNITED Auctions sold 5,397 prime sheep, including 3,819 lambs and 1,578 ewes and rams at its Stirling sale and show last Thursday, when Ben McDonald, Meadows of Ballied, won the champion pen, with Ross Farms, Wester Middleton, named reserve champion.

The West Coast and Central Suffolk prime lamb show was sponsored by Natural Stockcare.

Top prices:
Lambs: South Flanders (Suff) £99; Wester Balgair (Tex) £104; Woodhead of Aberdalgie (Btex) £105; Dippen (Char) £75; Drumharrow (Chev) £78; Doune Farms (Mule) £83.50.

Lambs: West Park (Suff) 203p; Drumharrow (Tex) 226p; Penston (Char) 192p; Woodhead of Aberdalgie (Btex) 214p; Drumharrow (Chev) 195p; Clachan Farms (Mule) 194p.

Ewes: Easter Buchlyvie (Suff) £97.50; Dalrask (Tex) £98.50; Kinnaid (Mule) £73.50; Shearerston (Chev) £81.50; Doldy (BF) £64.50; Straiton (Other) £93.50. Rams: Shearerston (Tex) £90.50.

CALEDONIAN Marts sold 334 store cattle and two young bulls at its Stirling sale on Monday, where native bred bullocks sold to 250p per kilo.

Bullocks averaged 222p to 269p per kilo for a 410kg British Blue from Laigh Park, Milngavie and to £1,290 for a 550kg Limousin from Holm Park, Ballantrae.

Heifers averaged 209p to 249p per kg for a 490kg Limousin from Shutterflat, Beith and to £1,220 gross for the same animal.

Bulls averaged 165p to 239p per kg for a 330kg Limousin from Offers, Gargunnoch and to £1,280 for a 845kg aged Simmental bull from Torran Farm, Ford, Lochgilphead.

Native Bred Bullocks sold to 250p per kg for three 445kg Aberdeen Angus from Lyleston, Cardross and to £1190 for three 500kg Aberdeen Angus from Holm Park, Ballantrae.

Black and White Bullocks averaged 168p per kg selling to 190p per kg for nine 375kgs from Lochnaw Farm, Stranrae and to £830 for a 535kg from Holm Park, Ballantrae.

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**Musdale Wind Farm Ltd
ELECTRICITY ACT 1989
TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING
(SCOTLAND) ACT 1997**

**THE ELECTRICITY WORKS (ENVIRONMENTAL
IMPACT ASSESSMENT)(SCOTLAND)
REGULATIONS 2000**

Notice is hereby given that Musdale Wind Farm Limited, (registered company number 08071739), First Floor, 500 Pavilion Drive, Northampton Business Park, Northampton, NN4 7YJ, has applied to the Scottish Ministers for consent to construct and operate Musdale wind farm approximately 7km south east of the village of Kilmore near Oban (Central Grid Reference E195550, N 722265). The installed capacity of the proposed generating station would be up to 64 MW comprising 16 turbines with a ground to blade tip height of up to 132 meters.

Musdale Wind Farm Limited has also applied for a direction under Section 57(2) of the Town and Country Planning (Scotland) Act 1997 that planning permission for the development be deemed to be granted.

A copy of the application, with a plan showing the land to which it relates, together with a copy of the Environmental Statement discussing the Company's proposals in more detail and presenting an analysis of the environmental implications, are available for inspection, free of charge, during normal office hours at:

Oban Service Point, Municipal Building, Albany Street, Oban. PA34 4AW

Oban Library, 77 Albany Street, Oban. PA34 4AL

Kilmelford Post Office, Village Store, Kilmelford, Oban. PA34 4XA

Taynuilt Post Office, Argyll. PA35 1JE

Dalavich Village Shop and Post Office, 17 Taynuilt, Argyll, PA35 1HN

The Environmental Statement can also be viewed at the Scottish Government Library at Victoria Quay, Edinburgh, EH6 6QQ.

Copies of the Environmental Statement may be obtained from Musdale Wind Farm Limited (tel: 0131 243 1380) at a charge of £500 hard copy and £10 on CD. Copies of a short non-technical summary are available free of charge.

Any representations to the application should be made by email to The Scottish Government, Energy Consents Unit mailbox at representations@scotland.gsi.gov.uk

or

by post to The Scottish Government, Energy Consents Unit, 4th Floor, 5 Atlantic Quay, 150 Broomielaw, Glasgow G2 8LU, identifying the proposal and specifying the grounds for representation, not later than 19 September 2013.

Representations should be dated and should clearly state the name (in block capitals), full return email and postal address of those making representations. Only representations sent by email to the address stipulated will receive acknowledgement.

When initial comments from statutory consultees are received further public notices will give advice on how this information may be viewed by members of the public, and how representations may be made to Scottish Ministers. During the consideration of the proposal, Scottish Ministers may formally request further information to supplement the Environmental Statement and this will also be advertised in such a manner.

As a result of a statutory objection from the relevant planning authority, or where Scottish Ministers decide to exercise their discretion to do so, Scottish Ministers can also cause a Public Local Inquiry (PLI) to be held.

Following receipt of all views and representations, Scottish Ministers will determine the application for consent in one of two ways:

- Consent the proposal, with or without conditions attached; or
- Reject the proposal

Fair Processing Notice

The Scottish Government Energy Consents and Deployment Unit process applications under The Electricity Act 1989. During the consultation process letters of representation can be sent to Scottish Ministers in support of or objecting to these applications.

Should Scottish Ministers call a Public Local Inquiry (PLI), copies of these representations will be sent to the Directorate of Planning and Environmental Appeals for the Reporter to consider during the inquiry. These representations will be posted on their website with personal email address, signature and home telephone number redacted (blacked out).

Copies of representations will also be issued to the developer on request, again with email address, signature and home telephone number redacted.

You can choose to mark your representation as confidential, in which case it will only be considered by Scottish Ministers and will not be shared with the Planning Authority, the developer, the Reporter (should a PLI be called) or any other third party.

If you have any queries or concerns about how your personal data will be handled, please email the Energy Consents and Deployment Unit at: energyconsents@scotland.gsi.gov.uk or in writing to Energy Consents and Deployment, 5 Atlantic Quay, 150 Broomielaw, Glasgow, G2 8LU.

To find out more about living and working in Argyll & Bute visit us @ www.argyll-bute.gov.uk

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
13/00710/PP	Formation of new door in warehouse 5 and internal alterations to form viewing area.	Oban Distillery 45 Stafford Street Oban Argyll and Bute PA34 5NH	Oban Area Office
13/01525/PP	Erection of dwellinghouse	Land South of The Coalree Kenovay Isle of Tiree	Tiree Area Office
13/01540/PP	Erection of dwellinghouse, installation of septic tank and formation of vehicular access	Land South East of Garden Cottages Oban Argyll and Bute	Oban Area Office
13/01575/PP	Change of use of office (class 2) to dwellinghouse (class 9)	Claremont Glencruitten Road Oban Argyll and Bute PA34 4QA	Oban Area Office
13/01631/PP	Erection of dwellinghouse	Plot 3 Gallanachbeg Glenshellach Road Oban Argyll and Bute	Oban Area Office
13/01632/PP	Erection of 4 dwellinghouses and installation of septic tank	Land North East of Gallanachbeg Glenshellach 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
13/01565/PP	Erection of dwellinghouse	9 Livingstone Way Port Ellen Isle of Islay Argyll and Bute PA42 7EP	Sub Post Office Port Ellen

TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING (SCOTLAND) ACT 1997 (AS AMENDED), RELATED PLANNING (LISTED BUILDINGS AND CONSERVATION AREAS) (SCOTLAND) ACT 1997

Ref	Proposal	Site Address	Location of Plans
13/01645/PP	Renewal of planning permission reference 09/01840/PP (Erection of 9 Dwellings)	Portnahaven Boatyard King Street Portnahaven Isle of Islay Argyll and Bute PA47 7SP	Sub Post Office Portnahaven

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 Lochgilphead PA31 8SY.

A weekly list of applications can be viewed at the above address and at all Council Libraries.

Any letter of representation the Council receives is considered a public document and will be published on our website. Anonymous or marked confidential correspondence will not be considered.

CROFTING COMMISSION COIMISEAN NA CROITEARACHD DECROFTING DIRECTIONS ISSUED

Name, Croft, Extent/Reason, Conditions, Case number

D F Berry
1 Vaul, Tiree
0.087 ha and 0.093 ha
- Sites for a dwelling house 4.86.41617 and 4.86.41618
Conditions: 1, 2, 3b

Miss M M Watt
12 & 13 Upper Inveroy, Kilmornaivaig
0.091 ha and 0.020 ha
- Amenity ground 4.86.41572 and 4.86.41563
Conditions: 1, 2, 3a

Conditions
(1) Purchase area within 5 years of the date of direction.
(2) To provide a site for a dwellinghouse
(3) Complete enclosure of the land with a stock proof fence within 4 months of:
(a) the date of the direction
(b) the proposed development completion

Any person with an interest in the application may appeal against a decision to the Scottish Land Court within 42 days of the date of this advert.

WEST HIGHLAND HOUSING ASSOCIATION LTD

Invite all Tenants, Owners and Shareholders to a **PRE-AGM DROP IN**

On Thursday 22nd August 2013
3.00pm - 6.00pm

In the Main Hall, Church Centre
Glencruitten Road, Oban

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
Will follow at 6.00pm

ARGYLL ANIMAL AID

We will be holding a **SPECIAL GENERAL MEETING** on **30th SEPTEMBER 2013** at **The Regent Hotel, Corran Esplanade, Oban at 7.30PM**

After being in existence for over 23 years Our Constitution needs to be brought into the 21st Century.

We hope to move forward positively and with fresh ideas whilst never losing sight of the commitment to rescue and rehoming animals that come to us needing help. Without your help and support over the years we could not have helped the many animals that have passed through our doors to loving homes.

We wouldn't exist without you
Please continue to support us
THANKYOU
All welcome

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 9.30am - 4.30pm Monday to Friday (excluding public holidays) at the SERVICE POINT, LOCHABER HOUSE, HIGH STREET, FORT WILLIAM, PH33 6EL and online at <http://www.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
13/02714/FUL	Glencoe Independent Hostel, Glencoe Ballachulish	Alteration to caravan site layout to replace one static caravan with two mobile cabins
13/02725/FUL	Unit 3A, Annat, Corpach Fort William	Erection of a temporary building for the purpose of vehicle valeting
13/02870/FUL	Maryburgh Court High Street Fort William	Installation of a new communal heating system using wood pellet boilers to a block of 28 flats
13/02871/PIP	Land 35M East of Mountain View Murlaggan, Roy Bridge	Erection of house (renewal of application 06/00489/OUTLO and 10/02250/PIP)
13/02872/PIP	Land 100M East of Mountain View Murlaggan, Roy Bridge	Erection of house (renewal of application 10/02249/PIP)
13/02873/PIP	Land 60M East of Mountain View Murlaggan, Roy Bridge	Erection of house (renewal of application 10/02251/PIP)
13/02876/FUL	Land At Laggan Locks North Laggan	Erection of Seven Visitor Accommodation Pods and a Services Building
13/02887/PIP	Plot 6, Old Golf Course Kilchoan, Acharacle	Proposed house site
13/02888/PIP	Plot 8, Old Golf Course Kilchoan, Acharacle	Proposed house site
13/02894/FUL	An Crannog, 15 Moss Acharacle	Temporary consent for erection of poly-tunnel, caravan & garden shed
13/02912/FUL	Land 75M South of An Tobar, Dalnabreck Acharacle	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

**Forestry Commission Scotland
Coimisean na Coilltearachd Alba**

NATIONAL FOREST LAND SCHEME

Forestry Commission Scotland wishes to notify Community and Environmental groups that it is proposing sale of the following woodland properties:

Property:	Area (approx):	Grid Ref:	Location:
Lochdon Wood	218 ha.	NM716326	Isle of Mull
Coddlerie Wood	262 ha	NN053390	Upper Loch Eilwe
Kinachreochan Wood	454 ha	NN145268	near Dalnally

Enquiries to Forestry Commission Scotland at : ronnie.lee@forestry.gsi.gov.uk
Full details are being sent to the relevant Community Councils and Non Government Organisations.

www.forestry.gov.uk

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of the business community
read the regional press

Source: Business Choice II, The Newspaper Society

Regional Press
closer to home

Lorn show results

BLACKFACE RESULTS :
 Top 3 Shear (Section 11): Sheila MacGregor, Slatierich Farm, Isle of Kerrera, 2 T Nelson, Glengorm Estate, Tobermory, Isle of Mull; Top 3 Shear (Open Section): 1 Sheila MacGregor, Slatierich Farm, Isle of Kerrera, 2 T Nelson, Glengorm Estate, Tobermory, Isle of Mull; Top 2 Shear (Section 11): 1 T Nelson, Glengorm Estate, Tobermory, Isle of Mull, 2 Sheila MacGregor, Slatierich Farm, Isle of Kerrera, 3 Sheila MacGregor, Slatierich Farm, Isle of Kerrera; Top 2 Shear (Open Section): 1 Messrs MacArthur, Arnicle, Glenbarr, 2 T Nelson, Glengorm Estate, Tobermory, Isle of Mull, 3 Sheila MacGregor, Slatierich Farm, Isle of Kerrera; Top 2 Shear (Section 11): 1 D Cameron, Inion Farm, Ardochattan, North Connel, 2 Angus MacColl, Isle of Mull, Shearling Top (Open Section): 1 Messrs J & J MacPherson, Balliemaenoch Farm, Dalnally, 2 D Cameron, Inion Farm, Ardochattan, North Connel, 2 N MacPhail, Woodside Croft, Salen, Isle of Mull, 3 Sheila MacGregor, Slatierich Farm, Isle of Kerrera; Gimmer (Open Section): 1 Messrs J & J MacPherson, Balliemaenoch Farm, Dalnally, 2 Messrs D MacVicar, Lepinchapel, Strachur, 3 Messrs J & J MacPherson, Balliemaenoch Farm, Dalnally; Ewe Lamb (Section 11): 1 A MacColl, Tobermory, Isle of Mull, 2 Fulton Ronald, Saulmore Farm, Connel, 3 N MacPhail, Woodside Croft, Salen, Isle of Mull; Ewe Lamb (Open Section): 1 D Shaw, Inshaig, Ardfiern, by Lochgilphead, 2 D Shaw, Inshaig, Ardfiern, by Lochgilphead, 3 Messrs MacArthur, Arnicle, Glenbarr, by Tarbert; Ewe with own lamb (section 11): 1 T Nelson, Glengorm Estate, Tobermory, Isle of Mull, 2 D Cameron, Inion Farm, Ardochattan, North Connel; Ewe shown with her own lamb (Open Section): 1 Messrs MacArthur, Arnicle, Glenbarr, by Tarbert, 2 T Nelson, Glengorm Estate, Tobermory, Isle of Mull; Reid and Robertson Sponsorship Prize for Male Champion: Messrs. D MacVicar, Lepinchapel, Strachur; D G MacKay Sponsorship Prize for reserve Male Champion: Messrs MacArthur, Arnicle, Glenbarr, by Tarbert; Reid and Robertson Sponsorship Prize for Female Champion: Messrs J & J MacPherson, Balliemaenoch Farm, Dalnally; D G MacKay Sponsorship Prize for reserve Female Champion: Messrs. D MacVicar, Lepinchapel, Strachur; Reid and Robertson Sponsorship Prize for Homebred Ewe with own Lamb at Foot (Open Section): Messrs MacArthur, Arnicle, Glenbarr, by Tarbert. **Young Farmers Section:** Top (other than Ram Lamb): 1 Sam MacKenzie, 16, Moss, Acharacle; Female (other than Lamb): 1 Sam MacKenzie, 16, Moss, Acharacle; Best Gimmer: 1 Lee Gallagher, Woodside Croft, Salen, Isle of Mull, 2 Sam MacKenzie, 16, Moss, Acharacle; Best Lamb: 1 Miss A Nelson, Glengorm, Tobermory, Isle of Mull, 2 Sam MacKenzie, 16, Moss, Acharacle. **SUFFOLK SHEEP :** Ewe: 1 M & D MacCorquodale, Achnaba Farm, North Connel, 2 Greg Gillespie, Crosshill, Campbelltown; Gimmer: 1 M & D MacCorquodale, Achnaba Farm, North Connel; Ewe Lamb: 1 Douglas MacDonald, Tyree, Benderloch; Clan Cottages Sponsorship Prize for Champion Suffolk: M & D MacCorquodale, Achnaba Farm, North Connel; Clan Cottages Sponsorship Prize for Reserve Champion Suffolk: M & D MacCorquodale, Achnaba Farm, North Connel; TEXEL: Ram (excluding Lambs): 1 Greg Gillespie, Crosshill, Campbelltown; Ewe: 1 Greg Gillespie, Crosshill, Campbelltown; Gimmer: 1 & 2 Malcolm MacDonald, 17 Whitegates Court, Lochgilphead, 3 Greg Gillespie, Crosshill Camp-

belton; Ram Lamb: 1 E & L MacGillivray, Barcaldine Home Farm, Barcaldine, 3 Greg Gillespie, Crosshill, Campbelltown, 3 M & D MacCorquodale, Achnaba Farm, North Connel; Ewe Lamb: 1 E & L MacGillivray, Barcaldine Home Farm, Barcaldine, 2 Douglas MacDonald (jnr) Tyree, Benderloch, 3 M & D MacCorquodale, Achnaba Farm, North Connel; Agrimony Sponsorship Prize for Champion Blueface Leicester: Jean McLachlan, c/o Killdalloig Farm, Campbelltown; Agrimony Sponsorship Prize for Reserve Blueface Leicester: Allan MacKellar, Seaview, Benderloch; Agrimony Sponsorship Prize for Reserve Champion Blueface Leicester: Allan MacKellar, Seaview, Benderloch; Ewe: 1 Rosslyn Smith, Balliemaenoch Farm, Kilmichael Glassary, Lochgilphead; Ewe: 1 Rosslyn Smith, Balliemaenoch Farm, Kilmichael Glassary, Lochgilphead; Gimmer: 1 Rosslyn Smith, Balliemaenoch Farm, Kilmichael Glassary, Lochgilphead; Ewe Lamb: 1 Rosslyn Smith, Balliemaenoch Farm, Kilmichael Glassary, Lochgilphead; Agrimony Sponsorship Prize for Champion Beltex: Rosslyn Smith, Balliemaenoch Farm, Kilmichael Glassary, Lochgilphead; Agrimony Sponsorship Prize for Reserve Champion Beltex: Rosslyn Smith, Balliemaenoch Farm, Kilmichael Glassary, Lochgilphead; BLUEFACE LEICESTER: Ram (excluding lambs): 1 Allan MacKellar, Seaview, Benderloch, 2 Jean McLachlan, c/o Killdalloig Farm, Campbelltown, 3 Allan MacKellar, Seaview, Benderloch; Ewe: 1 Allan MacKellar, Seaview, Benderloch, 2 Jean McLachlan, c/o Killdalloig Farm, Campbelltown, 3 J & M Turner, Killdalloig Farm, Campbelltown; Gimmer: 1 J & M Turner, Killdalloig Farm, Campbelltown; Sheep Champion: Messrs J & J MacPherson, Balliemaenoch Farm, Dalnally; Harbo Sponsorship Prize for Reserve Overall Sheep Champion: Malcolm MacDonald, 17 Whitegates Court, Lochgilphead; Young Handlers: Sheep Section Primary: 1 Zoe Prentice, Balliemaenoch Farm, Kilmichael Glassary; 12 - 18 years: 1 = Asha Nelson, Glengorm, Isle of Mull and Lee Gallagher, Woodside Croft, Salen, Isle of Mull. **HIGHLAND CATTLE:** Bull any age: 1 S & M O'Hara, Cnoc Fold, Cnoc Lodge, Creagan, Appin, 2 M. Poland, West Ferlochan, Benderloch, 3 R MacMillan & E. Lawrence, Little Grenach Farm, Rothsay, Isle of Bute; Cow with calf at foot: 1 M. Poland, West Ferlochan, Benderloch; Heifer born in 2010: 1 Mrs Strickland, Keppochan Fold, Cladich, Dalnally, 2 Sir W Lithgow BT & Son, Ormsary Estate, Lochgilphead, 3 R. MacMillan & E. Lawrence, Little Grenach Farm, Rothsay, Isle of Bute; Heifer born in 2011: 1 S & M O'Hara, Cnoc Fold, Cnoc Lodge, Creagan, Appin, 2 M. Poland, West Ferlochan, Benderloch, 3 Mrs Strickland, Keppochan Fold, Cladich, Dalnally; Pair, any age: 1 M. Poland, West Ferlochan, Benderloch, 2 R. MacMillan & E. Lawrence, Little Grenach Farm, Rothsay, Isle of Bute, 3 Mrs Strickland, Keppochan Fold, Cladich, Dalnally; Calf born in 2013: 1 M. Poland, West Ferlochan, Benderloch, 2 S & M O'Hara, Cnoc Fold, Cnoc Lodge, Creagan, Appin; PURE BRED BEEF CATTLE: Cow in calf or milk: 1 Ned and Sue Rimmer, Balliemaenoch Farm, Isle of Kerrera; Yield Heifer: 1 Ned and Sue

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TECHNICAL SERVICES OFFICER
COVERING MID-ARGYLL AND KINTYRE AREA
Salary Scale: Grade 4
£23,464- £ 25,973

Fyne Homes are currently recruiting for a Technical Services Officer to be based in our Lochgilphead office and will involve travel to cover the area of Mid Argyll and Kintyre. Due to the nature of this role a current driving licence and use of a car for business purposes is required.

You will provide an effective and efficient property management service, as part of a small team within Fyne Homes and work closely with the contractors supplying services under our framework agreements.

Key tasks include day to day management of reactive, cyclical and capital investment programmes.

You should preferably have at least 5 years property maintenance experience, some of which consists of experience at a supervisory level. Much of the work involves communicating directly with tenants and other members of the public in a front line role. You will require good interpersonal and communication skills, a strong commitment to customer service and the ability to work as part of the team and on your own initiative within laid down objectives and targets. A knowledge and understanding of legislation and statutory responsibilities is necessary as is a working knowledge of the Microsoft Office suite of programs.

It is desirable that candidates either hold or are studying towards a relevant professional qualification or can demonstrate equivalent working knowledge and experience in the property maintenance/building sector.

The hours of work are 35 hours per week.

In return for the above we offer an attractive salary and conditions.

Application packs can be obtained from

Fyne Homes Ltd
81 Victoria Street, Rothesay
Isle of Bute PA20 0AP
Tel: 0845 6077117
e-mail: postmaster@fynehomes.co.uk
or visit our website - www.fynehomes.org.uk

Closing Date: Noon on Thursday 15th August 2013
Interview Date: Tuesday 27th August 2013

Fyne Homes Ltd believes in promoting equality and diversity



Mechanical/Electrical Engineer

Marine Harvest (Scotland) Ltd currently has a vacancy for a multi skilled and self-motivated Mechanical/Electrical Engineer to cover our Freshwater sites.

The successful applicant will be required to supervise all planned preventative and reactive maintenance and ensure that all plant and equipment is maintained to the highest possible efficiencies. In addition they will investigate all possible areas for improved plant utilisation and output and be required to undertake specific industry training on feed systems, and other key equipment. They will also be required to be on call one in every three weeks.

The ideal candidate should fit the following skills profile:

- Have served an electrical or mechanical apprenticeship and hold recognised trade qualifications.
- EE 17th Edition Wiring Regulations
- CITY & GUILDS 2394/2395 & Electrical Test and Inspection
- Hold a current SJB Grade Card
- Experience of working PLC's, Diesel generator sets
- Practical knowledge of computerised feeding systems
- Clean Driving Licence.

Marine Harvest Scotland offer a salary package in the range £25k - £30k plus bonus dependent on experience, together with on call payments.

If you feel you have the necessary skills to respond to this challenging role, please submit an application in writing with details of relevant experience, by the closing date of Friday 23rd August to: Vicky Ferguson, Human Resources Manager, Marine Harvest (Scotland) Limited, Business Resources Centre, Blar Mhor Industrial Estate, Fort William PH37 7PT.

Office Administrator

We are seeking a highly motivated, enthusiastic person, with a flexible approach to work.

We require the successful applicant to possess a pleasant, helpful and approachable manner.

In addition, we require the successful applicant to have the minimum skill set -

- Fully competent of Microsoft Access database system
- Awareness with all Microsoft office packages. (Excel and Word)
- Knowledge and clear understanding in accountancy and the process/procedures associated with such.
- Awareness of the SAGE 50 accounts programme.

This post brings a significant amount of responsibility and demands on the successful applicant.

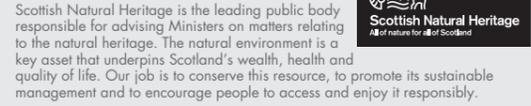
Hours & T&C will be discussed at interview stage only.

Please apply to - info@mcKinvenandcolville.com, attaching your CV to email or via regular mail to - Mr B Colville, McKinven & Colville Ltd, CAMPBELLTOWN, PA28 6SY.

PCV driver's in Mid Argyll and Oban required from October.

Discretion assured please contact:

Roddy Anderson
0781012817



Scottish Natural Heritage is the leading public body responsible for advising Ministers on matters relating to the natural heritage. The natural environment is a key asset that underpins Scotland's wealth, health and quality of life. Our job is to conserve this resource, to promote its sustainable management and to encourage people to access and enjoy it responsibly.

Operations Support

21 hours per week, fixed term until 31st March 2015
Salary scale £15,017 to £18,924 Bowmore, Islay
(Ref: 045-355)

This post is crucial to the frontline of the Islay Office; duties include normal day to day administration tasks, assisting with field work, vehicles, Health & Safety, filing, casework management system and the Scottish Rural Development Programme administration. You must have administrative experience, with excellent communication skills both written and orally. It is also essential that you have experience of working with the public. Finally, you must have a full driving licence or other means of transport available to you as part of this role will involve driving company pool cars to and from the garage to maintenance checks.
Closing date Friday 23 August 2013.

Reserve Manager

37 hours a week, permanent contract
Salary scale £19,629 to £26,199 per annum
Lochgilphead
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You must have enthusiasm to take proactive responsibility for finding ways to deliver SNH's goals for NNRs, combined with the determination to make your ideas work and an imaginative, creative and can do approach to problem solving, combined with a willingness to reflect, evaluate and if necessary, change tack to deliver NNR goals. An interest in and knowledge of the natural history of native woodlands, peatlands and their associated lower plant and invertebrate interests and experience of managing these interests for nature conservation, with natural history monitoring experience and an aptitude for learning new methods and skills for habitat assessment and monitoring specialist groups is essential. You must also have an understanding of community engagement and commitment to finding effective ways to connect people with nature and through our NNRs, with an open, friendly, helpful interpersonal style when dealing with the range of NNR stakeholders - communities, farmers and volunteers and a willingness and confidence to be the public 'face' of the Argyll NNRs. It is essential that you have a sympathetic and empowering approach to line management, with the ability to develop and support a positive team ethos. Finally, you must have a full valid driving licence as you will be going to locations that are not covered by public transport.
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1 D MacDonald, Tyree, Benderloch; Reid and Robertson Sponsorship Prize for Champion Calf in Show (Pure Bred or Cross Calves): E & L MacGillivray, Barcaldine Home Farm, Barcaldine; D & J Campbell Sponsorship Prize for Best Home Bred Animal in Cattle Classes: M. Poland, West Ferlochan, Benderloch; United Auctions Sponsorship Prize for Champion Animal in Cattle Section: M. Poland, West Ferlochan, Benderloch; Harbro Sponsorship Prize for Reserve Champion Animal in Cattle Section: E & L MacGillivray, Barcaldine Home Farm, Barcaldine; Young Handlers: Cattle Section: Primary: 1 Douglas MacDonald, Tyree, Benderloch; 12 - 18: 1 Lynn MacLean, Invergleng, Barcaldine; DOGS: Collies: 1 Catherine Smith, Balliemore, Kilmichael Glassary with Cap; 2 Julie Campbell, Darachbeag, North Connel with Meg; 3 Lora MacLean, Invergleng, Barcaldine with Brad; Gun Dogs - All Breeds: 1 Alice Thomson, Cupar, Fife with Ruby; 2 Eliza Bunting, 8 Etive Park, North Connel with Murphy; 3 Sheila Young, Oban with Loran; Hounds and Terriers: 1 Alasdair Dweir, 2 Longistan Road, Oban with Seoras; 2 Graham Ault, Selsey, West Sussex with Edward; 3 Kath Atchison, Seaview Caravans with Archie; Any other Breed: 1 Julie Campbell, Darachbeag, North Connel with Buddy; 2 Bob Blainey, Dunlonan, Soroba Road, Oban with Blue; 3 Sheila MacIntyre, Oban with Dougal; Child Handler: 1 Ramoch Wilson, Craigaivullin, Benderloch with Harry; 2 Isaac Woistenholme, Appin with Lucy; 3 Heather McCrae, Seaview, with Archie; Champion Dog: Julie Campbell, Darachbeag, North Connel with Buddy; Reserve Champion Dog: Alice Thomson, Cupar,

Fife with Ruby. **POULTRY:** Small Fowl any breed - male: 1 Duncan Cameron, Inion Farm, North Connel; 2 Charlie Cameron, Inion Farm, North Connel; Large Fowl, any breed - male: 1 George Campbell, Tighnabhae, Taynuilt; Large Fowl, any breed - female: 1 Laura Campbell, Kilphedar, North Connel; 2 Stewart Campbell, Kilphedar, North Connel; 3 George Campbell, Tighnabhae, Taynuilt; Small Fowl, any breed - Female: 1 Holly Cameron, Inion Farm, North Connel; 3 Duck Eggs: 1 Fiona Dickie, Musdale Farm, Kilmore; 3 Hen's Eggs: 1 Fiona Dickie, Musdale Farm, Kilmore; 1 Ann Ferguson, Dalantobair, Kilmore; 2 Diane MacLean, Benderloch; 3 Mary Cook, North Connel; Painting - any medium: 1 Catherine Orbach, Near Shenaville; 2 Rhoda Thomas, Burnbrae, Oban; **CHILDREN'S CLASSES:** PRE SCHOOL: Drawing of 'My Hand': 1 Charlie Cameron, Inion Farm, North Connel; 2 Finn MacKechnie, Shaiba, North Connel; 3 Lilla Thomas, Burnbrae, Oban; Painted Stone: 1 Charlie Cameron, Inion Farm, North Connel; 2 Alasdair Campbell, Finlaggan, North Connel; 3 Finn MacKechnie, Shaiba, North Connel; 8 YEARS AND UNDER: 3 Sugar Mice: 1 Kai MacKechnie, Shaiba, North Connel; 2 Donnie MacCorquodale, Achnaba, North Connel; 3 Alexander MacDonald, Achbuide, North Connel; Slice of toast decorated as a 'Cat': 1 Alex Elliot, The Stables, Soroba Road, Oban; 2 Eddie Elliot, The Stables, Soroba Road, Oban; 3 Alexander MacDonald, Achbuide, North Connel; Garden on a plate no more than 9" in diameter: 1 Alexander MacDonald, Achbuide, North Connel; 2 Kai MacKechnie, Shaiba, North Connel; Pencils

and Crayon drawing of my 'Pet': 1 Donnie MacCorquodale, Achnaba, North Connel; 2 Duncan Cameron, Inion Farm, North Connel; 3 Alex Elliot, The Stables, Soroba Road, Oban; 9 - 11 YEAR: 4 Gingerbread men decorated: 1 Gregor MacDonald, Achbuide, North Connel; 2 Isla Buchanan Laganfhoidan, North Connel; 3 Mairi MacCorquodale, Achnaba, North Connel; 4 Cupcakes decorated - one colour only: 1 Gregor MacDonald, Achbuide, North Connel; 2 Stuart Campbell, Kilphedar, North Connel; 3 Mairi MacCorquodale, Achnaba, North Connel; Article made from shells and wood: 1 Isla Buchanan Laganfhoidan, North Connel; 2 Freya MacKechnie, Shaiba, North Connel; 3 Gregor MacDonald, Achbuide, North Connel; Birthday Card Invitation: 1 Freya MacKechnie, Shaiba, North Connel; 2 Isla Buchanan Laganfhoidan, North Connel; 3 Mairi MacCorquodale, Achnaba, North Connel; 12 - 16 YEARS: 4 Fruit Scones: 1 Lauren MacDonald, Tyree, Benderloch; 2 Laura Campbell, Kilphedar, North Connel; 4 Two coloured decorated cup cakes: 1 Lauren MacDonald, Tyree, Benderloch; 2 Katie Fulton, Nr. Shenaville; 3 Laura Campbell, Kilphedar, North Connel; 4 Squares Tablet: 1 Lauren MacDonald, Tyree, Benderloch; 2 Laura Campbell, Kilphedar, North Connel; Patchwork Pot Holder: 1 Laura Campbell, Kilphedar, North Connel; 2 Lauren MacDonald, Tyree, Benderloch; Photograph 'My Pet': 1 Lauren MacDonald, Tyree, Benderloch,

2 Laura Campbell, Kilphedar, North Connel; **Baby Show** Under 1 yr: 1 = Abbie and Rowan Livingstone, Oakview, Taynuilt; 2 Abigail MacFadyen, 59 Morvern Hill, Oban; 3 Robbie Smith, North Ledaig Caravans; 1 - 2 years: 1 Cameron Pirie, Carloway, Longsdale Road, Oban; 2 Euan Campbell, Finlaggan, North Connel; 3rd = Hollie Cameron, McKelvie Road, Oban and Maisy Gillies, 4 Lorn Road, DUNBEG; **HIGHLAND DANCING:** Beginners 8 years and under Highland (Anderson Banks & Co Trophy): Iona McKay, Dalmeally; Beginners 8 years and under National Trophy: Iona McKay, Dalmeally; Beginners 9 years and over Highland (Lorn Agricultural Society Trophy): Rachel Johnston, Islay; Novice 9 years and over National Trophy: Hannah Graham, Kilmore; Beginners 9 years and over National Trophy: Chelsea MacAuley, Dunbeg; Novice 9 years and over Highland (Lorn Agricultural Society Trophy): Rachel Johnston, Islay; Novice 9 years and over National Trophy: Rachel Johnston, Islay; Novice 10 years and over Highland (Toni and Nikki Russell Trophy): Zoe Brown, Oban; Novice 10 years and over National Trophy - Emma Brown, Oban; Intermediate Highland (Anne Aitken Trophy): Ashleigh Taylor, Oban; Intermediate National Trophy: Ashleigh Taylor, Oban; Premier 11 years and over Highland: Lisa McGillivray, Dunoon; Premier 11 years and over National: Fiona Armstrong, Falkirk; Premier 12 & 13 years Highland Trophy: Katie MacPherson, Oban; Premier 12 & 13 years National: Katie Lambert, Dunoon; Katie MacPherson, Oban; Premier 14 years and over Highland (Kings Knoll Quaiach): Kirsty McGillivray, Dunoon; Premier 14 years and over National: Anna Beverstock, Barra.

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Leah MacCorquodale
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DAD xxx
12 - 8 - 04

12 - 8 - 04
To my granddaughter
Leah MacCorquodale
On her Birthday
Missing you
Gran xxx

HAPPY 21ST ROWAN

FROM MUM, DAD AND ALL THE FAMILY. XXX

BERNIE MOUAT
My sincere thanks to my son Duncan Mouat wife Ruth and daughter Hannah for their unfailing love and support during my illness. To doctors and nurses at the hospital, my neighbours in Longsdale Crescent for their unfailing kindness for friends cards and phone calls. Thank you all.

MY HEARTFELT THANKS FOR ALL THE GOOD WISHES FOR MY RECOVERY
SYBIL

Oban Times PERSONALS

GRADUATIONS



Martin Thomas Walsh graduated from the University of the West of Scotland with a Bachelor of Engineering in Mechanical Engineering. Martin is the son of Tom and Ruth Walsh, and the grandson of the late John and Kath Martindale, Dalmally.



David William Dunsmore graduated Master of Aero-Mechanical Engineering (First Class Honours) with Distinction from the University of Strathclyde. David is the youngest son of Alex and June, Dunblane, and grandson of Colin and Morag Urquhart, Pennyfuir, Oban.



Ami Gibson, Munloch graduated July 2013 with a 2.1 in Fashion Design for Industry from Heriot Watt University, Galashiels. Ami is the daughter of Tommy and Aileen Gibson, grand daughter of Tommy and Helen Gibson, and Iain and Rena MacPherson.

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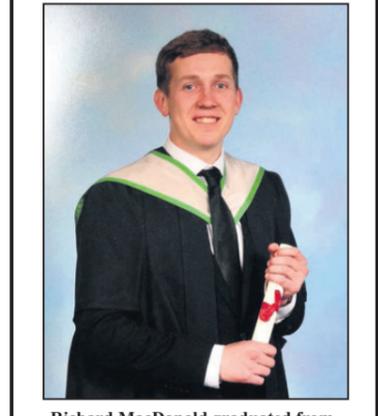
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Richard MacDonald graduated from University of Stirling with B.Sc Hons in Computing Science. Richard is the son of Fiona Somerled and grandson of Robin and the late Sheila MacDonald, Gallanach Road, Oban

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Clara Louis McGhee graduated with BSc 1st Class Hons in Sustainable Business from St Andrews University. Clara is the daughter of Robert and Victoria McGhee, and has family connections in Aberfeldy, Isle Of Coll and The Isle Of Wight, and starts her career in Edinburgh.

BIRTHS

MACKEY - Kenny MacKay and Letty Jeffreys are delighted to announce the arrival of their son Quinn Douglald on July 4, 2013. First grandchild for Kenny and Elaine MacKay, Loch Fyne.



PREISS - Iain and Joan Auld are delighted to announce the birth of their second granddaughter, Alba Auld Preiss born July 23, 2013 weighing 8lbs 4.5oz. A beautiful little sister for Lucy.

SLOSS - Lorna (Stewart) and Davie are delighted to announce the birth of their daughter Charlotte Victoria on July 21, 2013 at the RAH, Paisley. A little sister for Brodie and Carson. A granddaughter for Cathy and Kenny.

MARRIAGES

PINKERTON - STANGER - Both families are delighted to announce the marriage of Bruce and Marie at St Magnus Church, Birsay, Orkney on July 20, 2013.

DEATHS

CURRIE - Peacefully on July 25, 2013, Catherine Mary Currie aged 96 years. Formerly of Lochbuie, Isle of Mull. Sadly missed.

GILLIES - Mary (née Cameron). Dearly loved sister, mother, grandmother and great-grandmother, beloved wife of the late Ronnie Gillies, tragically died as result of a road traffic accident on Thursday, August 1, 2013. Funeral date to be confirmed.

KENNEDY - Tragically killed as a result of a road traffic accident on the A85 at Connel, on August 1, 2013, Vincent John, in his 33rd year. A much loved father, partner, son, brother and friend. Funeral details to be announced. Family flowers only please. Retiring collection/donations will be taken for Help for Heroes.

LIVINGSTONE - Peacefully on August 3, 2013, after a long, contented, hard-working life, Molly Skene, aged 93, 40 Lynn Court (formerly of 6 Corran Brae), Oban, beloved wife of the late John Livingstone, adored, precious mum of Mhairi and Robbie, granny of John, Lorn, Sarah, Jenny and Paul, G.G. of Calum, Finlay, Lewis, Anna and Rona, dearest mum-in-law, auntie and friend. Funeral service on Friday, August 9, 2013 in Christ's Church, Esplanade at 1pm, thereafter to Pennyfuir Cemetery. All friends respectfully invited. Family flowers only please. Retiring collection for Mary's Meals and Oban Lifeboat Station.

MACFARLANE - Peacefully at home, "Innisfree", 50 Nant Drive, Oban, on August 4, 2013, aged 89 years, Donnie, beloved husband of the late Helen MacMurphy, much loved father of Kenny, Jim and John, father-in-law, grandfather and great-grandfather. A friend to many and will be sadly missed.

MACLEAN - (Kennay/Bridge of Orchy). Peacefully at home, on Tuesday July 30, 2013, Alistair (Alexander) aged 78 years, beloved husband of Margaret, devoted dad to Kerry, Calum and Ewen and a much loved grandfather. Margaret and family, wish to thank all relatives and friends for their kind expressions of sympathy.

MCLENNAN - Alexandrina (Rena) née Cameron. Peacefully after a short illness in Ward B at The Lorn & Islands Hospital on August 1, 2013 in her 87th year, Rena (Dunstaffnage & Dunbeg) beloved wife of the late Kenny, mother to Ken and Cammy, mother-in-law to Sheena and Angela, much loved granny to Kenneth, Lynn and Cameron, special Gran to Aaron and Ryan and much loved sister to Alex and Joanne. Funeral took place at Dunbeg Church and Pennyfuir Cemetery on Tuesday, August 6, 2013.

MORRISON - Peacefully, at Mid Argyll Hospital, Lochgilphead, on July 31, 2013, aged 67, Hugh Thomas Morrison (Hughie), 7 Tormor View, Fionnphort, Isle of Mull. Beloved husband of the late Sue and of Mary. A loving father of Joanna and Calum and a dear grandfather to Kirsten, Amy, Blair and Cara. Funeral took place on Tuesday, 6 August. Will be sadly missed by many.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

BROWN - Marianne, Donald and Jessie and families, would like to sincerely thank everyone who sent cards, flowers and gave support on the sad loss of their dad, John.

To the staff of the Lorn & Islands Hospital, Dr. Richard Wilson and community nurses. To Rev. Kenneth Ross of Kilbrandon for his thoughtful and comforting service and organist and friend, Ken Butler. To D. & A. Munn, Funeral Directors and Tigh-an-Truigh for after service refreshments. Very special thanks to Hilary Brown and team of MacMillan and Marie Curie nurses and carers. Heather MacKinnon and Josie Tidser and team for their excellent care and enabling John to spend his last days in the comfort of his own home. Thanks also to all those who attended the church and graveside. The sum of £621.05 was raised for MacMillan Cancer Support.

HUNTER - Denise and family, Glenpane Street, Caol wish to thank everyone for their expressions of sympathy and support after the sad passing of Roddy. Thanks to staff at Tweeddale Surgery, especially Dr. Massie and thanks also to the Macmillan nurses, to Scott and Angus of McLellan Funeral Directors and MacDonald Bros Florists. A big thank you to Rev. C. MacRae (and Laura and Mairi too) for ensuring the church service went so well. The excellent sum of £941 was raised and will go to Highland Hospice and MacMillan nurses.

MACDONALD - Christine, Liz, Caroline and John would like to thank all family and friends for the support, cards and flowers received following the loss of mum. Special thanks to Rev. Robert Brookes, Hamish Hoey and Son, Jackie Beaton and nursing staff at Succoth, Glassary and Ward B.

MAUHLIN - Isobel, John, Rowena, and Jeni wish to thank everyone for the many kind expressions of sympathy received following the death of John. Our thanks to the Rev. G. Cringles for his lovely service, to Ken for his very thoughtful eulogy, and to Gillian and Kirsten for their reading. We are grateful to H. Hoey and Sons for making all funeral arrangements in such a caring way and the Falls of Lora Hotel for hospitality. Thank you to all who cared for John over the years - to Connel Surgery, the District nurses and Lorn and Isles Hospital, Eader Glinn for respite care and especially to all the carers at Care Plus, and to Heather for her unstinting support. Finally, thank you to all who attended at the church and graveside, and also all who contributed so generously in donating to the North Argyll Stroke Association.

McWILLIAM - Rosemary, Isobel, Trisha and families would like to thank everyone for their kind expressions of sympathy after the sad loss of their beloved mum Mary (née McGillivray). Special thanks to Glen Mor Medical Practice, Belford Hospital and Paramedics. Our grateful thanks to Scott of McLellan Funeral Directors and Rev. Christopher MacRae for organising and conducting a lovely and personal service, May MacIntyre for playing the organ, Salvation Army for the use of the hall, Fay, Marlene and Morag for the lovely refreshments afterwards at Caol Community Centre and all who paid their respects at the church and graveside. The sum of £638 was raised for L.A.D.S. Lunch Club. Thank you all for your generosity.

BARR - John. Treasured memories of a dear husband, dad and grandfather died August 9, 2010. His nature was loving and giving. His heart was made of pure gold and to us who truly love him His memory will never grow old.

CHISHOLM - Sarah "Rae" King MacMillan - August 11, 2008. Tender memories of a much loved mother, sorely missed every day.

CLARK - Graham and Kirsty. Such wonderful memories always held of Graham who passed away August 7, 2006 and Kirsty who passed away December 22, 2012. Together forever. Quietly remembered and so greatly missed.

DEMPSTER - Margaret (née MacIver). In loving memory of Nellie who blessed us with her presence from July 5, 1969 until August 9, 2010. Nellie, my music, my song, my forever friend.

MACCOLL - Annie (Nan). The gaol màthair sonraichte tha mi a' toirt taing do Dhia gu robh sibh Leamsa.

WEIR - Treasured memories of Elsie, a dearly loved mum, gran and great-gran who died August 12, 2003. A smile we shall always remember. A voice we shall always recall. A love we shall cherish forever. Of a mum who was dear to us all. Loved and remembered always.

WEIR - Treasured memories of Elsie, a dearly loved mum, gran and great-gran who died August 12, 2003. A smile we shall always remember. A voice we shall always recall. A love we shall cherish forever. Of a mum who was dear to us all. Loved and remembered always.

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Gentle Jesus up above Bring to granny all our love. - Archie, Jessie, Katie and Freddie xxxx.

MACGREGOR - In loving memory of Alastair, passed away August 7, 2009. Always in our thoughts. - Hannah, Anne, John, Duncan, Julie and family.

MACGREGOR - Treasured memories of Alastair. Taken from us on August 7, 2009. - From Ally, Kathleen, Ewan, Jamie and Rachel. Cluaran House, Ardconnel Farm, Connel.

MACINNES - In loving memory of a dear dad and papa Tommy, passed away August 11, 1997. Loved and remembered always.

MACKECHNIE - In loving memory of my beloved husband Angus, who died August 11, 2005. Years slip by But memories last forever Sadly missed, but not forgotten. - Grace.

MACKECHNIE - In loving memory of Angus a dear brother, brother-in-law and uncle, who passed away at Killin on August 11, 2005. Sadly missed. - MacKechnie Family, Balfour, Kilmalieu, Oban and Fort William.

MACNEIL - In memory of Dougie MacNeil. Miss you forever. - Love Moira x

MACNEIL - In memory of our dad, father-in-law and grandpa, Dougie MacNeil. As we loved you, so we miss you. In our memory you are near. Loved, remembered, longed for always, bringing many a silent tear. - Love Donald, Michael, Maree and Eilidh xxxx

MACNEIL - In loving memory of a dear dad, grandpa, and father-in-law Dougie. It isn't what we write It's how we feel deep inside As we think of you each day - Love Mary, Ian and all the family.

MACPHAIL - In loving memory of my mother, Chrissie, who passed away on August 10, 1995. Loved and remembered always. - Mairi and George.

McCAIG - In loving memory of Christina who died August 10, 2012. Always in our thoughts and forever in our hearts. - Agnes, Jim and family.

McKAY - Isobel. August 9, 2010. In a lovely place sleeping Where the trees softly sway Lies a precious mum and gran Who's loved and missed each day Always in our hearts. - Love Moira, Pete, Grace, Graham, Martin and Joanne xxx.

STEELE - Special memories of our dear son James Alexander, who was taken from us tragically on August 8, 2011. It only takes a little space To write how much we love and miss you But it will take the rest of our lives To forget the way we lost you Always in our thoughts and we miss you every day. - Your loving mum and Gilly xx.

STEELE - In loving memory of my precious son James Alexander who was taken from me so tragically on August 8, 2011. Remembered always and sorely missed. - Love Dad x

STEELE - In loving memory of my darling fiancé James, who died on 8/8/11. Although you're no longer here I know that you're never far Always in my thoughts Forever in my heart Until we're together again I'll love you always - Michelle xxxxx

STEELE - Missing our beloved Daddy, James who died on the 8/8/11. We love you lots - Megan and Jamie xxx

STEELE - Remembering my dearest brother James Alexander who was taken from me so tragically on August 8, 2011. Forever in my heart My brother, my friend. Lots of love always - Karen, Ewen, Callie and Carter.

WEIR - Treasured memories of Elsie, a dearly loved mum, gran and great-gran who died August 12, 2003. A smile we shall always remember. A voice we shall always recall. A love we shall cherish forever. Of a mum who was dear to us all. Loved and remembered always.

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GRADUATIONS



Christina Ferguson graduated on July 1st, 2013 from Strathclyde University with a BA Honours degree in Geography with Law. Christina is the elder daughter of Archie and Lena Ferguson of Clastleton, Lochgilphead and granddaughter of the late Alexander and Christina MacLeod of Achnaba, Lochgilphead and Chubby and Mary Ferguson, Lochnell Street, Lochgilphead.



Fraser Douglas of Inverloch, Fort William graduated with a BA (Hons) in Computer Games Design & Production Management from Abertay University, Dundee. He is the son of Rhona and Kevin Douglas and grandson of Elma and Derek Fraser and Guy and the late Sheila Douglas.



Anna Salvarli graduated with First Class Honours in Law from Edinburgh University. She attended Strath of Appin Primary and Oban High School. Anna's next step is studying for an MA in Humanitarianism and Conflict Response at the HCRI, Manchester University. Congratulations from family and friends.



Eileen Innes graduated with BEng (Hons) in Electronic and Electrical Engineering from University of Strathclyde. A former pupil of Caol Primary School and Lochaber High School. Eileen is the daughter of Iain and Christine Innes.



Angus Vajk graduated from the University of Edinburgh with a BSc with Honours in Biology. Angus is the son of Hugo and Judith Vajk and is a former pupil of Achaleven Primary School and Oban High School. He has been accepted to the University of Berkeley, California to study for a PhD in Plant Science.



Lindsey Anderton graduated with BA in International Tourism Management from Glasgow Caledonian University. A former pupil of Dalmally Primary and Oban High School, Lindsey is the daughter of Ann Flora MacPhail, Dalmally and is granddaughter of Calum and Ann MacPhail, Strommilchan.

WEDDINGS



BRESLIN - GLANCY Linn Breslin and Scott Glancy were married at the Bridge over the Atlantic on the Isle of Seil on May 11 2013. Both families wish them a long and happy life together.

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SCOTTISH EPISCOPAL CHURCH ANGLICAN COMMUNION

Sunday 11 August 2013
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Holy Communion..... 08.00
Sung Eucharist..... 10.15
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All Welcome
Nicki McNelly, Provost.
(01631) 562323
St James, Ardbrecknish, Clachid
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 14 August 14.30

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Lochavullin Industrial Estate,
Crannog Lane, Oban,
PA34 4HB
Tel: 01631 568000
Fax: 01631 568001
www.obantimes.co.uk

Editorial

Editorial Director
Stewart MacKenzie
editor@obantimes.co.uk

Northern Editor
Stephen Norris
snorris@obantimes.co.uk

News Editor
Euan Paterson
epaterson@obantimes.co.uk

Senior Reporter
Steven Flanagan
sflanagan@obantimes.co.uk

Reporter
Faith Orr
farr@obantimes.co.uk

Reporter
Richard Haddock
rhaddock@obantimes.co.uk

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

Newsdesk
01631 568060
editor@obantimes.co.uk

Advertising

Advertising Executive
Rhona McKillop
adverts@obantimes.co.uk

Advertising Sales Executive
Nadine Ross
nross@obantimes.co.uk

Advertising Sales Executive
Mairi Auld
mauld@obantimes.co.uk

Advertising Executive
Eilidh MacLennan
emacLennan@obantimes.co.uk

Advertising Executive
Shona McCorkindale
smcorkindale@obantimes.co.uk

Branch Offices

Fort William
Tel 01397 703003
Fax 01397 702495

Lochgilphead
Tel 01546 602345
Fax 01546 602661

Campbeltown
Tel 01586 554646
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Jaywalker takes the honours at West Highland Yachting Week

TOP honours went south to the Clyde at this year's West Highland Yachting Week with Iain Laidlaw's J97 Jaywalker awarded the best performance of the fleet of nearly 100 boats.

It was a mixed bag of weather throughout the week but Laidlaw's team sailed consistently well and scored the coveted double after winning the Scottish Series overall at Tarbert in May. Finishing with just five points there was close contention for the top prize with Scott Chalmers and family on Sunrise who held just four points after a near perfect scoreline of firsts.

However the best performance for the regatta is decided on the most competitive class, which was judged by the Joint Regatta Committee to be Laidlaw's Class 3.

In one of the closest fought regattas, the 66th West Highland Yachting Week fleet had three class winners ending the week on seven points.

Donald MacLaren's Sigma 33 Sigmatic of Helensburgh Sailing Club made it a hat trick winning Class 4. Having taken the Sigma class at Tarbert, the Sigma 33 Nationals on his home waters he clinched the class silverware for WHYW. Sigmatic tied on points with Brian Young's Glenafon but on the discard the win went to the Sigma. Fellow Sigma 33 sailors Alan Harper and his team on Leaky Roof II, also Helensburgh Sailing Club members, were winners in Class



West Highland Yachting Week winners Jaywalker. Photo: Yachtingimages.co.uk

5 with seven points as was Stevie Andrews' Sunrise 37 Pandanova from Northern Ireland in Class 7. Regulars Jock MacDougall and crew on Shoki were second with Arran's Stargazer third on points.

Roddy Angus's 'moustached' team on More Misjif were popular winners in Class 1 from local sailor Richard Shellock and team on Richard's new boat Thrust, a Prism 28. Thrust finished second on 11 points. In Class 0 Jim Dick's Grand Soleil

39 Fortuna took the class overall with John Stamp's J111 Jacob V of Port Edgar second.

Locals
Local sailors had good results across the week with consistent performances from Steven Forthie driving his father's First 31.7 Shadowfax with the boat never out of the first three placings over the week. Having to be content with a string of seconds behind Jaywalker, the team nevertheless took the win for the Oban to Tobermory

passage. Third in class was the Skye contingent - John Bodach MacKenzie and his team on the Westerly Typhoon, Storm Mhor.

Similarly Eric and Irena Chapman's Sigma 33 Amber Haze took third overall in Class 5, getting the win on the opening passage race and lifting the Oban Bicentenary Trophy for the best corrected time from Craobh to Oban.

Angus Fyfe's Contessa 25 from Lochaber had an excellent

week in a highly competitive Class 8 with two firsts posted but was eclipsed in the class win by Garth Wilson's GK 24, Zebedee, another Clyde boat. Popcorn took the best corrected time for the passage races run and the best corrected time from Oban to Tobermory. Alison Chadwick's Hot Toddy finished third overall in Class 8 with consistent sailing during the series.

Class 9 also had extremely close racing with three regulars battling out for the top three

Golf News



Killin

GENTS Open: Saturday 3 August - Scratch: The Davies Trophy 1 Kevin Mackie (Glencruitten) 69; 2 Andy Cousins (Crieff) 74 BIH; 3 Andy Cousins Jnr (Alloa) 74

Handicap: The Melia Quach - 1 Andy Briggs (Killin) 66; 2 Arthur Crammon (Killin) 67; 3 Richard Downie (St Fillans) 68
Longest Drive: Category 1 (9th and 18th) - Andy Cousins (Crieff); Category 2 (7th and 16th) - Tom Sim (Killin).

Nearest the Pin: Category 1 (8th and 17th) - Michael Kelly (Glencruitten); Category 2 (5th and 14th) - Craig Fraser (Killin) All in 2 (6th only) - Andy Cousins (Crieff)
The Wee Claret Jug: (Best Local Overall) - Andy Briggs 66.

Magic 2's - Arthur Crammon (Killin), Andrew Cousins (Alloa), Kevin Mackie (Glencruitten), Michael Kelly (Glencruitten), Rab Foster (Crieff), Alan McColm (Killin), Lewis Watson (Culcraeff), Jim Burton (Killin), Andy Briggs (Killin).

CSS - Home 68, Visitors 68 RO

Glencruitten
NEIL Carmichael won the George Smith Trophy at the weekend without striking a ball. His score of 121 from the 1st and 2nd round was not bettered on a blustery and wet day at Glencruitten. Scott Jordan returned the best score of the day 69 - 10 = 59 and Martin Rae scored 66 - 5 = 61 on a day when the standard scratch was 67.

In the ladies section Jean Ainsley won the Ladies Scratch Championship (best 3 out of 4 scores) with a score of 231. Diane Colewell was second with a score of 238.

On Saturday the Glencruitten Open will be held. The event has attracted a field of 150, with visitors from all over Scotland. The event is always popular and a strong field will play for the Glencruitten Trophy.

Tobermory
THE TOBERMORY Open was played over 36 holes on Saturday and Sunday, when 39 golfers took part.

The scratch trophy for the MacBrayne Cup ended with a sudden-death play-off between 16-year-old William MacCrae and Paul Brown, with Paul eventually winning on the fourth play-off hole.

The handicap trophy for the Willie MacAllister Cup was won by Shaun Fisher by five strokes.

Results: Scratch - 1 Paul Brown 149, 2 William Davidson 150. Handicap - 1 Shaun Fisher, 2 Ross Kirsop, 3 Ross Laurie. Senior MacBrayne Trophy - 1 Gordon Chalmers 83-14-69, 2 John Weir 67-07-60, 3 Richard Inglis 80-10-70.

Junior Section: Summer Challenge fourth round - 1 Lewis Brown 69-11-58, 2 Lewis Wilshire 67-07-60, 3 William MacCrae 67-05-62.

Ladies Section: Nine-hole Stableford - 1 Kathy McAdam, 13 point, 2 Olive Brown, 10 points, 3 Doris Haregreaves, 8 points.



From left: Paul Brown with the MacBrayne Cup, captain John Wilshire and Shaun Fisher with the Willie MacAllister Cup.

Traigh

TRAIGH Golf Club played its club medal last Sunday.

Results: 1 James Manson 75 (9) 66; 2 Johnnie MacMillan 78 (11) 67 bh; 3 Stewart Cameron 76 (9) 67.

Fort William

FORT WILLIAM Golf Club's August medal on Saturday was won by David MacPherson with a score of net 74.

Peter Stewart was second with a 78, while Frank Sweeney was third.

On Sunday, the seniors' August medal competition was won by William McCann with a 70. Andrew Brown was second with Toby Richardson coming in third.

Results: August medal - 1 David MacPherson 82-8-74; 2 Peter Stewart 90-12-78 (BIH); 3 Frank Sweeney 92-14-78.

Seniors: 1 William McCann 83-13-70; 2 Andrew Brown 87-16-71 (BIH); 3 Toby Richardson 82-11-71.

The club is staging the Letterfinlay Open three-person Texas scramble on Saturday. To book a tee-time, phone 01397 7004464.

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Mixed weather at 80th annual Plockton Small Boat Regatta

THE 80TH annual regatta fortnight of Plockton Small Boat Sailing Club began on Monday, July 29 with mixed weather which continued all week.

On Monday evening in very calm conditions, six toppers sailed for the Commodore's Cup.

Result: 1st Grace Claxton; 2nd Chris Townend; 3rd Iain Bullivant; 4th Sarah Robertson; 5th Fiona McKee; 6th Ethan Tickle.

On Monday evening 11 boats competed in the first race for the Plockton Trophy (local boats). Result: 1st Morag Amos (Eala Bhan); 2nd Douglas Hamilton (Ajax); 3rd Ian Hay (Seolta).

Also on Monday evening seven centreboards competed in the first race for the Ulluva Cup. Result: 1st Lauren Glasgow (Fantas); 2nd Terry Kitchen (Aquila); 3rd Tim Gale (Palaver).

On Tuesday afternoon eight local boats raced for the Douglas Mackenzie Challenge Cunch (local boats) but two boats, the Spindrift and the Seaforth capsized and the race was abandoned till the next evening.

However, on Tuesday afternoon three centreboards (all Wayfarers) completed the course for the 1st Pelly Cup. Result: 1st John Leiper (Saorsa); 2nd Guy Smith (Wayfarer); 3rd Tim Gale (Palaver).

On Tuesday evening only two local boats entered for the ladies' race (Melora Cup). Result: 1st Alanna Rowe (Spindrift); 2nd Fiona Mackenzie (Taeping).

On Wednesday afternoon nine local boats competed for the Consett Championship cup (no handicap) and the Alastair Mackenzie Memorial Cup (handicaps).

Results: Consett Cup - 1st Ian Hay (Seolta); 2nd Michael Hay (Nan); 3rd Colin McAndrew (Sirius). Mackenzie Cup - 1st Michael Hay (Nan); 2nd Colin McAndrew (Sirius); 3rd John Sweeney (Shamal).

Also on Wednesday afternoon the second cup for centreboards had seven starters. Result: 1st John Leiper (Saorsa); 2nd Chris Townend (Sulaire); 3rd Guy Smith (Wayfarer).

In the evening the return of the Douglas Mackenzie Cuach was held

with seven starters. Result: 1st Ian Hay (Seolta); 2nd Colin McAndrew (Sirius) -5secs; 3rd Neil MacRae (Rona) -15secs.

On thurs morning six girls entered the girls' race but just before the start the wind freshened and it was called off along with the boys race which was to follow.

On thurs evening 11 local boats sailed for the 2nd Plockton Trophy race in light winds. Result: 1st Ian Hay (Seolta); 2nd Colin McAndrew (Sirius); 3rd Douglas Hamilton (Ajax).

Also on Thursday the 2nd Ulluva Cup race for centreboards (seven started). Result: 1st Lauren Glasgow (Fantas); 2nd Chris Townend (Sulaire); 3rd Terry Kitchen (Aquila).

On Friday afternoon four centreboards sailed in the 3rd Pelly Cup. John Leiper (Saorsa) was disqualified for taking the wrong course, Guy Smith won, the other two retired. After three races, the Pelly Cup was won by Guy Smith in his Wayfarer with 6 points, John Leiper was second with nine points and third was Christopher Townend with 16 points. Seven boats took part in the series.

On Friday evening only two boats entered for the Johnnie Ruari Tray for youths. Result: 1st Duncan Bullivant (Searanger); 2nd Aonghais Rowe (Spindrift). On Saturday all races including the yacht race were cancelled owing to the gale force winds. In the evening the first week ended with the commodore's party in his house. Commodore this year is Alexander Mackenzie.

SAILING

Pre-season friendly
Oban Saints 2 Greenock HSFP 1
OBAN Saints continued their pre-season build-up with a friendly match against Greenock HSFP from the Central Scottish League Premier Division last Saturday and both teams should take credit for turning in a first class performance full of excellent passing football.

The game was split into three sections of 30 minutes to allow the managers to try out different personnel and use different tactics.

The first period was evenly balanced as both teams tested each other out, although the home side created a couple of half chances. Saints thought they had taken the lead midway through the second period when a Brian MacKay shot seemed to be heading into the corner of the net, but the ball hit the post, rolled along the line before being booted clear.

However, this let-off for Greenock was short-lived as five minutes later Brian did get on the scoresheet when he raced through the middle before knocking the ball past a helpless goalkeeper.

The third period was only two minutes old when Saints extended their lead after Donald Campbell turned his marker

before curling a great shot into the top corner of the net. Saints were well on top now, but a bit of slackness allowed Chris McFarlane to pull a goal back for Greenock. The home side settled down again and took control of the game and easily ran down the clock to claim a well deserved win against a good Greenock side.

The game kicks off at 1pm with referee John Scott in charge. Please note early kick-off.

Opening league fixtures: Saturday 17th August - Kilbowie United (home); Saturday 24th August - Haldane United (away); Saturday 31st August - Thorn Athletic (home).

Eyes on the ball - Donald Campbell scored Saints second goal on Saturday. Photo: Stephen Lawson

Good performance from Saints in pre-season friendly

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Eyes on the ball - Donald Campbell scored Saints second goal on Saturday. Photo: Stephen Lawson

FOOTBALL

Manager Iain Jackson was delighted at the performance of his team. He said: 'I thought we played really well today. The boys worked hard for each other, we chased the ball down at every opportunity and never gave Greenock a chance to get into their stride and the most pleasing thing was the way we got the ball down and passed it about on the excellent surface.'

This Saturday the Oban side continue their build-up to the new season when they take on Lochgilphead Red Star at Glencruitten.

The game kicks off at 1pm with referee John Scott in charge. Please note early kick-off.

Opening league fixtures: Saturday 17th August - Kilbowie United (home); Saturday 24th August - Haldane United (away); Saturday 31st August - Thorn Athletic (home).

Eyes on the ball - Donald Campbell scored Saints second goal on Saturday. Photo: Stephen Lawson



Geoff Campbell and Andy McMenamin fight to right their boat in the heavy swell. Photo: Chris Gane.

Eventful happenings at West Ardnamurchan Regatta

WEST ARDNAMURCHAN Regatta is usually nothing if not eventful - and that was certainly the case last Friday.

Race officials were confident of a fine day's competition as blue skies, occasional puffy clouds, and a brisk southerly wind prevailed early on.

At the start of the day, when the morning's sailing race crossed the start line, a force 5 to 6 wind was blowing, which gusts at times around 7.

But soon the marquee took to the air. Spectators rushed to catch it and managed to hold it down long enough to dismantle it.

The sailors battled the elements while one boat was knocked down twice. The crews returned - to hear that for the first time in 30 years since the event was restarted in 1984, all the inshore races were cancelled. Onshore, with the marquee back in storage the many stall holders and the bar found themselves without a home but, with such beautiful weather, set up shop in the sunshine and did a roaring trade with the many visitors.

Soon after, Chris was out on the water in his RIB acting as safety boat for the open water Challenge and Glasven Cups.

Chris was quickly on hand when Geoff Campbell's Topper Omega overturned at the first buoy, throwing him into the sea and trapping crew member Andy McMenamin in an air pocket under the boat.

The seasoned sailors took their second capsized very much in their stride, and wouldn't have contented rescue as it would have disqualified them from the race.

While Geoff and Andy struggled with their boat, Paul White in Flora nipped past to take the lead, closely followed by Tom Colville in his Dracombe Coaster and Hanno Hodgkin in Ragamuffin.

Geoff and Andy's efforts were rewarded when, after the handicaps were applied, they were declared winners of the yachts second, followed by Paul in Tom taking the Glasven trophy. A new trophy, the Carraig Plate, was donated by Alasdair MacColl and Morven MacLachlan in memory of Margaret and

SAILING

Malcolm MacMillan, founder of the 'revised' Regatta which was first raced in 1984.

The plate was awarded to Tom Colville of Kentra for his single-handed sailing of his Dracombe Coaster over many years at the West Ardnamurchan Regatta.

Despite the disappointment of the cancellation of all inshore races, the regatta committee's evening ceilidh, featuring the ever-popular Gunna Sound, was probably the best seen in Kilchoan in many years.

A very special thanks goes to the committee of Morven MacLachlan, Janet MacColl, Chairman Alasdair MacColl, Gael Cameron and Rosie Curtis on the event's 30th year.

Results: Ellan Vannin Handicap for Ormsaig Cup & Tankards: 1st Geoff Campbell, 2nd Tom Colville, 3rd Hanno Hodgkin. Dracombe races: New Zealand Cup: 1st Tom Colville, 2nd Bob Heasman Glasven Cup: 1st Tom Colville. Non-Dracombe yachts: Challenge Cup: 1st Geoff Campbell, 2nd Paul White, 3rd Hanno Hodgkin.

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In the evening the return of the Douglas Mackenzie Cuach was held

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COMPETITION

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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.

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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.

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Fort face 'More in second Camanachd Cup semi final

Kyles await the winners after narrow 3-2 win over Kingussie

CUP holders Kyles Athletic moved into the final of the Scottish Hydro Camanachd Cup after a thrilling 3-2 win against Kingussie in extra time.

Top scorer Roddy MacDonald was again the man of the moment as he popped up to fire home the winner in the 104th minute at An Aird in Fort William.

Kings started well in the heavy rain and strong wind but their southern counterparts ended the first half on top.

The stalemate was broken within seconds of the restart, with Ronald Ross showing he is a deadly as ever in front of goal.

Kyles needed a response, and found one through Thomas Whyte's speculative effort from 30 yards which flew into the back of the net in the 51st minute.

FORT WILLIAM go into Saturday's Scottish Hydro Camanachd Cup semi-final against Newtonmore at Bught Park as massive underdogs - but that's a label that doesn't worry co-manager Victor Smith.

The Fort warmed up for the big game with a creditable 0-0 home draw against Glenurquhart in which they did everything but score, hitting the post twice, the crossbar once and missing two penalties.

Getting on the scoresheet has been the An Aird men's bugbear all season - but finding the net is a must against the Orion Group Premiership title favourites if a cup final against Kyles is to be secured.

'We have nothing to lose and we will go out and try to win it,' Smith told The Oban Times.

'It is the Camanachd Cup and we are going in with every chance - it is just a one-off after all.'

'It would give us a huge boost if we play well on Saturday because our league position is looking pretty grim. We have drawn a lot of games and lost by the odd goal in others - we are just a goal away from being mid-table.'

He added: 'Bryan Simpson is back and will play a part in the forward line but he is not 100 per cent fit.'

NEWTONMORE will be strong favourites for this Saturday's Scottish Hydro Camanachd Cup semi final against Fort William in Inverness.

But that is a tag The Eilan men have become familiar with in recent years, and the busloads of fans who will follow them to Bught Park will be expecting a win.

Some 16 points separate the two sides in the Premiership and although they have yet to meet in league action in 2013, it will be the third time they've played in the cups this year.

A Macaulay Cup tie in June ended in 'More thrashing the An Aird men 8-1, while the sides also played each other in the first round of the MacTavish Cup, with 'More running out 5-3 winners.'

Top scorers Danny MacRae and Fraser MacIntosh were on target on both occasions, but Fort will also have to be wary of cup specialist Glen MacIntosh, with 12 of his 17 goals this year coming in the cups.

In his first season in charge, manager PJ MacIntosh looks to have steered his side to a title win, a place in next weekend's Macaulay Cup final and will be hoping for a third chance of success by reaching the Camanachd Cup final against Kyles Athletic.

LOCHABER continued their incredible run of form with a 4-0 win over Oban Camanachd last Saturday as they pulled further



Action from the Glenorchy v Oban Celtic game. Photo: Stephen Lawson

away from the relegation zone. Safety is now within touching distance - something that was almost unthinkable when Robert Johnstone was appointed interim manager at the end of June.

Since then, a run of four wins and two draws has seen them jump up to sixth place, just a point behind third placed Kingussie and six clear of Fort William and Oban Camanachd.

This Saturday the Spean Bridge side face the long journey south to take on Inveraray, knowing another win could all but secure their place at shinty's top table for 2014.

Scotland international Neil MacDonald is suspended for the game, as well as the following weekend's visit to Glenurquhart.

Against Oban, Zands Ferguson scored a brace to take his tally to seven league goals in six games, while Duncan MacKinnon and Shaun Nicolson were also on target.

INVERARAY have almost secured Premiership survival after drawing 2-2 with Kinlochshiel at the Winterton.

But it could have been very different for the Royal Burgh, who were leading 2-1 until the 94th minute.

Lewis MacNicol and Euan McMurdo had twice given 'Ard the lead and the home side looked to have wrapped up the two points that player-manager Garry MacPherson has said the team need to be sure of league survival.

However, with five games still to play, it would take a turn of great misfortune for Inveraray to be relegated at this stage.

This weekend Inveraray play Lochaber at Winterton Park.

Defending champions **KYLES ATHLETIC** secured a place in the final of this season's Scottish Hydro Camanachd Cup with another extra-time win.

Kingussie took the Tighnabraich men to extra time last Saturday at An Aird but the superior fitness of the Argyll side, which has so often told this season, came to the fore again in a 3-2 victory.

Kyles trainer James Perlich said: 'The team, club and supporters are delighted to be back in another final.'

'It was a tough game in tricky conditions but we were able to play the strongest squad we have had all year.'

'We were able to introduce subs at the right time, which took the performance to another level. That was the difference on the day.'

'We also knew our fitness and extra-time experience would pay off in the latter stages.'

Fort William and Newtonmore meet this weekend in the second semi final.

'We are not interested in

SHINTY

With neither side able to grab a winner, the match went into extra time. Youngster Savio Genini gave Kings the advantage in the 96th minute, but Kyles showed the fighting spirit that won them the trophy last year with Colin MacDonald making it 2-2 before Roddy MacDonald's winner.

Kyles trainer James Perlich praised his side's fitness, while Kings manager Russell Jones told The Oban Times: 'It was a sore one, but it could have just as easily gone the other way. We couldn't have asked anymore from the guys, they gave us everything.'

Kyles will now face either Fort William or Newtonmore in the final on September 14.

who we get in the final,' added Perlich. 'The next few weeks are about training and playing well and avoiding injuries and suspensions.'

This weekend Kyles take on Kinlochshiel at Tighnabraich.

KINLOCHSHIEL take on Scottish Hydro Camanachd Cup finalists and 2012 champions Kyles at Tighnabraich - and coach Johnston Gill will be delighted if his players can match the performance they produced in the 2-2 at Inveraray last time out, in which Davie Glass bagged a last-gasp leveller to claim a vital league point for the Lochalsh men.

Gill told The Oban Times: 'We did not deserve to lose, that's for sure. We played a lot better than we have done and their goalkeeper was inspired.'

'I had a wee dressing room talk with them beforehand and the boys responded very well. Now we are looking forward to the Kyles game.'

'But they are the Scottish champions and they will be on a high after getting through to the final. Their players will be keen to keep their places in the team.'

'If we play as well as we did on Saturday we can give most teams a run for their money - including Kyles. But at home, they will be a difficult proposition.'

'Shiel will again be without the injured Gordie MacDonald and Fraser MacVicar, while Davis Faulkner continues to struggle with a groin strain.'

Goalkeeper Scott Kennedy was in the wars against Inveraray and although an x-ray showed his ankle is not broken, he could have ligament damage.

'We will give him until the last minute,' Gill said.

Talented youngsters Oliver and Duncan 'Ach' MacRae and Donald Nixon will be almost certain to start.

GLENURQUHART expect to be back close to full strength for this Saturday's home game against Lovat.

Glen were missing around 10 first team squad members for last weekend's 0-0 draw at Fort William, but co-manager Fraser MacKenzie said he was expecting 'six or seven' of them to be back available, including suspended pair Eddie Tembo and Ewen Brady.

David Smart has resumed training following a hand injury and may make the bench for Saturday's game.

MacKenzie said: 'We see our league campaign so far as disappointing, we've struggled for consistency. We still want to pick up as many points as possible.'

MacKenzie said he was pleased with picking up a 'hard fought point' against Fort William.

He said: 'It was backs against the wall for the majority of the game, but it was a really good defensive performance and Stuart MacIntosh was outstanding. He made some really top class saves.'

LOVAT will close the gap on Newtonmore in the Orion Group Premiership to three points if they can dispose of local rivals Glenurquhart at Balgate Park.

The Kiltarlity men will be a distance from fielding their top 12 players as twins Martin and Craig Mainland are both injured.

Martin broke his thumb against Newtonmore while Craig remains sidelined with a niggling knee problem. Lovat will also be without captain Calum Cruden, who is suspended, for the derby clash.

Coach Allan MacRae told the Oban Times: 'Martin could come next week and say he's okay and play with a broken thumb - he's

that kind of player. But I'm hoping he will leave it for a few weeks for his own good.'

'It's our local derby and it's always a tight game - Glenurquhart are pretty well organised. Maybe it will depend on what teams turn up on the day.'

'They beat us away from home last year at their place, so we would like to pick something up from the game and finish as high as we can in the table - but Glenurquhart will be out for points too.'

KINGUSSIE narrowly missed out on a place in the Scottish



Kyles' matchwinner Roddy MacDonald battling hard for the ball. 20_132cup02

Hydro Camanachd Cup final after an extra time loss to Kyles Athletic on Saturday.

Kings have this weekend free, with their next game scheduled to be a home tie against struggling Fort William on Saturday August 17.

Kings manager said there was some interesting ties left in his side's five remaining league matches.

He said: 'We want to pick up as many points as we can. We've got a game against Newtonmore which will be live on the TV, and trips to Kyles and Inveraray so there's plenty to play for. We'll just keep plugging away until the end of the season.'

Even **OBAN CAMANACHD'S** optimistic boss Gussie Campbell had to concede that his team would need a miracle to avoid relegation from the Orion Group Premiership.

The manager expressed his disappointment after watching a lacklustre 4-0 defeat at Lochaber last Saturday, a disappointing end to a brave challenge to stay in the division.

Campbell said: 'It was a very poor display last Saturday, which is disappointing, because we have played with passion and commitment all season. The team just didn't play like their league status depended on it.'

'All respect to Lochaber, they played like they wanted to survive and got the two points.'

'That game was our last chance of a lifeline and we didn't take it. It will take a major miracle to stay in this league.'

'If I'm honest, I have one eye on next season and I am confident that these players and this management team will get Camanachd back into the premier league, where we belong. I'm down just now, but I'm not out.'

Last Saturday was supposed to have been a free week for Oban Camanachd and, as a result of a fixture change, had five first team players missing last Saturday, which compounded the manager's frustrations.

Camanachd have no game this weekend, when a full squad would have been available.



Kingussie's Lee Bain and Donald Irvine of Kyles race for the ball. 20_132cup01

KILMALLIE will secure the Marine Harvest North Division One title if they can win or draw away at second bottom Strathglass.

Eight points clear of second-placed Beaulieu, the Caol men go into their final game of the season in fine shape after last weekend's nine-goal thriller against Caberfeidh at Canal Parks when they fought back three times from a goal down to earn a priceless 5-4 victory.

Strikes from Grant MacKenzie and John Stewart countered MacLennan's opener only for Cabers' DJ Mellis and Ruairidh

der playing football for Kyleakin on Friday night. 'Unfortunately you tend to see a few more injuries at the football than the shinty, but you can't stop them playing,' he said.

'This is our most important game of the season. We know we have to get a point or a win and hopefully the boys realise that. Nobody has been in touch to say they can't make it.'

OBAN CELTIC will play on the new Strachurmore pitch for the first time when they travel to Cowal to take on league strugglers Strachur.

And club president David Hamilton has insisted his players come back with two points, as they finish the season with away games against the top two teams in South Division One.

Hamilton said: 'We want to finish as high up the league as we can because we like to be in the Macaulay Cup places come the end of the season.'

'The other two games against Bute and GMA will be difficult ones, so we need to take something out of Saturday.'

The Oban side will be keen to make up for a 4-1 defeat to Glenorchy last Saturday when a single David Hill goal was all Celtic had to show for a hard day's work.

Hamilton said the weather conditions and the pitch 'didn't make for a good day for shinty'.

GLENORCHY all but secured promotion to the new National Division One next season with a fine 4-1 win over Oban Celtic.

Findlay Ross, who is adapting well to his new role as a forward, struck two goals either side of Duncan Smith and Kieran McKay goals and Scott MacKillop was a standout in defence.

But coach John Smith was forced to defend the condition of the Dalnally pitch after Oban Celtic criticised the playing surface.

Smith said: 'They said the grass was too long but the pitch was in good condition and very dry. It is the same for both sides.'

'There was a suggestion that the grass was left long to help us but we prefer shorter grass. If the grass was shorter it may have been worse for Celtic!'

Glenorchy are out of the title race but could have a say in where the title goes as they host GMA this Saturday.

TAYNUILT coach Willie Gillies has praised his players for their recent turnaround in form as he prepares them for this weekend's trip to Kilmory.

With Macaulay Cup qualification still to play for, Gillies says a win this weekend is crucial, as high-flyers Glenorchy and Lochside await in the next few weeks.

Gillies said: 'We have to beat the teams around us, like Kilmory, and hope we can take something from the games against Glenorchy and Lochside.'

Fifteen-year-old John Gillies made a start in last Saturday's 4-1 home win over Strachur. The Cowal men took the lead after 25 minutes but centre Willie Neilson equalised 10 minutes later.



Fixtures

Wednesday 7 August
Inveraray v Glasgow MA
John MacGeger - 7.30pm

Saturday 10 August
Scottish Hydro Camanachd Cup Semi Final
Fort William v Newtonmore
Graham Crawford - 4.05pm
(An Aird, Fort William)

Orion Group Premiership
Inveraray v Lochaber
Colin MacDonald
Kyles Athletic v Kinlochshiel
Innes Wood - 3pm
Glenurquhart v Lovat
Deek Cameron - 3pm

Marine Harvest North Division 1
Strathglass v Kilmallie
Neil Ferguson
Beaulieu v Skye
Daniel MacRae

Marine Harvest North Division 2
Glenurquhart v Kingussie
John Angus Gillies - 12pm
Newtonmore v Fort William
Archie Ritchie - 12pm
Aberdeen Uni v Lovat
John Matheson

Skye v Glenorchy
David Stafford
Kinlochshiel v Beaulieu
Ronnie Campbell

Marine Harvest North Division 3
Strathspey Lewis
Neil MacDonald
Lochcarron v Kilmallie
John Slaggie
Lochroom v Boleskine

Marine Harvest South Division 1
Glenorchy v Glasgow MA
Lachie Wood
Bute v Lochside Rovers
David Mitchell
Kilmory v Taynuilt
Dunkie Kerr
Strachur v Oban Celtic
John MacGregor

Marine Harvest South Division 2
Kyles Athletic v Tayforth
Duncan Freshwater - 12pm
Col Glen v Ballachulish
Ewan MacDonald

Results

Friday 2 August
Marine Harvest North Division 2
Fort William 2 - 4 Skye

Saturday 3 August
Scottish Hydro Camanachd Cup Semi Final
Kingussie 2 - 3 Kyles Athletic

Bullough Cup Semi Final
Ballachulish 4 - 1 Lochside

Orion Group Premiership
Fort William 0 - 0 Glenurquhart
Inveraray 2 - 2 Kinlochshiel
Lochaber 4 - 0 Oban Camanachd

Marine Harvest North Division 1
Kilmallie 5 - 4 Caberfeidh

Marine Harvest South Division 1
Bute 3 - 0 Aberdeen
Glenorchy 4 - 1 Oban Celtic
Kilmory 0 - 5 Glasgow MA
Taynuilt 4 - 1 Strachur

Marine Harvest North Division 2
Kinlochshiel 2 - 0 A'deen Uni

Marine Harvest South Division 2
Bute 6 - 1 Tayforth

Marine Harvest North Division 3
Lochroom 0 - 4 Lochcarron
Strathglass 3 - 2 Lochaber



Glenurquhart keeper Stuart Mackintosh and defender Drew McNeil tangle with Stevie Stewart seconds before the Fort William forward was fouled for the first penalty. 20_132shinty01

The Orion Group Premiership

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Newtonmore	12	11	1	0	47	10	23
Lovat	13	6	6	1	27	11	18
Kingussie	13	7	0	6	25	22	14
Inveraray	13	5	4	4	21	20	14
Glenurquhart	15	5	3	7	19	24	13
Lochaber	15	4	5	6	23	29	13
Kinlochshiel	14	5	3	6	27	37	13
Kyles Athletic	10	5	0	5	20	16	10
Fort William	12	1	5	6	13	28	7
Oban Camanachd	15	3	1	11	18	43	7

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Oban Athletic win first JG Fitness Trophy

OBAN Athletic welcomed teams from all across Argyll for the first annual John Georgeson Fitness Trophy, held on the rugby pitches in Oban last weekend.

And it was the hosts who won the five-team tournament with a game to spare, following round a robin format over 40-minute games.

The day began with Tarbert beating Lochgilphead Red Star 1-0 in the Mid Argyll derby, thanks to a deflected shot shortly before half time.

Meanwhile, on pitch two Oban Athletic produced a solid 3-1 victory over Carradale with Dean Smith scoring twice, either side of a well placed Ruari MacLennan header.

Next up on pitch two saw

Athletic entertain Tarbert in what was to prove to be the game of the day. Tarbert found themselves two goals to the good thanks to some lacklustre Oban defending but the home side were offered a lifeline two minutes before the break when Stephen Fox slid home.

The half time team talk must have had the desired effect as Oban played the best football of the day to score five second-half goals, including a fine Smith hat trick and a couple for the versatile Iain McInnes.

The fifth team, Muirend AFC, had been delayed in traffic and as a result had to play their games back to back. Muirend's first match was to be the game that crowned Oban Athletic as

FOOTBALL

champions. Early goals from Scott Maitland and Connor Howe set the tone before a second half left foot strike from Martin Bonnar sealed the three points. Muirend did grab a well earned consolation before the end.

The home side's last game was to prove a disappointment, losing 3-0 to Red Star with Oban boy Kevin Keen amongst the scorers.

The trophy was presented to the winning captain Craig Campbell and the Oban Athletic squad in The Creel Bar and Restaurant. Striker Dean Smith was voted player of the tournament by coaches and referees.



Oban Athletic's Iain McInnes gets in a tackle on Tarbert captain Craig Martin during last weekend's JG Cup Tournament

Oban cricketers bowl them over

CRICKET

THE WEATHER may have played havoc with the third test of the Ashes at Old Trafford but Oban Cricket Club found perfect conditions in Helensburgh on Sunday as they won another pre-season match.

Oban captain Davie Hannah elected to bat but lost opener Kenny MacKenzie cheaply. It was down to Allan Laycock to notch up a few scores and he quickly brought on a half century, supported by Daniel Booker.

Laycock continued his onslaught and was finally caught and bowled for 87 runs, while the Oban innings was bolstered by important runs from Francis Berryman, Santos, Kaye Koyes, Richard Ashforth and Neil Belshaw.

Oban completed their 40 overs having made 183 for 8.

In reply, Helensburgh opener M. Stocks was bowled by Daniel Booker with the second ball of the innings and the Oban attack worked through the Helensburgh order with five different bowlers taking wickets. Helensburgh were all out on the last ball of their 40 overs for 168 runs. Oban won by 15 runs.

Yachting week touch rugby event

TOUCH RUGBY

GARY the Tank Commanders scooped the win at the West Highland Yachting Week touch rugby competition this year.

The event, organised by Oban Lorne Rugby Football Club's Dee Bradbury and Sandy Rokitta, saw teams made up of yachting competitors with community teams as part of the yachting week's social programme. Jackson's were runners-up in the competition.

The winners were presented with Tunno's caps and teacakes. Tunno's is the major sponsor of West Highland Yachting Week.

Young Bob reaches third round

GOLF

TEENAGE golfer Robert MacIntyre reached the third round of the Fairstone Scottish Amateur Championship before losing to an inspired Charlie Macneal, Prestwick.

In last week's matchplay event the Glencruitten golfer had beaten his first round opponent Jordan Shaw, Kingussie, 2&1 and won by the same scoreline in the second round against Scott Chrichton, Aberdeen.

Glencruitten's Allan McKie also competed but lost in the first round.

Ben makes his Scotland debut

ATHLETICS

SPRINT hurdler Ben Coates helped Scotland win the Celtic Games after finishing third in his own event.

The Kilmore 14 year old, who was making his Scotland debut at the youth games in Colwyn Bay, Wales, finished third with a personal best of 14.91 seconds in the 100-metre hurdles.

His points helped Scotland to first place.



Oban Athletic, winners of the JG Trophy. Photo: Stephen Lawson

Sinclair brothers in top form

THE SINCLAIR brothers both go into this weekend's North of England (NETT) Quad Championships round at Duns keen to maintain their title challenges.

At just over the halfway stage in both the Scottish and the North of England (NETT) Quad championships, 450cc KTM rider Scott, 19, lies second place in both, while 13-year-old Lorne is the leader in the 250cc Modified class at both championships.

The Connel teenagers took part in the seventh and eighth rounds of the NETT on July 27 at Wooley Grange, Co Durham.

In the Championship class,

Scott has been steadily improving this season while riding without any manufacturer's backing or external sponsorship.

His day got off to a good start with a solid third in the first race against John Watson and ex-British Champion Lindsay Duke, who was on his home track.

In the second race Scott was lying fourth until he pushed hard, pulling Watson in, passing him on the whoops (small jumps) and finishing with another third place.

In the final race of the day Scott was tied for the first corner

QUAD BIKING

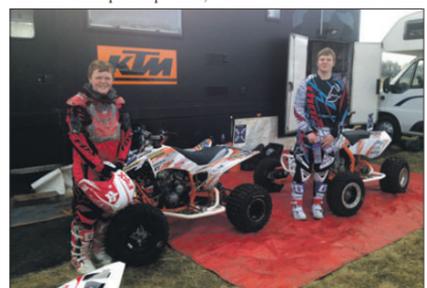
with eventual winner Duke and held second place throughout the race until over-shooting a corner and allowing current Scottish champion Connor Smith to pass, giving Scott another third place finish and an overall second place for the day.

Younger brother Lorne surprised everybody with his speed out of the gate in the first race, holding third position overall for most of the race against the larger Hybrid class bikes, which produce 10hp more.

He finished fourth overall and first in his class and achieved the same result in the second race.

Lorne's final race saw him turning the first corner in 10th position out of 15 bikes after a bad start but he showed his usual determination to push up to finish fifth overall, again first in class. Sunday's racing was cancelled due to the Durham area having a third of their usual monthly rainfall in just one night.

The next round of the Scottish Championship takes place in Shiplaw, Peebles on September 8.



Connell brothers Lorne, left, and Scott Sinclair.

New cycling event planned for later this year

A NEW cycling event is expected to welcome 200 riders to Oban when it is held later this year.

North Argyll Cycling Club and the Oban Rotary Club are working together to establish the Oban Sportive, offering two challenging routes for cyclists in the Oban and Lorn area, with the event receiving extra support from BID4Oban.

Set to be held in September, the event will offer a 52-mile route and an 84-mile route and will take in some of the area's most spectacular scenery.

The event is dedicated to Chris Bell, the former SAMS student

and popular local rider who was killed in an avalanche at Glen Coe earlier this year.

An irreplaceable athlete, he was a key member of the Sportive organising committee and he was determined to make the event one to give even the strongest of riders a test while not excluding anyone with excessive mileages.

Cycling map
North Argyll Cycling Club's Nick Charlton said: 'We hope this event will really put Oban on the cycling map and be the first of many successful Oban Sportives. We welcome the support of BID4Oban which will ensure

a professionally run event.'

Mike Rowell, BID4Oban's events manager, said: 'We have a wealth of beautiful scenery and challenging cycling in the area and the more we can welcome people into the town to enjoy what we have to offer, all the better for Oban businesses.'

Both routes head south from Oban to Kilmelford, where the short route cyclists turn left crossing over the hills to Loch Avich and the shores of Loch Awe, then on to Taynuilt.

Those cyclists in need of a more demanding ride carry on south from Kilmelford to

CYCLING

Kilmartin then turn north again following the length of Loch Awe to Taynuilt. All the cyclists will return to Oban through Glen Lonan.

Nick added: 'The breathtaking scenery with sea views, lochs and glens combined with tough riding and a warm welcome will ensure that this is the must-do cycle event for 2013.'

Oban Sportive will be held on September 29.

For more information, see obansportive.co.uk.



Cyclists from the North Argyll and Lochaber cycling clubs meet at Glasdrum on Thursday to welcome MID4Oban's support for the new Oban Sportive - with even cycling pooch Hoots Blainey donning a helmet in support of the event.

Mull girl plays for Scotland

LACROSSE

A MULL girl has recently returned from Canada where she was goalkeeper with the Scotland Under-19 lacrosse squad.

Fenella James, aged 15, from Lochdon played in a tournament in conjunction with the World Championships, in which Scotland's seniors came sixth.

In 2015, the Under-19 World Championships will be held in Edinburgh.

Aside from playing for the national side, Fenella also plays in



Fenella James.

the 1st XII for her school, Fettes College, against other schools in Scotland and in tournaments in England.

Oban bowlers lift the silverware at Ardrishaig

BOWLS

IT WAS an experienced pair of bowlers that emerged triumphant at the Ardrishaig Bowling Club Invitation Pairs on Saturday.

Oban's Neil MacDougall and Donnie Douglas lifted the cup after a closely fought final with father and daughter team Jim and Laura Dunbar from Old Kilpatrick. The Oban men won 5-4.

The win came after nine hours of bowling on the Loch Fyneside green, which saw 27 pairs from Ardrishaig, Lochgilphead, Oban, Dunoon, Innellan and Old Kilpatrick compete for the 2013 Pairs Cup.

The Ardrishaig pairing of Dougie Moore and Donald Crawford performed well on the day, making the semi-finals alongside Oban's Janet Campbell and Mike Kelly.

Fiona MacLachlan from the Ardrishaig Club said: 'I would like to thank all of the competitors for travelling to take part in the competition today and to say a special thank you to Donald MacDonald Funeral Directors and Golden Charter for their kind sponsorship of the event.'



Oban Express Sunday League returned to action recently after a short summer break. Although the numbers were down slightly, this was due to a lot of the children still being away on holiday, but those who were there certainly showed plenty of skill and enthusiasm.

Weather

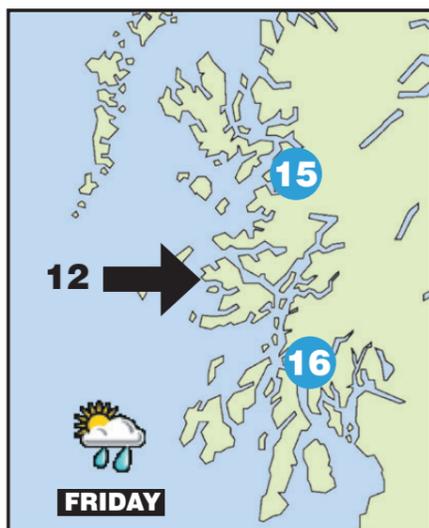
Thursday Sunny intervals
Winds moderate south south easterly
Temperatures 14°C to 17°C

Friday Light rain showers
Winds moderate westerly
Temperatures 11°C to 16°C.

Weekend Rain showers
Outlook Winds moderate south south westerly
Temperatures 14°C to 17°C.

Ferry Crossings/Sea States

Oban to Barra/South Uist Moderate
Oban to Coll/Tiree Moderate
Kennacraig to Islay Moderate



Tides

Tide tables for Oban during the week from **Thursday, August 8, 2013** are listed below with differences for major ports listed beneath.

All times are GMT (add one hour BST)

Date	am	pm
Thur	00.47 1.1 06.40 3.8 12.43 0.8 18.45 3.9	
Fri	01.18 1.0 07.09 3.8 13.14 0.8 19.14 3.9	
Sat	01.48 1.1 07.34 3.7 13.43 0.8 19.41 3.9	
Sun	02.13 1.1 08.03 3.6 14.16 0.9 20.12 3.8	
Mon	02.39 1.2 08.37 3.5 14.54 1.1 20.48 3.6	
Tues	03.18 1.4 09.18 3.3 15.40 1.2 21.31 3.4	
Wed	04.10 1.5 10.10 3.2 16.39 1.4 22.28 3.2	

Tidal Constants: (Add or deduct from High Water at Oban)

Ardrishaig	-5.35	Mallaig	+0.25
Campbeltown	-5.30	Portree	+0.55
Crinan	-0.47	Tobermory	+0.16
Islay Port Ellen	2.00	Dover	+5.30
Lochboisdale	+0.30		

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Driving Force

NEW REGISTRATION SPECIAL Pages 14 - 17

Annual Sunart and District Show

STRONTIAN is getting ready for the annual influx of cattle, poultry, sheep and spectators for the 63rd annual Sunart and District Agricultural Show on Saturday. Strontian Show Field will play host for the event, which gets underway at 9.30am.

Thai boxing champ in 47 seconds

A FORT William martial artist has become Scottish Muay Thai boxing champion by knocking out his opponent after just 47 seconds of the final. Jonny Cliffe, originally from Lochside, took part in the Scottish championships in Edinburgh on Saturday, and defeated Steffan Parente in the katana final. The 25 year-old, who fights for Corpach-based club Highlanders Muay Thai, is Lochaber's first national champ since his coach Stephen Laverty held the title. Cliffe's clubmate Mark MacMaster, of Upper Achintore, also took part in the championships but lost to Graham Milne. Anne Kyle from the Highlanders told the Oban Times: 'The boys have trained very hard and all their hard work has paid off.' The Highlanders train on Mondays and Fridays in Kilmallie Hall.

Pensioner killed in car crash

A FORT William pensioner was one of two people killed in a head-on crash near Oban last Thursday. Mary Gillies, 74, of Grant Place, Claggan was returning from a trip to Oban in the back seat of a Honda CRV when it collided with a Vauxhall Vectra on the A85 near Connell Bridge. Oban man Vincent Kennedy, 32, also died in the crash and several other passengers were taken to hospital for treatment. Mrs Gillies, known as May, and her late husband Ronald formerly ran the butcher's shop in Ballachulish. Monsignor Donald MacKinnon, parish priest at Mrs Gillies' church St Mary's in Fort William, said: 'May was a woman of gentle character and great faith. The parish is shocked and our deepest sympathies go to her family and everyone involved.' See full story, page 9.



John and wife Jan celebrate his safe return to Lochailort with members of the Blue Knights motorcycle club. 20_132john01

Jan's joy as fund-raising campaign continues

JAN BRYDEN was a happy woman when her husband John rode up to the couple's Lochailort home accompanied by members of the Blue Knights motorcycle club. She had no worries about John's safety on the 8,104-mile trip on their daughter Kirsty's 125cc Honda, which took him through the Netherlands, Germany, Denmark, Sweden and up Norway to Nordcap, only 650 miles from the North Pole. From there, John travelled through Finnish Lapland to the Russian frontier town of Kirkenes, then on to Moscow, Estonia, Latvia, Lithuania,

Poland, Germany and France. His trip attracted huge media attention in Germany and Russia. German Blue Knights accompanied him from Berlin to the French Border while UK members rode with him over the Scottish border back to Lochailort. Obstinate Jan told the Oban Times: 'I was asked by a friend if John was in the SAS and I said no - he's just an obstinate Scotsman. 'If anybody can get themselves out of any difficulty, John will. 'In one town he was accosted by a bunch of young drunkards who tried to pinch the toys off his bike - but needless to say they did not get any. The target was £15,000 and between the website and other donations we have raised more than that, which is fantastic.' The Brydens' charity endeavours include moving into a converted flat above the garage so their house next door can be turned over to those in need when required. Jan said: 'We want to open our home for families dealing with conditions such as autism or those needing time away from someone with an alcohol or drug addiction, for example. We are keeping it very open and have not got any barriers on who can come up. This would be a place just to draw breath together. We have the first family coming tomorrow - a mother and an autistic child. In the longer term would love to gradually convert the house to being fully disabled-friendly.' Kirsty Bryden was killed in a tragic car accident near the family home three years ago. She had devoted much of her young life to helping children across the world. The Blue Knights are a worldwide motorcycle club whose members are retired or serving policemen.

John's trip leads to hospice hope for Russia

A LOCHABER father has returned from a gruelling fundraising trip to Russia with an official invitation to help set up the country's first ever children's hospice.

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



From Russia with love: John is welcomed home by wife Jan. 20_132john02

John Bryden was asked by officials at No 10 Hospice in Dovator Street in Moscow to bring experts from Scotland to advise on creating the new unit on a site allocated by the Russian Government. Mr Bryden received the invite during a fact-finding tour of the adult hospice, where dying children are allocated just a single room. He is now hoping a team from the Children's Hospice Association of Scotland (CHAS) will accompany him back to the Russian capital. His Moscow visit was part of a marathon European motorbike ride to raise £15,000 for Kirsty's Kids, the charity he and wife Jan set up in memory of their daughter. Mr Bryden told the Oban Times: 'Initially the reception was not warm. It was full of 'them and us' and I did not know anything about Russian culture. I felt it was important that children obtained access to the same facilities we have in Scotland. 'I reminded the authorities I was there as a friend of the children. I explained I wanted to show them the hand of friendship and I did not have any other agenda - and I was graciously accepted. 'I said using Scottish experience with hospices the opportunities are there for us to build together a real model hospice in Moscow, the best in the world. 'He added: 'The Russians are just like us. I wanted Kirsty's Kids to be special and if we can benefit so many children that we can't not let this happen. What is the alternative - to let children die with two days of their life left? That's what is happening now. 'There are no children's hospices facilities in Russia at all. Land has been released by the Russian Government - so let's get over there and get it done.' Also in Moscow, Mr Bryden presented the Sheredar Fund with £1,000 from Kirsty's Kids for a trampoline at the children's cancer rehabilitation they are building. Children at Banavie and Upper Achintore primary schools chose the gift as a token of friendship between the children of Scotland and Russia. In a letter to Mr Bryden, Michael Bondarev, the fund's founder said: 'The Sheredar Fund heartily thanks you for your concern for children's lives which made you accomplish this beneficial motorcycle ride to help children from Scotland and Russia. 'The Sheredar Fund expresses its sincere gratitude for the valuable present Scottish children from Kirsty's Kids have chosen for Sheredar kids. 'We absolutely agree with you that friendship between children of our countries can make the world better. 'We were happy to meet a person like you for whom help to children has become the most important thing. We look forward to seeing you again.'

Couple's delight at club's cuddle tot donation

A FORT William couple's fundraising efforts have allowed NHS Highland to install its first 'cuddle cot' to help parents of stillborn and neonatal death babies. Colin and Rebecca Stewart's son Kyle was stillborn on May 13 2011 and since then bereaved parents have been looking for ways to improve facilities at the maternity unit at Raigmore Hospital in Inverness. They approached Lochaber Rotary Club who agreed to provide the funds for a cuddle cot - a specially designed, internally cooled

carrycot which allows parents prolonged time to spend with their baby before burial. Rebecca said: 'This cuddle cot will provide many parents with the opportunity to spend as much time as possible to bond with their babies and create precious memories to help with their sad loss. 'Colin and I extend our sincere thanks to the Lochaber Rotary Club for kindly donating the cuddle cot to Raigmore in memory of our son Kyle Alan Stewart.' Rotary president John Rosie said: 'The

club had no hesitation in agreeing to fund this vital facility for the benefit of bereaved parents in the Highlands. It will assist with the grieving process and also allow some parents to take their baby home for a short period, if they so wish.' Rebecca's father Alan, a past-president of the rotary club, said that he was grateful to the club for financing the carrycot. Meanwhile, Colin and Rebecca gave birth to a baby girl, Cara Grace Stewart, on July 26.

Fun day forced indoors

FORT William residents battled the weather to hold a fun day on Saturday, raising more than £800 towards improving a local playpark. The Plantation gala day was forced indoors by rain and strong wind, but it didn't prevent locals enjoying stalls, face painting, a raffle and a barbecue. And despite the inclement weather, community warden Mary Ellen Campbell tackled a 16-mile sponsored walk between Kinlochleven and Fort William. Plantation Community Association (PCA) chairwoman Helen Mackenzie said: 'The weather was horrendous, we couldn't even put up the bouncy castle. But we moved into the hall on Young Place and we had quite a good turnout. I want to say thanks to all the local businesses who donated prizes for the raffle.' The money raised on the day will go towards refurbishing the Pine Grove play area.



Defying the years: Tommy MacEachen launches the 22lb shot at Arisaig Highland Games. 20_132arisaig05

Tommy, 77, battles on against young rivals

ARISAIG athlete Tommy MacEachen took the field to compete in his 60th Arisaig Highland Games on Saturday - at the tender age of 77. Silver-haired Tommy's preparation for the big day was not ideal - he lined up alongside his younger rivals with his right knee heavily strapped following a freak accident. He told the Oban Times on the field: 'I injured my knee when I stepped in a rabbit hole two weeks before games and it is curtailing my performance. I can't take a proper step and that's costing me at least six feet a throw.' The former Arisaig sub-



postmaster and ex-Glasgow police sergeant first threw his weight around at the event back in 1953, aged just 17. Tommy went on to win a string of local trophies over the years, competing against legends such as Arthur Rowe, the Commonwealth shot putt champion. He added: 'At one time I was in contention, but not now. I'll get a prize today, but only because of the lack of competitors!' Giant Pole Sebastian Wenta broke the games record for throwing the 28lb weight. See our full Arisaig Highland Games and Clanranald Gathering coverage, page 4.

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Street League tournament

FOOTBALLING youngsters will have the chance to show off their skills at the Lochaber Street League tournament at Claggan Park, the home of Fort William FC, this Saturday.

Anyone between the ages of seven and 16 is invited to take part, with registration open between 9.30am and 10.30am on the day.

The street league has run across the summer holidays, with children from across Lochaber taking part.

Committee member Eileen Ross said: 'All young people and parents are very welcome even if you have not been able to take part during the summer holidays.'

Tools stolen from housing site

A NEW housing development in Lochside was broken into with thousands of pounds worth of tools stolen.

Thieves entered the Sheraton Homes development site between 4pm on Wednesday July 31 and 8am the following morning.

Police said the stolen items were a mixture of power and hand tools with an estimated value of around £2,000.

A Police Scotland spokesperson said: 'Given the quantity of items taken a vehicle would have been required for their removal.'

Best exam results in five years

PUPILS in the Highlands have recorded their best exam results in five years, with more than 83 per cent of S4s achieving five general level passes.

And the number of youngsters getting five grades at credit level is up by 4.4 per cent to 41.1 per cent.

Some 27.6 per cent of S5s achieved three or more higher, with 300 pupils passing five higher. In S6, 440 got at least one advanced higher.

The youngsters received their results by text, email and post on Tuesday morning.

Highland Council's adult and children's services committee chairman Alasdair Christie said: 'These are very good results and testimony to the hard work of students, their families providing support and our staff in Highland schools. Congratulations to them all.'

Police files

TWO TYRES were slashed on a white Volkswagen Golf parked on Fife Place, Fort William overnight between Monday July 29 and the following day.

A NEWLY-planted cherry tree was damaged at Aird Mhor, Mallaig between Tuesday July 25 and Sunday July 28.

TWO houses in the Kentallen area were broken into overnight on July 12, with a large quantity of jewellery stolen from one. A vehicle described as a dark coloured Ford Mondeo was seen in the area around 1.30am.

Any person with any knowledge of these incidents is asked to contact local police on 101, the confidential line on 01397 702000 or independent charity Crimestoppers anonymously on 0800 555 111.

Ballachulish summer fayre

BALLACHULISH'S second annual summer fayre will be bringing fun and colour to the village this Saturday.

The fun starts at the village hall 11am, with a tug of war competition, a family treasure hunt, bric-a-brac and cake stalls and a barbecue. A raffle will also be held, with a tablet computer up for grabs.

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Roadworks rescheduled to start in September

WORK to improve the A87 near Sconser on the Isle of Skye originally planned for July will start at the end of September.

Resurfacing work between the village and the head of Loch Ainort will start on September 24 and is due to finish by October 11.

The road will be closed overnight between 8pm and 6am from September, and a convoy system will be in place Monday to Friday from October 3 to 11.

The BEAR Scotland works were delayed until after the summer tourist season following local consultation.

Mysterious world of moths revealed at Glen Nevis

THE MYSTERIOUS world of moths will be revealed in Glen Nevis near Fort William tomorrow (Friday) night.

Traps will be set at dusk to attract the insects, which will be released unharmed the following morning. Meet at the Ben Nevis Highland Centre at 8pm and/or 10am on Saturday. Families welcome.

Nevis Landscape Partnership and Friends of Nevis are organising the event. Book via www.friendsofnevis.co.uk or 07770 648330.



Vision of the future: an artists impression of how the Cameron Square will look following its £540,000 makeover.

Fort man left friend needing surgery on jaw after punching him in the face

A FORT William man left his friend needing surgery on a broken jaw after drunkenly punching him in the face.

John Lawrie's attack on the man during an afternoon drinking session on June 9 last year was 'unprovoked', fiscal Andrew Laing told Fort William Sheriff Court.

'For no apparent reason, the accused walked over to the sofa and assaulted him, Mr Laing said. 'He punched him two or three times on the right side of his face.'

The victim was taken to hospital for treatment and it was later discovered he had a fractured jaw which required metal plates to be put in place.

The court also heard the man had lost some feeling on that side of his face.

Defending Lawrie, Stephen Kennedy said the victim had been behaving aggressively, brandishing two knuckledusters and challenging Lawrie's uncle to fight.

Last chance

Sheriff Noel McPartlin decided against jailing 27-year-old Lawrie, but warned him: 'This is your last chance. If you're in trouble again you'll be at grave risk of imprisonment.'

Sheriff McPartlin ordered Lawrie to carry out 200 hours of unpaid work, to attend alcohol addiction treatment and put him under a supervision order for six months.

Lawrie, of 78 Kennedy Road, pled guilty to repeatedly punching the man on the head to his severe injury and impairment at 22 Glenpane Street in Caol.

Call to extend cheap transport fares scheme

A CAMPAIGN to broaden the cheap transport fares for the elderly scheme rolls into Fort William next Tuesday.

Shoppers passing Age Concern Scotland's table in High Street will be encouraged to sign the 'Still Waiting' petition.

It calls on the Scottish Government to extend concessionary fares on public transport to community-based initiatives.

Lochaber Transport Forum is among those supporting the charity's campaign - and is calling for a strong public response.

According to development worker Benny MacDonald, people in Lochaber with mobility difficulties and those in greatest transport need were losing out.

He said: 'Given the vital role of community transport in Lochaber, and transport problems surrounding our rurality, local support for this campaign will help highlight these issues nationally.'

Jo Cowan, Age Concern Scotland development worker for the North, said many older folk get no benefit from a bus pass either because public transport is either absent or inaccessible.

Pay

She said: 'Consequently, many people in our area rely on our superb community transport organisations to meet their transport needs but, unfortunately, this means they are having to pay and are 'still waiting' for any benefit at all from the national scheme. By extending the scheme to include all forms of community transport, more older people will be able to benefit from the bus pass - and there will be better financial support for the work of community transport providers.'

Anyone wishing to lend their support can sign the petition in Fort William High Street outside the former Clark's shoe shop from 9.30am to 2.30pm or online at www.agescotland.org.uk/stillwaiting.



Able Cadet Hannah Calder, one of the TS St Christopher's longest serving cadets, holding the 2013 pennant at Lochaber Yacht Club on one of the unit's powerboating nights.

Award-winning cadets' urgent appeal for more adult helpers

LOCHABER sea cadets at TS St Christopher have been awarded an efficiency pennant for the sixth year in succession - the first time that has happened since the 1970s - but could still sink due to lack of support.

Unit commanding officer Derrick Warner said: 'It's been a tremendously successful year for us and while it could not happen without the help of the committee and cadets, it would have been utterly impossible without a team of committed adult instructors.'

'But sadly it looks as if the TS St Christopher will not do as well this year due to a lack of adult helpers. We badly need some adults to help us and we have a number of roles that need filling. No previous experience is needed as full training is provided.'

The pennant award from the Sea Cadet Corps came after the youngsters passed their annual inspection of all systems and procedures with flying colours. Highlights of the year included cadets sailing round the Western Isles, meeting dolphins in the Moray Firth and 29 kayaking qualifications. More information on 01397 712605 / 07584 096787.

Woman slammed husband's hand in drawer

A KINLOCHLEVEN woman drunkenly slammed a kitchen drawer on her elderly husband's hand in a fit of rage.

Heather Cavin admitted assaulting her 87-year-old husband to his severe injury in their house at 8 Lovat Road on June 17.

The man was left a deep cut on his hand and was taken to Belford Hospital for treatment.

Fort William Sheriff Court heard Cavin, aged 64, had been drinking for much of the day before the incident.

Claim

But Sheriff Noel McPartlin accepted defence solicitor Stephen Kennedy's claim that Cavin was unaware her husband's hand was in the drawer.

Mr Kennedy said: 'It was reckless rather than being done with any intent to cause injury to her husband.'

Sheriff McPartlin ordered Cavin to be under social work supervision for six months.

Early sign of Cameron Square's hidden past

Post mediaeval drain unearthed

FORT William's main square could yield archaeological secrets after an unexpected find during preliminary excavations ahead of a major redevelopment.

Five test pits were dug in Cameron Square in June to check for underground water pipes and electricity cables ahead of a £540,000 makeover starting this autumn.

Ross and Cromarty Archaeological Services (Rocas) were hired to carry out a 'watching brief' during the work and, together with observer Robert Cairns, the chairman of Lochaber Archaeological Society, expected nothing of interest to turn up.

But in one metre-long pit at the north end of the square next to the pedestrianised High Street, a cobble-lined drain covered by a thin schist capping stone was unearthed.

The drain, just six inches wide by seven deep, contained glazed pottery shards, slate fragments and animal bone, apparently post-mediaeval in date.

The discovery suggests the square, where the town hall once stood until it burned down in the 1970s, could contain significant intact archaeology because the layer of ground disturbed over the centuries is relatively shallow.

Rocas archaeologist Mary Peteranna told *The Oban Times*: 'We did not expect to find anything

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



Unexpected find: the post-mediaeval drain unearthed in Cameron Square.

particularly dating to the origins of the Post Mediaeval town, on the site.'

She added: 'The historical mapping and historical records indicate there is significant potential for archaeological remains to survive below the present surface on the site, for example the footings of the 19th century Kennedy Monument, the footings of the old church/town house at the southeast end of the site and remnants of earlier structures in front of the West Highland Museum.'

'It is recommended that site clearance during development work be conducted under archaeological supervision.'

Under the regeneration project, Cameron Square will be levelled to create a new performance area with seating, public art and lighting in a bid to bring new life to Fort William's commercial heart.

Lochaber wards manager Dot Ferguson said: 'We will go out to tender during the third week in August, which keeps us to the programmed timetable.'

'All works have to be completed by February to ensure the money is spent in this financial year, which is a condition of the funding.'

Traders will kept informed as work progressed, Ms Ferguson said.

Cameron Square was last renovated 20 years ago.

because all we were trying to do was target the utilities.

'The drain is probably post mediaeval and is good supporting evidence for the watching brief because we now know the utilities have not dug everything out. The area has been changed three or four times in the late and post mediaeval period so there is good potential there for sure.'

In a report to Highland Council, Ms Peteranna said the drain 'indicates the potential for archaeological remains,



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Business owner canvasses support for fish farm

A BILLIONAIRE businessman proposing a fish farm on Loch Etive near Oban canvassed local people for support - including a councillor who will decide on the application.

Alastair Salvesson CBE, owner of Dawnfresh, says he received a 'very positive' reaction from locals he visited.

But Mr Salvesson received a guarded response Councillor Iain MacDonald, who lives on the shores of the loch.

Mr MacDonald told *The Oban Times*: 'I told him straight away I was on the planning committee. I can't say much to him. I kept asking him why he was there.'

'He was asking for my support. He was just trying to talk people into supporting it.'

Mr Salvesson refused to answer when asked if he considered the visit to Mr MacDonald appropriate.

But he is increasingly confident the proposal for a 10-pen trout farm will be approved by Argyll and Bute Council.

The entrepreneur said the farm would be of benefit to the entire area - and hit out at what he claimed was 'mis-information'.

Mr Salvesson criticised the Friends of Loch Etive (FOLE) for its approach to opposing the fish farm.

He told *The Oban Times*: 'It's very important we get some true information as opposed to false information being banded about by those against the fish farm, and we have visited quite a few people. We've never suggested

EXCLUSIVE

REPORT by

STEVEN FLANAGAN
sflanangan@obantimes.co.uk

there will be lights on our farm. Navigation lights, yes, but it won't be lit up at night.

'We are a real employer that has invested in the area. We have two fish farms in Loch Awe and five in Loch Etive. We have the agreement of SEPA for this site.'

'We are doing something that is sustainable. This isn't just important for us, it is important for Scotland.'

FOLE chairman Keith MacMillan said: 'I think everything to do with this application should be discussed in public and transparently. People going behind the procedures that are set out undermine the local democracy.'

Mr Salvesson accepted the wording of a Dawnfresh email canvassing support for the farm could have been better.

The missive, sent by Etive farm manager Sean Lydon, asked for '2000+' names in support, suggesting eight possible reasons to support the farm including 'creation of jobs to local area'.

'It was referring to indirect jobs as opposed to direct jobs,' Mr Salvesson said. 'There's no shadow of doubt it will create jobs.'

Mr Salvesson said the new farm would mean temporary jobs becoming permanent and local firms being used for construction and maintenance.



Lorn Show dancers smile through the rain

Tiny Highland dancers braved the wind and rain at this year's Lorn Agricultural Show and they didn't come much smaller than eight-year-old Rachel Johnston, who travelled from Bowmore, on Islay, to compete in the show's dancing section. The leach won the Highland and National competitions for novice dancers during the well-run event at Keil Common Grazings, Benderloch. For a report and pictures see page 8. 13210rn03

Shopkeepers resigned to more town supermarkets

Council launches study into where new large stores could be accommodated

FRUSTRATED Oban retailers are resigned to more supermarkets opening locally after *The Oban Times* learned the council is looking at how to accommodate new large stores.

Councillors were notified last week of a study, which is looking at the potential for additional retail space following interest from supermarkets such as Asda and Sainsbury's in recent years.

Independent traders in Oban fear the plan will mean more money leaving the town - while expressing frustration that inadequate town centre parking still isn't being addressed.

Some conceded however that more supermarkets would bring new jobs.

In an email to local councillors seen by *The Oban Times*, Robert Pollock, head of economic development, said: 'Such a study will be important for informing the development of the master plan for the Oban south area and potential future investments

that may occur in relation to the Tax Incremental Finance (TIF) project.'

The retail study will also help inform the council's response to potential retail investors.'

Iain Darling of Wynne's Butcher in Oban, has mixed feelings about the study. 'If the council are going to do it, they're going to do it. There's not much we can do about it,' he said. 'My daughter does very well working in Tesco and they employ a lot of people. The jobs picture is getting worse in Oban so a supermarket would employ a few more people.'

But parking in the town should be a priority for the authority to support existing business, he said. 'Something has to be done. Rockfield would be ideal.'

However, another retailer said: 'I'd be very wary of another supermarket, especially at the edge of town. Parking is something we desperately need looked at first though.'

The BID4Oban board, representing local businesses, will discuss the report at the end of the month.

Councillor Duncan MacIntyre believes the inward investment is essential given the development of the Dunbeg corridor.

He said: 'There will be 1,500 new houses in the area over next 10 years. That's a lot of people.'

'Sainsbury's and Asda have been interested in different parts of the town.'

Mr MacIntyre added that the Lochavullin Industrial Estate in the town was ideal for further development.

Councillor Fred Hall agreed parking should be a priority, saying: 'If we can increase footfall by providing additional parking so that the 725,000 people who go through our ferry port do not just drive up to Tesco's, load up the car, and head straight to the ferry then that will work some regeneration magic.'

174 local objections

MORE than 540 people have so far commented on Dawnfresh's application, with the majority against the proposal.

Of the 193 local representations lodged at the time of going to press, 90 per cent - 174 - objected to the proposal. The topic will be discussed

at two community councils at length next week.

Taynuilt Community Council will meet at the village hall on Monday from 7.30pm, while Ardochattan Community Council will hold their meeting on Tuesday at Ardochattan School, Bonawe, from 7.30pm.

Readers call for councillors to stand down

SHOULD Argyll and Bute councillors stand down in the wake of the political leadership row that has stifled the authority?

Eighty per cent of people who voted in our poll think so. Of the 71 people that voted on our website, 57 thought all elected members should quit and trigger a by-election, with just 14 saying they were happy for their councillors to continue.

Immigration officials detain 12 illegal workers in raids on three Isle of Mull restaurants

IMMIGRATION officials detained 12 illegal workers after raiding three restaurants on the Isle of Mull.

Officers from the Home Office's Scotland Immigration Enforcement Team carried out raids last Thursday afternoon and seized £8,000 under the Proceeds of Crime Act.

Five Bangladeshi men aged between 55 and 31 were arrested at Sagar Balti House while at Crystal Palace, two Bangladeshi

men aged 34 and 48, a 39-year-old Chinese man and a 44-year-old Chinese woman were arrested.

At Golden Dragon, two Thai men aged 19 and 23 and a 20-year-old Thai woman were arrested. All three restaurants are on Tobermory's Main Street.

One Tobermory resident, who didn't wish to be named, said: 'There is shock in the town - nobody can believe it was on the

national news - who thought this could be going on in our little town.'

Immigration officers who raided the restaurants on Mull also detained a man in Oban on arriving back on the mainland.

Those arrested are currently in Home Office detention while steps are taken to remove them from the country.

The three restaurants remain closed at the time of going to press.

Shinty fan wins £850 jackpot

A SHINTY fan who follows the game he loves through the pages of *The Oban Times* has won the £850 jackpot in the paper's Spot the Shinty Ball competition.

Spean Bridge native Ivor Milen, who now lives in Callander, says he is frustrated at not being able to see his beloved Lochaber Camanachd as often as he would like but enjoys playing Spot the Shinty Ball every week. After receiving news of

his win, the 75-year-old, who has previously won £1,500 in the competition, said: 'That has made my week I usually have a good think about where the ball is, so there's quite a lot of work involved!' Ivor said there were 'a few things' he could spend

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Six weeks of A82 night closures

WORK to remove the bottleneck at Pulpit Rock on the A82 will see six weeks of overnight closures from tomorrow (Friday).
Contractor McLaughlin and Harvey will start piling works along the existing road required to support the improved road structure.
Earthworks will also be started which will enable the sharp bend in the existing corner to be smoothed out.
The A82 will remain open on either side of the closure but the work will see the Pulpit Rock section closed between 10pm and 6pm through to September 20.
Transport Scotland say that while there will be no significant changes to the landscape, passers by will notice gradual widening of the existing road and works to the slopes above.

MSP demands better mobile phone coverage for rural areas

THE MSP for Argyll and Bute, Michael Russell, has written to George Osborne, Chancellor of the Exchequer, demanding better mobile phone coverage for the area.
The move follows a petition from residents on the Isle of Seil calling for investment in better rural mobile phone coverage.
Mr Russell said: 'I want a significant review of the areas being prioritised in the Mobile Infrastructure Project and ask that Argyll and Bute be treated earlier than phase 4.
'Argyll and Bute is a vast constituency and includes 25 inhabited islands. Rural mobile coverage here is a vital service for people both commercially and for emergencies.
'Most recently I have been contacted by the island community of Seil where islanders are confused about why the UK government's £150m plan to improve rural mobile coverage is still nowhere near the island.
'Mr Osborne claimed 'personal' credit when making the announcement and now my constituents are demanding that he delivers, I am happy to support them in that and have written to him on their behalf.'



Vincent Kennedy had served with the TA in Afghanistan.

Tributes paid after A85 death crash

War veteran and pensioner perish

TRIBUTES have been made to a young father and Afghan war veteran who was one of two people killed in a collision between two cars west of Connel.
Territorial Army (TA) soldier Vincent Kennedy, aged 32, from Oban and 74-year-old Mary Gillies from Claggan, Fort William, both passengers in separate cars, died in the A85 crash, in which three children and four adults were also injured.
Mr Kennedy's partner Veronica MacKenzie, who was driving a Vauxhall Vectra, was airlifted to hospital following the collision at around 6.30pm last Thursday and was in a critical but stable condition as

The Oban Times went to press. Their three children, who were also passengers in the car, were treated for minor injuries at Lorn and Islands Hospital, Oban.
Mrs Gillies was a back-seat passenger in the Honda CRV involved in the crash. Three other women in the car were treated at Lorn and Islands Hospital.
Mr Kennedy, known as Vinnie, was set to be a best man to his friend Darren Brown next year. And having previously toured Afghanistan with the TA where his roles included training the Afghan Police Force, the former Seil man had told friends of his desire to do more work with the army.
Mr Brown told *The Oban Times* his friend would be sorely

Dunbeg hotel plans submitted

DETAILED plans for a proposed luxury spa-hotel on the hills above Dunbeg will be submitted to Argyll and Bute Council towards the end of October.
An open meeting was held at Dunbeg Church recently, where outline plans for the hotel with self catering cottages and leisure facilities were shown.
Nearly 40 locals turned up for the meeting, which architect Alex Dobbie welcomed.
'It went very well,' he said. 'It was all quite positive and there were a couple of suggestions made. Now we just have to take it through the process. There's a pre-application consultation period we have to go through first, so we should be making a planning application at the end of October.'
Some 40 chalets are proposed for the site at Tom Liath, while the developer is also planning to build a footpath to the nearby chapel, Cladh Uaine. The leisure facilities will be open to locals.
Access to the site will be via a roundabout on the A85 near the Halfway Filling Station, which recently received planning permission.

Businessman evades distillery questions

A BUSINESSMAN aiming to establish a distillery on Barra refused to answer questions on whether he has managed to secure investment to start building - as the deadline to start looms.
Peter Brown evaded several questions put to him by *The Oban Times* this week as concern grows on the island that Barra's first distillery will never be built.
After being asked how much progress had been made to secure investment for the Borve plant, Mr Brown said: 'To be honest, I think there's a lot of organisations where a member of the press would get through to the boss. We're having a nice chat but that's as far as it will go.'
Mr Brown was granted permission in 2009 for the

distillery said to cost £1million - on the condition construction starts by July 2014.
Construction has not yet begun, but Mr Brown has erected four separate wind turbines measuring 11.5m to blade tip on the shores of Loch Uisge.
Mr Brown had previously asked investors to buy 'limited edition casks' at £1,000 each to help fund the distillery.
Share equity
The offer closed in January and Mr Brown's website claims the sale raised £45,000 in addition to £10,000 raised in share equity.
'Of course there's interest,' he told *The Oban Times* when asked if he had received any solid investment. Asked again if investors had committed and if the distillery could be built, he responded: 'I don't make promises unless I'm absolutely sure.'
Asked when construction would start - having first said in 2009 that it would begin in autumn of that year - he said 'soon' but he refused to talk about any projected timeline.
Mr Brown also claimed global financial troubles that started in 2007 impacted on his plans, but the UK Government's bail out of three UK banks happened prior to his claim of starting construction in 2009.
Mr Brown added: 'There are people out there who will feed you a line and exaggerate. They'll tell people stories. They'll make it up. I'm not going to do that.'
Mr Brown has attempted to establish a number of businesses on Barra in recent years. Among them is a driving school and a car hire firm.
He also attempted to run cafes

Police files

A THREE-figure sum of cash has allegedly been stolen from an honesty box at the Shore Street car park, across from the Kelvin Hotel.
The incident happened between 2pm and 3.30pm on Tuesday, July 30.
Oban Police are asking anyone who noticed anything suspicious in the area at that time contact them on 01631 510 500.
THIEVES have stolen tools from a works van parked outside a house on the Glen Lonan road.
Police are seeking any information in relation to the incident, which took place

Visitors reveal surprising home truths

TOURISM chiefs in the west of Scotland are sure to have their heads in their hands at some of the most popular questions asked about the area.
Despite expensive marketing campaigns to promote the best the west has to offer, internet giant Google reveals some surprising home truths about opinions on the area.
The most common questions searched for include 'why is the west of Scotland so cold, violent, wet, boring or crap'.
The only positive comes with people asking why the region is so beautiful and 'able to produce hydroelectric power'.
The islands fare no better with the most common questions including why are the islands of Scotland so bad at football, rugby or sport in general.
And lastly a common question asked of Google is one regularly queried by islanders: 'Why are the islands of Scotland so expensive?'

Marina midnight rescue

A YOUNG man suffering from chest pain was the subject of a midnight rescue by Oban lifeboat last weekend.
The volunteer crew were wakened by their pagers going off at 12.30am on Saturday morning. They rushed to the aid of the 22-year-old, who was on a yacht in Oban Marina on the island of Kerrera.
The casualty was taken back to the mainland where an ambulance picked him up at the lifeboat slipway and took him to Lorn and Islands District General Hospital in Oban.

Clocking up the Euro miles to boost charities



The Argyll Dumballers pause the Stelvio Pass during the rally. Pictured are, from left, are Damien Martin, Davy Wren and Martin Collins.

THREE cars set off for Devon, two made it to Europe and two returned to Oban after a nine country journey - all helping to raise cash for a host of charities.
Winding a route around Europe, the Great European Rally Challenge is one of the most challenging routes for any car, never mind cars bought for less than most people would spend on a television set.
The teams, Team V and C, CJ Auto Repairs, aka the Argyll Dumballers, and the Argyll Retrobates, set off from Oban keen to raise as much money as possible for their chosen charities, Macmillan Cancer Support, Glencoe Mountain Rescue and Cancer Research UK respectively. Akin to a mammoth Top Gear challenge, the journey started well enough - for two of the teams. The Porsche 944 driven by Team V and C suffered a fan-belt problem by St Albans, ruling it out of making the trip to Europe. For the other two teams, it remained an arduous journey, starting in Belgium, before driving through Germany, Switzerland, Italy, Slovenia, Hungary, Slovakia, the Czech Republic and the Netherlands.
Damien Martin, a member and resident

Cash boost for youth projects

FIVE local youth projects have received a funding boost as part of a £138,000 payout from the Scottish Government's CashBack for Communities Youth Work Fund.
Two Oban based organisations, three Mid Argyll based and one island group received a total of £9,836 from the fund to help pay for summer activities, which has now paid out a total of around £7.7million to 1,400 different projects across Scotland.
Argyll and Bute Council's Youth Services in Oban received £3,552, Oban Youth Café £1,368 and the Mid Argyll Youth Forum received £2,620. Mid Argyll Youth Development Services received £1,656 and the Islay and Jura Youth Action group received £640. The projects will deliver diversionary youth work activity for young people who could be at risk of becoming involved in anti-social behaviour. Announcing the awards, justice secretary, Kenny MacAskill said: 'The initiative takes ill-gotten gains from criminals and invests it in community activities and facilities for young people at risk of turning to crime as a way of life.'

Councillor seeks islands clarification

CLARIFICATION has been sought by Barra councillor Donald Manford as to how increased powers to the islands would work.
The Comhairle nan Eilean Siar's SNP Group leader has written to Derek Mackay MSP to ask for more clarity following the announcement by First Minister Alex Salmond to devolve more powers to island communities.
Mr Manford wants to know just how such a scheme would work.
He said: 'If properly empowered, there is an enormous amount individual island communities could do to better their services and contribute to the national good. It is therefore absolutely vital to be certain how these resources are to be transferred to the individual islands and communities.
'It is imperative also, that we establish at an early stage what powers and services should be transferred to enable genuine local decision-making.'

Nova Scotia community celebrates Barra man

A COMMUNITY in Nova Scotia is celebrating the role a Barra man played in helping establish a town called Iona there more than 200 years ago - even naming a day after him.
Donald 'Og' MacNeil found the Bras d'Or Lake and the location of the village of Iona, Cape Breton, in 1802.
Now, 201 years on and the community of the tiny village decided to dedicate August 1, 2013, as the first ever Donald 'Og' Day as part of the Louisbourg 300 celebrations.
Donald helped the British defeat the French during the Battle of Louisbourg in 1758. His travels there led him to discover the Bras d'Or Lake, somewhere he thought would be perfect for fellow islanders to emigrate to and settle.
He returned to his native isle and spoke of the Canadian lake, persuading many fellow islanders and family members to emigrate and create a settlement there in 1802.
Renaming August 1 in his honour, villagers in Iona held a special celebration to mark the occasion, serving marag bheal - white pudding - to locals, while tales of his travels were told by Gaelic speaker Rod C MacNeil, Donald's great, great grandson.
He said: 'He never settled here because the following year, he took part in the capture of Quebec and was killed, but his children settled here.'

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Fort lose out to Turriff in opening league match

The game against Forres this weekend will be a good test for the new look Fort William side

REPORT BY RICHARD HADDOCK
rhaddock@obantimes.co.uk

Fort William's new look side have the chance to kickstart their Highland League season when they travel to face Rothes this Saturday.

With both sides tipped to finish near the bottom of the table this season, a win for either could give them a crucial early advantage.

Manager Conlon told The Oban Times the match will be a good test for his team.

He said: 'It's a massive game for us, and for them. A win would kickstart either of our seasons.'

Dominated
'They've had a lot of changes as well, they've got eight or nine new players I think. We went up there last year and dominated the first half but we just couldn't score.'

FOOTBALL



Iain MacLellan gets his shot away despite attention from Aaron McKenna. 20_132fort10

places across the park, and may well have uncovered a forward who can provide a regular source of goals in Gordon McCarroll.

Sweetly taken
The former Strath and Slea striker showed his promise by scoring from two sweetly taken free kicks against Turriff United last weekend.

The first of McCarroll's brace

was a low hard drive from the edge of the box, while the second was right out of the top drawer - a curling 25-yard effort which clipped the crossbar as it flew into the top corner, leaving Turriff keeper Stephen Couits with no chance.

Threat
Conlon said: 'We've always known there was goals in him.'

He looks a threat, he's got a bit of pace and a good left foot.'

Conlon said: 'They were the better side for the first 10 or 15 minutes, but we came into the game and had some really good passages of play. In the second

half I don't think there was an awful lot between the sides.'

Criticised
Conlon criticised referee Graham Fraser, saying two of Turriff's goals should not have been given.

He said: 'I thought the referee and the two linemen were poor. I felt he missed quite a few important decisions.'

League title goes down to the wire

WELFARE FOOTBALL

THE FIGHT for the William Wilson Welfare League title looks set to go to the wire as Mallaig and Lochaber continue their unbeaten records.

Mallaig are just two points ahead at the top with both teams having played 11 matches. The two sides still have to go head-to-head three times in the ties that will decide the title.

Mallaig notched up a 6-1 win away to Real Sosobad before being given a 3-0 win after Caol Cosmos could not get a team to travel north.

Lochaber were given a walkover for the same reason against Lundavra, and earlier in the week played out an entertaining 4-4 draw with third-placed Caol.

At the bottom, Ballachulish closed the gap on Lundavra by beating their opponents 2-1.

Sean Ellis plays for all-star team

FOOTBALL

FORMER Fort William FC star Sean Ellis showed how well he has adjusted to life down under after being selected for a league all-star team to take on professional side Melbourne Heart.

And Ellis - who went back to Australia for a second spell earlier this year - managed to get on the scoresheet for the Goulburn North East Football Association All Stars, slotting home a penalty in a 4-1 friendly defeat in front of a crowd of nearly 3,000 people.

Relegation threat still hanging over the Fort after frustrating draw with Glenurquhart

FORT William's chances of avoiding relegation from the Orion Group Premiership are hanging by a thread after a frustrating 0-0 draw at home to Glenurquhart on Saturday.

The An Aird men are six points from safety and have a tricky run in, with trips to Newtonmore, Kingussie, Lovat and in-form Lochaber still to be negotiated.

With just one league win in 2013 - which came all the way back in March - it is difficult to see where Fort can pick up the points

needed to catch the sides above them.

Fort had the better of Saturday's game after a delayed throw up but a combination of poor finishing and brilliant goalkeeping from Glenurquhart's Stuart MacKintosh meant they could not find the back of the net.

Golden opportunities
Fort had two golden opportunities to score after referee Colin MacDonald awarded them penalties in either half.

Stevie Stewart's first half pen was saved by MacKintosh's stick, and the Scotland keeper repeated the trick in the second half by saving Bryan Simpson's effort.

With nine first teamers missing, Glen co-manager Drew McNeil was forced to name himself in the starting line-up and he performed admirably in defence.

Fort know every game is now must-win, with their next league game being a trip to Kingussie on Saturday August 17.



Stars of the future: some of the Lochaber youngsters who travelled to the camp.

Young players at development camp

THIRTEEN young Lochaber-based shinty players joined some of the country's top prospects for a shinty camp in Perth last week.

The youngsters, aged 14-17, were put through their paces at the Scottish Hydro national player development camp by one of the sport's greatest ever players, Kingussie forward and national shinty development officer Ronald Ross.

Players from five Lochaber clubs were selected - Matthew Bradley and Jan Ewers of Ardnamurchan, Ballachulish pair Cian MacPhee and Alasdair

SHINTY

MacDonald, Kilmallie's Seamus Gall, Callum Fraser, Ian Fyfe and Stuart Matheson of Lochaber and Dean Williamson, Lewis Smith, Alexander Cameron, Gary Mackay and Callum Sheppard from Fort William.

The players were nominated by their clubs to take part.

At the end of camp awards, Uist Camanachd's Joseph MacInnes was given the trophy for most improved player.

Mr Ross said the camp had been 'a great success'.



Lochaber were presented with the Marine Harvest north division three trophy on Saturday after their last league match of the season against Strathglass. Marine Harvest's Davie Corrigan presented the medals and trophy to the team. The Spean Bridge side won 15 of their 18 matches and finished with 30 points.



Conor Taylor bursts through to score Lochaber's first try 20_132rugby01

Impressive win for Lochaber over Mull

LOCHABER'S preparations for the new season started impressively with a 24-3 win over Mull RFC at Banavie on Saturday.

The teams had to battle heavy rain and a strong wind, and it was the visitors who opened the scoring with an easy three points in front of goal.

But Lochaber soon settled into the game and began to take control, and with the last play of the first quarter number eight Conor Taylor hit a gap in Mull's defence to race through to put the home side in the lead.

Kenny Turnbull showed good strength and pace to extend the lead shortly after.

In the second half, Lochaber came up against a strong Mull defence, and it took another rampaging run from Taylor to dive in at the clubhouse corner

RUGBY

to put more breathing space between the teams.

A host of young players were given their chance towards the end, but it was veteran Gary Hendrie who released debutant Paul Mitchell to touch down in the corner to complete the win.

Lochaber captain Mike McLeish said: 'It was a very worthwhile run-out as we aim to get back into match sharpness before the league opener away to Stornoway on August 24.'

'All credit to Mull who were solid in defence, and were unlucky to not contribute more to the scoreboard.'

The two teams will meet again this weekend in Tobermory as preparations continue for the new season.

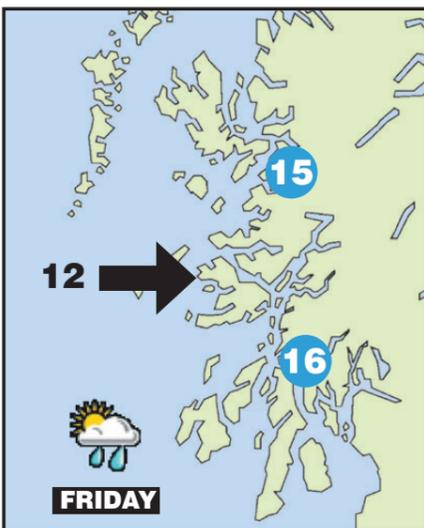
Weather

Thursday Sunny intervals
Winds moderate south south easterly
Temperatures 14°C to 17°C

Friday Light rain showers
Winds moderate westerly
Temperatures 11°C to 16°C.

Weekend Rain showers
Outlook Winds moderate south south westerly
Temperatures 14°C to 17°C.

Ferry Crossings/Sea States
Oban to Barra/South Uist Moderate
Oban to Coll/Tiree Moderate
Kennacraig to Islay Moderate



Tides

Tide tables for Oban during the week from **Thursday, August 8, 2013** are listed below with differences for major ports listed beneath.

All times are GMT (add one hour BST)

Date	am	pm
Thur	00.47 1.1 06.40 3.8 12.43 0.8 18.45 3.9	
Fri	01.18 1.0 07.09 3.8 13.14 0.8 19.14 3.9	
Sat	01.48 1.1 07.34 3.7 13.43 0.8 19.41 3.9	
Sun	02.13 1.1 08.03 3.6 14.16 0.9 20.12 3.8	
Mon	02.39 1.2 08.37 3.5 14.54 1.1 20.48 3.6	
Tues	03.18 1.4 09.18 3.3 15.40 1.2 21.31 3.4	
Wed	04.10 1.5 10.10 3.2 16.39 1.4 22.28 3.2	

Tidal Constants: (Add or deduct from High Water at Oban)

Ardrishaig	-5.35	Mallaig	+0.25
Campbeltown	-5.30	Portree	+0.55
Crinan	-0.47	Tobermory	+0.16
Islay Port Ellen	2.00	Dover	+5.30
Lochboisdale	+0.30		

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website: www.northwestmarine.co.uk
Address: 7E Glengallan Rd., Oban, Argyll. PA34 4HG
Ph: 01631 565740 Fax: 01631 565780
email: enquiries@northwestmarine.co.uk