

The Oban Times

& WEST HIGHLAND TIMES

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All the latest news, photos and results from Highland games and shows

Taynuilt to have first baker's shop

A TAYNUILT baker is moving her popular cake-making business out of her house and into the village's main street.

Jackie Neilson will base her company Cruachan Croft from the old Co-op building and hopes to be open at the end of the month.

For the past two years Mrs Neilson has been running her business from her home in Cruachan Cottages. It is believed the shop will be first of its kind in Taynuilt.

Firefighters 'blown away' by bone marrow register response

OBAN firefighters have had an overwhelming response to a campaign to get more people on to a bone marrow register.

To date more than 250 people aged between 18 and 40 have signed up to attend donor recruitment clinics to be held on August 20 and 21 at Oban Community Fire Station.

John Sweeny, fire fighter, said: 'We are absolutely blown away with the response. There is nowhere else in Scotland that has had as many people sign up to the clinic. The people of Oban and Lorn are simply amazing.'

Full story page 5

Sound of Mull diver named by police

A DIVER who died in the Sound of Mull at the end of last week has been named by police as Jennifer Simpson, 42, of Montgomery Street, Edinburgh.

Her body was later recovered following an extensive search

Oban monkey puzzle brings big crowd and traffic to a standstill

STUNNED Oban residents watched in horror as a monkey was run over by a passing vehicle on the town's William Street.

Only moments before the accident, the cheeky mystery visitor had been giving police officers, traffic wardens, veterinary nurses,

motorists, shop owners and tourists the run around for more than an hour on the busy road and side streets.

And now the hunt is on to find the monkey's owner, who it is understood is travelling in the area in a camper van.

Shop worker Teresa

Michie said: 'A passer-by came into the shop saying a monkey was sitting on a car and could I phone the police. I thought they were winding me up, so I went outside and right enough, there was a monkey sitting by the side of the road. I phoned the vets to come

and help us.'

Veterinary nurses Lora Robertson and Steph Summers rushed to help. Lora said: 'We were there for over an hour trying to keep the animal safe as it ran around the street.'

Traffic warden Lorraine Craig said: 'The wee thing

gave us the run around. We were trying to keep it safe. 'By this time a large crowd gathered to watch the wee thing's exploits.'

But tragedy was about to strike when a passing vehicle ran over the monkey.

Lorraine continued: 'Nobody knew where to

look. The wee thing had been crushed.'

A spokesperson for Oban Veterinary Surgeons said: 'These animals are not suitable as pets.'

'I can also confirm this animal was killed on impact.'

John MacAvoy, Society

for Protection for Cruelty to Animals (SPCA) Argyll officer, said: 'Anyone who has a monkey needs a licence, as far as I am aware there is no-one in the area with a licence. Marmosets are a generic name for a number of different breeds of monkey.'

Holiday homes tax could boost council funds

Second home owners can pay 200 per cent more claims councillor

AN ARGYLL politician is proposing to slam up to 200 per cent council tax charges on second home owners on the west coast.

Maverick independent councillor George Freeman says he is doing so in a bid to create more affordable housing for permanent residents.

The plans, which have been accepted onto an official Scottish government consultation, will be discussed, in brief, at Argyll and Bute Council's executive meeting today (Thursday). And then the radical shake-up will be fully explored during the September meeting of the Strategic Housing Forum.

Councillor Freeman said: 'At the moment the Scottish government is carrying out a consultation on the future of housing. One of the ideas within that document discusses the possibility of

"In Argyll and Bute we have 4,500 holiday homes.

Increasing the council tax to double would bring in more than £4m or £5m"

councillor George Freeman

raising the council tax on second homes and holiday homes.

'This is something I discussed with the minister last year and he agreed to consider it.

'I am delighted he has now included this within his document.

'In Argyll and Bute we have

4,500 holiday homes. At one time these homeowners enjoyed a 50 per cent council tax rebate. Argyll and Bute Council successfully argued that we should raise this to 90 per cent a few years ago. The extra money brought in is ring fenced for the Strategic Housing Fund. At present this gives us an additional £1.7 million, but by increasing the council tax to double it could bring in more than £4m or £5m.

'I understand that around 10 per cent of owners would want to sell up if this happened. Therefore we would have 450 more houses on the market, while the other homes would be paying the higher rates providing us with money for the Strategic Housing Forum, which in turn provides money for affordable housing. It is a win-win situation.

'The way I see it, when people use homes only a few

months of the year it can be detrimental to the economy, although some would argue that holiday homes bring money into the economy. But with families settled in areas there will be a year round revenue for businesses, which is more sustainable.'

However, second homeowners are already hitting back at the councillor. Michelle Grant, who has a number of properties in Argyll but lives in Manchester, said: 'I am outraged that anyone would even suggest these plans. My houses create employment for local people and we rent them out at a reduced rate for the whole winter. I would certainly chose to sell if I had to pay a huge council tax on them.'

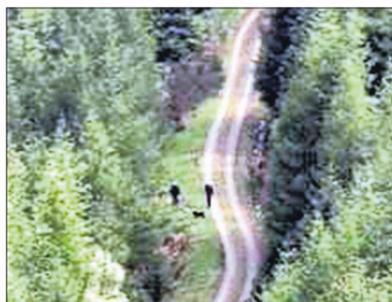
The Scottish Government said a change in legislation would be needed to implement a rate rise for second and holiday homes.'



Visitor takes a closer look at Tarbert Harbour

A quiet day out turned into a drama for an Edinburgh couple visiting Tarbert on Sunday when the couple's car was left precariously hanging over the edge of the harbour wall. Harbour Master Peter Bates said: 'There was no real harm done, thank goodness there was no-one in the car at the time.' Picture - Stuart Herd.

Police step up Pilley murder investigation



Mountain rescue teams will join Lothian and Borders Police in Glen Croe this weekend as the search for Suzanna Pilley continues

ALMOST 100 mountain rescue workers will be joining Lothian and Borders Police in Glen Croe this weekend as the force resumes its search for the body of Suzanne Pilley.

Detective Chief Inspector Gary Flannigan announced the renewed search of the Argyll forest on Monday following fresh leads from the public.

A spokesperson for Midlothian Police said: 'As this is a vast area to be searched, we have enlisted the help of national mountain rescue teams (MRT) who are familiar with the terrain.'

'The MRTs, amounting to just under 100 people, will be fully briefed by DCI Gary Flannigan before the search

commences.' It is hoped that the MRTs will be able to spot any recently disturbed ground in the area, where the police believe Suzanne's body has been buried.

Thirty-eight-year-old Suzanne went missing on May 4 this year whilst on her way to work in Edinburgh.

The book keeper arrived at her office in Thistle Street in the capital as usual but never appeared at her desk. Police believe she may have been killed in the basement of the building and her body driven to Argyll.

David Gilroy, an ex partner of Suzanne Pilley, has been charged with her murder. He is currently on bail awaiting trial.

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Report suggests minke whales more under threat in Hebrides than elsewhere in Scottish waters

MINKE whales are more likely to suffer death as a result of entanglement in fishing gear around the Hebrides than in other Scottish waters, according to a new report.

The areas around Skye and North and South Uist pose the highest threat to the mammals according to the paper produced for the Scottish Government by the Sea Mammal Research Unit at the University of St Andrews, the Hebridean Whale and Dolphin Trust and the Scottish Agricultural

College. The creatures, a species of baleen whale, get caught in ropes while feeding. They are filter feeders and are particularly vulnerable near the surface.

Monitored

Susannah Calderan, from the Hebridean Whale and Dolphin Trust, said: 'We have found that 20 per cent of the Inner Hebrides Minke whale population has evidence of previous entanglement in the form of scarring on the body. 'We can't really say if entanglement of minke

whales is a serious conservation threat, but it needs to be monitored as minke are a protected species.'

Minke are the most common species of whale found in Scottish waters and prove a popular tourist attraction.

Over half of all of these dead mammals found in Scotland have been killed after getting tangled up in fishing gear, especially creel fishing ropes.

The ropes are known to catch around the

whale's mouth and head. Entanglement as the cause of death is reported much more frequently in Scotland than in other parts of the UK.

Measures being adopted in the US to minimise the number of whales getting tangled up include Dynamic Area Management where all gear must be removed from the water for 15 day periods when and where aggregations of whales are observed.

John Hermse, secretary of Mallaig and North West

Fisherman's Association, commented on the possibility of these measures being introduced in Scotland: 'To expect fishermen to remove equipment from the water for 15 days every time whales are spotted is nonsense,' he said.

'It is totally impractical and financially unviable. 'There are more and more whales being sighted all the time so fishermen would constantly be taking gear out of the water. 'They would be denied an income.'



A walk to the tidal island of Vallay was a highlight of Sollas Week.

Sollas holds nine-day 'week' of fund-raising

RESIDENTS of Sollas in North Uist are enjoying a well-earned break after a hectic nine days raising funds to complete the restoration of Taigh Sgìre, the former Dunskeall school, now in use by the community.

Sollas Week - or more accurately, nine days - brings the whole village out in force to lay on entertainment and events ranging from walks to sports, dances, fishing, whisky and local food tastings, children's activities and a promise auction.

This year saw mixed weather and numbers slightly down on last year but treasurer Mairi Boyle described the week as 'fantastic'.

She said: 'Everything was

well attended. The promise auction was a great success, we raised more than £1,600 from people volunteering to do anything from ironing and cleaning, taking in peats, gardening and offering boat trips.

'We set off 800 balloons in the ballon race. 'The whisky tasting was as popular as ever and in the local food tasting people made butter, scones, oatcakes, tablet, carrageen pudding and cooked their own lamb, venison and seafood.

'We had egg and spoon races and welly-throwing for the little ones. 'But overall numbers were down, which is reflected in our funds raised. It looks like

we've raised around £9,000 this year, a bit off our target of £12,000 but still not bad for a week's work.'

Mrs Boyle praised the 30 or so volunteers involved in everything from baking, cleaning the hall, grass cutting and behind the scenes work required to make Sollas Week flow smoothly.

She added: 'This year we moved our date forward to accommodate Berneray Week who moved their week to accommodate a wedding, but next year we will go back to our usual slot.'

Sollas residents are endeavouring to raise close to £60,000 to finish work on the restoration of Taigh Sgìre, so fund-raising is set to continue.

'Ugly Betty' produces first drops of Islay gin

ON AUGUST 3, months of preparation and research was put to the test with the first ever known commercial distillation of gin on Islay.

Last year the Bruichladdich team had purchased an old Lomond Allied Distillers still with this particular purpose in mind.

Herbs

The still, the last of its type, was rather unprepossessing to say the least when it arrived on Islay, lacked some parts and was nicknamed Ugly Betty, with the belief that great things would come of 'her', given a bit of TLC and the 'Laddies' in-house engineering expertise.

This week 'Ugly Betty' was put to the test and has come up trumps.

Working with island botanists Dr Richard and Mavis Gulliver for the past year, Bruichladdich's Master Distiller Jim McEwan researched Islay

herbal plants for possible inclusion in a flavoured gin. Juniper and citrus, coriander and liquorice were bought in dried form, but the 22 Islay botanicals; meadowsweet, bog myrtle (sweet gale) wild thyme amongst them, were gathered and dried in July.

Jim said: 'The trial recipe I used was excellent and without doubt extremely drinkable, however, I must say that the Islay botanicals have given the flavours a clarity and coolness that I have never experienced before.

'The spirit has an amazing effervescence with a drift of dryness that comes only from a traditional gin flavoured exclusively with botanicals; no essences, oils or flavourings added.'

It is planned for the new Bruichladdich gin to be launched at Islay Show today (Thursday). SC

Rejected candidate brands Scottish Liberal Democrats 'a shambles'

THE SCOTTISH Liberal Democrats have been branded a 'shambles' by a senior councillor from Inverclyde who insists they 'stitched him up'.

Councillor George White slammed the party's selection process for the Scottish Parliament after being excluded from standing last year.

Party officials refused his application to stand in July 2009 as Councillor White had missed the cut off date in May - which he claims he had not been informed of.

He said: 'As I waited for the outcome of my appeal to Edinburgh's exclusion statement, councillors from Argyll and Bute were telling me who had won the nomination. 'It is a complete fix.'

Councillor White, who has served Gourock since 1999, has since resigned from the Scottish Liberal Democrats



Councillor George White: re-elected as chairman of the Clyde Ferry User Group.

and will be standing for the Liberal Party in Argyll and Bute at the elections next May.

The Oban Times contacted the Scottish Liberal Democrats but were told that the matter was being dealt with internally and that no comment could be made at this time.

Councillor White, who

has family ties to the Isle of Gigha and Tarbert, was also recently re-elected as chairman of the Clyde Ferry User Group.

Commenting on his re-appointment Councillor White said: 'I have a real interest in the future of the ferry services in the Clyde area and I am delighted to be re-elected as chairman.'

Colonsay barman threatened after refusal

'Drink - or I'll cut your eye out' threat from fisherman

A COLONSAY barman was told he would have his eye cut out after he refused to serve drinks to two fishermen after last orders were called.

Violent threat

Robert Cuthbertson, of 44A Love Street, Paisley, and Neil Lang, 3 Glenpark House, Port Glasgow, both pled guilty to Oban Sheriff Court last Tuesday to uttering threats of violence towards the barman on May 13 this year.

Cuthbertson also admitted assaulting the barman by pushing him on the head, while Lang admitted a charge of smashing a window at the hotel.

Last orders

Cuthbertson and Lang had been fishing for scallops but because of a poor weather report had decided to tie up on Colonsay.

Procurator Fiscal Depute Kelly Duling said the men had gone to the hotel at 4.45pm on the day of the incident and were still there

when the barman called last orders.

Mr Lang returned from the toilet to find his drink had been cleared. Both men became aggressive and demanded to be served another drink.

When the barman refused, one of the accused said: 'You are going to get me two more drinks now or I'm going to cut your eye out.'

Cuthbertson then pushed the barman on the cheek. The barman ordered them to get out and locked the door behind them.

Lang began kicking at the door and when no-one answered he smashed the window.

Defence agent Duncan Durbin said both men had expressed remorse and embarrassment for their actions.

Sheriff Douglas Small fined Cuthbertson £565 and Lang £450. Lang was also ordered to pay £50 in compensation for the damage caused to the window.

Beachd Ailein
Ailean Caimbeul

BIDH CUID AGAIBH co-dhù air mothachadh gun tàinig crìoch bho chionn ghoirid air goireas air leth sònraichte a thug cuideachadh practaigeach agus fèin-spèis dha mòran Ghàidheal thar còrr air 55 bliadhna.

Anns na bliadhnaichean a dhèidh an Dàrna Cogaidh, ged a bha mòran theaghlaichean fo bhuaidh bròin na chailleadh, bha cuideachd dòchas agus toiseach misneachd airson saoghal ùr na sìth. Ach bha cùisean air Ghàidhealtachd sònraichte doirbh le dìth ghoireasan agus dìth cosnaidh, agus bha dùbhaln eagalach aig na fir òga a bh' air am beatha thoir à blàr, a-nise beòshlaint a lorg dhaibh fhèin is teaghlaichean òga. Cha robh ionmhas neo innleachd leasachaidh eaconomaigeach, neo eile, ann am bhith, agus bha co-dhù aon phàipear naidheachd air a' Ghàidhealtachd a' comharrachadh mar an t-àite as èiginnich am Breatann. Bha cùisean cho doirbh is nach robh dòigh aig mòran air fuireach aig an dachannan air Ghàidhealtachd, is b' fheudair dhaibh imrich dha bailtean mòra aig deas. Tha sliochd nan daoine sin fhathast an sin, a' cumail beò cuimhne air cànan is dualchas, agus a' gleidheadh cleamhnais leis na coimhearsnachdan as am bheil an cuid freumhan.

Nuair a choinnich luchd poileataigs ann an Dùn Èideann ann an 1953 (a' bhliadhna a chaidh mì-fhìn dhan sgoil!) nochd am Ball Tòraidh, am Mòrair Calum Dùbhlas-Hamilton, beachd gur e calpa an aon rud a bha dhith air a' Ghàidhealtachd airson adhartais eaconomaigeach. As a' bheachd Tòraidh sin nochd Urras na Gàidhealtachd a rinn uimhir a dh' fheum a' toirt fèin-spèis agus cothroman adhartais dha Gàidheil aig nach robh airgead neo creideas. Thog seo coimhearsnachdan à slochd na bochdainn agus thug e an cothrom dhaibh obrachadh airson iad fhèin adhartachadh le iasadan saor. Fhuair croitearan aig nach robh de dh' airgead roimhe sin na dhleasdadh cunntas-banca cothrom air taic gus bàtaichean-diasgaich is goireasan obrach eile de gach seòrsa a cheannach, agus mar a dh' èirich le m' athair fhèin fhuair mòran cothrom air tractor fhaoitinn. Chun an latha mu dheireadh bha m' athair a' moladh a' 'Highland Fund'!

Leis nach robh Experian na Credit Expert ann an uairsin chaidh iasadan an Urrais uile air adhart a-rèir creideis na coimhearsnachd as a tagraiche! Ma bha deagh ainm aige am measg dhaoine bha sin math gu leòr leis an Urras! Agus a-rèir aithris 's e glè bheag de na h-iasadan sin a chaidh cèarr.

Nan robh an siostam sin air a bhith dol ann an saoghal ionmhas an t-saoghail mhòir saoil nach robh sinn air a bhith mòran nas fheàrr dheth an diugh!

THE HIGHLAND Fund has been merged with Sabhal Mor Ostaig's Development Fund, recognising the College's achievements and its established potential as a motor for the cultural, social and economic revival of the Gàidhealtachd.

But the contribution of the Highland Fund to the self-esteem and practical progress of countless communities over half a century must not be forgotten. This was an example of political coalition where a Tory's idea was developed in a socialist ethos, with positive results!

Ailean Caimbeul (Allan Campbell)
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Islay water project boosts island's development

A WATER main link project on Islay has been completed, allowing more property to be built on the island.

Scottish Water completed the £220,000 Torra link main project last week and said it was an important project, which will allow for growth on the island.

Two year wait

Jill Johnstone of Port Ellen got confirmation last week that her new property would be connected to the mains water supply after two years of waiting.

Jill said: 'It must surely be everyone's right to have the choice of having a safe water connection. We should not have to live in the dark ages and then be forced to spend many thousands of pounds on a bore hole, plus filtration system, to meet the council's required water standard. 'These costs can make many projects unviable. We hope to see new water connections set up in many more areas on Islay. This will be great for the island's overall development.'

The project involved the installation of 1.5kms of new pipe, which will alleviate some development

constraints from the Torra Water Treatment Works (WTW) supply zone, which includes the villages of Bowmore and Port Ellen and other smaller communities.

The Torra WTW, which serves about 1,900 customers in the centre and south of Islay - more than half the island's population - had previously been running at capacity and was unable to sustain further connections.

The link main will alleviate that and allow for new connections to be made by taking water from the Port Charlotte WTW supply zone, which serves about 600 customers in the north and west of the island.

The Torra link main project, which is the latest in a series of major investments by Scottish Water on Islay, involved the installation of new pipes in and adjacent to the village of Bridgend.

The link main was laid along the route of the A846 road corridor and some side roads in Bridgend.

Contractors working for Scottish Water completed a £4.1m refurbishment of the Port Charlotte WTW last December.

Big crowd expected for Islay airshow

THE 13TH annual airshow to be held on August 21 at Islay Airport is expected to attract more than 1,000 visitors.

The air show is organised to celebrate the history of the airport and the range of aircraft that have used its services since the first recorded flight on Islay in July 1928. Proceeds from the event will go to the Islay Museum of Life.

Hebridean Airways will be offering local flights and Bruno Schroder has donated a free flight around Islay as a top raffle prize on the day. Features of this year's programme include aerobatic displays by a variety of aircraft, a flypast by a DC3 from the Battle of Britain memorial flight, displays from local emergency services and many fund-raising stalls. Parking on the day of the event is free.

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Fisherman who stole friend's car and crashed near Loch Awe is jailed

A DISQUALIFIED driver has been jailed after he stole his friend's car, after spending the evening in a pub, and crashed it on the A85 by driving into a ditch.

Guilty plea

David White, aged 25, of Flat 1-2, 254 Moffat Street, Glasgow, pled guilty at Oban Sheriff Court on Monday

to taking the car without consent and driving it, while disqualified on the A85 on July 14 this year. He also admitted driving without insurance and failing to provide two specimens of breath to police.

White and his friend were staying in Bridge of Awe, having been fishing in the

area. On arriving at a hotel at around 7.15pm White's friend went to his room, while White went to the bar. Nearly one hour later White went to his friend's room to borrow his car keys, he said, to retrieve fishing gear.

Instead, White had gone back to the bar, then driven the car onto the A85 and

had crashed near Lochawe village.

Ran away

Witnesses told police they had seen a man running from the vehicle that matched White's description and staff had noticed him rushing into the hotel and straight to his bedroom that night.

Staff reported this to

police who came to the hotel and breathalysed White. However, at Oban Police Station he declined to give two further breath samples.

Defence solicitor Edward Thornton explained his client had previously undergone rehabilitation for a drink and drugs addiction. He added: 'He cannot

remember why he took the car but the only explanation he can offer is that he maybe wanted to return to where they were during the day for some night-time fishing.'

Hearing that White was currently on probation for a dangerous driving conviction in Glasgow Sheriff Simon Fraser

commented: 'Community disposals do not work with you.'

White was sentenced to six months on three charges, which are to run concurrently, and was fined £650.

He has also been disqualified from driving for three years.

Lions collect for Pakistan flood victims

OBAN and Lorn Lions Club will be collecting money for the Pakistan flood victims this Thursday and Saturday on George Street.

The collection will be held outside Waterstones between 11am and 3pm.

All money raised will be handed to the counterpart Lions Club in Pakistan to help with relief efforts.

You're never too old to dance

PENSIONERS who take part in Scottish country dancing are more agile and can walk faster than their peers according to researchers.

A study conducted by the University of Strathclyde in Glasgow found that those who perform Strathspeys, jigs and reels benefit most.

Dr Paul Dougall, who led the study said: 'Not only is country dancing enjoyable and sociable but there also appears to be clear evidence that it's an effective recreational exercise for particular types of fitness later in life.'

Oban man jailed

AN OBAN man had his community service order revoked and a custodial sentence imposed when he appeared at Oban Sheriff Court last week.

David Ogilvie, who appeared from custody, had previously been sentenced to community service after pleading guilty to being in possession of cocaine on January 25 last year.

Ogilvie has since received a jail term for a separate offence and so has been unable to carry out his community service.

Sheriff Douglas Small sentenced the 25-year-old to three months in prison, which will run concurrently with his current sentence.

Verbal abuse

AN OBAN man who verbally abused his former partner in a supermarket car park has been admonished at Oban Sheriff Court.

Darren Napier, aged 21, of 2F Burnbank Terrace, pled guilty on Monday to shouting and swearing at the woman and committing a breach of the peace on March 26 this year.

In sentencing Napier Sheriff Simon Fraser said: 'You have been in custody for five weeks, which is more than enough.'

£1,000 fine and two-year driving ban for reveller

A YOUNG Caol man, who only has a provisional driving licence, has been banned from driving for two years after being found drunk behind the wheel of a van during the Mull Music Festival.

Shaun MacDonald, of Blarmhor Road, Caol, Fort William was found guilty at Oban Sheriff Court on Monday of being in charge of a vehicle in Ledaig car park, Tobermory, with 108 microgrammes of alcohol in 100 millilitres of breath on April 25. The legal limit is 35 microgrammes.

The 23-year-old admitted to the court that he could not remember the incident because of his state of inebriation but insisted he would not have driven the car.

He had come to the island that day for the festival with two friends, one of which was insured to drive the van.

Sheriff Simon Fraser described MacDonald's road traffic criminal record as 'appalling' and also fined him £1,000.

MacDonald was admonished on another complaint of failing to appear at Oban Sheriff Court on September 9 last year.

Drink driver fined

A POLISH national, whose driving was reported to police by other road users on the A828, has admitted a charge of drink driving.

Stanislaw Kostrzanowski, whose address was given in court as The Caravan, Plot 1, Torran Road, Lochgilphead, pled guilty to driving with 69 microgrammes of alcohol in 100 millilitres of breath on April 4 this year when he was stopped by police on Dunollie Road, Oban. The legal limit is 35 microgrammes.

Kostrzanowski was fined £675 and disqualified for 18 months.

Jura ferry fate known this week

Record passenger numbers on pilot may not be enough

REPORT by EUAN PATERSON epaterson@obantimes.co.uk

THE FUTURE of the Jura passenger ferry service should be decided this week, just as the ferry operators have posted record passenger numbers.

Jura Development Trust has enough money to continue the service, between Craighouse on Jura and Tayvallich on the mainland, until August 20.

Three-year pilot

However, the development trust has been working with Argyll and Bute Council to try and find an extra £11,700, which would keep the service going until September 28 when the route's three-year pilot scheme is scheduled to end.

The development trust produced a report for the council last week, which highlights a drop in funding but a rise in passenger numbers.

Deborah Bryce of the development trust said: 'It would be such a bad time to stop the service just now because the average number of passengers we are carrying each week is 170, compared to our target of

132 - and that is with some people cancelling because of the uncertainty around the ferry.'

'We have been inundated with letters of support for the ferry from islanders and visitors.'

'We are hoping people will keep booking and we can contact them if there is any change in the service.'

The risk to the passenger ferry service comes on top of the recent proposal of an additional £35 fee on the Islay to Jura ferry, which commercial vehicles travelling between the islands will have to pay on every return trip.

However, this proposal has been deferred until September 1 to allow further discussion.

Expensive

The short Islay to Jura crossing is already one of the most expensive crossings in the country for the distance travelled and does not benefit from the pilot Road Equivalent Tarriff scheme. The passenger ferry was set up by the local community in 2008 and was the island's first direct mainland ferry in over 30 years.

Jura Development Trust said it plans to apply for funding to run the ferry after the pilot scheme ends.



Controversial: The hills that may be filled with gold.

Tyndrum gold mine may hit planning buffers

THE PROSPECT of a commercial gold mine at Connonish, near Tyndrum, going ahead has been struck a blow by the decision of a senior figure to recommend that the planning application be refused.

Opposition

The Director of Planning and Rural Development for Loch Lomond and The Trossachs National Park has opposed the application for an underground gold mine near the west Perthshire border.

The recommendation will be considered by a meeting of the National Park Authority Board at Tyndrum on August 18, where a final decision will be made.

'Beyond belief'

John Riley, chairman of both Strathfillan Community Council and Strathfillan

Community Development Trust, said: 'It is beyond belief that planners are recommending refusal, but even if the board does refuse the application we can still go to the Scottish Government who may overturn the decision if they wish.'

'The battle may have been lost but the war continues.'

He added: 'The advantages to the community, the National Park, and the country as a whole are enormous.'

'The mine would support year round employment as well as providing an iconic tourist attraction for Scotland long after it has closed.'

'An incredible opportunity will be lost if this recommendation is followed through by the board and the

decision to refuse planning upheld by the government.'

Gordon Watson, Director of Planning and Rural Development for the National Park explained his decision: 'I still have concerns over the significant and long term impact upon the landscape - both during the 10-year life of the mine and the restoration work thereafter.'

Conservation concerns

'The predicted economic benefits of the mine are uncertain due to fluctuating gold prices and the proposal goes against the aims of the National Park designation where if there is conflict between conservation and other concerns we must give greater weight to conservation.'

The mine proposal involves boring ore to

extract the gold and silver and erecting a large processing building and waste storage facility known as Tailings Management Facility (TMF). The site is expected to cover around 39 hectares.

Chris Sangster, Chief Executive Officer of Scotgold, the company behind the mine, said: 'Whilst we are disappointed with the recommendation, we are confident that in making its decision the board will consider the best interests of all stakeholders, in particular the local community which has shown its support for a development that promises both increased employment locally and improved infrastructure, and will approve Scotgold's application.'



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Dangerous driver fined and banned after incident with school bus

A MAN who dangerously overtook a school bus, causing the driver to break sharply to avoid a collision, was sentenced when he appeared at Oban Sheriff Court.

Henry Graham, aged 40, of 163 Burnbank Street, Coatbridge, was disqualified from driving for 15 months and fined £400 after pleading guilty last Tuesday to dangerous driving.

The court heard that Graham crossed a solid white line, approaching a blind summit, on the A85 at Lochawe village when he overtook the bus, carrying 23 Oban High School pupils.

Procurator Fiscal Depute Kelly Duling told the court that some of the school children were so alarmed that they called the police.

She said: 'The accused was aggressively tailgating various

vehicles and then passing them. His driving was very aggressive, such that it came to the attention of several of the children who became alarmed.'

The school bus driver called the police when he stopped to let children off at Lochawe.

He told police officers that he had to break sharply to create a space, allowing Graham to pull his van back into the correct lane when Graham was faced with on coming traffic.

He described the distance between the school bus and the van as one foot.

Graham, who represented himself in court, said he was travelling on his way home from work when the incident occurred on March 9.

He said: 'I thought I could see enough of the road in front of me.'

Oban gallery goes up for sale

AFTER 13 years showcasing the best of Scottish art, Geoffrey Kranenburg, who owns Kranenburg Art Gallery in Oban, has put the business up for sale.

Mr Kranenburg and his GP wife, Maureen Douglas OBE, who has served the community of Bunessan on Mull for 28 years, have both decided to retire.

'I would like to sell it as a going concern,' said Mr Kranenburg. 'It has a good reputation, as we have always exhibited the best of Scottish art.'

He added that he and his wife wanted to retire in order to do all the things they kept putting off because they were too busy.

The gallery is made up of two properties, one on Stevenson Street and a two-level building on Star Brae above.

Oban hotel re-opens as catering training centre

SOROBA House Hotel will re-open as a teaching school for catering on Tuesday.

Manager and co-owner Helen Crawford is keen to get the hotel up and running. Already there are four self-catering flats open for business and with morning coffees and afternoon cream teas getting underway next Tuesday - for bookings only - the hotel is on track to be fully functioning by the autumn.

Helen is keen to start to meet people who would like to attend the training hotel, the first of its kind in Scotland. It is understood that a number of qualifications will be available to trainees through Queen Margaret's University and Jewel and Esk College.



Opening the Coffee Bar on Tuesday 17th August
 Opening times 10am - 4pm

Bookings essential for Morning Coffees and Afternoon Teas
 Initially the restaurant will be open three nights per week:
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The Restaurant opens on Friday 27th August

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OT

Mull Lines

IT IS all go for the Salen Show being held today, Thursday, at Glenaros, Mull.
It all kicks off at 10am for judging but throughout the day there will be a pet show, produce tent, music by Mull and Iona Piping Society, a hill race and a dog show.
Secretary Greg Marsh said: 'We are really looking forward to the whole day and then the dance at night. And, even if I do say so myself, we hold the best raffle with some fantastic prizes.'
There will be some stiff competition in the cattle and sheep classes with pundits backing animals from all over the island. But many have not considered the girl-power from Ardtun in Hannah and Margaret Poulton's April-born cross calf.



MULL'S newest GP is 37-year-old London born Francis Adie.

Dr Adie has been working in Nottingham, but he says he had always planned to become a rural GP.
Dr Adie said: 'Mull is my ideal location.' Dr Adie turned down several other job opportunities in rural locations in favour of Tobermory.
Before starting his medical career Dr Adie gained a Masters degree in Zoology from Cambridge University. He then worked for several years, mostly in West Africa as a wildlife filmmaker and for conservation and expedition programmes.
He speaks fluent French, albeit with a West African accent. After five years he turned to medicine gaining his degree from Nottingham University.
Retired GP Dr Linnemann pointed out to Dr Adie that he is a lucky man to have 'the opportunity to work with the best patients, with the best team and in the best location'.
Staff from the medical practice said: 'We are glad to be part of that team and we look forward to having Dr Adie join us.' Dr Adie is due to start work on October 4 'just in time for the rally'.



A FOND farewell was given to Dr Linnemann after almost eight years at Tobermory surgery after he called it a day on August 1.
The GP plans to spend his retirement in his garden, sailing and indulging in his passion for music. He plans to remain in Tobermory and will fill in as a locum.



MAGGIE Robson retired last month after more than 40 years with the NHS, ten of which were as Health Visitor for North Mull.
Maggie is looking forward to spending more time in her garden and with her six grandsons.



Maggie Robson.



A FUND-RAISING quiz on the island of Iona brought a sailing family to book after they squeezed eight people into a five-person team.
However, the event, in aid of the Homeless World Cup in Brazil, turned out fine when team The Wardens, who came second, conceded that it would be kinder to let the visitors, however many were in the team, win.
Callum Macdonald, a member of staff at the Argyll Hotel, who organised the event, said the event had raised cash for his target of £800 towards the world cup and volunteering at the event but anyone who would like to give a donation should contact him on 07779 298798. He said: 'I'm hoping to volunteer as a journalist at the Homeless World Cup in Rio de Janeiro, where 64 national teams of homeless players, including eight women's teams, will be united on Copacabana Beach for a week-long five-a-side football tournament. Two of my friends, Paul Gibson from Oban and Neil Fraser from Easdale, are also hoping to volunteer.'



EAGLE diary: The newly fledged sea eagle chicks will be gaining confidence now.
When they first leave the nest at about 12 weeks old, they don't take off in a magnificent fly-past but drop down to the lower branches of a tree and down on to the ground.
They will continue the wing flapping they started in the nest and slowly build up their confidence to attempt short flights. The parents will also help encourage the youngsters to fly.
When the chicks were on the nest, the parents delivered the food to them but once they are on the ground, the parents will bring food in and either land nearby and try to get the youngsters to fly to them.
The chick will then fly to the parent for the food but the parent can play a game with them. As the youngster approaches them, they will fly another short distance, trying to get them to follow, all the while building up the youngster's confidence.
It doesn't take long and before you know it, the youngsters will be flying high in the sky, joined by their parents.
You can see the stars of Springwatch, Skye and Frisa, on a ranger led trip to the only sea eagle viewing hide in the world.
Details from VisitScotland Craignure on 01680 812556.
You can also read the regular blog of Mull's sea eagles at www.rspb.org.uk/community/blogs/mulleagles.



Dave Garman from California puts a touch of colour into throwing the weight. 15_t33killin05

Worldwide heavyweights gather at Killin Games

HEAVY events took centre stage at Killin Highland Games last Wednesday with athletes from around the globe participating.
Competitors from as far afield as Poland, America and Australia fought it out in what was a packed schedule of events.
Three Polish heavyweights, Sebastian Wenta, who stands at 6ft 7inches, brother Lucasz Wenta and Domonik Zielinski, delighted the crowd with impressive shows of strength, winning every event except throwing the hammer. Sebastian is the holder of 13 national championships in Poland and set a new record of 51ft 3inches for throwing the

SPECIAL REPORT
by
FAITH ORR
forr@obantimes.co.uk

56lb weight for distance. Not to be outdone, both hammer weights were won by Bruce Aitken of Auchenblae, a world record holder in the event.
Adding a touch of colour to the heavy events with a bright yellow kilt was Dave Garman from Hollywood, California.
He said: 'Scotland is the holy land for Highland Games.'
'I run these events all over the west coast of America but it is never going to be

the same as doing it here. I decided to come over and pay homage to the folk of Scotland.'
Chieftain Angus Stroyan led the parade from the Falls of Dochart to the games field alongside the Hawkesbury Nepean Valley Pipe Band from Sydney. He received the sword and games shield before officially declaring Killin Highland Games open.
Brave competitors then took on the hill race, traditionally used to find the fittest man in the village to become the runner who warns of danger in the forthcoming year. This year's race was won by Tom Smith from Oban in 22m 38s.
Youngsters were delighted to find Scotland's highest inflatable slide, 'Summit' in the games field alongside indoor bouncy castle 'Lunar Land'. Alba Falconry Services Display Team kept the whole family amused with a variety of birds of prey available to handle. And Het Stroet Ensemble, a band from Oldenzaal in the Netherlands, kept customers who were outside the beer tent enjoying the sunshine entertained with regular shows.
The games are in their 17th year, having been held in Breadalbane Park since the beginning.

Oban Sheriff Court

Drink driver crashed near Dalmally

A MAN pled guilty to drink driving and driving a car without a MOT when he appeared at Oban Sheriff Court last Tuesday.
Peter Linstead, aged 60, of 48 Borthwick Drive, East Kilbride, was found to be nearly twice the legal limit when he crashed his car on the A85 near Dalmally on June 26 2010.
Police officers found Linstead had 69 micrograms of alcohol in 100 millilitres of breath. The legal limit is 35 micrograms.

Sheriff Douglas Small disqualified Linstead from driving for 20 months but said that would be reduced to 15 months if he successfully completed a drink drivers' rehabilitation scheme. Sheriff Small said: 'You were only one microgram from being twice the legal limit. You were a danger not only to yourself but to others. I have to have regard for that in sentencing you.'
Linstead was also fined £370.

Oban businessman banned after driving car at 96mph

AN OBAN businessman has been banned from driving for four months after being stopped at 96 miles per hour in a 60 mph zone.
Alan MacLeod, aged 68, of Tigh Bhan, Appin, pled guilty to speeding on the A85 near Arrivain, on March 20 2009 when he appeared at Oban Sheriff Court last Tuesday.

The court heard that MacLeod had accelerated to overtake the car in front but had to increase his speed further when the vehicle in front accelerated as well.
MacLeod was also fined £300.

Former footballer failed to pay hotel bill

A GAMBLING addict, who failed to pay his hotel bill while staying in Oban, has been ordered to get help for his addiction after appearing at Oban Sheriff Court.
Former professional footballer Roland Verrijt, who is originally from Holland, appeared on a deferred sentence last Tuesday after pleading guilty to failing to pay for board and lodgings at an Oban hotel to the value of £376.35 on March 25 this year.
Verrijt, aged 31, is currently working at the Holly Tree Hotel, Kentallen, which was given as his address.

Defence agent Duncan Durbin said: 'He was a professional footballer before an injury ended his career and he developed a gambling addiction. He is an asset to the community but his character has been blighted by offences that carry custodial sentences.'
Sheriff Douglas Small placed Verrijt on probation for 15 months and ordered him to seek assistance for his addiction. He also ordered him to work 160 hours of community service.

Man harassed ex partner by text

A MAN who harassed his ex-partner with text messages, one of which was a suicide note, has been admonished at Oban Sheriff Court.
William Duncan, aged 49, whose address was given in court as 3A Millpark Terrace, Oban, admitted sending abusive text messages to the woman and subsequently breaching bail conditions by contacting her.
Defence solicitor Edward Thorton said: 'Until the breakdown of the relationship he had not been

in trouble before.' He said his client had spent time in Argyll and Bute Hospital for psychiatric treatment and had suffered from depression following the break up.
Oban man smashed window
A 23-YEAR-old man has been fined £270 after pleading guilty to a breach of the peace at Oban Sheriff Court.
Jamie MacColl, of Bonhaven, Pulpit Drive, Oban, admitted breaking a window at a house in Campbell Crescent when he appeared in Court last Tuesday.
MacColl was arrested in the early hours of the morning of September 29 last year after the householder heard breaking glass and phoned the police.
Police officers later found MacColl on nearby Nelson Street with cuts to his fingers.
Sheriff Douglas Small also ordered MacColl to pay the £92.81 to repair the window.

24-year old told to 'grow up'

A 24-YEAR-old Oban man, who has a number of previous criminal convictions, admitted it was time for him to 'grow up' after being placed on probation at Oban Sheriff Court.
Duncan McWhirter, of Room 1, Lorn Court, Oban, appeared from custody last Tuesday and pled guilty to stealing a t-shirt and being in possession of a knife on July 9 this year.

In his defence McWhirter told Sheriff Douglas Small that he wanted to get a job and have a 'normal life'.
Sheriff Small said: 'Is it not time you grew up?'
'Yes,' replied McWhirter. 'I should have done that a long time ago.'
Sheriff Small deferred sentence until February 15 for McWhirter to be of good behaviour.



Chieftain Angus Stroyan, with chairman Charlie Grant, declares Killin Highland Games open. 15_t33killin01



Heavyweights Bruce Aitken and Steven King distract David Webster from his duties as announcer. 15_t33killin08



Highland dancing is always one of the star attractions at any Highland Games and Killin proved no exception. 15_t33killin14



The hardy hill runners set off at the start of the Killin event. Winner was Tom Smith from Oban, with Mark Harris second, Steven Fallon third and Adam Harris fourth. 15_t33killin09

Scottish Water work on Oban's George Street expected to take about a week to complete

SCOTTISH Water is to carry out remedial works in George Street, Oban, later this month.

The work, which will require some traffic management, will involve the replacement of areas of road surfacing, some lining work and some anti-skid surfacing.
A spokesman for Scottish Water said: 'There has been a deterioration of some of the original work that

was done as part of the mains replacement work in the George Street and Stevenson Street areas that was completed in 2008. Contractors working for Scottish Water will seek to complete this work as quickly and efficiently as possible.'
The work will start on August 16 and is expected to be completed in about a week.
The original project was completed

without any road closures and this remedial work will also not require any road closure. However, a section of George Street will require to be reduced from two lanes to one and temporary traffic lights will be in use during the work. There will be some sections of George Street where parking spaces will be unavailable for short periods. Scottish Water apologised for any inconvenience

caused by the remedial work and thanked customers and road users in advance for their patience and understanding. Town centre businesses complained at the road closures saying that there was already traffic chaos through the town and a lack of parking spaces.
But they were pleased to note there were going to be remedial works on the water system.

Artist returns

AN AYRSHIRE artist returned to Kranenburg Fine Art Gallery last Friday to showcase his latest work.

Davy Brown trained with Tayvallich artist John Lowrie Morrison (JoLoMo). Mr Brown, who now lives in Galloway, has a long association with the Stevenson Street gallery, having exhibited there on three occasions over the past 10 years.

Sustrans and Argyll and Bute Council combine to produce safe walking and cycling routes throughout Oban

Council to invest £86,000 in safer routes to school project

A SAFE route to walking to school may not be a problem for parents in Oban for much longer after a £172,000 investment programme between Argyll and Bute Council and transport charity Sustrans.

Earlier this year parents in the town were angry at being told children who lived within two miles of the school would now have to walk as they would no longer be entitled to free school

transport. However, many parents claimed there was no safe walking route to school and the council agreed in many cases to provide the school bus.

An Argyll and Bute Council spokeswoman said: 'Argyll and Bute Council has secured funding from Sustrans sustainable transport charity to develop cycling and walking projects throughout the region.

'Funding from Sustrans

will cover 50 per cent of the total project cost, which the council will match from its own budget.'

Graeme Brown, construction projects officer for Sustrans, said: 'By putting in the right infrastructure like good safer, easily accessible routes for pedestrians and cyclists, people can make short local journeys without having to always rely on car travel. Sustrans is working with Argyll and Bute Council

this year with funding made available from the Scottish Government.

'A total of £172,000 is being put into creating short links which will enable safer routes to schools, more direct links into existing networks and will help create good cycling and walking facilities in and around local communities.'

Councillor Duncan Macintyre, Argyll and Bute Council's spokesperson for

transport and infrastructure, believes both residents and tourists in the area will welcome the routes.

He said: 'We are delighted to receive this funding from Sustrans.

'Cycle and footpaths are an important part of our transport infrastructure.

'By establishing more cycle paths and walking routes around the Argyll and Bute area people have the opportunity to stay healthy

by walking, running and cycling around these car free routes.

'The criteria for the grants stipulated that paths should be short, convenient, accessible and scenic.'

Amongst the projects are a route between Oban Primary Campus to Glenshellach and a link between Ganavan, Park Primary School and the Corran Halls. The council will be investing £86,000 in the project.

£3,000 evacuation as ferry deemed unfit for transporting patients

Helicopter called to rescue ill woman caught in power cut

A DRAMATIC medi-vac rescue as a result of a power failure on a west coast island has highlighted how vulnerable to emergency situation islanders could be - and how costly such evacuations can become.

A terminally ill German woman who on holiday on Easdale had to be flown by helicopter the 15-miles to Oban during a power failure as the council-run ferry is unable to carry seriously ill patients.

EXCLUSIVE REPORT by LOUISE LEE
llee@obantimes.co.uk

"There has been a long standing issue regarding the emergency retrieval cover to the island."

Councillor Elaine Robertson.

One Easdale islander told *The Oban Times*: 'We were on high alert for most of the night waiting for an ambulance for this woman. We were not aware it had been cancelled. We were told an air ambulance could not come in because of the lack of lights but we thought they were working out how to do it.'

'It is very frightening to think someone needed urgent help and it could not be provided.'

'I do not understand why the Argyll and Bute Council ferry could not have taken the woman over by boat.'

An Argyll and Bute Council spokeswoman said: 'We do not offer a service transporting medical emergencies from Easdale Island.'

'As our ferry on that crossing is an open boat, the Scottish Ambulance Service has deemed the vessel unfit for transporting patients unless they are able to walk.'

'So if there are medical emergencies on Easdale where the patient cannot walk, he or she has to be airlifted off the island. If they can walk we will, of course do what we can, if required, to get them to the mainland.'

Councillor Elaine Robertson said: 'There has been a long standing issue regarding the emergency retrieval cover to the island and this incident has highlighted the challenges in evacuating island residents.'

'A safety forum meeting is planned for the beginning of September at which the relevant parties will be present.'

'The need to expediate a safe and sustainable retrieval solution for islands will be high on its agenda.'



Firefighters and volunteers with boxing legend Mike Tyson's signed boxing glove which will be auctioned for charity. 16_t32boxing1

Firefighters add punch to special charity event

FIREFIGHTERS and charity volunteers will be pulling no punches after world famous heavyweight boxer Mike Tyson donated a boxing glove to a fund-raising and donor recruitment charity day.

Many kind-hearted donors have already signed up to make a match for the Anthony Nolan Trust register over the weekend of August 20-21.

Carol Turnbull, of the Anthony Nolan Trust group in Oban, said: 'We were delighted to be given this signed glove from Mike Tyson to raffle in aid of the leukaemia charity.'

'Any money that can go towards funding this lifesaving charity is well spent.'

'We have also been given a framed autograph from singing star Robbie Williams and an autograph from TV's Dr Who, David Tennant.'

'We have already had a lot of interest but to give everyone a fair chance we

have decided to have a sealed auction of bids. Send your bid to Oban Fire Station marked for the Anthony Nolan Trust with details of your name, address, telephone number and email address. Do not send money but state the highest bid.'

John Sweeney, firefighter, added: 'We are hoping to increase the number of people on the donor register and this event is the eighth such event in Strathclyde Fire and Rescue's area. At the recruitment clinic there is a simple procedure lasting 10 minutes. Volunteers complete a short application form and provide a saliva sample.'

'We are keen for anyone to come along on a specially organised fun day to find out more.'

'And we have organised a great day for all the family including stalls, games, fire appliances, free life jacket safety inspection tests and lots of great food. People can find out more by phoning the fire station on 01631 569995 or on anthoynolan.oban@hotmail.co.uk.'

to come onto the register and to date very few people in Oban and area have been given the chance to sign up. But with this clinic all that is about to change.'

John Sweeney, firefighter, added: 'We are hoping to increase the number of people on the donor register and this event is the eighth such event in Strathclyde Fire and Rescue's area. At the recruitment clinic there is a simple procedure lasting 10 minutes. Volunteers complete a short application form and provide a saliva sample.'

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Lorn Lines

THE CRUACHAN branch of An Comunn Gaidhealach held another of its popular weekly ceildhs with John MacLean as fear an tìghe.

The ceildh was opened by young Connel piper Cameron Bennett, followed by Morag Smith, Oban, who sang songs in Gaelic and English.

A selection by Alasdair MacDonald, Connel, on the accordion followed and Robert Robertson from Torlundy delighted the audience with his singing.

Next up were the Bennett boys, Dr Neil and his sons Cameron and Finlay, who had everyone's feet tapping. Janet Fergusson, well-known as a choir conductor and music teacher, sang beautifully, as always.

After the drawing of the raffle and a vote of thanks from Moira Dunlop, the ceildh ended with the singing of *Auld Lang Syne*.

OBAN youngsters taking part in the Duke of Edinburgh Scheme have recently been awarded silver and bronze certificates.

Robin Scott, Louise Kynoch, Lewis Bigham and Alistair Taylor were presented with their Bronze Duke of Edinburgh Awards and Vernon Davies was presented with his Silver Duke of Edinburgh Award.

Over the past year they have been working hard on various skills, volunteering for different organisations, improving their physical ability in a variety of sports and completing expeditions.

The bronze group walked and camped on the beautiful island of Lismore and the silver group spent time canoeing from Fort Augustus to Fort William, via the Caledonian Canal.

Jan Kersel, treasurer of the Lorn Open Duke of Edinburgh Group, said: 'Their individual achievements show great commitment and determination and the expedition encourages and develops teamwork.'

A LOCAL producers market is gearing up for its second anniversary on August 19 by encouraging everyone to get involved.

The Local Origins Rural Network (LORN) market held at Kintaline Farm, Benderloch, had more than 500 visitors by lunchtime last Thursday and was running out of food at only 1pm.

The market runs on the first and third Thursday of every month and organisers are hoping to expand by encouraging community and cultural groups to take part. LORN secretary Jill Bowis said: 'The location is a big part of the market. It really sells it to visitors who feel a part of things by coming onto the farm.'

'We have 24 acres available to use here so we're hoping photographers and artists will come and show people how to capture the seasonality of the area. We also want any interested community groups to get in touch and become a part of the market because that is what LORN is all about.'



Crowds enjoy the produce on offer. 15_t33market01

GEORGE Berry is evangelical about fitness and exercise, and it is really beginning to show.

George, who began a training programme to lose weight and achieve his dream of climbing Ben Nevis this September, has already lost the equivalent of a small child in weight.

George has been undertaking his programme at Energie Fitness - a place he says he feels confident and comfortable to exercise in. He said: 'The gym has become like a second home. What works best for me is to go straight to the gym from work - whatever time that might be. If I go home first then I get caught up in other things and I don't seem to make it back out the gym. Exercise has become part and parcel of my everyday life and I am really enjoying it. I am determined never to put back on the weight I have lost.'

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Welcoming Morag MacLean and Mairi Fleck, right, to the North Argyll Carers Centre are directors, from left, Phillip White, Bob Clarke and Peter Kemp. 07_t32care01

Argyll carers' group going from strength to strength

HAVING narrowly avoided closure last year when it was deemed unviable, Argyll Carers Centre has gone from strength-to-strength during its first year as an independent organisation.

In August last year, the centre, which exists to support carers in the area, was entrusted to a board of directors which took over from Quarriers in order to avoid the centre's closure.

Now one year on the charity has added two further members of staff: market stall co-ordinator Mairi Fleck and training co-ordinator Morag MacLean.

And the centre's landmark achievement was recognised at

an anniversary celebration in the centre, which was also used to promote the Digital Switchover.

Centre manager Ruth Moody said: 'We were told that we weren't viable but we have proven we are because we are still here.'

Ms Fleck will encourage the carers to use their baking and arts and crafts skills and manage a stall where their wares will be sold.

North Argyll Carers Centre will have a stall at the Local Origins Rural Network (LORN) events.

Ms MacLean's job as training co-ordinator will be to help improve the carers' skills, as well as guide them on how to learn new skills, such as computing.

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FLEET ENQUIRIES WELCOME

ISLAY

Your correspondent is Susan Campbell: 01496 850215

Disposal of WW2 bomb on Islay beach

A MEMBER of the Royal Canadian Navy was called in to blow up a World War II mine washed up on a beach at Ardnavone on Islay.

Lieutenant John Keenan was on an exchange with the Royal Navy when his team was called in to deal with the 500lb mine.

The seaweed covered device, which was broken across the top and approximately one metre in diameter, was identified as a British Mk 17 mine which, despite its seaworn appearance, was still live.

After a short operation, it was disposed of in a controlled explosion supervised by Lieutenant Keenan who said: 'It was a fantastic job, just the kind of thing I came over from Canada hoping to do. We are trained in Canada but rarely get the actual experience.'

Lieutenant Commander Jason White of the Northern Diving Group based at HM Naval Base Clyde who supervised the disposal, said: 'It was an impressive bang. There is still ordnance in the sea dating back to the First World War and, of course, more from the Second World War.'

Members of the public are advised to report to the Coastguard or police any military object they may notice on beaches or out at sea.

Whisky dinner fund-raiser

GETTING to this year's National Mod is proving a challenge for Còisir Ghàidhlig Ìle, Islay's successful senior Gaelic Choir, as it will be held in Thurso, Caithness, in the far north of Scotland.

This creates serious logistical and financial headaches for Islay's prospective participants, especially for the recently formed junior choir, Còisir Og Ghàidhlig Ìle.

This exceptional junior choir, in its first year of singing together under Arlene McKerrrell and Iseabail MacTaggart, was placed second in last year's National Mod competition, missing the top prize by only one point. This year, the juniors are struggling to find the cash to travel to Caithness.

Grahame Allison of the Port Charlotte Hotel and a member of the senior Islay choir came up with the idea of holding a whisky dinner on August 21 to raise funds for the juniors.

Port Charlotte Hotel will host a three-course dinner, with specially selected wines and a tasting of some spectacular rare whiskies.

These will include the Laphroaig Cairdeas, bottled for Feis Ìle 2008, and a rare

Port Ellen ninth edition 30-year-old. There will be two old Bruichladdichs - the legendary 20-year-old first edition plus a dram from a superb bourbon cask laid down in 1970. Completing this remarkable line-up will be a 35-year-old Bunnahabhain.

Rare bottles from the island's distilleries will be auctioned, including a 1970s Lagavulin and a Douglas Laing bottling of a 30-year-old rare Ardbeg.

Andrew Bell, son of John and Sandra Bell of Port Charlotte who is now a whisky specialist at McTears Auctioneers, will run the auction.

For information or booking contact the Port Charlotte Hotel on 01496 850360 or email info@portcharlottehotel.co.uk.

Ride of the Falling Rain 2010

THE POPULAR annual fun cycle run 'Ride of the Falling Rain' took place on August 1, with participants covering anything up to 100 miles around the Islay roads.

With 89 participants this year it was the biggest event yet.

The peloton met at Debbie's, leaving at around 9.30am on Sunday morning, and cyclists were free to join where they chose and cover as much of the distance as they wished.

All the cyclists had a great day and there wasn't even too much falling rain this time.



Bishop Joseph Toal of the Argyll and the Isles with priests and parishioners who attended the 150th anniversary of St Duthac's, Dornie.

St Duthac's celebrates 150th anniversary

FRIDAY July 23 was a very special day in Dornie when the parish of St Duthac's celebrated 150 years to the day when the foundation stone of the church was laid.

As part of the celebrations, there was an anniversary Mass to which all current and former parishioners and priests were invited.

After the Mass, there was a gathering in Dornie Hall where people enjoyed a display of photographs and music by young local musicians.

The Mass was led by Bishop Toal

from Argyll and The Isles and Canon Andrew Mann, Vicar General of The Diocese of Aberdeen, supported by a number of previous parish priests including Canon Robert MacDonald, who was parish priest when St Duthac's celebrated its centenary. All enjoyed speaking to old friends at the hall afterwards.

Father James MacNeil said: 'We were delighted to be able to celebrate the day with so many friends.'

'We are very proud that this West Highland community continues its

tradition of faith and worship so strongly, and I would like to thank all those who worked so hard to prepare the church and the hall for this occasion.'

The parish produced a booklet to commemorate the anniversary, comprising recent memories, some interesting photographs, a list of the priests who had served the parish since 1860 and a copy of the first page of the baptisms register. Copies are available from the church or Dornie Stores or online at www.spanglefish.com/StDuthacsDornie.

APPIN

Sale raises £900

APPIN Guild raised more than £900 at its annual sale to support its Project Scheme.

After opening the sale, Sue Campbell was presented with flowers by Charlie Johnson.

Proceeds will help the charity CrossReach run a visitor centre at Perth Prison and International Justice Mission rescue young people from sex traffickers in Cambodia. MG

Record art sales

RECORD sales of nearly 80 pictures were sold at Appin Art Group's recent summer exhibition.

Visitors came from as far afield as Trinidad and Tobago, USA, Canada and Europe and all parts of Scotland.

A spokesman for the group said that sales figures were up 33 per cent on last year. He paid tribute to local residents who had purchased about a quarter of the pictures sold and said that they had always been very supportive of Appin Art Group. MG

Clarification

THE OBAN Times would like to clarify that Alastair MacColl is the great uncle of young Perth athlete Laura Glasgow, not her grandfather as reported in the July 29 report on West Ardnarmurchan Show and Sports.

Bunessan Show hailed 'a tribute to hill farming'



Hannah Poulton of Iochdar Farm, Ardrum, is presented with her Champion of Champions trophy for her calf from Alan Reid MP. 16_t33bunessan3



The Champion of Champions, a homebred cross calf out of a Limousin cow from Margaret Poulton and daughter Hannah of Iochdar Farm, Ardrum. 16_t33bunessan10



Angus MacColl of Mingary won with his feisty Blackface ewe lamb Lady Ba Ba. The reared-twin by a £700 Pole shearing by a £26,000 Dalchirla, out of a £2,000 Dyke, won the J MacRae Memorial Challenge Quach. 16_t33bunessan8



Hannah Poulton, front right, Margaret Poulton and Ewan Dougall cast an eye over all the trophies they have for their mantelpiece. 16_t33bunessan5

'Lady Ba Ba' catches the eye of Mull judges and visitors

BUNESSAN Show was hailed as a 'tribute to hill farming' by the director of Royal Highland Agricultural Show.

And with good competition in all classes of sheep and cattle, not to mention the tug of war, there are few who would disagree.

Held on Friday August 6 in the fields beyond the primary school, there was a great turn out from islanders and tourists. Cattle judge Neil McCorkindale, from Scammadale Farm, Kilninver, said Bunessan was a 'very good competition' with 'good classes of cattle all round'.

Mr McCorkindale chose a homebred Limousin calf from Iochdar Farm, Ardrum, bred by Margaret and Hannah Poulton as overall champion in the cattle classes.

The late-April born calf went onto win the Champion

of Champions title at the show.

Margaret said: 'He is a good animal and we are delighted to win especially as the trophy is given in memory of my dad.'

Royal Highland Show director David Dunsmuir, who was visiting the show while holidaying on Mull, said: 'I think this is a good quality show.'

'I must pay tribute not only to the farmers and islanders who take part, but the people behind the scenes, such as the car park attendants, who do so much to keep these traditions alive.'

Alan Reid MP presented a trestle table full of silverware saying: 'I was privileged to be asked to come and present the prizes today.'

The best name of the day had to go to a Mingary ewe, and like her namesake Lady Ga Ga, Lady Ba Ba gave visitors plenty to look at.



Bunessan Show president Ronnie Campbell, left, meets Royal Highland Show director David Dunsmuir. Ronnie said: 'From one show director to another, is this the best show in the west?' 16_t33bunessan1



Hill North Country Cheviot, Betsy, from Criagispuir Terrace Croft, Tobermory, won female champion, cross-sheep champion and overall reserve champion. The four-crop ewe is by a Savalbeag tup out of a homebred ewe, and owned by Allan MacKenzie. 16_t33bunessan2



Natalie, a homebred Blackface gimmer from Norman MacPhail, Woodside Croft, won female champion, open Blackface and supreme Blackface trophies. The gimmer is out of a homebred ewe and by a Midlock who was the male reserve champion at Dalmally two years ago. 16_t33bunessan7

Results

Cattle
Peter Kane Memorial Challenge Cup, confined, Cross Cow, calf at foot: M Poulton/E Dougall, Ardrum. Dian MacDonald Memorial Challenge Cup, confined, one-year-old cross heifer: J Campbell, Fiddon. A MacCallum Memorial Quach, open, Best young heifer: M Poulton/E Dougall, Ardrum. D MacInnes Challenge Cup, confined, Cal Mart Special Prize, open, Cross bred calf: J Campbell, Fiddon. Calum MacDougall Memorial Challenge Cup, confined, Calf born after December 1: H Poulton, Ardrum. Dr D MacInnes Challenge Silver Trophy, confined, Best group of cow and two followers: M Poulton/E Dougall, Ardrum. R MacKinnon Memorial Challenge

Trophy, confined, Best Butchers Animal: M Poulton/E Dougall, Ardrum. M MacDonald-Clark Memorial Challenge Cup, confined, Best cross animal at show: H Poulton, Ardrum. Colonel and Mrs Lacey Challenge Cup, confined, Best cross animal bred by exhibitor: H Poulton, Ardrum. Kintyre Animal Feeds Tankard, open, Champion open cross animal: H Poulton, Ardrum. Bunessan Show Challenge Cup, confined, Best animal in cross and dairy sections: H Poulton, Ardrum. P.D Knight Shellfish, open, Pure bred champion: R Leitch, Lagganulva. Clydesdale Bank Cup, open, Most points in cattle sections: M Poulton/E Dougall, Ardrum. R & S Challenge Cup, open, Overall cattle champion: H Poulton, Ardrum. Reay

Brill Challenge Cup, open, Reserve overall cattle champion: R Leitch, Lagganulva. **Blackface Sheep**
N MacFadyen Memorial Shield, confined, Ram lamb bred by exhibitor: Messrs MacNeill, Ardruss Ardalanish Cup, presented by E F Proctor, confined, Best Ewe from classes 30 & 31: J Campbell, Fiddon. Scoor Challenge Cup, presented by R Keville, confined, Gimmer: J MacFadyen, Balmeach. P Lamont Challenge Cup, confined, Ewe Lamb: Messrs MacNeill, Ardruss. J MacRae Memorial Challenge Quach, open, Ewe Lamb: A MacColl, Glengorm Farm. V Hardwick Challenge Trophy, confined, Group of Blackface: Messrs MacNeill, Ardruss.

Challenge Rose Bowl, confined, Best milk ewe gimmer and ewe lamb bred by exhibitor: J MacFadyen, Balmeach. Silver cake basket, confined, Best milk ewe gimmer and ewe lamb bred by exhibitor: Messrs MacNeill, Ardruss. Lachie MacFadyen Memorial Challenge Quach, confined, Best ewe with lamb/lambs at foot: Messrs MacNeill, Ardruss. J Glaisher Challenge Trophy, confined, Female Champion - Blackface: Messrs MacNeill, Ardruss. V Hardwick Memorial Challenge Cup, confined, Male Champion - Blackface: J Campbell, Fiddon. Lt Col W M Gordon Silver Challenge Cup, confined, Supreme Blackface Champion: Messrs MacNeill, Ardruss. J & C Campbell Challenge

Cup, open, Supreme Blackface Champion: N MacPhail, Salen. M & U Campbell Challenge Cup, open, Reserve Blackface Champion, opposite sex to champion: D & L MacLean, Knock. **Sheep other than blackface**
Burg Challenge Cup, open, Ram, any age: Messrs MacNeill, Ardruss. Beach Forest Challenge Cup, open, Best non-blackface group: A C MacColl, Fanmore. G & H Grant Challenge Cup, confined, Pair of fat lambs: Messrs MacNeill, Ardruss. Tirahoiil Challenge Cup, presented in memory of Mrs Betty Lyall Campbell, confined, Female champion - non blackface: R Campbell, Uisken. Same Tractors Challenge Cup, confined, Champion non-blackface: Messrs

MacNeill, Ardruss. Scottish Wool Growers Shield, open, Champion non-blackface: A MacKenzie, Tobermory. Pennyghael Award, open, Most points in Cattle & Sheep Sections: Messrs MacNeill, Ardruss. Bank of Scotland Cup, open, Champion of Champions: H Poulton, Ardrum. B & M Norquay Challenge Cup, open, Most points in Young Farmers Sections, over 16 years: J MacFadyen, Balmeach. Bunessan Show Young Farmers, open, over 16 years: C MacDougall, Tobermory. Bunessan Show Challenge Cup, confined, Best Homebred Sheep (Young Farmers): J MacFadyen, Balmeach.

More results next week.

90th birthday celebrations



Flora Devine with the flowers presented to her by the bridge club ladies. 15_t33flora02

Flora brushes away the years

A LOCAL woman turned 90 on the 24th of last month – and is still celebrating. Flora Devine was joined by the ladies from Oban Bridge Club, of which she is a member, for a birthday lunch last week.

After being presented with a bouquet of flowers in the Manor House Hotel, Flora brushed away the years: 'I'm only 90. I'm going to keep going for as many years as I can. My bridge club keeps me young.'



Charlie cuts his birthday cake. t32colberry32

Surprise party for Oban's Charlie

FAMILY and friends gathered at the Falls of Lora Hotel in Connel recently for a surprise birthday celebration in honour of Oban's newest nonagenarian Charles Colberry.

Charles, known as Charlie to everyone, turned 90 on Friday July 30. But little did he know that the following day around 50 well-wishers were planning to surprise him. The party, attended by family, neighbours, friends and members of Oban Rotary's old boys club, was successfully kept under wraps for about five weeks in the run-up to the big event. On the day

Charlie, of Davaar, Pulpit Hill, told them all: 'I am absolutely stunned. I expected something but never anything like this.'

The day was organised by Charlie's only daughter Joan and husband David, who now live in Alloa, and by granddaughter Amanda Millar and husband Graham, who live in Hamilton. The former Oban Job Centre manager was born in Partick in Glasgow in 1920.

He served in the RAF during the war, spending much of his time in India, and took up his civil service career again when he was demobbed.



Oban and Lorne Strathspey and Reel Society perform in Edinburgh.

Oban musicians show off their talent at Edinburgh Festival

IT'S official, Oban has talent. The Oban and Lorne Strathspey and Reel Society travelled east to perform at the Edinburgh Festival on Saturday August 7.

The group was taking part in 'Scotland Has Talent!' and played at the famous Ross Bandstand in Princes Street Gardens, more commonly used for big acts at Hogmanay.

Their hour-long performance was part of a series of events, which many musical groups contributed to.

The orchestra, conducted by Helen Jordan, played the music enjoyed by many at their Fiddlers Rally in Oban in April to a large audience, all keen to experience the flavour of Scottish music.

Helen said: 'We were proud to have been invited to perform at such a prestigious event at a time when Edinburgh is buzzing with excitement. The players thoroughly enjoyed the day, spending the afternoon in the centre of the city, before returning home.'

Team turns spotlight on local waters

LOCAL waters are to be part of a new exploration by marine biologists to chart some of Scotland's most important underwater wildlife.

Areas including Loch Fyne, Campbeltown Loch and around the Isle of Arran are to be examined by scientists from SeaStar Survey Ltd. The team will be measuring species which are most in need of conservation by studying the quantity and habitats of the creatures.

Species to be looked at include horse mussels, flame shell beds and the rare but beautiful fireworks anemone. Scientists are hoping to expand current knowledge of marine wildlife in the survey area.

Previous surveys here have revealed Iceland cyprines, tall sea pens and beds of maerl and seagrass.

The survey team will use a drop-down video camera to capture undersea footage, which will be complemented by detailed



Rare but beautiful: the fireworks anemone.

diver observations in suitable locations. Environment Minister Roseanna Cunningham said: 'Scotland's seas are home to some of the world's most precious wildlife and stunning marine habitats. This includes internationally important species and that is why efforts to increase our knowledge are so important.'

The survey work is expected to be complete by mid September and the final report of the findings will be published next spring.



The Happy House children with their backpacks for Mary's Meals.

Happy House collect backpacks for Mary's Meals

CHILDREN at Happy House Christian Pre-School have been collecting backpacks for Mary's Meals' Backpack Project.

The project is designed to help children from other countries who are also about to start school. The Happy House youngsters have been learning all about recycling and discovered that they could pass on their old clothes as part of the project.

Donated

The pre-school was delighted to receive new backpacks, with pens and pencils, from WH Smith, donated as part of the appeal.

SATURDAY 14TH AUGUST 2010 GAMES FIELD NETHY BRIDGE

missed pipe bands
Highland dancing
10 mile road race
stalls & amusements
INCLUDING INTERNATIONAL CLEAN GRANT GATHERING

ABERNETHY HIGHLAND GAMES NETHY BRIDGE

KIDS FUN EVENTS FROM 10.30AM, TRACK & FIELD FROM NOON
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what's on

Thursday 19 August > Producers Market
Kintaline Farm, Benderloch

Saturday 14 August > Abernethy Highland Games
Games Field, Nethy Bridge

Saturday 14 August > Soroba Community Fun Day
11am - 3pm, The Pitch, Soroba

COMMUNITY NOTICEBOARD

<p>An Comunn Gaidhealach CRUACHAN BRANCH SUMMER CEILIDH Thursday 12 August 8 p.m. Taynuilt Village Hall Admission £3 Members & Children (5-16 yrs) £2.</p>	<p>Oban Congregational Church (Top of Argyll Street) Coffee Morning Saturday 14th August 10.30am - 2pm Tea/Coffee and our famous Home baking Soup/crusty bread, £2 Sales stalls Extra tables outside (weather permitting) Accordionist playing Traditional Scottish music.</p>	<p>St John's Cathedral, Oban Flower Festival Friday 13th August to Wednesday 18th August 10.00am - 6.00pm each day 20 Exhibits celebrating local life in Church and Town Admission £2 Proceeds to Cathedral Fabric Fund and Oban Hospice</p>	<p>Be Prepared For The New Disclosure Scheme Training For Voluntary/Community Groups Thursday 19th August Church Centre, Glencruitten Road 1.30 to 4pm Please contact Argyll Voluntary Action to book your place 01631 569545 or office.abvc@tiscali.co.uk</p>
<p>North Connel & District Horticultural Show 2010 Victory Hall, Benderloch Saturday 21 August 2pm Adults £2 Child £1 (inc. tea/home baking) prizes+raffle at 3pm(approx) Schedules available from Benderloch Post Office</p>	<p>Oban Concern for Palestine DON'T FORGET GAZA come and hear Teresa McDermott who was aboard the recent flotilla attempting to break the Gaza blockade with relief supplies on Sunday 15 August 2010 at 7.30pm St. John's Cathedral Hall, The Esplanade, Oban ALL WELCOME FURTHER INFORMATION from Graeme Pagan "Neavevot" Oban 01631 563737</p>	<p>Lorn Garden Club ANNUAL FLOWER FESTIVAL Come along and join in the fun at Ardmaddy Castle On the way to the Isle of Seil Sunday 15th August 1.30-4.30pm Plant stall & raffle, Tai chi workshop, The Grab Trust, Lorn Longbows, children's quiz, face painting & story telling, refreshments with home baking Entry £3 - children free Dogs admitted on leads Proceeds to charity Info David Croucher 01852 300 563</p>	<p>Eilean Eisdal presents a summer matinee concert for the family by concert pianist Catherine Nardiello. Doors open at 2.30pm for a 3pm start at Easdale Island Community Hall on Sunday 15th August. Admission £6/£5, accompanied under 16s free.</p>
<p>OBAN AND LORN HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY Annual Flower Show Glencruitten Road Church Centre Saturday, August 21, 2010 Open to public from 12 noon Plants for sale Auction of produce 3.30pm Proceeds in aid of Charity</p>	<p>Glassary Kilmartin and Ford Church Flower Festival 18 - 20 August Kilmartin Church 10am - 5pm Wed - Fri 7pm - 9pm Wed - Fri 10am - 4pm Saturday Teas and sales table £3.50 adult £1 child</p>	<p>Eilean Eisdal presents a Jessica Wolfson art exhibition "Circles undone and other things", at the Easdale Island Community Hall at 7.30pm on Friday August 13th. Exhibition preview free.</p>	<p>FUN DAY In aid of Friends of Oban Hospice Glencruitten Rugby Pitch Saturday 14th August 11am - 3pm Beat the goalie, Fire Brigade, Bouncy Castle, Face Painting, Raffle, Splat the Rat, Throw the Sheaf, Stalls and many more fun games.</p>

Local Producers Markets
Thursday 19th August
Kintaline Farm, Benderloch
1 mile along the Tralee road
10am to 3pm
Lots to eat and do
Every first / third Thursday
Interested Producers contact
01631 720223
Local Origins Rural Network
www.lorn.org.uk

Follow us on **facebook**
www.facebook.com/obantimes

gig argyll guide your essential guide to live music in argyll

Every Friday > Party Nights with DJs
Skipinnish Ceilidh House and Live Band

Every Sunday > Quiz Night
Markie Dans

Friday 13 August > Pre Dinner Ceilidh Show
Skipinnish Ceilidh House 6pm-8pm

Friday 13 August > After Dinner Ceilidh Show
Skipinnish Ceilidh House 9pm-11pm

Friday 13 August > Party Hosted by Pat Steeman
Skipinnish Ceilidh House £4 Entry - 11.30pm - 2am

Friday 13 August > Our famous Fri 13th Party Night
Markie Dans with beach mode and live music from Chris Suckle

Saturday 14 August > The Zodiacs
Markie Dans

Friday 20 August > Scott MacDonald
Markie Dans

Saturday 21 August > Declan Hegarty
Markie Dans

Tuesday 24 August > Andy's 21st Birthday Bash
Markie Dans with live music from Chris Suckle

Wednesday 25 August > Blazin Fiddles
Skipinnish Ceilidh House

Thursday 26 August > Gunna Sound
Skipinnish Ceilidh House

Thursday 26 August > Tim O'Connor
Markie Dans

Friday 27 August > North Sea Gas
Skipinnish Ceilidh House

YOUR STARS WITH PATRICK ARUNDEL

ARIES Mar 21st - Apr 20th 090 6612 4520
A lot of food for thought is possible in your situation. Uranus reverses out of your sign, but the recent restlessness that you've been experiencing may just be replaced, by an even harder to fathom sense of uncertainty. You can find yourself asking some deeper questions about your closest alliances, or how you link with people or one person in particular Aries. Call for more advice...

TAURUS Apr 21st - May 21st 090 6612 4521
Your whole outlook in terms of your independence is ripe for a review. This may also show itself in thinking about possibilities as far as employment or wider responsibilities are concerned. You won't mind doing your bit, but you'll want this to be meaningful and enjoyable. Feeling you "have" to do things and be obliged, can sap your motivation. Call your special prediction line for more news...

GEMINI May 22nd - Jun 21st 090 6612 4522
You need to find balance in your life, whether it is to do with how much socializing you do or how much money you spend on non-essentials, such as fashion shopping and in your love life. Yet if you can get things on an even keel, this can be a very important time. Single? Do accept every invitation, a very special connection is possible - so be hopeful Gemini. Call me for your love scope in full...

CANCER Jun 22nd - Jul 23rd 090 6612 4523
You continue to be on a mission, and that is to enjoy life to maximum in your immediate environment or with your family. A trip with someone close can also see a reunion occur. It may be that you will invite people around to indulge. Spoiling those that really matter can give you immense pleasure. You may also find yourself redecorating or buying furniture. Call for your love scope...

LEO Jul 24th - Aug 23rd 090 6612 4524
The Sun is pumping up your power. You can do so much with this, not least because others are even more responsive to you. If this is NOT how it feels, it may be that you are far too caught up in everyday obligations. But rarely has there been a better time to break out and have fun Leo, and few have as much fun as you, once you put your mind to it! Call for more news and astral advice...

VIRGO Aug 24th - Sep 23rd 090 6612 4525
The rebellious and unpredictable Uranus winds backwards into your relating zone. A tie which has been off and on can be off and on again, but you could find yourself almost addicted to this unpredictability - or will you finally bond? Around your finances, your common sense, mixed with a partner's ingenuity, can see you do very well indeed. This can work well. Call for more advice...

LIBRA Sep 24th - Oct 23rd 090 6612 4526
The Sun goes face to face with Neptune this week. This can trigger magic or confusion in your love life, but it will not be lacking in tantalizing possibilities. Certainly this can be a flirty time, and you are unlikely to be short of friends, even if you are settled romantically. Do clear up any loose practical ends though, for things can get bogged down before long. Call me for your love scope...

SCORPIO Oct 24th - Nov 22nd 090 6612 4527
Family or emotional worries can weigh you down. And someone who may have been an arch rival in the past can yet come back into your life. This can equally be true of a past love. However, in a current relationship, trust is the key factor. If you have it, you can happily and tenderly look out for one another, if you do not, it can cause a lot of issues. Call your prediction line for more advice...

SAGITTARIUS Nov 23rd - Dec 21st 090 6612 4528
A big change in your future plans, rather than worrying you, can fill you with new energy and enthusiasm. If you can get together with others, you are also likely to flourish, be it in your spare time, or professionally. You can be a very flexible character, and your ability to rub along with lots of different people, can help you in excellent stead Archer. Call now for your in-depth forecast...

CAPRICORN Dec 22nd - Jan 20th 090 6612 4529
Take care of your money, possessions and resources this week. Carelessness or failing to check the small print could be costly. Yet if you keep a tight grip on the everyday stuff, the big picture sees you in the limelight, with really positive possibilities opening up. Acclaim beckons. Yet if you send any information by mail, if it's important, record the delivery. Call now for more astral advice...

AQUARIUS Jan 21st - Feb 19th 090 6612 4530
If you are true to yourself, someone could end up feeling bemused, but that shouldn't be you Aquarius, because for every person who doesn't "get you", there will be plenty of others who will absolutely love your very uniqueness. So, be bold and brave and see where it takes you. Travel plans, especially with a romantic partner, can shape up very nicely. Call for your love scope...

PISCES Feb 20th - Mar 20th 090 6612 4531
This can be a very engaging week, but direct your energies carefully because the Sun's opposition to your co-ruler Neptune, can be a draining influence, so any changes you make, will need to be seen through, and if you're short of the raw drive to do this, it may create chaos and leave lots of strands which later need to be sifted through and sorted out. Call me now for your in-depth forecast...

SP: Pronto Ltd, PO Box 52785 EC1P 1TY
Calls cost 60p per minute from standard landline
For entertainment purposes only

Limousin cross calf is champion Lorn Show basks in sunshine

CROWDS came out in the sunshine for a busy day at Lorn Show on Saturday. Judging at the Dunstaffnage showfield started in the agriculture section at 10am and competition was fierce.

Champion
This year's Champion of Champions came from the cattle section where the overall winner was an outstanding Limousin cross calf from Douglas Macdonald, Tyree, Benderloch.

There was a large turnout of Highland cattle and the section winner was a two-year-old bull, Eoin Mhor 3rd of Mottistone, from Michael Poland's West Ferlochan Farm, Benderloch, which is managed by local stockman Willie MacLean.

The overall sheep champion was a stylish Texel gimmer from Alan Campbell of Drimsynie Estate, Lochgoilhead which went on to take overall reserve show champion.

A well contested Blackface sheep section resulted

in victory for Donald MacVicar, Lephinchapel, Strachur with a ewe lamb out of a Dyke bred ewe by a £17,000 Connachan.

A Blackface also found favour in the Young Farmers' classes where a two-crop Blackface ewe by a £1,400 Cladich brought success for Alastair Dickie, Musdale Farm, Kilmore.

The Bluefaced Leicester leader was Esmerelda Seaviewblue, a two-crop ewe by a Clennell sire from Allan MacKellar of Seaview, Keil Crofts, Benderloch who was taking a day off from normal duties aboard the Lismore ferry.

Tiree success
There was also success for Tiree brothers Alasdair and Fraser MacLean, Heylipol, with Alasdair's Beltex shearling Tiree Neon winning the breed section, while Fraser's Suffolk gimmer by Strathisla Speed took the award in the Suffolk section.

Oban High School Pipe Band and the Argyll Ceilidh

Trail kept the music going for many of the crowd who had given in to sunbathing in the glorious weather.

In the ring, the Lochaber and District Canine Society dog agility team put on an impressive performance before spectators were invited to try the course with their own pets.

Musical sheep shearing took place near the end of the day - with one not-so-willing participant. The half-shorn sheep managed to escape and took off into the amused crowd.

Children enjoyed a wide variety of stalls and games including water walkers.

After the show prize giving well-known farm manager Sandy Carr was presented with a long service certificate in recognition of 30 years at Dunach Estate, Glen Lonan. The Royal Highland Agriculture Society award was presented by Lord and Lady Denham, who expressed their appreciation for his many years of hard work.



Champion of Champions at Lorn Show was an April-born Limousin cross calf by Tweedside Upstanding from Douglas MacDonald, Tyree, Benderloch. The calf will go forward to the Christmas Show and Sale at Caledonian Marts, Oban 15_1331orn10



Highland champion Eoin Mhor 3rd of Mottistone, a two-year-old bull by Eoin Mhor of Miungairigh and out of Banarach Mhor 6th of Kindrochaid. Shown on behalf of Michael Poland, Isle of Wight by West Ferlochan Farm, Benderloch manager Willie MacLean 15_1331orn13

Quality stock on show in Kintyre

HEAVY rain last Friday failed to dampen spirits at Kintyre Agricultural Show where a high entry of quality livestock met with a good attendance of spectators.

The supreme dairy title went to the Holstein leader, Brad Sheena, from the West Darlochan herd while the Ayrshire title went to J&M Barr, Clochkeil Farm with the four-year old Caldergleng Silverbell.

The overall beef champion was a young Charolais cross heifer calf from Duncan Semple, Dippen, Carradale



Supreme Dairy Champion at Kintyre Agricultural Show was the Holstein leader Brad Sheena from West Darlochan Farm 04_c33show05



Ayrshire Champion was the four-year old Caldergleng Silverbell from J and M Barr, Clochkeil Farm, Campbeltown 15_c33kintyre11



Beef cattle champion at Kintyre Show was a March-born Charolais cross heifer calf by Carradale Adrenaline and out of a cross Limousin cow, from Duncan Semple, Dippen Farm, Carradale 15_c33kintyre05



Allan MacKellar, Seaview, with his Bluefaced Leicester champion Esmerelda Seaview Blue 15_1331orn20



Texel leader and overall sheep champion and reserve show champion was a Texel gimmer out a home bred ewe and by a Mellor Vale, from Alan Campbell, Drimsynie Estate, Lochgoilhead 15_1331orn23



Left - Eleven year old English Pointer Kip, champion of the dog show, with owner Keith Drynan. 15_1331orn01



Above - the Suffolk champion from Fraser MacLean, Heylipol, Tiree. Right - the Beltex champion from Alasdair MacLean, Heylipol 15_1331orn15 and 15_1331orn25



Dunach Estate manager Sandy Carr, right, is presented with his long service certificate by Lord and Lady Denham. 15_1331orn07



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Sunart and District Agricultural Show celebrates 60 years

SUNART and District Agricultural Show will chalk up another historic milestone when it celebrates its 60th anniversary on Saturday.

A big crowd is expected at the showfield in Strontian for the landmark event, which has been held every year since August 11, 1950.

Judging gets underway at 9.30am and local MP Charles Kennedy will officially open proceedings at 1pm.

According to Strontian historian and archivist George Fox, Sunart Show goes back almost 200 years to a display of local stock in 1829 when a beautiful engraved cup was presented, according to its inscription, by General Campbell of Lochnell 'to Donald MacDonald a tacksman at Drimnatorran for having the best specimen of black cattle and sheep in proof of the best managed farm with in the districts of Ardnachurchan and Sunart, Ardgour, Morvern and Kingairloch.'

In 1857 and 1868 medals were presented to Alexander Maclean of Ardgour for a Highland bull at a show in Strontian, while in September 1895 an advert in The Oban Times for the Ardnachurchan, Moidart and Sunart Agricultural Association annual show included reference to 'a gold medal given by H.E Jones Esq, Fassfern for Best Blackfaced Tup in Show Yard, open to Argyll and Inverness'. Greivous losses of local men in

the Great War meant the 1913 gathering was the last until November 18, 1949, when a public meeting was held to consider the proposal of holding an agricultural show in Strontian.

From that meeting it was decided to revive the event the following year on Friday August 11, since when it has been staged annually under its present name and format.

The Oban Times said of the 1950 show: 'The first agricultural show within memory to be held at Strontian found the weather clerk in an adverse mood. 'The morning of the day dawned dull and threatening and as it advanced the clouds became more dense, so by the time the show was due to commence the rain came down in torrents. Notwithstanding, there was a good turnout of people representative of the show district and further afield, as well as stock from the lordly Highland bull from the wilds of Lochsheilside to the important looking bantam cockerel from lonely Eilean Shona.'

'During the show proceedings the British Legion Band from Fort William gave selections, and exhibitions of Highland



Jimmy Lawrie, Bob Laurie, Angus MacDonald, Bobby Laurie and Jimmy Cameron pictures at Sunart Show in the early 1950s

Dancing were given by Misses Gillies and Ferguson, Arisaig, while Colonel R.B Campbell, Salen assisted by Wendy Wood and others, arranged a series of sports for the children and those not fully occupied by show interests.'

According to Mr



Great interest in the Blackface judging at the 1953 Sunart Show Pictures courtesy of George Fox

Macpherson, the day before one show soon after was not of the best.

After erecting the tents there was 'a fearful gale' and he received a call at 9pm to say all of them had blown down. The news prompted a mad rush to repair the damage in time for show day and suffice it to say the event went ahead as usual.

Also mentioned in the Oban Times report on the 1950 show were founder members Mr J.A. Cameron from Arderly and Bob Laurie from Acharn, whose legacy lives on.

Mr Cameron's son and grandson are members of the present committee, as are Mr Laurie's son, grandson and granddaughter.

Show secretary Denise Anderson said: 'I am sure there is a great deal of happy memories from show days past. We are celebrating a very rich history and we remember those first committee members who worked so hard to organise that first show.'

'At the same time we have to ensure that our farmers and crofters get the proper support to keep livestock on the land in order that small shows like ours continue in the future.'

Moidart shotgun ace on target

MOIDART shotgun ace John MacDonald shot three perfect rounds on his way to a joint-eighth place finish at the International Shooting World Championships in the Olympic Stadium in Munich last week.

John, from Archaracle, competing in the men's Olympic trap shotgun event, scored 23 from 25 targets in round one and followed that with two perfect 25s, a 22 in the fourth round and another 25 to finish.

His personal best total of 120 left him just one target away from the six-strong shoot off for the medals.

More than 2,500 competitors took part in the championships, around four times as many as will be involved in the Olympic shooting competitions.

John told *The Oban Times*: 'When I looked at the scores at the end of the competition I was quite gutted to be honest. But now that I look back at things I'm really proud of my performance.'

'It was the first time I had performed in a competition as big as that and most of the guys there were professionals. I'm just an amateur doing my own thing.'

'It was an unbelievable experience.'

John will find out on August 18 if he has a place on the Scottish team for the Delhi Commonwealth Games in October.

He is currently ranked number one in Scotland and says if he's selected, he thinks he can do well.

He said: 'I've got as good a chance as any athlete of winning a medal. Hopefully I'll get the chance.'

Growing fears cuts could stall Caol flood prevention scheme



Danger area: Councillor Bill Clark at one of the areas vulnerable to flooding - Erracht Drive in Caol.

FEARS are growing that a vital flood prevention scheme for Lochyside and Caol could be put back years because of government spending cuts.

Three years ago consultants identified large parts of the settlements as having a greater than one in 200 chance of being flooded in any given year, recommending a defensive wall be built along three miles of the River Lochy's right bank and the Loch Linnhe shoreline to protect homes nearby.

The barrier, costed at £15million, would run from the Soldiers' Bridge over the Lochy to the Caledonian Canal at Caol.

However, Highland Council has yet to publish details of the Flood Order it requires to progress the scheme - and Caol and Mallaig councillor Bill Clark fears it will take another flooding episode

EXCLUSIVE

REPORT by STEPHEN NORRIS
snorris@obantimes.co.uk

similar to that of January 2005, when hundreds of homes were inundated, for action to be taken.

Councillor Clark, who will seek to raise the issue as a matter of urgency at today's TEC services meeting at Inverness, told *The Oban Times*: 'I would not want to see another disaster at Caol. It's all very well saying there's no money available, but you are talking about people's lives and homes here.'

'We know that it has happened on more than two or three occasions and everybody knows it will happen again. The works should have been carried out years ago, but they kept putting it off and prices are astronomical now.'

'I accept there are other areas of the Highlands with more people that have big flooding issues, but that does not help the people of Caol or Lochyside.'

'We are coming into the wintertime and we are no further forward. If at least we had a timescale, it would be a huge relief.'

Head of transport and infrastructure Sam MacNaughton told *The Oban Times* Highland Council had allocated £1.2million for flood prevention in 2010-11, rising to £1.8million annually thereafter.

Mr MacNaughton's records show that major flood events occur every 20 or 30 years with 'the worst scenario' being a rapid thaw of heavy snowfall flooding into the Lochy and meeting a tidal storm surge at Caol and Lochyside.

He said: 'We will be doing our best to get the scheme right and making a very solid case for funding. But that all depends on what money is available given the current economic conditions prevailing in the country.'

'We will be moving forward with a Flood Order so we will be in a position to build it when money becomes available. The order is a statutory power that we have from government that allows us to build flood prevention schemes. Normally there are objections to an order and it can lead to a public inquiry.'

A clearer picture of how much additional funding the Scottish Government could provide will emerge when the London Government announces the Scottish block grant later this year.

Concern remains over Fort schools vote

LOCHYSIDE and Fort William RC primaries should be closed and a new Catholic school built on a shared campus with a new Caol Primary, education committee councillors agreed in Inverness last Thursday.

Fort William and Upper Achintore primaries would also merge on a single site under the radical plans to rationalise the primary school estate in Greater Fort William.

The blueprint further envisages a new standalone Gaelic medium primary

school in the town, while Inverloch and Banavie primaries would remain unaffected.

However, any building programme is several years away and could slip further into the future as government cash dries up.

The committee's decision follows months of heated debate at public meetings on how to best address decaying schools and over capacity.

Fort William Primary School parents were generally opposed to their school being closed and amalgamated with Upper

Achintore, but strongest resistance came from Catholic parents.

They argued children from both Catholic schools should be educated at a refurbished Lochyside to preserve the distinct Catholic educational ethos and won support from Bishop of Argyll and the Isles, Bishop Joseph Toal.

At least 40 per cent of pupils at both RC schools are non-Catholic.

Highland Council said the two new schools at the Caol campus would retain their head teachers and share kitchen facilities, dining

area, hall and outside games area.

The move would replace three schools in poor condition and would save Highland taxpayers up to £350,000.

Rejected

HmiE said while the proposal was 'largely sound' the council should offer 'a clearer rationale' on why the merger of the two Catholic primaries at Lochyside had been rejected.

Father Roddy Johnston, clerk to Lochyside RC parent council, hoped the Lochyside solution was still

possible. He told *The Oban Times*: 'It's disappointing to hear this news but hopefully at this stage it's not too late for the decision to be reversed.'

'There is a great deal of good in the characteristics of Lochyside School and it would be a shame to see that disappear.'

'There is very much a sense of Catholic status there, which is very dear to the hearts of parents past, present and future.'

Highland Council leader Michael Foxley hinted public spending cuts could lead to

Lochyside being retained. He told *The Oban Times*: 'If there is a real shortage of capital, we may need to look at more pragmatic options, such as the refurbishment of Lochyside.'

School rolls at Fort William RC and Lochyside are projected to remain roughly at their present levels of 130 and 89 respectively by 2017. Pupil numbers at Caol are forecast to rise from 151 to 200.

Scottish Ministers have five weeks to decide whether to scrutinise the decision and its rationale.

NEWSDESK
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Islay welcomes special guests

ISLAY Boys Football Club are proud to welcome very special guests to the island in September.

Woodedz, comprised of John 'Rhino' Edwards and his sons Max and Freddie, will take to the stage at the Ramsey Hall to raise money for the team on 14 September. Rhino, better known for playing bass with Status Quo, is considered a world-class and world-famous musician. He has been part of Dexy's Midnight Runners and played with Kim Wilde before joining the 'Quo' in 1985.

John tours the world playing around 150 gigs per year and will be dropping in on Islay with Woodedz before setting off on a tour of Europe with Status Quo.



One thousand tagged: Jan Mejlink with his tope.

Scottish shark tagging scheme hits the 1,000 mark

Sea anglers volunteer to tag and record details of the shark, skate and rays they catch around the coast

SHARK tagging in the waters around Scotland has reached a major new milestone with 1,000 of the creatures accounted for since The Scottish Shark Tagging Programme (SSTP) started earlier this year.

The 1,000th fish was a 73lb tope, caught in Luce Bay, by Jan Mejlink from Amsterdam on his annual fishing trip to Scotland.

The scheme, which is run by the Scottish Sea Angling Conservation Network (SSACN), relies on sea anglers volunteering to tag and record details of the sharks they catch.

Ian Burrett, SSACN's Project

Director said: 'We are delighted that so many fish have been tagged and the data returned to us.'

'This data is crucial to allow appropriate management decisions to be made to ensure the survival of Scotland's shark, skate and ray species.' Tagging is the only way we can gain an insight into the life, migration movements and stock fluctuations of these creatures without killing them.

Les McBride, a regular contributor to the programme, said: 'The feedback I have received from the project on the fish I catch is very

interesting, knowing where my fish was last caught and how much it has grown increases my enjoyment of my sport as each tagged fish I catch has a story, and each tag I put in is the start of another one.'

Some of the more unusual finds in the programme include tope sharks originally tagged in Scotland being re-caught off Wales and the Azores, another tope shark being recaptured in the Solway four years after it was originally tagged there and a pair of common skate being re-caught in the same place and same order, a year after their initial tagging.

Forest hydro schemes to be explored

AN ABERFELDY-based company is to explore developing small hydro schemes in public forests in Inverness-shire, Ross, Skye, Lochaber and the northern Highlands.

Green Highland Renewables Limited (GHR) will identify suitable schemes and potential sites for Forestry Commission Scotland and take agreed projects through planning and construction.

Cabinet Secretary for Rural Affairs and the Environment, Richard Lochhead said small hydro plants would deliver £5,000 per megawatt to local communities and create jobs.



Hannah Calder won the Commodore's Pennant.

Sea cadets honoured

TWO CAOL junior sea cadets have become the first in Lochaber to be awarded the Commodore's Pennant after a year of outstanding achievement.

Hannah Calder, aged 11, and Cameron Whyton were presented with the award for excellent attendance and performance in training with Lochaber Sea Cadets' TS St Christopher in Fort William.

Local MP Charles Kennedy and Provost of Lochaber Allan Henderson both attended the cadets' buffet night and fundraiser at the Cadet Hall on Saturday night.

TS St Christopher chairperson Tina Calder, Hannah's mum, told *The Oban Times*: 'It was a very successful evening and Charles Kennedy and Allan Henderson drew the raffle. Our thanks go to everybody who has supported us throughout the year.'

Hannah's big sister Denise is stepping down from her duties in charge of the junior section as she is going to college.

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Five women injured in crash

FIVE women were injured in a two-car crash on the A87 Kyle of Lochalsh to Portree road on Sunday evening. Firefighters had to cut two women free from the wreckage. One, understood to have sustained serious but not life threatening injuries, was airlifted to Raigmore Hospital, Inverness, for treatment. The road was closed for two hours following the accident, which happened a mile from the Moll turn off near Luib just after 6pm.

Council tax rebate scam warning

HIGHLAND Council is warning residents not to be taken in by a council tax rebate scam. The 'phishing' con involves bogus callers trying to obtain householders' bank details over the phone on the promise of a council tax rebate. Anyone receiving unsolicited calls is advised to hang up and under no circumstances give personal details to the caller. Police are aware of the scam.

Six primary schools to close

SIX WEST Highland primary schools are to close because they are no longer considered to be educationally viable. Achaphubuil, Banavie and Glenborrodale in Lochaber, Achnasheen in Wester Ross and Borrodale and Uig on Skye had all been mothballed for several years. In Uig's case, the school will close temporarily for two years pending a review of longer term pre-school and primary school provision for North Skye. Education, culture and sport councillors took the decision at their meeting in Inverness last Thursday.



The busy port at Mallaig: at the centre of ferry review.

Transport minister to attend ferries meeting

TRANSPORT Minister Stewart Stevenson is likely to attend a public meeting in Mallaig next Tuesday evening on the future of local ferry services. Mr Stevenson is opening the new ferry terminal at Raasay pier earlier in the day and will make the trip across from Armadale if his schedule permits. The meeting, at the West End Hotel at 6pm, will hear Scottish Government officials give a presentation on the Scottish Ferries Review consultation

document before the meeting is opened up for a question and answer session. Officials will lead debate on how ferries should be funded and procured, the setting of fares, what services should be supported with public money and who should provide ferry services. Mallaig, Knoydart, Sleat and Small Isles residents will be keen to hear how proposals on improving ferry services they put forward at an earlier meeting in the village can be implemented. Those include smaller, faster ferries between

Mallaig and the Small Isles, making best use of the new pier at Inverie and a new ferry link to South Uist. Mallaig harbourmaster Robert MacMillan said: 'It's going to be very difficult to implement any changes but we will continue to push for the Mallaig Lochboisdale ferry connection.' Bob Watson, policy officer in the ferries division, said: 'The Minister, Stewart Stevenson, is opening Raasay pier and he may pop into the Mallaig event.'

Post mortems carried out on pair found dead near Spean Bridge

POST mortems on a man and a woman found dead in a car near Spean Bridge in an apparent double suicide last Wednesday evening were carried out in Inverness on Monday. The bodies of the man, named locally as Lachlan Sinclair, and the woman, believed to be Polish, were

discovered by a local man and his daughter out walking on a forest track near the Brackletter travellers' site, around a mile off the A82 south of the village. Lying According to local police, the bodies had been lying for some time and, contrary to local rumour, appeared to

be without external injury. 'It was a difficult scene for the officers that were in attendance,' Sergeant David Campbell told *The Oban Times*. 'At this time the police are not treating the deaths as suspicious.' It is understood the cause of death will not be released

until toxicology reports are complete. At the time of going to press police were attempting to trace the woman's relatives in Eastern Europe before releasing her identity. The couple were understood to be living in a caravan in the area. Mr Sinclair was in his late forties.

Hotel worker admits assaulting female colleague

A FORT William hotel worker has admitted assaulting his female colleague and his manager and trashing the hotel's restaurant. Latvian Andrejs Erts, 28, of Flat 1, Caledonian Court, 36 High Street, pled guilty to assaulting Katarina Veselovska, assaulting Prashant Kumar to his injury

and wilfully or recklessly damaging property belonging to another. Fort William Sheriff Court heard Erts arrived to work at the Imperial Hotel at around 7.40am on June 10. He got into an argument with his co-worker Ms Veselovska at reception, which ended with Erts

shouting at her and spitting at her face. Mr Kumar, the hotel manager, was called and told Erts to apologise. Erts refused, walked into the restaurant and knocked over the breakfast equipment, including glasses, plates and juice dispensers. He returned to reception and punched Mr Kumar on the face, giving

him a burst lip. Mr Kumar fell to the ground and Erts hit him on the leg until colleagues pulled Erts away. Defence solicitor Hamish Melrose said Ms Veselovska had put Erts under a great deal of stress during his seven weeks working at the hotel. She had followed him around and made 'sexual

advances' towards him. She also refused to give him breaks he was entitled to, said Mr Melrose. Sentencing Erts, Sheriff Douglas Small said: 'There was something of a background to this incident but this does not excuse your actions.' Erts was fined £540.

Croft wind turbine plan prompts protest

THE OWNER of a croft on the scenic coast road between Arisaig and Morar has provoked a storm of protest with plans to erect three wind turbines on her land. Julie Bryce, who owns and runs Sunnyside Croft at Bunacaimb, has applied to Highland Council for permission to put up three 15-metre machines on 1,200sqm of ground on the eastern side of the B8008 'old road' just north of Bunacaimb. Sunnyside Croft has bed and breakfast facilities, a campsite, a holiday lodge and livestock and would be powered by renewable energy from the turbines. But local residents are worried the turbines will add an unwanted industrial dimension to a beautiful landscape.

REPORT by RICHARD HADDOCK fort@obantimes.co.uk

Local man John MacDonald has submitted a 40-signature petition to Highland Council against the proposal. The petition states: 'We are a small crofting community, who rely on tourism in the

viewed. There is simply no evidence that tourism is damaged by wind turbines.' The plan was originally deemed by a planning officer to not be of sufficient public interest to go before the planning committee - but due to the large number of complaints, that decision may be overturned. Councillor Allan Henderson said: 'In three years I haven't had as many letters and phone calls about an issue as I've had about this.' Arisaig Community Council met on Wednesday night to discuss their views on the application. Secretary Maureen MacColl told *The Oban Times*: 'There is a positive feeling towards renewable energy here, but people are not sure how much of a scar it will leave on the landscape. 'They are unsure at the moment and would rather say no and have some time to discuss it.' Ms Bryce declined to comment to *The Oban Times*.

Appeal to extend cheap fares scheme

WESTERN Isles MP Brendan MacNeil is urging the Scottish Government to extend a cheap fares scheme to the Western Isles beyond its pilot period. Figures show passenger numbers rose by 14 per cent and vehicles by almost a quarter on all Western Isles routes under the Road Equivalent Tariff (RET) initiative between October 2008 and June 2009 compared with the same period in 2007-8. Mr MacNeil hoped the government 'will soon confirm' what it planned to do after the RET trial period ends next spring.

Hillwalker breaks leg in 30-foot fall

GLENCOE Mountain Rescue Team was called out to Beinn Ceitlin in Glen Etive on Sunday morning to go to the aid of a hill walker who had fallen 30 feet and broken his leg. Team leader John Grieve called Stornoway Coastguard's rescue helicopter to airlift the man to the Belford Hospital in Fort William. Meanwhile, Lochaber Mountain Rescue Team stretched a woman off Ben Nevis on Friday night after the walker injured her leg on the descent. Police were alerted around 9.10pm and deployed the team to bring down the casualty. The woman was taken to the Belford Hospital for treatment.

Separation announced

CHARLES Kennedy and his wife Sarah have announced their separation after eight years of marriage. A joint statement released by the couple said the split was amicable and it was 'with great sadness' they had decided to part. The statement said: 'Our ongoing and over-riding priority will obviously remain our son. We wish this to remain an entirely private family matter.' The couple married in 2002 and had a son, Donald, in 2005.

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The crash scene near the Corran Ferry. 10_f33crash01

Family escapes injury in crash

A FAMILY escaped injury on Saturday after the car they were travelling in left the road and crashed into a ditch near the Corran Ferry. The accident, which happened round 11.45am, caused tailbacks on the A82 for around an hour. The vehicle, which was travelling north, ended up in the roadside ditch off the southbound carriageway near the Birchbrae junction.

According to unconfirmed reports at the scene, an overtaking manoeuvre contributed to the accident. British Waterways Caledonian Canal manager John Stafford was heading south to a shinty game in Oban and witnessed the incident. Mr Stafford helped two children out from the car's rear seats and helped police with their inquiries. A report will be sent to the Procurator Fiscal.

Aberdeen University hosts Gaelic research conference

ABERDEEN University will host the sixth 'Rannsachadh na Gàidhlig' (Gaelic research conference) later this month. The August 23-26 conference will see more than 60 presentations on Gaelic subjects, including medieval

Gaelic history and literature, Gaelic oral traditions, Gaelic poetry and contemporary Gaelic language development. Sessions dedicated to the works of Sorley MacLean will also feature. Registration details at www.abdn.ac.uk/rmg2010/.

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Funding programme for new and growing businesses launched

BUSINESS advice and a cash-injection from Argyll and Bute Council will help entrepreneurs on the way to success.

Start-up costs
The Competitive Business Growth Programme delivered by the council's Business Gateway team, means eligible growing businesses can apply for a grant of up to £3,000 to help with expansion plans, with eligible new business start-ups

able to apply for grant of up to £500 to assist with their start-up costs.

Councillor Robert Macintyre, Argyll and Bute Council's spokesperson for economy said: 'We recognise the importance of micro and small businesses to the economy of the area, especially in the current climate.'

'By providing some financial support as well as the advice

available from Business Gateway, we hope to help more local businesses thrive and grow.'

The Competitive Business Growth Programme pilot will run until March 2011 and has been funded by Argyll and Bute Council and the Argyll and the Islands LEADER 2007-2013.

Christine Learmouth, owner of Argyll Wedding Planner, said: 'The support

from Business Gateway has been tremendously helpful regarding all aspects of my business, as well as giving me encouragement when I needed it most.'

'It was a real help having my advisor to turn to for information and advice and the free business start-up workshop in Oban was a huge benefit in helping me to get started.'



Owner of MICA Hardware Alan Murdoch, third from left, with staff at the new premises. 07_133micao1

MICA move to bigger and better

OBAN MICA Hardware opened its new premises last week and welcomed four new members of staff.

The store, which moved to Lochside Street from George Street, is now on two floors, which gives owner Alan Murdoch more

room for stock – and staff.

'The location here is fantastic and the large space we have is great. It's been a long process getting here but I'm really excited about the future.'

Mr Murdoch has hired extra staff for the new premises but said he

was looking for more workers.

The shop in George Street became MICA Hardware in 1997. Since it opened in 1979 it had previously been called Stewart and Hamilton DIY, then Stewart's DIY.

Council throw their weight behind renewables

'THE RENEWABLE energy sector has the potential to be a source of enormous sustainable economic growth on the west coast', claims Argyll and Bute council.

Now the council and community planning partners, have drawn up a blueprint designed to take full advantage of the opportunities presented and maximise the benefits both for the local economy and the area's communities.

Argyll Array
The council's Executive has been asked to formally approve the Argyll and Bute Renewable Energy Action Plan (REAP) when it meets next week. The area's Community Planning Partnership (CPP) has already endorsed the document.

The plan, which has been out for consultation with national and local organisations, seeks to provide a co-ordinated framework for future action.

A key outcome of the plan is the setting up of the Argyll and Bute Renewables Alliance (ABRA), which will bring together local and national partners and will be pivotal in delivering the actions set down in REAP.

The plan also identifies the top four renewable development priorities for Argyll and Bute, which are: securing related benefits for the area's communities, including the more peripheral, remote and economically fragile, working with partners to secure capacity within the transmission network, prioritising support for physical and transport infrastructure investment to enable the sector to grow and securing wider sustainable benefits.

There are significant renewable development proposals coming forward in Argyll and Bute, including three planned off shore windfarm sites.

the Argyll Array off Tiree, which it is proposed will consist of between 300 and 500 turbines with a capacity to generate enough energy to power one million households (1.8GW).

Among the other proposals is Scottish Power Renewables' plan for 10 tidal turbines in the Sound of Islay, with an application due to be submitted to Marine Scotland shortly.

Councillor Dick Walsh, leader of the council, said: 'The renewable energy sector has the potential to fundamentally transform the economy and communities of Argyll and Bute.'

'Given our distinguished track record of pioneering and delivering renewable energy projects, we are very well placed to respond to the pressing timelines for the development of this industry and take advantage of the economic opportunities on offer in this field.'

'The scale of the proposed off shore developments as well as the future wave and tidal schemes being considered for Argyll and Bute are very significant, and could be described as transformational projects in their own right.'

'It is critical that we work with our communities and partners to ensure that any developments happen in a sustainable and co-ordinated way, that we are all fully aware of the implications and requirements and that we succeed in securing the optimal benefits for our communities well into the future.'

'In order to achieve this, we need to ensure co-ordinated partner action at both local and national levels. The REAP has been developed to facilitate this process, and to ensure Argyll and Bute is in the best possible position to respond to the significant opportunities coming forward.'

If agreed the REAP will cover from 2010 to 2013 and will be reviewed annually.



Whisky stalwarts Neil MacLean and Cameron MacLean who described the Isle of Mull Whisky as 'nectar' the best blend they had ever tasted. 16_133whisky1

Mull whisky to make its mark

AFTER launching their first blended whisky into an unknown market, at the beginning of August, Mull men, Calum Maclean and Neil Morrison, are cautiously optimistic that what they have produced will be a success.

Isle of Mull Whisky is a Speyside blend, described as 'nectar' by two of the island's whisky connoisseurs, and a risk worth taking because the market was crying out for something that was unique to Mull and has its name on it.

Calum said: 'We enjoy a dram and we wanted to give other people the chance to enjoy a perfectly blended malt. I think we have achieved that. Our launch night was fantastic, it was great to see all our family and friends enjoy a glass and a bit of dancing to Skerryvore.'

Neil added: 'The response to the whisky has been phenomenal. Over the last two weeks we have received phone calls from all over Scotland from people

wanting to stock the whisky but we have been struggling to distribute until now.'

'We had to find a good distributor so we were pleased when Wallace Express agreed to do this from next week. Customers can either order through Calum or myself or direct from Wallace Express and it will be delivered anywhere in Scotland.'

'As for Mull, we have stocked bottles in most of the main bars and off-sale premises. But we know that

there are still a number of places keen to stock it so we will be getting it out to them very soon.'

'The feedback has been great and we have already had plenty whisky connoisseurs asking to speak to us. People are telling us that Isle of Mull Whisky is the best blend they have ever tried. Perhaps that is down to the large malt content or maybe our year of practice in getting the perfect blend.'

Awards for Inverawe

AN ARGYLL smokehouse has recently added another two accolades to their collection at the Great Taste Awards, outdoing producers from around the UK.

Inverawe Smokehouses is celebrating after picking up gold stars for their smoked salmon paté as well as their triple smoked salmon terrine, which the judges described as being a 'very well made and tasty product'.

The firm already has a number of awards from the Guild of Fine Foods, having won in successive years since 2004.

Rosie and Robert Campbell-Preston, owners of Inverawe Smokehouses, were absolutely delighted to be recognised by the guild for the seventh year running.

Rosie explained: 'It is a wonderful feeling when our smoked fish is recognised as some of the finest gourmet produce throughout the country and we are thrilled that our products, both existing and new, have won awards.'

The competition had over 6,500 entries and less than a quarter of these were awarded gold stars.

SRDP changes aimed at involving more businesses

CHANGES are being made to the Scotland Rural Development Programme (SRDP) to ensure rural Scotland gets maximum benefit from the programme.

It is envisaged that the changes will allow more business development proposals to be financed.

Funding for community projects and development plans will now be considered under LEADER through Local Action Groups (LAGs).

Cabinet Secretary for Rural Affairs

Richard Lochhead said: 'The Scotland Rural Development Programme is a big success story. In rural priorities alone, over 4,000 projects worth around £338 million have been approved since the scheme was launched.' Following these changes, the Rural Direct Service will approach applicants whose community facility projects have not been decided upon in the current round to see how they want to proceed.

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& WEST HIGHLAND TIMES

Tax rise benefits more than financial?

AT a time when Argyll and Bute Council is scratching around for every penny, in what must be the equivalent of a family checking down the side of the sofa for loose change, we all accept we have to pay our way in this time of economic hardship.

That seems to be the thinking behind Councillor George Freeman's plan to raise second home council tax within the local authority.

But for some in the more rural parts of the county, the financial benefit may be a secondary concern to the prospect of revitalising their 'ghost-town' communities. If Councillor Freeman's aim to have more permanent residents succeeds it could revitalise such places.

There is no reason to doubt this is a genuine attempt by Councillor Freeman to raise extra revenue for the council's affordable housing costs but, ahead of the council's executive meeting today, how many of his colleagues will consider this a 'vote winner'? It is also a proposal that, if agreed, would be subject to a change in legislation and, undoubtedly, considerable opposition.

GLASGOW LETTER

A lucky start

WHILE making the many visitors surrounding George Square familiar with the variability of the Scottish weather, the start of Piping Live was very fortunate.

The previous two days had seen the city bathed in sunshine but cloudy with showers is what the organisers were promised for day one and that is exactly what the morning delivered.

However, the first band to perform, City of Regina from Saskatchewan, played in dry conditions and as soon as they left the arena the rain was torrential.

They were followed by another Canadian band, the City of New Westminster Police, who although had to start wearing their capes were able to dispose of them after their first selection and after that the day brightened up as the biggest ever Piping Live Festival was well and truly up and running.

Hopefully by the time you have read this column you will be familiar with the programme for the rest of the week.

Fergie MacDonald - does that not bring back memories of the Highlander's Institute? - will be playing at 7.30pm this evening (Thursday) while at the same time, in the Strathclyde Suite, there will be a performance of a 'Suite for Allan' and at Strathclyde University's Lord Todd Bar some of our best solo pipers will take part in a piping recital challenge.

Friday afternoon will see the final of 'Pipe Idol' taking place in the street café in front of the National Piping Centre and in the evening Capercaille will make their Piping Live debut in the Royal Concert Hall.

Saturday is, of course, the day of the World Pipe Band Championships in Glasgow Green when the entertainment will also include the Glasgow World Highland Games and, for the first time at the event, a 'Taste of Scotland' which will include cooking demonstrations.

There will be something for all the family at this all day event.

The 'After the Worlds Shindig' in the Old Fruitmarket at 8.30pm will feature Fred Morrison, Braebach, the Treacherous Orchestra and the Black Rose Ceilidh Band.

On the Sunday, the Masters' Solo Competition, with more than 15 pipers in each competition, will be in split venues with the Piobaireachd starting at 10.30am in the National Piping Centre and the March, Strathspey and Reel in the Royal Scottish Academy of Music and Drama at 1pm.

Piping Live 2010 will be brought to a close with a Survivors Session in the Street Café at 1pm and then karaoke at 7pm in Lord Todds Bar.

Ceol's Craic at Piping Live

THE NEW season of the Gaelic Club Ceol's Craic will have a piping theme in the CCA on Saturday evening.

The entertainment will start at 6pm with a workshop/talk by Rona Lightfoot, a performer and teacher of song and piping. She will present a programme on Canntaireachd, the syllabic technique of the oral tradition.

There will be a showing of the film Feadan an Fhasaich, a documentary on a pipe band in the Sultanate of Oman, at 6.30pm.

At 7pm Barnaby Brown, who leads the revival of the northern triplepipe, the 'organ' of the Celtic church and precursor of the bagpipe in Ireland and Britain, will give a unique presentation.

By 8pm the audience should be in fine form and ready to enjoy the west coast music of the Angus Nicolson Trio which consists of Andrew MacPherson and Murdo Cameron, together with Angus.

The trio played at last year's Celtic Connections where they gave a brilliant performance.

The lively musical theme of the evening will continue when Armagh Pipers' Club takes to the stage.

The club was formed in 1966 and from their membership of more than 200 players 10 multi-instrumentalists will play on this occasion. They will have been in the city for much of the week playing at various Piping Live venues.

Yes, quite a night promised at Ceol's Craic.

Gaelic quiz

THIS month's Gaelic Quiz will take place in the Park Bar on Wednesday August 18 at 7.30pm and subsequently on the third Wednesday of each month.

There will also be musical entertainment as part of the evening.

Diary dates

Thursday August 12 to Sunday August 15: Piping Live 2010 - see above.

Saturday August 14: Summer Sessions, Tolbooth, Stirling, 7.30pm.

Wednesday August 18: Gaelic quiz - see above.

Thursday August 19: Live at the Star, St Andrew's in the Square, 8pm, Rachel Harrington and Rod Clements.

Friday August 20: Summer Sessions, Tolbooth, Stirling, 7.30pm.

Pub scene

GUNNA Sound will be playing in the Park Bar on both Saturday and Sunday with Pneumatic Drills on Friday and in the Islay Inn it will be Parting Glass on Friday and the Keelies on Saturday.

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



Oban Sailing Club members 1947

Nancy Black of Oban submitted this week's flashback photograph which shows members of Oban Sailing Club in 1947 who all later became officers of the club. Back: Alex Stewart, Commodore, and Tearlach McGregor-Whyte, Commodore. Front: Johnny MacDonald, Commodore; Duncan MacDonald, Commodore, Nancy Black, Vice Commodore and John Harvie, Commodore. We invite readers to send in flashback photographs. Please send prints to *The Oban Times*, PO Box 1, Oban, Argyll, PA34 4HB, or email editor@obantimes.co.uk. Prints or emails must be accompanied by a caption, name, address and telephone number. Anyone wishing their prints returned must supply a stamped addressed envelope.

Letters to the editor

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Unwelcome night closures of vital roads

A new - and unwelcome - feature of 21st century life in Argyll is the increasing habit of closing down trunk roads overnight to carry out repairs and resurfacing.

This policy is seemingly applicable to any road less than six metres wide with Scotland Transerv reportedly claiming it is unable to close one lane at a time for safety reasons.

With alternative routes thin on the ground in Argyll, we're expected to go hours out of our way on roads totally unsuitable as diversions.

The need to close trunk roads overnight seemed to start with the A82 between Tarbet and Ardlui.

We've recently had the lengthy overnight closure of the A83 south of Ardrishaig for less than thorough resurfacing and if Scotland Transerv hadn't skimmed on this - and hadn't failed to adequately warn us of the current closures - they might not be in the firing line now.

You reported recently that as a result of public feedback Scotland Transerv had decided that four stretches of the A83 between Lochgilphead and Inveraray, and a stretch of the A828 near Barcaldine, would close one hour later than previously advised - at 9pm rather than 8pm. Could it be that 'as a result of public feedback' is 'Transervspeak' for 'because of widespread objections'? And just who was 'previously advised'? It came as a complete surprise to many people who depend on these roads.

Scotland Transerv is quoted as saying that 'the views of local communities are always important to us and that is why we will now be starting works an hour later than scheduled'. If the views of the community really were important to it, Scotland Transerv wouldn't shut down trunk roads overnight unless there was a real emergency or the road was so narrow that it would be physically impossible to work on it 'live'.

Only last year a four-mile stretch of the A83 in Mid Argyll was refurbished without recourse to closure, by using the convoy system to ensure safety, so if health and safety regulations really do make trunk road blockades unavoidable, then the interaction of regulations and road maintenance and repair techniques need urgent review.

If it's just to save money, can anyone tell us whether the costs attributed to disruption of the road users bear close examination? Whether they've factored in missing the Islay ferry,

running out of driver's hours, empty supermarket shelves in the morning, the fun of discovering two articles in a 'cornfield meet' on an unfamiliar single track road in the dark or having to drive 66 miles home from Lochgilphead instead of two?

Robert Wakeham, Castelton, Lochgilphead.

No action on fuel cost

Sir, I have been waiting patiently for fuel price levies to drop in the Highlands as was promised by our Con/Dem MP Danny Alexander.

I am disappointed to see that he is not in any hurry to make this happen, especially since he is now in a much stronger position to do so.

This was a large portion of his recent and previous campaigns - he has had five years to campaign properly for a reduction in fuel duties.

However, I feel he has failed in his duty of care to his constituents.

I am pleased to see that our local SNP MSP Fergus Ewing has defended us and is putting pressure on Mr Alexander to speed things along as the 20 per cent tax on fuel will crush the less fortunate members of society. A lot of people in the Highlands have to travel up to an hour and more just to get to work and most likely spend a large portion of their wage on fuel.

No one in the Highlands wants to have trial areas. We have paid enough over the years in fuel duties.

Perhaps the Highlands/Scotland should benefit from lower prices on fuel just as England does.

Maybe all those who voted for Alexander the Conqueror have learned from their unfortunate mistake.

Allan Duffy, Craigton Avenue, Inverness.

Dismay at depletion in number of beaver

Sir, I write to express my dismay at the depletion in the number of beaver in Knapdale.

Surely the experiment must fail if the Scottish Wildlife Trust (SWT) runs out of subjects, though as it set it up it can vary it to suit.

I do hope the zoo has been quietly stocking up for just such an eventuality. Having had to do so already, I hope it has a supply chain in place, now that the death of beavers is an expected by-product of the endeavour.

I don't remember SWT or Scottish Natural Heritage (SNH) being particularly frank about the expected losses, but the fact SNH

is involved is par for the course. Having been instrumental in the slaughter of around 600 hedgehogs on the Uists, it is no surprise to find it involved in the deaths of another species.

Hence my concern, if we run out of beaver, will they look elsewhere for a suitable subject? Something like the mink perhaps. This charismatic animal is a keystone predator and as such is responsible for the successful elimination of noisy seabird colonies and those nasty wee water voles.

Oddly enough, the mink was also introduced into the wild by well meaning interfering busybodies. True, they didn't have two million pounds to spend, but I think we can safely say mink are a success story.

I'm sure SNH isn't too fussed about the species, just as long as it can be killed in the interests of environment/ecology/habitat and EU dictat.

So please can we have more beaver. It surely makes sense to kill alien species rather than indigenous ones.

Alexander Hamilton, Tayvallich, Lochgilphead.

Nature at close range

Sir, For the first time ever my husband and I visited Argyll this year, staying for a week on the Kames Peninsular, Kilmelford.

The scenery is spectacular and we were thrilled by the views of the loch from the sitting room from where we could see the various birds and the comings and goings on the water and we hoped we might catch a glimpse of dolphins.

We were out of luck with the dolphins but were watching an usual black and white seabird early evening. He dived for long periods of time, was larger than a duck and smaller than a goose.

Not being ornithologists we decided we would look up the bird when we got home. My husband then noticed large ripples about 50 feet from the bird and, as we watched, a beautiful otter surfaced and we were privileged to have a close-up view of him at play.

We watched him swimming just off the shoreline until he vanished around the point.

Delighted with this spectacle we were about to head for the kitchen to begin cooking our dinner when I noticed the otter climbing on to a rock. Thinking he had caught a fish we returned to our viewing point and were shocked when we realised he was dragging the corpse of 'our' bird.

I am a born and bred country girl but this really was nature red in tooth and claw.

The otter sighting was my highlight of our trip but my

husband still regrets that I refused to allow him to cook his chosen meal that night; roast duck!

Beryl P Brown, Dorset.

Thanks

Sir, I would like to thank The Royal Burgh Café, 3 Main Street, Inveraray, for its much-needed and appreciated assistance on Saturday May 29.

I was bringing my elderly aunt and uncle to Oban to stay while their family moved them into a sheltered house. We decided to stop in Inveraray for a coffee and something to eat and went to the Royal Burgh Café and had a lovely meal. But as we were leaving my uncle took ill and collapsed.

I asked the chef to call an ambulance. There were two men at a nearby table who came to my assistance. It turned out they were German tourists and one was a doctor and the other a paramedic.

My aunt got such a fright seeing all this she took a nose bleed. One of the waitresses came to her assistance and carried out the doctor's instructions.

When the ambulance arrived, in only a few minutes, my aunt and uncle were taken to Mid Argyll Hospital, Lochgilphead.

It turned out to be a problem with my uncle's heart and after overnight observation he was discharged and will be investigated further by his GP. My aunt was fine after she settled down.

I want to thank the staff and two men for their assistance. I am so grateful to everyone, not forgetting the ambulance service and hospital staff for all their help.

Margaret Smith, Oban.

Praise and support for local shows and games

Sir Organisers of show and games throughout Argyll should be praised for the tremendous effort that they put into putting on a spectacle for visitors.

And as we know sometimes people do this year on year without any help from the local authority.

I had the pleasure of attending Bunnessan Show on the Isle of Mull last Friday and I was overwhelmed by the fantastic community spirit and good humour of the animals.

There were also a number of tourists who were completely astounded by the size and scale of this village's event.

Perhaps we need to realise how important the games and shows are - because they preserve our history.

Offering every help possible to keep the traditions alive.
Kay Mills, Kilninver.

A view from the tower

by McCaig

Lies, damned lies and NHS statistics

A FORTNIGHT ago I went for my six monthly check up for my type two diabetes and was greeted by the specialist nurse with a query as to why I had failed to keep the last three appointments with the eye specialist who consults at Lorn and Islands Hospital on a regular basis.

At first, I was taken aback, then rather angry, as I had been waiting since May for the appointment that the consultant had indicated would follow four months after the January one - but didn't.

I pointed out that that was my reading of the situation and that I was astonished that the hospital had written in the terms they had as I'm am not prone to ignoring hospital appointments of any sort, especially not those with the eye specialist as it is a fact that the onset of diabetes brings deterioration of one's sight.

Fortunately, my nurse believed me and said she would look into what was going on and try to find out when my next 'appointment' would be.

A couple of days later she wrote to me advising it would be in September. Subsequently, I received confirmation it would be on September 13, but no explanation of the alleged missed appointments.

However, when I went for the second part of my check up the nurse told me that queries about the alleged missed appointments were not correct but merely a method of recording in hospital statistics that I had 'missed' them as they had initially intended to call me on these dates as per the consultant's notes but found that he was fully booked and I and a number of other patients would have to be deemed not to have kept them for the purpose of NHS statistics which are geared to showing that more patients are being seen more quickly.

This is to show how efficient the operation of the NHS is under an SNP government.

But I'm sure that the Cabinet Secretary for Health Nicola Sturgeon - for whom I have the highest regard - is not aware of this malpractice as it makes every NHS statistic open to question and they are not worth even acknowledging far less accepting as fact.

Fake appointment system common throughout NHS Scotland

SHOCKED at what now appears to be a national

practice where patients bear the brunt of 'missed appointments' but are really blameless, I started to inquire of friends in various parts of the country whether they knew that they were the innocent victims of a corrupt system.

At the weekend, I went to a cricket match at Taynuilt - more about that later - and heard the same story from the captain of the Edinburgh side. A letter in the name of his consultant was sent to say that as he had failed to keep his 'appointment' it was presumed that he no longer wished to continue his regular consultations. He had received no notification of that 'appointment', but immediately took up the matter with the administration which, while insisting that he had been sent an appointment they would put him back on the consultant's list!

When I spoke to a friend who is an expert on NHS statistics he told me that as financial pressures grow and the number of visiting consultants falls the 'missed appointments' letters are a quick way of reducing overstretched waiting lists while showing a healthy reduction in waiting times to keep the monthly NHS statistics 'rosy' when, in fact the opposite is the case.

An urgent parliamentary investigation is absolutely necessary. Over to you Sir Jamie McGregor as the MSP for the Highlands and Islands.

The health trust involved here is NHS Highland but the problem is a national one.

Cricket played for fun

AS I MENTIONED earlier, I went with friends to watch cricket at Taynuilt last Sunday and enjoyed it thoroughly even although everyone involved would be willing to admit that they aren't waiting for a summons to play for the national side.

Oban were hosts to HBBC from Edinburgh and I don't intend to explain these initials as they might scare ladies of a delicate disposition but everyone was there for a fun day out, which it was.

Although I'll bet there were a few limping the following morning.

Oban won, but who was counting? And don't be surprised at that as cricket was the first team sport at Oban High School more than a century ago.

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McCaig

YOUR LETTERS

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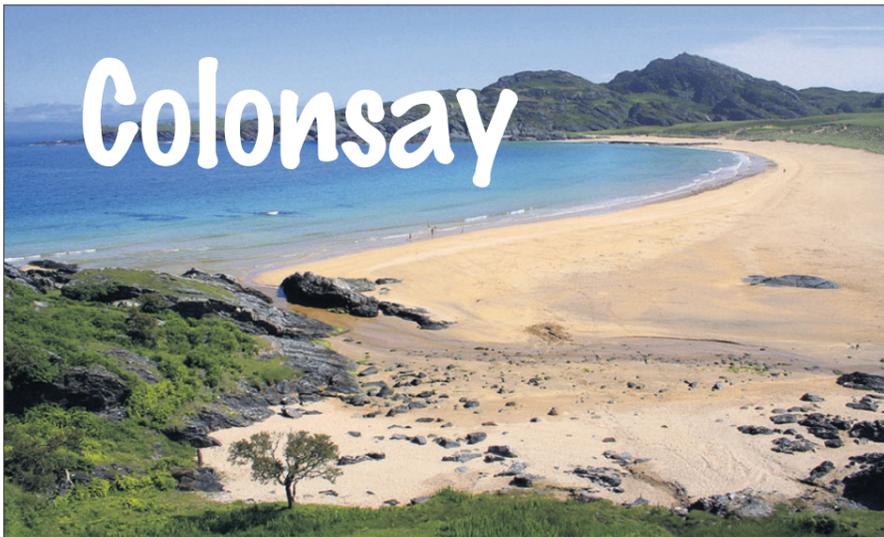
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My Island



Colonsay

Having formerly run the Isle of Colonsay Hotel, Kevin Byrne has remained an active member of Colonsay's community while running three self-catering cottages, a bookshop and small publishing company, House of Lochar.

He is also piermaster for Caledonian MacBrayne, the school bus driver, a tour guide, a meteorological observer, island webmaster and assistant registrar. He was particularly honoured to have served as Session Clerk in the church for many years.

What makes the island special for you?

It is special now because it has been my home for more than 30 years and we raised our family here but originally it was the warmth of the people, the beauty of its scenery and the extraordinary diversity of its natural habitats.

There are at least seven distinct habitats ranging from ancient woodland to Atlantic cliffs, from lime-rich soils to estuarine flats. It makes for an incredible range of flowers, birds and landscape. One can go out each day in a different direction, exploring a unique ecological system, or admire the effects of glaciations, study the raised beaches, try to trace the remarkable geological dykes or visit exposures of some of the oldest rocks on earth - up to 3,000 million years old. There are, it seems, no fossils here - Colonsay is older than life itself!

How would you describe the island to someone who has never been there?

An idyllic, unspoilt Hebridean island of perhaps 20 square miles, with about 120 inhabitants, rich in natural history and with outstanding archaeological remains. Despite being the most isolated community in Great Britain, the island is blessed with excellent air and ferry services and all modern amenities.

There is an acclaimed primary school, full-time resident doctor, a fire brigade, modern village hall, well-stocked shop, licensed hotel, a family restaurant, an oyster-farm, a bookshop and an award-winning brewery. There is trout-fishing on the lochs and a 200-year-old 18-hole golf course on the machair.

How important is it to the region?

Colonsay has a number of unique features, the most obvious of which is its location. From ancient times, a trading route linked the Iberian Peninsula with Scandinavia via the Irish Sea and the Great Glen. Whoever controlled Colonsay controlled access to and from the vital Sound of Islay. As a result Colonsay has no less than nine significant Iron Age forts. When the Irish moved across and into Argyll, the



Kevin Byrne.

trade route was at the heart of their enterprise.

When St Columba came, he made use of the easy route between Iona and Derry via Colonsay and the Rhinns and one of his first moves was to meet up with Brude, the Pictish king, who controlled the next section of the trade route.

Later, the Vikings explored the same trade route and inevitably upped the ante. They made Colonsay their administrative centre and it was in Colonsay that Somerled had his roots. Only after the Lords of the Isles created a fixed base at Finlaggan did Colonsay begin to lose its lustre - but it never lost its heritage.

In addition to the dramatic Iron Age forts, we have the sites of almost a dozen early Christian chapels, and we have more Viking burial sites than anywhere else of the same size, including anywhere in Scandinavia. From the time of the Lordship, we have the magnificent remains of Oransay Priory - unlike Saddell or Iona, the zealots of the Reformation did not desecrate these ruins which have suffered no more than through the gentler ravages of time.

Colonsay was both the first and the last of the ancient MacDonald possessions and it was not until the 'Glorious Revolution' of 1688 that it fell into alien hands.

Even then, a further century elapsed before religious, agricultural or social practices were exposed to any fundamental change, but the century from 1775 to 1875 brought a whirlwind. Agricultural revolution saw hundreds cleared from the island, former runrig farms were converted to model sheepwalks for lowland graziers, Presbyterianism was imposed but countered by evangelizing Baptist

missionaries, overcrowded crofts became subdivided and a struggling population was hit first by smallpox, then by famine, cholera, tuberculosis and scarlatina.

Emigration followed, to the cities and to the New World and the population was decimated time and time again. Thus, Colonsay encapsulates the whole of Scottish history within its tiny compass and it is laid out in clear simplicity. It is this that makes the island unique - the elements of Colonsay can be seen in isolation elsewhere, but in no other place are they combined as a living, vibrant tapestry.

How long have you lived there?

We moved here in 1978, when we bought the island hotel. Previously, we had created a country-house hotel at Cashel in Co Tipperary but as our children grew we decided that a traditional inn would be better for family life. We were looking for a traditional inn which could be reached by public transport and which would make a good centre for a holiday without the use of a car. I firmly believed that people would turn against the car. I see now that I was quite wrong - nowadays, some of the visiting families bring two or even three cars per household!

How much has the island changed since you moved there?

The island has not changed,

Kiloran Bay on Colonsay. Picture by Hugh Spicer.

but life has become much easier.

Mains electricity has been a major boost. For the hotel, the advent of a water supply was even more important. In summer, guests often had to have recourse to the toilets on the pier, 400 yards away. Satellite TV replaces an incredible self-help system in which local stalwarts, under the leadership of John Bridges, built and maintained a wind-powered relay station on a mountain in Jura from which the signal was sent to wind-powered receivers on Colonsay's hills and thence to the homes.

Colonsay was an internet pioneer, having had one of the earliest dedicated websites in the region through the help of an island friend Dominic Cornford and broadband has brought us to another level. I doubt if any business in Colonsay could survive six months if we lost the broadband now, but it also plays a part in maintaining our population. Fewer people would settle here in retirement and fewer of us would remain if we were unable to rely on email and Skype to stay in touch with our extended families. To an even greater extent, the vision of Argyll and Bute

Council in creating a fully-functioning aerodrome has allowed families to remain on the island and will, hopefully, attract more.

Scholars' flights permit high school students to spend a night or two at home each week. The roll-on, roll-off ferry made access very easy - perhaps too easy. We had the chance to ban visiting cars, as Iona has done, but we allowed the genie out of the bottle.

Do you have a favourite place or building in the island?

My favourite place would be A' Choille Mhor (The Great Wood), a very substantial tract of ancient Caledonian Forest in a relatively remote position on the east side of the island.

It is a Site of Special Scientific Interest - not just for the magnificent trees, but also for the wealth of flora, fungi and insects to which it is host.

There are huge carpets of sphagnum moss, slight traces of ancient walkways and the trees are festooned with veritable ropes of honeysuckle.

My favourite artefact would be the early 8th century statue from the chapel at Riassg Buidhe, which now stands in Colonsay

House Gardens. It depicts a monkish figure, complete with full tonsure, carved in incredible detail and with outstanding artistic skill. It is carved in local stone and is about four feet high. Since it is free-standing and has been carved in the round, one can see that it also embraces an earlier and potent pre-Christian tradition.

What do visitors like about the island?

The fact there is no stress. If it is not within five miles of Scalasaig, it does not exist. No need to drive 10 miles to a museum or 15 miles to some tourist mecca - the simple pleasures of nature enhanced by walking, cycling, fishing and golfing are followed by ceilidhs, meals out, trips to the pub or a cosy night of domesticity. Nowadays, most people like to return from holiday refreshed and in some way enhanced, perhaps by advancing their skills in painting, photography, ornithology or some such interest. Colonsay meets that need.

Is there anybody famous from the island?

Danny Alexander's childhood home was here in Colonsay; he is now Chief Secretary to the Treasurer. In 2000, Malcolm MacLean

was identified as 'Man of the Century' having done most to advance the wealth of the world - he invented the shipping container and was the direct descendant of an 1806 Colonsay emigrant to Prince Edward Island.

One thinks of Donald Smith, later 1st Baron Strathcona, Canadian super-hero and a major philanthropist; Sir John McNeill GCB, career diplomat; Duncan McNeill (1st Lord Colonsay), distinguished lawyer; Dr Roger McNeill, epidemiologist; Professor Donald MacKinnon, first Chair of Celtic Studies at Edinburgh; Colkitto MacDonald, last of the line of Clan Donald; or even Somerled himself.

The greatest of all was probably Alasdair MacCholla Chiotach, the man who empowered Montrose and who was responsible for every victory, and who - in defeat - masterminded the strategic withdrawal of his force to the Spanish Netherlands. He was born in Colonsay and remained as the last accredited Royalist Commander in the field, a commission that he passed to his 77-year-old father Colla Chiotach; thus the glory years of Clan Donald began in Colonsay with Somerled

in 1156 and finished with Colkitto in 1647.

What are the challenges facing the island, or how could it be improved?

The population is aging. We need to make it easier for young people to get a start in the island - the Colonsay Development Company has purchased land and has created half-a-dozen new crofts which are being awarded to young folk with viable ideas.

There is talk of the appointment of a full-time development officer, which will be welcome both as viable employment and for the results to be achieved.

Most employment is in some aspect of the service industry, and tourism is of vital importance. Unfortunately, the government has chosen to exclude Colonsay from the subsidised ferry fares known as Road Equivalent Tariff (RET) which extends to almost all of the islands represented by SNP. This means that Colonsay is a comparatively expensive destination and the problem has been compounded by the failure of some of the CMAL vessels upon which CalMac must rely.

In consequence, Colonsay has become both expensive to reach, and unreliable in the access. Some sort of outside intervention is urgently required to correct this situation as Colonsay's own resources cannot address the problem.

In 2010, I witnessed a significant fall in visitor numbers to the island, something I have never seen before in my 32 years as a resident.

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25 Years Ago Those Were The Days
The Oban Times Thursday August 16 1985

Board attacked on Oban hospital delay

PREDICTIONS over the start and completion dates of the new Oban hospital by Argyll and Clyde Health Board have been criticised by the health council which says that firm statements have been issued in the past year - yet the site has still not been secured.

Toward the end of 1984 several sites were considered - Soroba, the Woollen Mill and a site at Ganavan.

These were narrowed down to Soroba, a green field site owned by two private individuals.

On November 6, the chairman of Argyll and Clyde Health Board Mr J Ryan said: 'I would like to stick my neck out and say that there will be a start on the site in two to three years time.'

'I think we can expect a finished hospital in five years' time.'

In July of this year cut backs to the board's budget were ordered and the new hospital was identified as an area where the cuts might have to be found, the immediate result being a delayed start date.

Kilmallie job losses and hours cut

NEWS of redundancies and short time working greeted shocked employees as they returned to the Kilmallie sawmill from holiday this week.

At a mass meeting at the Corpach works on Monday, more than 100 workers were told that some of the 'old mill' employees were to be paid off while others are to be put on a week-on, week-off working schedule.

Even those workers who are lucky enough to remain on full-time hours have a question mark hanging over their futures, sources within the mill told *The Oban Times*.

The mill went into receivership just over two weeks ago.

The receivers are happy to keep the business going for six weeks in the

hope of selling it, but things are now being handled on a 'day-to-day' basis, the workers have been told.

We understand that the Kilmallie Mill has been advertised extensively abroad in the hope that a buyer will come forward.

Colonsay fight ferry threat

THE PEOPLE of Colonsay are united against the threat that their ferry link could change to Islay sailings instead of sailing to Oban.

At a special meeting of the local community to discuss what action should be taken, there was total agreement between all councillors and all members of the public present that a change to the ferry service from an Oban link to an Islay-Kennacraig link would be disastrous.

The meeting went on to discuss how serious a possibility such a change was and the various actions that could be taken to make the strength of feeling felt.

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Across

- 7 Strange (6)
- 8 Touchy device (6)
- 9 Experienced (4)
- 10 Makes it greater (8)
- 11 Not for those who want to watch inside (5-2)
- 13 Trite (5)
- 15 Interlace (5)
- 17 Call without speaking? (7)
- 20 Soothing song (8)
- 21 Stop (4)
- 22 Mouth related (6)
- 23 Egg on (6)

Down

- 1 What a shame! (2,4)
- 2 One who comes from here (4)
- 3 Syrup made from this fruit (7)
- 4 Church song (5)
- 5 Gigantic (8)
- 6 Serious (6)
- 12 Sprightliness (8)
- 14 Riser from destruction (7)
- 16 Needle hole (6)
- 18 Being gentle (6)
- 19 Russian coin (5)
- 21 Greeting Brook? (4)

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West Highland Housing Association is a Charitable Housing Association, Registered in Scotland [No.SCO17357] and is based in Oban, Argyll. The organisation has an excellent reputation for delivering high quality affordable and innovative housing in the area. The Association has over 700 properties in its ownership with the majority being built in the last 10 years.

We are seeking to recruit the above posts to develop proposals for renewable heating with an emphasis on biomass heating. We already have one of the largest biomass district heating systems in Scotland feeding 89 of our properties in Oban and we wish to develop further schemes across our stock. In addition we want to look at other renewable potential within our housing stock. These two new posts will be part of West Highland Housing Association but we are working with other agencies to ensure that the learning and development can be transferred to Contractors, Consultants and the wider community such as social enterprises and Housing Associations.

The Development Officer will be responsible for developing potential biomass solutions through a feasibility brief model which includes development of an ESCO for the Association. Where biomass is not suitable consideration will be given to other renewable solutions. The Development Officer should hold a relevant degree qualification with preferably 3 years work experience.

The Development Assistant will report to the Development Officer and will provide support to the project with the provision of good databases, information and act as the link to communities and other stakeholders. There is no formal qualification required for this post but the candidate should be educated to degree level and expected to have knowledge of the energy environment along with good IT and communication skills.

These posts are being funded with the assistance of Community Energy Scotland, Leader, the Scottish Government and West Highland Housing Association. Initially the posts are for one year but we are hopeful this may be extended for a further year.

Application forms should be returned by Friday 20th August 2010 with interviews likely to be held week commencing 30th August 2010

Graeme Bruce, Operations Manager of West Highland Housing Association will be delighted to talk to anyone interested in the post about the organisation, the challenges and opportunities related to this post. [graeme@westhighlandha.co.uk 01631 566451] Excellent terms and conditions of employment and a car allowance are offered for this post. The post will be based in Oban. Please note that a basic disclosure will be conducted for the successful candidate.

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For further information and a recruitment pack:

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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 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday to Friday (excluding public holidays) at the AREA PLANNING AND BUILDING STANDARDS OFFICE, FULTON HOUSE, GORDON SQUARE, FORT WILLIAM, PH33 6XY; online at www.highland.gov.uk and, where given, the alternative location(s).

Written comments should be made to the EPC at the contact details below within the time period indicated from the date of this notice. Anyone making a representation about this proposal should note that their letter or email will be disclosed to any individual or body who requests sight of representations in respect of this proposal.

Reference Number	Development Address	Proposal Description	Alternative locations where application may be inspected and time period for comments
10/03237/MSC	Development Site at Carries Yard Cars Corner Lochybridge Fort William	Provision of access and services to site	Lochaber Area Planning & Building Standards Office (14 days)
10/03151/FUL	Middler View Lochaline Morvern	Amended house design and site layout to 08/00345/FULLO	Lochaber Area Planning & Building Standards Office (14 days)
10/03319/FUL	Tigh Na Gearra Gairloch Spean Bridge	Alterations and extension to house to form first floor	Lochaber Area Planning & Building Standards Office (14 days)
10/03001/PIP	Land 25m NW of Camus-Na-Ha Annal View Corpach Fort William	Erection of new house, stopping up existing access and formation of new shared access	Lochaber Area Planning & Building Standards Office (14 days)

Planning and Development Service
 eplanning@Highland1, PO Box 5740, The Highland Council, Inverness IV1 9DH

HARBOURS ACT 1964 (AS AMENDED) PROPOSED CALEDONIAN MARITIME ASSETS (LOCHALINE FERRY SERVICES SLIPWAY) HARBOUR EMPOWERMENT ORDER 201[X]

- Notice is hereby given that Caledonian Maritime Assets Limited ("the Company") has applied to the Scottish Ministers to make a Harbour Empowerment Order under section 16 of the Harbours Act 1964 ("the 1964 Act").
- The objects of the proposed order are to empower the Company to maintain and operate works at Lochaline in the Sound of Mull in the Highland Council area at the Company's ferry harbour. The proposed Order also defines the limits of jurisdiction of the application.
- The Scottish Ministers have by letter dated 6 July 2010 informed the Company that they have decided in accordance with paragraph 4 of Schedule 3 to the 1964 Act that the application does not relate to a project which falls within Annex 1 or 11 to Council Directive 85/337/EEC on the assessment of the effects of certain public and private projects on the environment (as amended by Council Directives 97/11/EC and 2003/35/EC ("the Directive"). Accordingly, the Scottish Ministers have directed that an environmental statement is not required.
- Paragraph 16 of Schedule 3 to the 1964 Act (which requires information to be supplied concerning a project which is likely to have significant effects on the environment in Great Britain and in another European Economic Area State) does not apply to the application.
- A copy of the draft Order and the letter dated 6 July 2010 may be inspected at all reasonable hours until the expiry of the forty-two days period specified in paragraph 6 of this notice at the offices of the Company at Municipal Buildings, Fore Street, Port Glasgow PA14 5EQ, at Morvern Post Office, Lochaline, Morvern, Oban, Argyll PA34 5XT (telephone number 01967 421 220) and at the offices of the undermentioned solicitors and parliamentary agents.
- Any person desiring to make to the Scottish Ministers an objection or representation concerning the application should write to Jane Rougrie, Transport Scotland, Aviation, Ports, Freight & Canals Division, Ports and Harbours Branch, Area 2G North, Victoria Quay, Edinburgh EH6 6QQ, email: harbourorders@scotland.gsi.gov.uk within forty-two days from the date at the foot of this notice quoting reference "Proposed Caledonian Maritime Assets (Lochaline Ferry Services Slipway) Harbour Empowerment Order 201[X]" and specifying the grounds of their objection or representation and giving an address to which correspondence relating to the objection or representation may be sent.
- If an objection to the application is made and not withdrawn the Scottish Ministers may, before making their decision, (i) cause an inquiry to be held, or (ii) give to the objector an opportunity of appearing before and being heard by a person appointed by them.

Dated 12 August 2010
 Eversheds LLP
 One Wood Street, London EC2V 7WS
 Solicitors and Parliamentary Agents

Proposed Family Transfer by Executor of a Grazings Shares

John A McFadzean DONALDAMACDONALD, Executor, is applying to the Crofters Commission for consent to transfer the tenancy of the grazings shares pertaining in the BACK OF KEPOCH, BUNACAIMBE, ARISAIG Common Grazing pertaining to the Croft 1 BUNACAIMBE, ARISAIG to AUDREY MACDONALD of PORTNADORAN, ARISAIG, INVERNESS-SHIRE, PH39 4NT

If you have any objection to the proposal, you may submit representations in writing or some other permanent form to the Crofters Commission, Great Glen House, Leachkin Road, Inverness IV3 8NW or info@crofterscommission.org.uk, by 30 August 2010 quoting the above case number. Please note that any comments you provide are part of an open process and will be made available to interested parties. Your comments would also be released under a Freedom of Information inquiry.

crofters commission

John A McFadzean and Mrs Penelope McKee have applied to decroft part of the croft at 6 & 7 Kinlochiel, Kilmallie, extending to 0.15 ha for the purpose of providing a site for a dwellinghouse. Ref: 4.86.26598

If you are a crofter, shareholder or owner of a croft in the township you may submit comments on the proposal in writing or some other permanent form to the Crofters Commission, Great Glen House, Leachkin Road, Inverness IV3 8NW or info@crofterscommission.org.uk, by 30 August 2010 quoting the above case number. Please note that any comments you provide are part of an open process and will be made available to interested parties. Your comments would also be released under a Freedom of Information inquiry.

crofters commission

The following decrofting Directions have been granted:

Part Croft
4 Kilmoluag, Tiree
 Direction dated 2 August 2010 granted to Mrs Mary Cameron. Area ext to 0.0598 ha.
 Conditions: 1. The land is used as a replacement of an existing derelict cottage with a new dwellinghouse. 2. Complete enclosure of the land with a stockproof fence within 4 months of completion of the proposed development. 3. Maintenance of the fence by each successive owner or occupier of the land.
 Case Number: 4.86.24272

Lower Kilchattan, Colonsay
 Modified Direction dated 4 August 2010 granted to Kenneth Chadwick and Mrs Janet Margaret Diane Chadwick. Area ext to 0.16 ha.
This supercedes the previously advertised Direction granted in the Oban Times on 21 April 2004.
 Conditions: 1. The land is used for a house site 2. Complete enclosure of the land with a stockproof fence within 4 months of completion of the proposed development. 3. Maintenance of the fence by each successive owner or occupier of the land.
 Case Number: 4.81.24463

The granting of this Direction may be appealed to the Scottish Land Court, within 42 days from the date of this advert. Information on how to appeal is available from the Crofters Commission.

APPLICATION FOR APPORTIONMENT ACHADAPHAIL COMMON GRAZINGS

David Greenhalgh, Rehmor Croft, Bunnassan, intends to lodge an application for apportionment of approximately 14.4 hectares for the purpose of Stock Management. Mrs Molly Martin, Grazings Clerk, Knockan, has a copy of the application which can be inspected by any person interested. Any comments on the application should be lodged with the Crofters Commission, Great Glen House, Leachkin Road, Inverness IV3 8NW before 26th August. A copy of any representations made will be forwarded to the applicant.

WEST HIGHLAND HOUSING ASSOCIATION LTD

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
 Thursday 26 August 2010 at 7.00 p.m.
 in the Main Hall, Church Centre, Church of Scotland, Glencruitten Road, Oban.
 Registered Charity in Scotland No. SC017357

Oban Times PUBLIC NOTICES

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Argyll & Bute COUNCIL

PLANNING TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING DEVELOPMENT MANAGEMENT PROCEDURE (SCOTLAND) REGULATIONS 2008 REGULATION 20(1) ADVERT STATEMENT

Applications for planning permission listed below together with the plans and other documents submitted with them may be examined at 67/69 Chalmers Street Ardrishaig PA30 8DX and the location detailed below between the hours of 9 a.m. and 5 p.m. Monday to Friday and by logging to the Council's website at www.argyll-bute.gov.uk and clicking on Online Planning Applications. Written comments for the following list of applications may be made to Planning and Regulatory Services 67/69 Chalmers Street Ardrishaig PA30 8DX by the 02/09/2010

● **Ref No: 10/01022/PP**
 Applicant: Mr William Muir
 Proposal: Proposed conservatory extension with detached garage and storage and relocated external fuel store.
 Site Address: Aluchga A846 West Of Ballygrant from the Sewage Works to Esknish Farm Road Ballygrant Isle of Islay Argyll and Bute PA45 7DW
 Location of Plans: Sub Post Office Ballygrant

● **Ref No: 10/01160/PP**
 Applicant: David Hoult
 Proposal: Erection of an extension to existing dwellinghouse.
 Site Address: Burnbank Cottage Craighouse Isle of Jura Argyll and Bute PA60 7XS
 Location of Plans: Sub Post Office Craighouse Isle of Jura

● **Ref No: 10/01273/PP**
 Applicant: Douglas Angus
 Proposal: Erection of a garden shed.
 Site Address: 20 Shore Street Portnahaven Isle of Islay Argyll and Bute PA47 7SH
 Location of Plans: Sub Post Office Portnahaven

Argyll and Bute Council maintain a Register of planning applications which can be viewed between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m. at Planning and Regulatory Services, Dalriada House, Lochgilphead, Argyll, PA31 8ST. An extant list of planning applications can be viewed on the Council's website www.argyll-bute.gov.uk. A weekly list of applications can be viewed at Planning and Regulatory Services, Dalriada House, Lochgilphead, Argyll, PA31 8ST and Argyll and Bute Council Libraries.

TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING DEVELOPMENT MANAGEMENT PROCEDURE (SCOTLAND) REGULATIONS 2008 REGULATION 20(1) ADVERT STATEMENT

Applications for planning permission listed below together with the plans and other documents submitted with them may be examined at Lorn House Albany Street Oban PA34 4AR and the location detailed below between the hours of 9 a.m. and 5 p.m. Monday to Friday and by logging to the Council's website at www.argyll-bute.gov.uk and clicking on Online Planning Applications. Written comments for the following list of applications may be made to Planning and Regulatory Services Lorn House Albany Street Oban PA34 4AR by the 02/09/2010

● **Ref No: 10/01003/PP**
 Applicant: Mrs Heather Buchanan
 Proposal: Demolition and replacement of existing single storey rear extension, re-opening of 2 previously blocked up windows and alteration to window to form door.
 Site Address: Barcalidine House Hotel Barcalidine Oban Argyll and Bute PA37 1SG
 Location of Plans: Sub Post Office Ledaig

● **Ref No: 10/01030/PP**
 Applicant: Ms Ester Nallen and Mr Alastair Morrison
 Proposal: Proposed new house to replace existing timber chalet type house.
 Site Address: 7 Glen Houses Dervaig Isle of Mull Argyll and Bute PA75 60W
 Location of Plans: Sub Post Office Dervaig

● **Ref No: 10/01090/PP**
 Applicant: Mr & Mrs Calum Ross
 Proposal: Erection of extension to form storage area, external alterations including replacement windows and doors to 'Cedar Wing' and installation of solar panels.
 Site Address: Loch Melfort Hotel Arduaine Oban Argyll and Bute PA34 4XG
 Location of Plans: Sub Post Office Kilmelford

● **Ref No: 10/01103/PP**
 Applicant: Ian and Elspeth Gillies
 Proposal: Erection of extension to dwellinghouse.
 Site Address: Katie's Cottage Isle of Tiree Argyll and Bute PA77 6UJ
 Location of Plans: Tiree Area Office

● **Ref No: 10/01107/PP**
 Applicant: Donnie and Janice MacInnes
 Proposal: Alteration and extension to existing dwellinghouse.
 Site Address: Creagan Cottages Heanish Isle of Tiree Argyll and Bute PA77 6UL
 Location of Plans: Tiree Area Office

● **Ref No: 10/01224/PP**
 Applicant: Mr and Mrs Ian and Marlene MacKinnon
 Proposal: Alterations and extension to dwellinghouse.
 Site Address: Kyle Rhea U46 Port Ramsay Road Port Ramsay Isle Of Lismore Oban Argyll And Bute PA34 5UN
 Location of Plans: Sub Post Office Lismore

● **Ref No: 10/01226/PP**
 Applicant: Mr and Mrs Derek and Alison Clarke
 Proposal: Proposed alterations and extension to dwellinghouse.
 Site Address: 15 Meadow Road Dunbeg Oban Argyll And Bute PA37 10B
 Location of Plans: Sub Post Office Dunbeg

● **Ref No: 10/01233/PPP**
 Applicant: Mr Ronald Hogg
 Proposal: Site for the erection of a dwellinghouse.
 Site Address: Land East Of Seabank Cottage Benderloch Oban Argyll And Bute
 Location of Plans: Sub Post Office Ledaig

● **Ref No: 10/01264/PPP**
 Applicant: Shaun Sinclair
 Proposal: Proposed erection of dwelling house.
 Site Address: Land South Of Carnoch Connal Oban Argyll And Bute PA37 1PH
 Location of Plans: Sub Post Office Connal

Argyll and Bute Council maintain a Register of planning applications which can be viewed between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m. at Planning and Regulatory Services, Dalriada House, Lochgilphead, Argyll, PA31 8ST. An extant list of planning applications can be viewed on the Council's website www.argyll-bute.gov.uk. A weekly list of applications can be viewed at Planning and Regulatory Services, Dalriada House, Lochgilphead, Argyll, PA31 8ST and Argyll and Bute Council Libraries.

Any letter of representation the council receives about a planning application is considered a public document. Please therefore note that representations will be made available for public inspection and, under the terms of the Freedom of Information Act, will be copied on request. They will also be published on the council's website.

The author of such a representation is solely responsible for its content and accuracy. Anonymous representations will be "shredded" and those marked confidential will be returned to the sender. Neither will be taken into account when the application is being considered. Details of representations we receive on planning applications can be viewed on the council's website at www.argyll-bute.gov.uk/publicaccess

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Argyll & Bute COUNCIL

DEVELOPMENT AND INFRASTRUCTURE DRAFT ARGYLL AND BUTE WOODLAND AND FORESTRY STRATEGY 2010: STRATEGIC ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT (SEA) ENVIRONMENTAL REPORT

Under Section 16(2) of the Environmental Assessment (Scotland) Act 2005 notice is hereby given that the above consultation document and accompanying environmental report have been published at: <http://www.argyll-bute.gov.uk/woodland>

Public opinions on the consultation document and the environmental report are now invited and can be submitted electronically to: Shelia.mckenzie@argyll-bute.gov.uk or sent to FAO Sheila McKenzie, Argyll and Bute Council, Development and Infrastructure, Kilmory, Argyll, PA31 8RT by 24th September 2010. The consultation documents are also available for viewing at the above address. If you require further information or a copy of the documents please contact the above email address or telephone 01546 604104.



Lorn Show trophy winners 2010

Blackface sheep
 West Highland Crofters & Farmers Ltd Trophy For best pair of Ewe Lambs in Section II : Robert MacKay
 Wilsons Garage (Argyll) Ltd Perpetual Challenge Cup for Best Ewe with own lamb at foot (Open): Mr & Mrs R. D. Schuster
 Dykes Perpetual Cup For Best Group of Blackface Sheep in Open Section, presented by Messrs Robert Dykes & Sons, Engineers of Thornhill: Messrs. D. Jackson Oban Transport & Trading Co Perpetual Challenge Cup for best group of Blackface Sheep comprising 1 Ram (any age) Ewe in Milk, Gimmer and Ewe in Lambs in Section II: Robert MacKay
 SAI Shield For Champion Sheep opposite sex to Champion in Open Blackface Section: Robert MacKay
 Donald Livingstone Memorial Perpetual Cup For Champion Sheep in Section II: Robert MacKay
 MacLeod Cup Presented to Lorn Agric. Soc. By A. MacLeod OBE Tighnabraich for Champion Blackface Sheep (to be won 5 years in all with a different animal each year): Messrs. Donald MacVicar
 Oramec Shield Presented by M S D Agnet for Champion opposite sex to Champion in Open Blackface Section: Robert MacKay
 James Love Memorial Trophy Presented by Mrs Fiona Love and family for the best Home Bred Blackface Sheep in Section II: Robert Mackay
Junior section
 Ardchattan Trophy For most points in Junior Section (Classes 20/22): Alastair Dickie
 Suffolk sheep Fergerson Perpetual Shield For best Suffolk



Oban High School Pipe Band on the march at the Lorn Show. 15_1331lorn27

Sheep (bred by exhibitor) presented by Mr Donald Ferguson, Veterinary Surgeon, Oban: Fraser MacLean
 United Auctions Ltd Rosebowl for overall Suffolk Champion: Fraser MacLean
Texel sheep
 Keyline Perpetual Trophy For Champion animal in Classes 28-32: K. A & R Campbell
Beltex sheep
 Simmers & Co Perpetual Trophy For Champion animal in Classes 38 - 42: Alan MacKellar
Special sheep trophies
 Jackson Butchers Perpetual Trophy For Champion Pure & Cross Bred Sheep at Show (other than Blackface): K. A & R Campbell
 United Auctions Perpetual Trophy For Overall Champion



The reserve dog champion was the winner from the collie class, Millie, from E Chalmers, Dalmally 15_1331lorn02

Sheep at Show: K. A & R Campbell
Highland cattle
 Balure Cup for best animal to be won 4 years in succession or 6 years in all presented by Miss Mary MacLean: Michael Poland
 Mary MacLean Cup Presented by Miss Mary MacLean, Balure, Benderloch for best Highland Heifer to be won 3 years in succession or 5 years in all: Sydney & Maureen O'Hara
 Mary MacLean Shield Presented by Miss Mary MacLean, Balure, Benderloch for best group of 3 animals which have competed in the 7 classes of the Section: Sydney & Maureen O'Hara
 Dun na Mara Perpetual Cup For best Cow with Highland Calf at foot presented by Mr E T F Spence, Benderloch: Mr & Mrs R. D Schuster
 Columba Hotel Perpetual Cup For best Highland Bull : Michael Poland
 Munro of Benderloch Trophy For reserve Champion Highlander to be won 4 years in succession or 6 years in all: Sydney & Maureen O'Hara
Galloway cattle
 Ashfield Cup Presented by W MacLean for best pure bred Galloway Animal to be won 3 years in succession or 5 years in all: Willie MacLean
 Killiechroan Perpetual Challenge Cup For Best Galloway Bull: Willie MacLean
 Cross beef cattle Fred MacPherson Cup Presented by Fred



Young Farmer's Champion: Alastair Dickie, Musdale Farm, Kilmore with his two-crop Blackface ewe, by a £1,400 Cladich. 15_1331lorn18

MacPherson, Bonawe for Champion Cross Calf in Beef Section. To be won 4 years in Succession or 6 years in all (won outright by and Represented by Ewan MacPherson, Dalrannoch): Douglas MacDonald
 Lorn Agricultural Society Cup Cup for best Animal in Cross Beef Section to be won 3 Years in succession or 5 years in all (won outright by and represented by Ewan MacPherson, Dalrannoch, Barcalidine): Douglas MacDonald

Archie Cameron Memorial Perpetual Cup Presented by the late Mrs M H Cameron, Inion Farm, Ardchattan for the best calf in Beef Heifer in the show: Sydney & Maureen O'Hara
Dogs
 Seaton Perpetual Trophy For Champion Dog (Local) presented by Gordon and Moira Seaton: Keith Drynan
Baking etc
 Musdale Perpetual Challenge Trophy Presented by the late Zena Dickie, Oban: Laura Campbell



Donald McVicar, Lephinchapel, Strachur with his Blackface champion, a ewe lamb, by a £2200 Auldhouseburn bought at Dalmally, and out of Dyke bred ewe, by a £17,000 Connachan. 15_1331lorn26

Lindsay Sempill Perpetual Cup For winner of most points in Junior Baking and Handicrafts (12 to 16 yrs), presented by Mr & Mrs D. Sempill, Aberdeen: Lynne MacLean
 Mrs M MacNeil Perpetual Cup For winner of most points in Junior Baking and Handicrafts (9-11 years), presented by Mrs M MacNeil, Dunbeg: Laura Campbell
 Mrs Jean MacEwan Perpetual Cup For winner of most points in Junior Baking and Handicrafts (8 yrs and Under) presented by Mrs Jean MacEwan, Oban: Isla Buchanan and Stuart Campbell
Championships
 McTavishes Kitchens Ltd. Oban Perpetual Trophy For best pure Beef Animal in the Show other than Highland: Willie MacLean
 Donald Livingstone Memorial Perpetual Trophy For most points in open sections (sheep & cattle) (Championship point excluded): J & M Turner
 West Highland Estates Office Perpetual Trophy For best Beef Animal in the Show: Douglas MacDonald
 Ewan & Mollie Cameron Perpetual Memorial Trophy For best Cattle beast (bred by exhibitor) in the show represented by Hydro Electric: Douglas MacDonald
 David Band Perpetual Trophy For best home bred breeding Animal in the Sheep and Cattle classes. Presented by the late David Band, Benderloch: K & A R Campbell
 MacColl Rosebowl For the best pair of breeding females (cattle) Presented by Hugh MacColl and Mrs Mary MacKerchar, Benderloch: Michael Poland
 Donald Bremner Cup For the best animal in the show to be won 3 years in succession or 4 years in all. Presented by the late Donald Bremner MRCVS, won outright and represented by Killiechroan Estate, Isle of Mull: Douglas MacDonald
 Lorn Agricultural Society Best Beef Animal in Show: Douglas MacDonald

Lorn Show results

Blackface
 Best Tup 3 Shear (Section 11)
 1st T. Nelson, Glengorm Estate, Tobermory
 2nd R & J Love, Ballygown Farm, Oban
 3rd Messrs S H Troughton & Co, Ardachy Farm, North Connel
 Best Tup 3 Shear (Open Section)
 1st T. Nelson, Glengorm Estate, Tobermory
 2nd Messrs J & J MacPherson, Balliemanoeh Farm, Dalmally
 3rd R & J Love, Ballygown Farm, Oban
 Best Tup 2 Shear (Section 11)
 1st T. Nelson, Glengorm Estate, Tobermory
 2nd Messrs S H Troughton & Co, Ardachy Farm, North Connel
 3rd R & J Love, Ballygown Farm, Oban
 Best Tup 2 Shear (Open Section)
 1st Donald Shaw, Inshaig, Ardfern, by Lochgilhead
 2nd J & M Turner, Kildalloig Farm, Campbeltown
 3rd Mr & Mrs R D Schuster, Glenstrae, Duilletter Farm, Lochawe, Dalmally
 Best Shearling Tup (Section 11)
 1st A MacColl, Mingarry, Isle of Mull
 2nd D & L MacLean, Knock Farm, Salen, Isle of Mull
 3rd Allan MacGillivray, Lanith, Salen, Acharacle
 Best Shearling Tup (Open Section)
 1st A MacColl, Mingarry, Isle of Mull
 2nd Messrs Jackson, Pole Farm, Lochgoilhead
 3rd Messrs I & D MacArthur, Arnicle Farm, Glenbarr, Campbeltown
 Best Shearling Bred by Exhibitor (Section 11)
 1st T. Nelson, Glengorm Estate, Tobermory
 2nd Norman MacPhail, Woodside Croft, Salen, Isle of Mull
 3rd R & J Love, Ballygown Farm, Oban
 Best Shearling Bred by Exhibitor (Open Section)
 1st Messrs. Jackson, Pole Farm, Lochgoilhead
 2nd Messrs I & D MacArthur, Arnicle Farm, Glenbarr, Campbeltown
 3rd J & M Turner, Kildalloig Farm, Campbeltown
 Best Tup Lamb (Section 11)
 1st Robert MacKay, Millpark, Oban
 2nd Robert MacKay, Millpark, Oban
 3rd Norman MacPhail, Woodside Croft, Salen, Isle of Mull
 Best Tup Lamb (Open Section)
 1st Robert MacKay, Millpark, Oban
 2nd Robert MacKay, Millpark, Oban
 3rd Messrs. MacVicar, Lepinchapel, Strachur
 Best Ewe in Milk, 3 year old and upwards (Section II)
 1st R & J Love, Ballygown Farm, Oban
 2nd Robert MacKay, Millpark, Oban
 3rd A MacColl, Mingarry, Isle of Mull
 Best Ewe in Milk, 3 year old and upwards (Open Section)
 1st Messrs. Jackson, Pole Farm, Lochgoilhead
 2nd Mr & Mrs R D Schuster, Glenstrae, Duilletter Farm, Lochawe, Dalmally
 3rd Messrs. J & J MacPherson,



Dougie MacDonald, 7, from Benderloch with his father's trophies from the Lorn Show after a successful day in the cattle showing ring. 15.13310rn08

3rd Messrs I & D MacArthur, Arnicle Farm, Glenbarr, Campbeltown
 Best 2 Shear ewe in Milk (Section 11)
 1st T. Nelson, Glengorm Estate, Tobermory
 2nd R & J Love, Ballygown Farm, Oban
 Best 2 Shear Ewe in Milk (Open Section)
 1st Messrs. I & D MacArthur, Arnicle Farm, Glenbarr, Campbeltown
 2nd Messrs. J & J MacPherson, Balliemanoeh Farm, Dalmally
 3rd R & I Shaw, Achronich, Ardfern
 Best Gimmer (Section II)
 1st Robert MacKay, Millpark, Oban
 2nd Allan MacGillivray, Lanith, Salen, Acharacle
 3rd Messrs S H Troughton & Co, Ardachy Farm, North Connel
 Best Gimmer (Open Section)
 1st Messrs. Jackson, Pole Farm, Lochgoilhead
 2nd Messrs I & D MacArthur, Arnicle Farm, Glenbarr, Campbeltown
 3rd R & I Shaw, Achronich, Ardfern
 Best Ewe Lamb (Section 11)
 1st Robert MacKay, Millpark, Oban
 2nd A MacColl, Mingarry, Isle of Mull
 3rd Messrs S.H. Troughton & Co, Ardachy Farm, North Connel
 Best Ewe Lamb (Open Section)
 1st Messrs. MacVicar, Lepinchapel, Strachur
 2nd Robert MacKay, Millpark, Oban
 3rd Messrs. I & D MacArthur, Arnicle Farm, Glenbarr, Campbeltown
 Best Shown Ewe with her own lamb (Open Section)
 1st Mr & Mrs R D Schuster, Glenstrae, Duilletter Farm, Lochawe, Dalmally
 2nd A MacColl, Mingarry, Isle of Mull
 3rd Messrs. J & J MacPherson,

Balliemanoeh Farm, Dalmally
 Reid and Robertson Sponsorship Prize for Male Champion
 Robert MacKay, Millpark, Oban
 Reid and Robertson Sponsorship Prize for Female Champion
 Messrs. MacVicar, Lepinchapel, Strachur
 Reid and Robertson Sponsorship Prize for Reserve Female Champion
 Messrs. Jackson, Pole Farm, Lochgoilhead
 Reid and Robertson Sponsorship Prize for Champion Sheep in Section 11
 Robert MacKay, Millpark, Oban
 Reid and Robertson Sponsorship Prize for Best Home Bred Sheep
 Robert MacKay, Millpark, Oban
Young Farmers Section
 Best Tup (other than Ram Lamb)
 1st Sam MacKenzie, 16, Moss, Acharacle
 2nd A. Dickie, Musdale Farm, Kilmore
 Best Female (other than Lamb)
 1st A. Dickie, Musdale Farm, Kilmore
 2nd Sam MacKenzie, 16, Moss, Acharacle
 3rd Jamie MacLean, Clachaig, Gruline, Isle of Mull
 Best Gimmer
 1st A. Dickie, Musdale Farm, Kilmore
 2nd Jamie MacLean, Clachaig, Gruline, Isle of Mull
 3rd A. Dickie, Musdale Farm, Kilmore
 Best Lamb
 1st A. Dickie, Musdale Farm, Kilmore
 2nd Jamie MacLean, Clachaig, Gruline, Isle of Mull
 3rd A. Dickie, Musdale Farm, Kilmore
 Reid & Robertson Sponsor Prize for Champion in Young Farmers Classes
 A. Dickie, Musdale Farm, Kilmore
 Reserve Champion in Young Farmers Class
 A. Dickie, Musdale Farm, Kilmore
Suffolk sheep
 Best Ram
 1st Fraser MacLean, Heyipol Farm, Isle of Tiree
 2nd E & L MacGillivray, Barcaldine Home Farm, Barcaldine
 3rd R & S Campbell, Uisken Croft, Bunnassan, Isle of Mull
 Best Ewe
 1st Fraser MacLean, Heyipol Farm, Isle of Tiree
 2nd J & M Turner, Kildalloig, Campbeltown
 3rd J & M Turner, Kildalloig, Campbeltown
 Best Gimmer
 1st Fraser MacLean, Heyipol Farm, Isle of Tiree
 2nd R Campbell, Uisken
 Best Ram Lamb
 1st Fraser MacLean, Heyipol Farm, Isle of Tiree
 2nd J & M Turner, Kildalloig, Campbeltown
 3rd J & M Turner, Kildalloig, Campbeltown
 Best Ewe Lamb
 1st Fraser MacLean, Heyipol Farm, Isle of Tiree
 2nd R & S Campbell, Uisken Croft, Bunnassan, Isle of Mull
 Clan Cottages Sponsorship Prize for Champion Suffolk
 Fraser MacLean, Heyipol Farm, Isle of Tiree - Gimmer
 Agrimony Sponsorship Prize for Reserve Champion Suffolk
 Fraser MacLean, Heyipol Farm, Isle of Tiree - Ram
Texel
 Best Ram (excluding Lambs)
 1st J & M Turner, Kildalloig, Campbeltown
 2nd M & C Ralston, Rhoin, Campbeltown
 Best Ewe
 1st K, A & R Campbell, Drimsynie Estate, Lochgoilhead
 2nd M & C Ralston, Rhoin, Campbeltown
 3rd J & M Turner, Kildalloig, Campbeltown
 Best Gimmer
 1st K, A & R Campbell, Drimsynie Estate, Lochgoilhead
 Best Ram Lamb
 1st J & M Turner, Kildalloig, Campbeltown
 2nd M & C Ralston, Rhoin, Campbeltown
 Best Ewe Lamb
 1st K, A & R Campbell, Drimsynie Estate, Lochgoilhead
 2nd E & L MacGillivray, Barcaldine Home Farm, Barcaldine
 3rd K, A & R Campbell, Drimsynie Estate, Lochgoilhead
 Agrimony Sponsorship Prize for Champion Texel
 K, A & R Campbell, Drimsynie Estate, Lochgoilhead - Gimmer
 Agrimony Sponsorship Prize for Reserve Texel
 K, A & R Campbell, Drimsynie Estate, Lochgoilhead - Ewe
Beltex
 Best Ram (excluding Lambs)
 1st Alasdair MacLean, Heyipol Farm, Isle of Tiree
 2nd Rosslyn Smith, Balliemore Farm, Kilmichael Glassary
 Best Ewe
 1st Alasdair MacLean, Heyipol Farm, Isle of Tiree
 2nd Rosslyn Smith, Balliemore Farm, Kilmichael Glassary
 Best Gimmer
 1st Alasdair MacLean, Heyipol Farm, Isle of Tiree
 2nd Rosslyn Smith, Balliemore Farm, Kilmichael Glassary
 Best Ram Lamb
 1st Alasdair MacLean, Heyipol Farm, Isle of Tiree
 2nd Rosslyn Smith, Balliemore Farm, Kilmichael Glassary

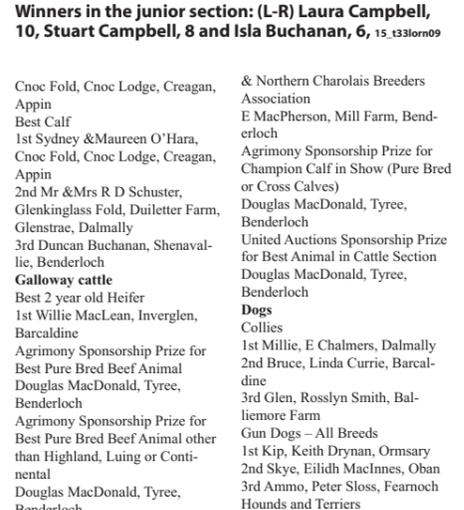
3rd Sheila MacCallum & Sons, Acha-bhein, Kilmartin - Hebridean
Cattle
Highland cattle
 Best Bull any age
 1st Mr Michael Poland, West Ferlochan Farm, Benderloch
 2nd Sir William Lithgow BT & Son, Ormsary Estate, Lochgilhead
 3rd Sydney & Maureen O'Hara, Cnoc Fold, Cnoc Lodge, Creagan, Appin
 Best Cow with calf at foot
 1st Mr & Mrs R D Schuster, Glenkinglass Fold, Duilletter Farm, Glenstrae, Dalmally
 2nd Sydney & Maureen O'Hara, Cnoc Fold, Cnoc Lodge, Creagan, Appin
 3rd Duncan Buchanan, Shenavallie, Benderloch
 Best Heifer born in 2007
 1st Sydney & Maureen O'Hara, Cnoc Fold, Cnoc Lodge, Creagan, Appin
 2nd Mr & Mrs R D Schuster, Glenkinglass Fold, Duilletter Farm, Glenstrae, Dalmally
 Best Heifer born in 2008
 1st Mr Michael Poland, West Ferlochan Farm, Benderloch
 2nd Mrs J. Y. Nelson, Achnacloch, Cnrs
 3rd Duncan Buchanan, Shenavallie, Benderloch
 Best heifer born in 2009
 1st Mr & Mrs R D Schuster, Glenkinglass Fold, Duilletter Farm, Glenstrae, Dalmally
 2nd Mr Michael Poland, West Ferlochan Farm, Benderloch
 3rd Duncan Buchanan, Shenavallie, Benderloch
 Best Pair, any age
 1st Mr Michael Poland, West Ferlochan Farm, Benderloch
 2nd Mr & Mrs R D Schuster, Glenkinglass Fold, Duilletter Farm, Glenstrae, Dalmally
 3rd Sydney & Maureen O'Hara,

& Northern Charolais Breeders Association
 E MacPherson, Mill Farm, Benderloch
 Agrimony Sponsorship Prize for Champion Calf in Show (Pure Bred or Cross Calves)
 Douglas MacDonald, Tyree, Benderloch
 United Auctions Sponsorship Prize for Best Animal in Cattle Section
 Douglas MacDonald, Tyree, Benderloch
Dogs
 Collies
 1st Millie, E Chalmers, Dalmally
 2nd Bruce, Linda Currie, Barcaldine
 3rd Glen, Rosslyn Smith, Balliemore Farm
 Gun Dogs - All Breeds
 1st Kip, Keith Drynan, Ormsary
 2nd Skye, Eilidh MacInnes, Oban
 3rd Ammo, Peter Sloss, Fearnoch Hounds and Terriers

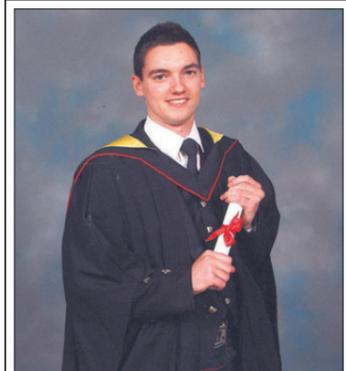
Rare breeds
 Best Ram (excluding lambs)
 1st D & S Robb, 10 Easfield, Tarbert - Jacob
 2nd Sheila MacCallum & Sons, Acha-bhein, Kilmartin - Hebridean
 Best Ewe
 1st M & C Ralston, Rhoin, Campbeltown - Jacob
 2nd Sheila MacCallum & Sons, Acha-bhein, Kilmartin - Hebridean
 Best Ram Lamb
 1st D & S Robb, 10 Easfield, Tarbert - Jacob
 2nd Sheila MacCallum & Sons, Acha-bhein, Kilmartin - Hebridean
Galloway cattle
 Best 2 year old Heifer
 1st Willie MacLean, Inverglenn, Barcaldine
 Agrimony Sponsorship Prize for Best Pure Bred Beef Animal
 Douglas MacDonald, Tyree, Benderloch
 Agrimony Sponsorship Prize for Best Pure Bred Beef Animal other than Highland, Luine or Continental
 Douglas MacDonald, Tyree, Benderloch

Cross bred beef cattle
 Best Cross Cow for Beef Production (in calf or in milk)
 1st E & L MacGillivray, Barcaldine Home Farm, Barcaldine
 2nd E & L MacGillivray, Barcaldine Home Farm, Barcaldine
 3rd D Campbell, Camaghael, Banavie, Fort William
 Best Cross Bred Yeld Heifer (under 2 years old)
 1st D Wright, Clovullin, Ardgour
 2nd Duncan Buchanan, Shenavallie, Benderloch
 Best Fat Cross Bred Bullock or Heifer
 1st Ewen MacPherson, Mill Farm, Barcaldine
Cross bred calves
 Best Autumn born Bullock Calf born after 1st August 2009
 1st Douglas MacDonald, Tyree, Benderloch
 2nd Mr & Mrs MacDonald, Craigview, Arisaig
 3rd D Wright, Clovullin, Ardgour
 Best Autumn born Heifer Calf born after 1st August 2009
 1st Ewan MacPherson, Mill Farm, Benderloch
 Best Limousin Cross Male Calf born after 1st February 2010
 1st Douglas MacDonald, Tyree, Benderloch
 2nd D Campbell, Camaghael, Banavie, Fort William
 Best Limousin Cross Female Calf born after 1st February 2010
 1st Douglas MacDonald, Tyree, Benderloch
 2nd E & L MacGillivray, Barcaldine Home Farm, Barcaldine
 Best Female Calf born after 1st February 2010 - any other continental breed
 1st D Campbell, Camaghael, Banavie, Fort William
 Rosette Presented by the Scottish

Winners in the junior section: (L-R) Laura Campbell, 10, Stuart Campbell, 8 and Isla Buchanan, 6, 15.13310rn09



Graduations



Ross Calder, graduated from the University of Glasgow with a BSc Honours in Geography, Ross is the eldest son of Stuart and Christine Calder and a former pupil of Lochnell Primary and Oban High School.



Helen Beth Latham, graduated from the University of Strathclyde as a Bachelor of Education in Primary Education with First Class Honours. Helen is the younger daughter of Simon and Gill Latham, Isle of Tiree and a former pupil of Tiree High School.



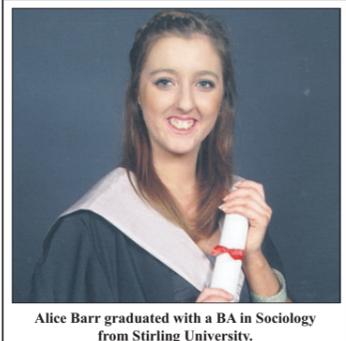
Gordon Harrower graduated with a BA Honours in Business Studies from Glasgow Caledonian University. Gordon is the youngest son of Ken and Marie Harrower, Oban.



Catriona Cameron MacKenzie, graduated from University of Stirling as Bachelor of Science with Honours in Psychology (2.1). Catriona is the daughter of Cammy and Jean MacKenzie, Isle of Sell, and attended Easdale Primary School and Oban High Schools.



Alan Lamb, graduated from University of Glasgow with a First Class Masters in Science Degree in Chemistry with Medicinal Chemistry, Msci (Hons). Alan is the son of David and Elizabeth Lamb, Connel and a former pupil of Achaleven Primary School and Oban High School.



Alice Barr graduated with a BA in Sociology from Stirling University. Alice is the daughter of Elspeth Reid, Oban and David Barr, Sydney, Australia, step-daughter to Gregor Reid and granddaughter to Elizabeth and Donald MacCallum, Benderloch and Janet and James Barr, Oban. Alice was educated at St Columbas Primary and Oban High School.



Jacqueline Stephen, graduated from the University of Strathclyde with a BSc in Mathematics and Statistics with First Class Honours. Jacqueline is the daughter of Derek and Fiona Stephen, Oban and granddaughter of Neil and Jessie Reid, Taynuilt



Kirsty Netta MacKinnon, graduated from the Royal Scottish Academy of Music and Drama with the Degree of Bachelor of Arts in Scottish Music with First Class Honours. Kirsty is the younger daughter of Iain and Ishbel MacKinnon, Tobermory, and granddaughter of the late Duncan and Netta (Hough) MacKinnon.



Paula Turnbull graduated from the University of Strathclyde with BA (Hons) in Marketing and Human Resource Management. Paula is the daughter of Donald and Margaret Turnbull, Longdale Terrace, Oban and a former pupil of St Columbas Primary and Oban High School.



Eilidh Campbell (21) graduated MA (Hons) in Human Geography at The University of Edinburgh. She attended Ardchattan Primary School and Oban High School. Eilidh is the elder daughter of Andrew and Christine Campbell, Kenmore Cottage, Ardchattan.

Kilmore Games

Highland Dancing Results
 Primary: 4 years: Pas des Basque: Iona MacKay, Mull; Pas de Basque and High Cuts: Iona MacKay; 6 years: Pas de Basque: 1 Eilish MacNeil, Bute, 2 Eilidh MacKay, Uist, 3 Isla Dunlop, Appin; Pas de Basque and High Cuts: 1 Eilish MacNeil, 2 Eilidh MacKay, 3 Mairi MacCorquodale; Fling: 1 Eilidh MacAulay, 2 Eilish MacNeil; Swords: 1 Eilish MacNeil, 2 Eilidh MacAulay. Beginners: 9 years and under: Fling: 1 Lisa McGillivray, Dunoon, 2 Ragen Kelly, Oban, 3 Charlie Nathan, Easdale; Swords: 1 Lisa McGillivray, Ragen Kelly, 3 Charlie Nathan; Seann Truibhas: 1 Lisa McGillivray, 2 Ragen Kelly, 3 Charlie Nathan; Reel: 1 Lisa McGillivray, 2 Ragen Kelly; Lilt: 1 Lisa McGillivray, 2 Ragen Kelly, 3 Charlie Nathan; Flora: 1 Lisa McGillivray; 10 years and over: Fling: 1 Alison Shaw, Bute, 2 Amy Gibb, Oban, 3 Bronwyn Davies, Kilniver; Swords: 1 Bronwyn Davis, 2 Amy Gibb; Seann Truibhas: 1 Amy Gibb, 2 Bronwyn Davis, 3 Alison Shaw; Reel: 1 Amy Gibb, 2 Alison Shaw; Lilt: 1 Alison Shaw, 2 Bronwyn Davis, 3 Christina Smith, Campbeltown; Flora: 1 Alison Shaw, 2 Christina Smith. Novice: 10 years and under: Fling: 1 Eilidh Anderson, Campbeltown, 2 Linzi Cameron, Campbeltown, 3 Lauren McKeller, Campbeltown; Swords: 1 Linzi Cameron, 2 Katie MacPherson, Oban, 3 Amy Lang, Campbeltown; Seann Truibhas: 1 Eilidh Anderson, 2 Linzi Cameron, 3 Lauren McKeller; Reel: 1 Eilidh Anderson, 2 Molly MacPherson, Oban, 3 Katie MacPherson; Lilt: 1 Katie MacPherson, 2 Molly MacPherson, 3 Nicola MacAulay; Flora: 1 Katie MacPherson, 2 Eilidh Anderson, 3 Molly MacPherson; 11



Piper James MacPherson, 13, impressed judges at the recent Kilmore Games

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years and over: Fling: 1 Eilidh MacNeil, Bute, 2 Becky Dott, Campbeltown, 3 Lynne MacLean, Barcaldine; Swords: 1 Becky Dott, 2 Eilidh MacNeil, 3 Lynne MacLean; Seann Truibhas: 1 Eilidh MacNeil, 2 Becky Dott, 3 Lynne MacLean; Reel: 1 Becky Dott, 2 Eilidh MacNeil, 3 Lynne MacLean; Lilt: 1 Becky Dott, 2 Lynne MacLean, 3 Millie Beuscher, Oban; Flora: 1 Lynne MacLean, 2 Eilidh MacNeil, 3 Becky Dott. Intermediate: Under 16 years: Fling: 1 Fiona Armstrong, Dennyloanhead, 2 Marcela McMillan, Rothesay, 3 Mhairi MacInnes, Uist; Swords: 1 Lyndsey Fletcher, Dunoon, 2 Fiona Armstrong, 3 Mhairi MacInnes; Seann Truibhas: 1 Fiona Armstrong, 2 Lyndsey Fletcher, 3 Leigh Miller, Dunoon; Reel: 1 Fiona Armstrong, 3 Mhairi MacInnes; Lilt: 1 Fiona Armstrong, 2 Lyndsey Fletcher, 3 Mhairi MacInnes; Premier 12 years and under: Fling: 1 Kirsty McGillivray, Dunoon, 2 Emma Bannatyne, Campbeltown, 3 Katie Lambert, Dunoon; Swords: 1

Katie Lambert, 2 Emma Bannatyne, 3 Abbie MacKenzie, Oban; Seann Truibhas: Kirsty McGillivray, 2 Emma Bannatyne, 3 Abbie MacKenzie; Reel: 1 Kirsty McGillivray, 2 Emma Bannatyne, 3 Abbie MacKenzie; Irish Jig: 1 Emma Bannatyne, 2 Katie Lambert, 3 Kirsty MacInnes, Oban; Sailors Hornpipe: 1 Katie Lambert, 2 Kirsty MacInnes, 3 Kirsty McGillivray; Under 16 years: Fling: 1 Gina M Murchy, Campbeltown, 2 Kirsty Barrett, Rothesay, 3 Danielle Law; Swords: 1 Kirsty Barrett, 2 Gina M Murchy, 3 Kirsten McGarry, Dunoon; Seann Truibhas: 1 Danielle Law, 2 Kirsty Barrett, 3 Rachael O'May, Campbeltown; Reel: 1 Kirsty Barrett, 2 Danielle Law, 3 Gina M Murchy, 3 John Mulholland, Oban; Sailors Hornpipe: 1 Rachael O'May, 3 Kirsty Barrett; Adults: Fling: 1 Alannah Higgins, 2 Elaine Ferguson, 3 Zoe Johnston, Oban, 3 Elaine Ferguson, Campbeltown; Swords: 1 Alannah Higgins, 2 Elaine Ferguson, 3 Zoe Johnston, 3 Zoe Johnston. Trophy Winners: Beginners 9 years and under: Lisa McGillivray, Dunoon, 10 years and over: Amy Gibb, Oban. Novice: 10 years and under: Eilidh Anderson, Campbeltown. 11 years and over: = Eilidh MacNeil, Bute and Becky Dott, Campbeltown. Intermediate Winner: Fiona Armstrong, Dennyloanhead. Premier: 12 years and under: Kirsty McGillivray, Dunoon, under 16 years: Kirsty Barrett, Rothesay, Adults: Alannah Higgins, Oban. Due to the heavy showers throughout the day the dancing competition was held in the Kilmore Hall.

Mallaig and Morar Highland Games

Results
 Adult piping
 Special Piobaireachd - 1, Gordon Walker, Argyshire; 2, John Mulholland; 3, Robert Gray; 4, John Angus Smith; John Gillies Bourblach Memorial Cup - Gordon Walker. March - 1, Gordon Walker, Argyshire; 2, John Angus Smith; 3, John Mulholland; 4, Brendan Eade; Silver Sgian Dhu - Gordon Walker. Strathspey and Reel - 1, Gordon Walker, Argyshire; 2, Brendan Eade; 3, Decker Forrest; 4, John Mulholland. Jig and Hornpipe - 1, Gordon Walker, Argyshire; 2, John Mulholland; 3, Decker Forrest; 4, Robert Gray.
 Junior piping
 March - 1, Sandy Cameron, Roy Bridge; 2, James Rosie, Fort William; 3, Andrew Hepburn, Fort William; MacBrayne Cup - Sandy Cameron. Strathspey and Reel - 1, Sandy Cameron, Roy Bridge; 2, James Rosie, Fort William; 3, Andrew Hepburn, Fort William. Simon MacKinnon Trophy - Sandy Cameron.
 Open heavy events
 Putting the 16lb ball - 1, Neil Elliot 42'10"; 2, David Hart, Fort William 35'; 3, Andrew Johnston 32'11"; 4, Bill Thomson 32'7". Putting the 22lb ball - 1, Neil Elliot 34'9"; 2, David Hart, Fort William 30'10"; 3= Andrew Johnston, Bill Thomson 27'10". 56lb Weight over the bar - 1, Peter Whitehead 13'6"; 2, Neil Elliot 13'; 3, David Hart 11'6"; 4, Andrew Johnston 11'. 56lb Weight for distance - 1, Neil Elliot 31'9"; 2, David Hart, Fort William 22'; 3, Andrew Johnston 18'9"; 4, Bill Thomson 17'1". 22lb Hammer - 1, Neil Elliot 105'8"; 2, Peter Whitehead 83'; 3, Andrew Johnston 79'; 4, David Hart,



Donnie MacLellan presents Mallaig dancer Aimee Sneddon with her trophy

Fort William 75'8". Tossing the caber - 1, Neil Elliot; 2, Peter Whitehead; 3, David Hart, Fort William. Local 16lb ball - 1, David Hart, Fort William 34'5"; 2, Peter Whitehead 32'2"; 3, Andrew Johnston 29'10"; 4, MacKenzie 27'6".
 Adult dancing
 Fling - 1, Eilidh Buchanan, Larbert; 2, Darra Wood, Tain; 3, Abby Drysdale, Seafeld. Swords - 1, Eilidh Buchanan, Larbert; 2, Darra Wood, Tain; 3, Abby Drysdale, Seafeld. Sean Truibhas - 1, Eilidh Buchanan, Larbert; 2, Darra Wood, Tain; 3, Abby Drysdale, Seafeld. Reel of Tulloch - 1, Eilidh Buchanan, Larbert; 2, Darra Wood, Tain; 3, Abby Drysdale, Seafeld. Hornpipe - 1, Eilidh Buchanan, Larbert; 2, Darra Wood, Tain; 3, Abby Drysdale, Seafeld. Jig - 1, Eilidh Buchanan, Larbert; 2, Darra Wood, Tain; 3, Abby Drysdale, Seafeld. John and Mae MacVarish Memorial Trophy - Eilidh Buchanan.
 Open dancing 13-15
 Fling - 1, Danielle Law, Fife; 2, Mairi MacKellaig, Stenhousemuir; 3, Lisa West; 4, Laura Urquhart. Swords - 1, Danielle Law, Fife; 2, Lisa West; 3, Mairi MacKellaig, Stenhousemuir; 4, Laura Urquhart. Sean Truibhas - 1, Danielle Law, Fife; 2, Lisa West; 3, Mairi MacKellaig, Stenhousemuir; 4, Laura Urquhart.



Leodhais MacPherson of Mallaig and Newcaste won the junior hill race

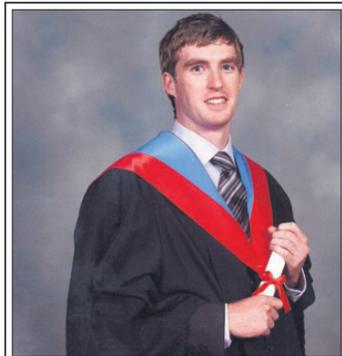
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 3, Laura Urquhart; 4, Mairi MacKellaig, Stenhousemuir. Reel of Tulloch - 1, Danielle Law, Fife; 2, Lisa West; 3, Mairi MacKellaig, Stenhousemuir; 4, Laura Urquhart. Hornpipe - 1, Danielle Law, Fife; 2, Lisa West; 3, Mairi MacKellaig, Stenhousemuir; 4, Laura Urquhart. Jig - 1, Danielle Law, Fife; 2, Laura Urquhart; 3, Lisa West. 4, Mairi MacKellaig, Stenhousemuir. Bank of Scotland Quaich - Danielle Law.
 Open dancing 12 and under
 Fling - 1, Morven MacKellaig, Stenhousemuir; 2, Kelsey MacBeth, Mallaig; 3, Caitlin

Muir, Mallaig; 4, Aimee Sneddon. Swords - 1, Morven MacKellaig, Stenhousemuir; 2, Jenna MacDonald; 3, Kelsey MacBeth, Mallaig; 4, Caitlin Muir, Mallaig. Sean Truibhas - 1, Morven MacKellaig, Stenhousemuir; 2, Kelsey MacBeth, Mallaig; 3, Aimee Sneddon. Reel of Tulloch - 1, Morven MacKellaig, Stenhousemuir; 2, Kelsey MacBeth, Mallaig; 3, Aimee Sneddon; 4, Jenna MacDonald. Bank of Scotland Quaich - Morven MacKellaig.
 Local dancing 16 and under
 Fling - 1, Morven Cameron, Arisaig; 2, Aimee Lawrie, Mallaig; 3, Kelsey MacBeth, Mallaig; 4, Caitlin Muir, Mallaig. Swords - 1, Kelsey MacBeth, Mallaig; 2, Aimee Lawrie, Mallaig; 3, Caitlin Muir, Mallaig; 4, Celine Harold. Sean Truibhas - 1, Morven Cameron, Arisaig; 2, Kelsey MacBeth, Mallaig; 3, Aimee Lawrie, Mallaig; 4, Caitlin Muir, Mallaig. Flora - 1, Aimee Lawrie, Mallaig; 2, Morven Cameron, Arisaig; 3, Kelsey MacBeth, Mallaig. Hornpipe - 1, Kelsey MacBeth, Mallaig; 2, Aimee Lawrie, Mallaig. Roy Stewart Memorial Rose Bowl for Local Sean Truibhas - Morven Cameron.
 Local dancing 11 and under
 Fling - 1, Aimee Sneddon; 2, Jenna MacDonald; 3, Emily Brown. Swords - 1, Aimee Sneddon; 2, Jenna MacDonald; 3, Emily Brown. Sean Truibhas - 1, Aimee Sneddon; 2, Jenna MacDonald; 3, Emily Brown. Morar Community Council Trophy - Aimee Sneddon.
 Junior heavies
 Boys: Shot - 1, James Elwell, Worcester; 2, Hendry Cash; 3, Vivien Burke. Weight for distance - 1, Vivien Burke; 2, Matthew MacBeth; 3, James Elwell, Worcester. Caber - 1, James Elwell, Worcester; 2, Andrew Buchannan, Larbert; 3, Sandy MacDonald.
 Girls: Shot - 1, Virginia; 2, Louise; 3, Caitlin. Weight for distance - 1, Virginia; 2, Louise; 3, Caitlin. Caber - 1, Caitlin; 2, Louise; 3, Virginia.
 Boys 15-17: Shot - 1, Sam Thomson 30'2"; 2, Alex Hills 29'6"; 3, Josh Thomson 28'10". Weight for distance - 1, Sam Thomson 57'1"; 2, Josh Thomson 48'6"; 3, Donald Livingston 44'11". Hammer - 1, Donald Livingston 69'4"; 2, Sam Thomson 66'; 3, Alex Hills 61'3". Caber - 1, Donald Livingston; 2, Alex Hills; 3, Sam Thomson.
 Girls 12 to 14: Shot - 1, Hope Thomson 18'9"; 2, Eilidh Armstrong 18'5". Weight for distance - 1, Hope Thomson 24'8"; 2, Eilidh Armstrong 23'8". Hammer - 1, Hope Thomson 53'8"; 2, Eilidh Armstrong 46'9". Caber - 1, Hope Thomson; 2, Eilidh Armstrong.



Sandy MacDonald from Morar tosses the caber in the mini-heavies competition at Mallaig and Morar Highland Games

Graduations



Craig Aitken graduated from Glasgow Caledonian University with a Bachelor of Arts in Business and Management with Honours.
 Craig is the son of Alasdair and Lindsey. He is a former pupil of Park Primary and Oban High School.



Mairi Livingstone graduated from Edinburgh University with a Bachelor of Education with Honours in Primary Education.
 Mairi is the daughter of Iain and Ruth Livingstone and the granddaughter of Donnie and Annie Graham, Oban and the late Donnie and Ina Livingstone, Glenlonan and Taynuilt



Calum Charles Campbell MacColl graduated from Reading University with a BSc Honours Degree in Meteorology.
 Calum is the son of Charlie and Mairi MacColl, Fort William and the grandson of the late Allan and Mary MacColl, Dorlin and the late Archie and Mary Campbell, Airdrie. Calum is a former pupil of Upper Achintore Primary and Lochaber High.



Ciara Ewing graduated from Queen Margaret University, Edinburgh with a B.A. Honours in Events Management.
 Ciara is a former pupil of Lochaber High School and the granddaughter of Cynthia Cassidy, Kinlochleven and the late Fred Jarrett, Caol.



Kathryn L. Dawson graduated with B.A. Hons. from Edinburgh Napier. A former pupil of Rockfield Primary and Oban High School. She leaves to take up an internship with U.B.S. Stamford, C.T. U.S.A. in September.
 Kathryn is the daughter of Hamish and Ina Dawson, Searidge, Oban.



Catriona MacPhee, a former reporter with The Oban Times, recently graduated with a BA(Hons) in Journalism and Politics from Stirling University.
 Catriona is a former pupil of St Mary's RC Primary School and Lochaber High School, Fort William and daughter of Duncan and Rosemary MacPhee.



Fiona MacLellan graduated LLB (Hons) in Law and a Modern Language (Spanish) from Strathclyde University.
 Fiona is the daughter of Marian and Archie MacLellan, Glasgow and the granddaughter of Mary and Danny MacDougall, Oban and the late Archie and Ina MacLellan, Harbour View, Mallaig.



Laura Elizabeth Currie graduated from the Robert Gordon University, Aberdeen with a Bachelor of Arts in Sculpture from Gray's School of Art.
 Laura is a former pupil of Rockfield Primary School and Oban High School, she is the daughter of Colin and Janet, the granddaughter of Donald and Fiona Currie and of Mary and the late George Anderson, all of Oban



Carol-Ann Stewart graduated from the University of Strathclyde with first class Honours in Bachelor of Education in Primary Education.
 Carol-Ann is the daughter of Margaret and Murdo Stewart, Corpach, granddaughter of Margaret Sheach and the late Billy Sheach, Fort William and the late Agnes and Bobby Stewart, Caol. Carol-Ann is a former pupil of Banavie Primary School and Lochaber High School.



Denise Kennedy graduated with a MA (Hons) in Psychology from the University of Glasgow.
 Denise is the daughter of Bobby and Heather Kennedy, Inverness and the granddaughter of Maira and the late Archie Mitchell, Kinlochleven.



Arlene Robbie graduated from Edinburgh Napier University with a Bachelor of Arts in Business management.
 Arlene is a former pupil of Tobermory High School and the only daughter of Keith and Isabel Robbie of Ishriff, Glenmore, Craignure, Isle of Mull.

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Crime spree culprit jailed for four years

A MAN who stole £16,000 worth of items from four houses in the Highlands has been jailed for four years and banned from driving for life. Michael Boylan, aged 54, described in court as a prisoner in Barlinnie, embarked on a six-hour crime spree on April 29 having driven up from his home in Manchester the night before. Between 9.30am and 3.15pm he broke into one house in Crianlarich, two in Onich and one in Spean Bridge, stealing around £16,000 worth of jewellery, clothes and other items and causing nearly £3,000 of damage. Police were alerted to the break-ins at around 12.15pm and launched a full-scale search to track down the culprit.

REPORT by RICHARD HADDOCK
fort@obantimes.co.uk

Officers in a patrol car spotted Boylan's car on the A9 and pulled him over after becoming suspicious. When Boylan got out the car, a sapphire and diamond ring dropped on the ground from his person. The police also noticed jewellery in the driver's footwell, searched the car and found the stolen items. All were later returned to their owners. At Fort William Sheriff Court, Boylan pled guilty to four charges of burglary and driving whilst disqualified. Defending, Neil McCulloch said his client had 'spent much of his early life as a professional criminal' but he

had recently turned his back on crime. Boylan, who suffers from depression, set up a market stall in Manchester, which soon ran into debt. Things had become too much for him and he carried out the burglaries in 'an act of madness', Mr McCulloch said. Sheriff Douglas Small rejected the claim the robberies had been a spur of the moment decision, pointing out that Boylan, who was already disqualified from driving, had driven up from Manchester the night before he committed his crimes. Sentencing Boylan to four years in prison and a lifetime driving ban, Sheriff Small told him: 'Your record shows you are quite clearly an habitual criminal.'



Left to right, Theresa MacDonald, aged 93, who contributes each year to the hanging baskets scheme, Catriona Jackson from the Outdoor Capital of the UK and Mary Morrison.

Man admits growing cannabis in caravan

A CAMPBELTOWN man has admitted growing cannabis plants in his caravan in Lochaber. Malcolm Graham, aged 32, of 20 Smith Drive, pled guilty to producing cannabis between September 1 and November 18 in a caravan he kept at Torlundy. Graham had been working as a chainsaw operative for the Forestry Commission in Laggan and stayed in the caravan between Mondays and Thursdays. A passer-by was walking in the area near the caravan on November 18 and noticed a smell of cannabis. He opened the unlocked caravan and saw the stash. He called the police who arrived and found 46 plants. Procurator Fiscal Alyson Wylie said a well-maintained cannabis plant could produce £300 worth of the drug but Graham's plants were not in a good condition and would not have sold for as much. An expert from the police's drug squad said the cannabis plants were a 'typical, amateurish attempt' and concluded Graham was growing the drug for personal use. Sheriff Douglas Small fined Graham £500.

Fort William High Street keeps on blooming

FORT William High Street has been blooming again this summer - thanks to Lochaber promotions group The Outdoor Capital of the UK (OCUK). The pedestrian thoroughfare been adorned with almost 100 hundred hanging baskets over the summer months, providing a colourful backdrop for locals and visitors. In previous years Lex Troedson of High Street business the Hot Roast Company has organised the displays, but he is leaving the area and called on the OCUK to pick up the baton for 2010. The group was happy to oblige and secured funding from the Highland councillors' discretionary fund, High Street retailers, local businesses and individuals to brighten up High Street with the floral displays.

Mr Troedson said: 'The High Street has worked hard during the last few years during very difficult times to provide as an attractive central hub for Lochaber as they could. Hanging baskets make a huge difference. Visitors enjoy them and they help make the local people proud of their town.' OCUK project director Frazer Coupland said: 'Lex has done a sterling job over the last few years and we aim to keep up the good standard that he set. It is especially important to keep it going now that the West Highland Way finishes on the High Street. We also hope that local businesses will back the hanging basket scheme in the future, both financially and through support in kind, as we look to raise at least £3,500 for the 2011 scheme - starting now.'



Enjoying the fair: Lisa Dixon and her dad James, of Portree. 10_f33gala01

Kyleakin Gala Day fun

HUNDREDS of visitors enjoyed a fine day next to the Skye Bridge at Kyleakin Gala Day on Saturday. One of the highlights was the Skye Bridge 10k run, with spectators lining the route to cheer on the athletes. A fully restored 1960s MacBraynes bus, which had been in use on the island until around 1970, was on display on the green and proved a popular attraction. Many local residents took the chance to re-live the past on a special bus journey at 2.15pm over the bridge to Kyle. Skye Circus Skills, a group of circus enthusiasts based in the Skye and Lochalsh area, provided dramatic entertainment on their

trapeze and taught locals how to juggle. Amongst the other attractions was a facepainting stall, a bouncy castle and a coconut shy, while Lochalsh Junior Pipe Band provided music throughout the day. Two dances were held in the marquee, one on Friday and another on Saturday, which were both well attended. All the money raised at the gala day will go towards helping local causes, including the centre for the disabled, the youth club and the football club. Organiser Ewan Morrison told *The Oban Times*: 'It's been a really good day. We've had good crowds and the weather has been kind to us for a change.'

Skye Lines

A BROADFORD registered fishing boat rescued four people from the sea off Mallaig on Friday afternoon. Skipper Ewen MacKenzie and his crew of the *Alec C* brought two adults and two children on board minutes after the group were pitched into the water when their speedboat hit a wave. The group's collie dog was left alone in the out-of-control craft, which was circling near those in the water. Mallaig RNLI Lifeboat and Stornoway Coastguard were quickly on the accident scene, just beyond the lighthouse at Mallaig Harbour. By the time they arrived the *Alec C* crew had the four people safely on board. The lifeboat crew managed to lasso the speedboat and rescue the dog. Mallaig harbourmaster Robert MacMillan said the family group 'were pretty shaken up'. Conditions at the time, he said, were 'squally'.



Quiet moments were few and far between for Tommy MacKenzie at the Isle of Skye Highland Games last Wednesday, in what were his final games as Chieftain. Although there is no hard and fast rule, the role of chieftain is traditionally held by any one person for a period of three years before someone else is appointed - and the 2010 games were Tommy's third. He was a busy man throughout the day, welcoming visitors from all over the world to Portree's biggest event of the year. How did Tommy, an artist with a gallery in Portree, feel about stepping down? 'I'm looking forward to being a rebellious back-bencher!' he told *The Oban Times*. The games committee will appoint a new chieftain at its AGM in March or April. 10_f33tommy01



Restored bus a popular attraction at gala day

John MacDonald, Lawrence Sutherland and Rod Geddes brought their beautifully restored 1963 MacBraynes bus to Kyleakin Gala Day on Saturday. The bus, rescued 18 years ago from a farm near Blairgowrie, proved a popular attraction throughout the day.

Record Barra air passenger numbers

JULY was the busiest-ever month for Loganair's service between Barra and Glasgow, according to figures released this week. A total of 1,209 people flew with the airline, up 10 per cent on the same month in 2009 and comfortably beating the previous monthly record of 1,134 passengers set in August 2008.

Commercial director Jonathan Hinkles cited high summer demand and disruption of ferry services as contributing factors. He said: 'The peak summer season has proved to be exceptionally busy this year, no doubt helped by a number of special events and the unfortunate situation affecting *MV Clansman*. We are pleased to have been able to assist by providing extra services over and above those which would normally take place, far exceeding the minimum service levels which we're obliged to offer.' Passenger numbers on the inter-island air service to Benbecula were also up 11 per cent, said Mr Hinkles.



RAF servicemen helping a group of pupils, ex-pupils and parents prepare the way for the eco area. 10_f33garden01

RAF men help Fort William Primary School pupils clear wasteland for eco area

A GROUP of RAF servicemen lent a helping hand to a Fort William Primary School on Monday before starting their three peaks challenge. A group of seven men from RAF Kinloss climbed the three highest peaks in the UK - Ben Nevis, Scafell Pike and Snowdonia - in 24 hours, starting at Ben Nevis at 7.30am last Tuesday. Instead of getting sponsors for the ascents, they decided to spend time helping out a primary school near each one of the peaks. They got in touch with Fort William

Primary, which was planning to build an eco area in a piece of wasteland beside the playground. The school will make the area into a wild garden, with the children growing plants designed to attract a wide variety of insects. The RAF soldiers helped a group of pupils, ex-pupils and parents to clear the unkempt area by removing trees, bushes and stones and getting the ground ready for planting. One of the RAF men Steve Clark told *The Oban Times*: 'Schools are screaming out for help and we thought

it would be a bit different to just getting sponsors.' After their climbs, the airmen will paint a school in Wales and help schoolchildren near Scafell Pike plant a garden. The servicemen were not the only people helping Fort William Primary School with the eco area. Russell Plant Hire gave them free use of a wood chipper for the day to clear away the old trees and bushes and Corrie Construction provided labour, materials and machinery.

House transfer to be investigated

HIGHLAND Council is taking over homes as they become vacant and paying the council cash in return. The homes would be relet to applicants on the Highland Housing Register at a rent of around £75, a figure between the average council rent and private rents. The average current

council rent is £59.76. The company would collect rent revenue for 25 years before handing the properties back to the council at no cost. The council would continue to allocate, manage and maintain the homes, based on agreed fees per unit to be paid to the council by the partner. Some 650 new homes could be built in five years under the scheme, housing and social work chairman Margaret Davidson said. She added: 'Members welcome the initiative and look forward to seeing details in a business case.'

Marine wildlife spotlight on Sound of Canna

EXPLORATION of the Sound of Canna is underway to confirm the presence of some of Scotland's most important marine wildlife features. A team of marine biologists from Aquatic Survey and Monitoring Ltd (ASML) is charting the quantity, quality and distribution of habitats and species of greatest conservation importance - called priority marine features, or PMFs. Previous surveys have found PMFs such as fan mussels, burrowing sea anemones, northern sea fans and sea-grass beds. Findings from the seven-week project will be published next spring. Environment Minister Roseanna Cunningham said the work would help identify Scotland's 'tremendous national underwater assets'.

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Glenuig Inn refurbished

A LOCHABER inn dating back to the times of Bonnie Prince Charlie has been refurbished whilst retaining the building's original stonework.

The Glenuig Inn, near Lochailort was taken over by Steve Macfarlane in 2007 and with a £180,000 grant from Highlands and Islands Enterprise, he has turned it into a modern accommodation facility. Mr Macfarlane said: 'We are very excited about the refurbishment as it is all about attracting people to the area.'

Forklift on road leads to charges

A FORT William sawmill worker and his employers have denied using a forklift truck on a public road while unsafe to do so.

BSW Timber employee Charles Thomson, 62, of 30 Carn Dearg Road, Claggan, is charged with driving the forklift on the A830 at Corpach on May 11 when it did not comply with construction and use requirements as the driver's view was obstructed by the load. BSW Timber is charged with permitting Thomson to drive the forklift.

The trial will be heard in Fort William Sheriff Court on September 2.

Russian skipper fails to appear

AN ARREST warrant has been issued for a Russian shipmaster who was drunk whilst in charge of his boat in Lochaber.

Alexey Maslov, 33, of Room 69, 22 Melenteva, Petrozavodsk, Russia, is charged with being master of a ship whilst almost four times the legal blood/alcohol limit on July 10 at Annat, Corpach. He failed to appear at Fort William Sheriff Court last week.

Clarification

The Oban Times would like to clarify the winner of the signed Rangers top in last week's paper was Fergie MacLean, not Norman MacLean, as reported.

Heavy showers fail to halt the crowds at Portree

THE LUMP at Portree welcomed a crowd of over 4,000 last Wednesday for the 133rd Isle of Skye Highland Games on a day of sunshine and heavy showers.

Spectators three and four deep ringed the scenic arena to enjoy a varied programme which included heavy events, piping, and Highland dancing competitions.

The dancers had the worst of it on the wooden stage, which had to be periodically covered with a tarpaulin during the worst of the downpours.

Sawdust was thrown down to provide grip before the dancers, including 15 year-old Catherine Beaton from Portree, continued in the sunshine.

Piper Calum MacColl from Fort William braved the intermittent downpours to accompany the 15 competitors, who came from

all over Scotland.

'The fingers were starting to slip wee bit on the chanter and it was touch and go for a while,' he said.

Dancing judge Rosemary MacGuire's little tent was a busy place in the worst of the conditions. Heavy events athletes crowded in the shelter, enduring good-natured jibes that the girls still dancing outside in the rain were made of sterner stuff.

Over at the piping competition, 17 competitors played before judge Archie MacLean, with Skye and Lochalsh pipers James Roxburgh, Bridghe Chaimbeul, Bruce MacDonald, Seamus O'Baoghill and Lee MacLeod the prizewinners in the local competitions.

For Tommy MacKenzie, it was his third and final year in his role as games Chieftain.

Only four heavy events athletes, Gregor Edmunds from Glasgow, Sinclair Patience from Tain, Scott Rider from London and Mike Zockiewicz from the USA turned up on the day, leaving Tommy 'a wee bit worried'

'We only have four yet we put the prize money up to £100,' he said. 'We actually don't know who's coming until they walk through the gate on the day. Ideally, six heavies would be great. It's been suggested we should have a fifth place prize for next year and it may be that's something we will consider.'

'I am very encouraged by the local competition in the heavy events and in the track and field events. We have had some great races and there are some good youngsters coming on. The weather has spoiled it a wee bit, but there's still a great crowd.'

In the athletics, Lochaber AC's David Rodgers stormed to second in the hill race, while his teammate Dawn Scott was third woman home.

Isle of Skye Pipe Band entertained throughout and were joined in the afternoon by the Bataborum Pipe Band from Nijmegen in Holland.

IoS Drum major Peter MacDonald said: 'They asked if they could play and we never say no. The reason they came to Skye was that they wear the Skye tartan and wear the MacLeod emblem on their glengarries.'

'They thoroughly enjoyed their tour and it's their first time playing at the Skye games. The presented me with a plaque and a Dutch figurine - so that goes into the collection!'

See results and games pictures at www.obantimes.co.uk.



Executive director of Clan Donald Skye David MacDonald presents Sleat pipers Seamus O'Baoghill and Bridghe Chaimbeul with Clan Donald quaichs 10_f33portree03



Gregor Edmunds of Glasgow thrills the crowd with a big throw 10_f33portree21



Portree piper Rona Nicolson celebrated her 11th birthday before the games 10_f33portree12



John Gillies, 16, from Portree in the piping competition 10_f33portree05



Rain dance: The Highland dancers didn't manage to dodge all the showers 10_f33portree09



Catherine Beaton, 15, from Portree performs the sword dance 10_f33portree10

Haggis-eating and heavy events keep big crowd entertained at Newtonmore

SPECIAL REPORT
by
DAVE FALLOWS

AS DAY broke on the morning of Newtonmore's annual Highland Games and Clan Macpherson Rally, the portents were not good as the pitter-patter of constant rain drummed on the window panes. But the rain stopped, and as lunchtime approached, the skies cleared and eventually broke to reveal a warm and sunny afternoon, much to the relief of the organisers.

As the temperatures climbed, so they were matched by an increasing stream of Eilan-bound cars - so much so that a relief parking field had to be opened up, and the queue for admission lengthened to over 10 minutes.

Those who made the effort were rewarded with an excellent games and in particular a hard fought series of heavy events which was so competitive that timings went out of the window and the series didn't complete until after six o'clock.

Throughout, eventual overall

winner Dan Carlin competed head to head with Kyle Randalls with just a single point separating the two at the end, though Dave Garman from Hollywood with prominent shock of ginger hair, beard to match and Acker Bilk style bowler hat provided plenty of entertainment without really pushing the winners.

Eighty five competitors entered the Creag Dhu Hill Race which was led from start to finish by Hector Haynes from Edinburgh University, finishing a couple of minutes outside the 27 minutes, 7 seconds mark that John Brooks of Lochaber set 10-years ago.

If Dave Garman couldn't match the winners in the heavy events, he did manage a moment of glory in the haggis eating competition, dead heating with Newtonmore shinty player Davie 'Balla' Campbell, both devouring a little over a pound of the fresh hill-caught critters in two minutes thirty six seconds.

Five pipe bands from as far afield as Brechin and Blairgowrie took part in the massed march along the Main Street to the games.



Throwing the hammer was one of the heavy events that attracted a good entry and kept the spectators entertained



Five pipe bands from as far afield as Brechin and Blairgowrie took part in the massed march along Newtonmore's Main Street to Newtonmore Highland Games and the annual Clan MacPherson Gathering.



Highland dancers had a roof over their heads as early morning showers cleared to a bright, warm afternoon that ensured the crowds flocked to the Eilan

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STOOLS Gas filled silver bar stools 3 months old like new condition from Homebase cost £33.99, £14.99 Telephone 01546 606857.

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brown in colour, 52" long or 72" extended, 33" wide. Carriage can be arranged, £49.99 Telephone 01631 566431.

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double bed, excellent cond, £80 Telephone 07880 876634.

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from flat in Lochgilphead everyday after 3pm, all furniture - freezer, carpet underlay, cot bed with all equipment for baby. For further details, Telephone 01546 600060 after 3pm.

LEADED GLASS FRONTED CUPBOARD

size 4'6 x 4' approx, £30 Telephone 07876 704075.

SETTEE (2 SEATER)

good condition and good looking upholstery, beige with unobtrusive pattern, very comfortable, fits in small spaces (approx 145cm), £49.99 Telephone 07768 895260.

SIDE UNIT

oak, phone for sizes etc, excellent condition, (Lochgilphead), £40 Telephone 07920 500216.

SINGLE BED WITH MATTRESS

Metal and wood frame, modern design and mattress is included in price. In very good condition. Buyer to uplift, £40 Telephone 01852 316266.

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2 good quality (John Lewis) 'Mates' chairs, £30 Telephone 01855 811879.

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three seater settee, one chair, dark brown leather, v.g., £250 Telephone 01586 554004.

GARDEN

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with brass crank, green, x 2, still in box, £20 each Telephone 01546 602275.

HOME FURNISHINGS

CURTAINS cut velvet red / cream fully lined eyelet curtains, cost £150, 6 months old never used 259x137cm/102x54", £49.99 Telephone 07887 551496.

SOFA COVER

Faux Suede sofa cover, large x 2x arm chair covers, chocolate, new, £190 Telephone 07880 876634.

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DESK with lots of compartments, £30 Telephone 07876 704075.

DESK

with 3 drawers, £20 Telephone 07876 704075.

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DESK

with 3 drawers, £20 Telephone 07876 704075.

PERSONALS

GEMMA Happy 21st Birthday



Love from Mum, Dad, Ashleigh, Nanny and Papa.

Happy Birthday To Leah MacCorquodale

On the 12th August Lots of love from Daddy, Gran and Granddad x

Happy 21st Birthday Julie



11th August 2010 Mum, Dad and Robbie

Iain Grant Would like to thank family, friends and colleagues for all the cards, gifts and good wishes received following my recent retirement. Special thanks to the crew of M.V. Isle of Mull, and management of Caledonian MacBrayne. Finally thank you to all the Mull folk for their kindness and friendship over the years.

Laura Fawdry Would like to thank everyone associated with Achaleven Primary and in the community of Connel for the beautiful gifts and good wishes, which I received at the end of term. I would like to wish everyone good luck for the future.

WORDS BY THE WAYSIDE "And they went out, and preached that men should repent." If you never see yourself as a lost sinner and needing a Saviour you will never repent and seek The Lord Jesus for your own salvation. He says, "Except you repent you shall all likewise perish" WordsbytheWayside.co.uk

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9. The Advertising Agency agrees to indemnify the Publisher in respect of all costs, damages or other charges falling upon the publication as the result of legal actions or threatened legal actions arising from the publication of the advertisement in any one or more of a series of

BIRTHS

HENDERSON
James and Lizzie (née Moore) are delighted to announce the birth, on July 2, 2010, of their son, James Robert, a grandson for Jeff and Enid Moore, Oxenhope, and Morag and the late Jimmy Henderson, Tobermory.

MACKAY - LOVE
Donald and Karen are delighted to announce the safe arrival of Calum James MacKay, born on July 9, 2010 at R.A.H., Paisley. A new grandchild for Jake and Jane MacKay, Inveraray and Fiona and the late James Love, Oban. Many thanks to the Midwives in Oban.

SATCHEL - O'NEILL
Alasdair and Georgia are delighted to announce the arrival of their son, Coll Alexander, on July 8, 2010 at Paisley RAH. A first grandchild for Callum and Morag, Dunoon and Bill and Jackie, Isle of Mull. Special thanks to Medical Staff on Mull, Captain Laidlaw and the crew of the RAF Helicopter. Paisley RAH Maternity & Neo Natal Dept. for their help with the early arrival of wee Coll.

MACDONALD - Ewan and Helen are delighted to announce the birth of Grace Eilidh on August 1, 2010, a wee sister for Calum and Katie. Thanks to all staff at Oban Maternity Unit.

MARRIAGE

BRADLEY - COULL
At Luss Parish Church, on July 1, 2010 by the Rev Dr Dane Sherrard, Roy William MacKinnon, only son of Mrs Elizabeth Bradley, Kilmelford, Argyll to Shirley Anne only daughter of James and Angusina, Clarkston, Glasgow.

DEATH

GILBERT - At home, on August 3, 2010, Jimmie of Ardshealach Farm, Ardmaddy, Oban, beloved husband of Doreen and dearly loved dad of Keith and Muriel, father-in-law of Katie and Stuart and Papa Scotland to Christie and Lucy. Funeral Service on Friday, August 13 at 2.00pm at Perth Crematorium. Family flowers only please. Retrial collection/donations in lieu if so desired, to Crossroads Care and Riding for the Disabled, or forward to D & A Munn Ltd, Funeral Directors, Breadalbane Street, Oban PA34 5NZ.

IRVINE - Peacefully at home on August 8, 2010, Catherine, beloved wife of the late Charles of Station House, Crianlarich. Thanks to all family, friends and medical staff in attendance

KHANNA (née Carmichael) - Anne Gillies, formerly of Portsochan, Loch Awe, sadly passed away at home in Llysfan, Wales on July 21, 2010. Beloved partner of Peter Cook, mother to Gavin and Lisa, sister to Sheila, Sandy and Charlie. Laid to rest at Glenorchy Church, Dalmlally.

MACDONALD - Suddenly at the Western Infirmary, Glasgow, on July 29, 2010, Mary, (née Kennedy), formerly of Crookston Hotel, Glasgow, daughter of Captain Donald Kennedy, Comaigmore, Tieve. Dearly beloved wife of John and much loved mother of Valerie.

MACFARLANE - Peacefully, surrounded by her family, at the Lorn and Islands Hospital, Oban, on August 3, 2010, in her 82nd year, Helen, née McMurphy, dearly loved wife of Donnie MacFarlane, "Innisfree", Nant Drive, Oban, dear mother of Kenny, John and Jim, mother-in-law of Sadie and Cathie and dearly loved granny of Jennifer, Julie, Katrina, Neil, Andrew and Catherine. Sadly missed.

MCGONIGLE - Suddenly but peacefully, in her 85th year, Margaret nee MacCallum, formerly of Longdale Crescent, Oban, beloved wife of the late John McGonigle, a dear sister, devoted mum, gran and gran-gran. Funeral will take place from St. John's Cathedral, Oban on Thursday August 12, (today) thereafter to Pennyfuir Cemetery. Family flowers only please. Retiring collection for Alzheimer's Scotland.

MCKAY - Isabel (The Dairy), Claggan, died peacefully on Monday, August 9, 2010, dearly beloved mother of Grace and Moira, mother-in-law to Graham and Pete and gran to Martin and Joanne. Funeral service at Duncansburgh MacIntosh Church on Tuesday, August 17 at 2.30pm, thereafter to Glen Nevis Cemetery.

Family flowers only, donations if desired to Macmillan nurses and Parkinsons, Lochaber Branches.

PAGE - At home on the August 8, 2010, Alan George Page of Gruline, Isle of Mull. Husband of the late Jean, much loved father, grandfather and great grandfather. Sadly missed by all the family. Funeral Service to be held at Achnaba Church on Friday August 13, 2010 at 1pm, thereafter to Achnaba Cemetery.

PEOPLES - Suddenly, but peacefully at home in Aberdeen, on August 5, 2010, Cathie Peoples, (aged 87 years), beloved wife of Bill and much loved mother and grandmother. Funeral Service to be held on Monday, August 16 at 1.00pm at Muckairn Parish Church, Taynait, followed by interment. Family flowers only please. Donations, if desired to the children's charity CHAS - Children's Hospice Association Scotland.

POTTER - Edward Douglas (Oban, formerly of Edinburgh) Suddenly at Lorn and Islands Hospital, on August 3, 2010 aged 89 years, dearly loved husband of the late Anne Potter and much loved father of Bill and the late James Potter.

ROSS - Maurice George Ross, late of Swallow Cottage, Kilmore, Oban, sadly passed away on Friday, August 6, 2010. Cremation Service is to be held at Clydebank Crematorium, on Tuesday, August 17 at 1.30pm. All are welcome.

SUTTON - (Tongue). Peacefully at home on Monday, August 9, 2010, Gaius Backholer Sutton, aged 76 years, beloved husband of Mary MacDonald of Kirkiboll, Tongue, a loving father and grandfather. Worship will be held at St Andrews Church, Tongue on Thursday, August 12 at 1pm, D.V. Thereafter to Tongue Cemetery. All friends respectfully invited. No flowers please.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

BENNETT - Chrissie and Heather would like to thank family, friends and neighbours for their endless help following the sad loss of my beloved husband Hugh (Babs) and a very special dad to Heather and the late Angela, to all for the many cards, letters and flowers received. Thanks to the ambulance crew, Dr Henderson and nurses at the A and E Department, Oban, Rev George Cringles for such a memorable and comforting service at Dunbeg Church, also the Rev F Booth at Cardross for a different but most uplifting service. Thanks to all who came from afar to pay their last respects. Hamish Hoey and Son for funeral arrangements carried out to perfection. Retiring collection for Heart Foundation was £276.70. Thanks to all.

BRIEVOGAL - The family of the late Christopher Brievogal would like to extend their thanks to all friends, neighbours and relatives for their kind expressions of sympathy, cards and beautiful floral tributes. Special thanks to Christopher's friends and workmates who travelled from Oban to attend his funeral in Tieve and to all those who paid their last respects at the house and graveyard. Thanks also to Rev Peter Williamson and Rev Gibson for their comforting service and to all those who helped with the funeral arrangements.

MACFARLANE - Donnie and all the family wish to thank all relatives, friends and neighbours, for the cards, telephone calls, support and expressions of sympathy received. Sincere thanks are extended to Dr Allan Henderson, nurses and staff of Ward B, Lorn and Islands Hospital and to Ronald and staff at Willowview Community Care Centre who were so kind to Helen. To Rev. Cat Knott and Donald MacKinnon for a comforting and uplifting service. Finally thanks to the Rowantrree Hotel and to D and A Munn Funeral Directors for very efficient arrangements. Donations for Willowview amounted to £469.72.

MACDONALD - Cathie and family would like to thank most sincerely all friends and neighbours for the many kind expressions of sympathy, cards, letters and floral tributes following the sad passing of Donald. Grateful thanks to Rev G Cringles for his comforting service and visits. To H Hoey and family for thoughtful and efficient funeral arrangements and by your presence at the church and graveside. Many thanks to the Falls of Lora for the lovely buffet. The retiring collection was £529 for Cancer Research.

MEMORIAMS

CAMPBELL - In loving memory of Margaret a much loved wife, mother and granny, who passed away August 15, 2004. Always loved and never forgotten.

- Catriona, Bruce, Jean, Julie and Iain
CHISHOLM - In memory of our dear mother Sarah 'Rae' who sadly passed away on August 11, 2008. Remembering all our happy times.

- Her Boys and Families.
CHISHOLM - Sarah 'Rae' King MacMillan called to higher service on August 11, 2008. Devoted mother and cherished friend. Lovingly remembered everyday. Forever in our hearts. Never far from our thoughts. And always with us in our dreams. Till we meet again.

- Tony and Mairi, Allanbreck, Lettermore, Ballachulish.
DIGNAN - Grace. A special person. A special face. Someone we love and can't replace. Never selfish, always kind. These are the memories you left behind. Loved always. From Andrew and the family.

DOCHERTY - (Mac) In loving memory of a dear mother who died August 16, 2002. Always in our thoughts.
- Love Mary, Peter and family.

FLEMING - In loving memory of my dear husband, Donnie, who died on August 15, 1984. Til we meet again.
- Loving wife, Margaret.

FORGRIEVE - Treasured happy memories of our dear father and mother, Billy, died January 20, 1996, Janette, died August 13, 2004. Sadly missed by all the family. Duncan, Colin, Billy and Ian.

MACARTHUR - In loving memory of my dear brother, Alasdair, who died August 15, 2008. Always in my thoughts.
- Seonaid, 11 Balephuill, Tieve.
MACEWAN - Memories of Maimie, much loved mum and nana, died August 12, 2001. Loved always. From all her family.

MACFARLANE - (née Lafferty). In loving memory of my dear sister Nadia who was taken from us on August 12, 2008. It's been two years since you've been gone. But in our hearts you still live on. Our family chain is broken. And nothing is the same. We mention your name. And speak of you often. Go bless you Nadia. You are not forgotten.
- Love Isabel x

MACFARLANE - (née Lafferty). In loving memory of my dear sister Nadia who was taken from us on August 12, 2008. We are sad within our memory. Lonely are our hearts today. For the one we loved so dearly. Has forever been called away. We think of her in silence. No eye can see us weep. But many silent tears are shed. When others are asleep.
- Love Kathleen, Jessica and Juliette xxx

MACFARLANE - (née Lafferty). In loving memory of my dear sister Nadia who was taken from us on August 12, 2008. As angels keep their watch up there. Please God let her know. That I down here do not forget. I love and miss her so.
- Love John x

MACFARLANE - (née Lafferty). In loving memory of Nadia, who was taken from us on August 12, 2008. You left a place no one can fill. We miss you now and always will.
- Brian, Pene and family xxx

MACFARLANE - Nadia MacFarlane (Lafferty), passed away August 12, 2008. Beautiful memories silently kept of one that we loved and will never forget.
- Terrance, Shirley, Collette, Stewart and families

MACINNES - In loving memory of a much loved dad and papa, Tommy, who passed away on August 11th 1997. Loved and remembered always.
- Love Caroline, Jimmy, Fiona and Jamie xx

MACINNES - In loving memory of a dear dad and papa Tommy, passed away August 11, 1997. Loved and remembered always.
- Mairi, Donald and Sarah. xxx

MILNE - Mum, died August, 14, 2005. You left a place no one can fill. We miss you now and always will. Memories will last forever.
- Your sons, Gary and Andrew.

MILNE - Janice, died August 14, 2005. Forever in our thoughts and always remembered.
- Sister, Nancy and family.
NICHOLSON - In loving memory of Malcolm, husband of the late Jessie, who died August 11, 2001. Forever in our thoughts. And always remembered. From all the family.

POTTER - Treasured memories of a dear husband, father and Danda, Thomas Potter, who died at An Airigh, Dalmlally, on August 15, 1980. Loved and remembered always.

PROSSER - Alexander Sellar died August 10, 1999. Cherished memories of a much loved husband, dad and grandad. Always in our thoughts. Today and everyday.
- Annie and all the family.
PROSSER - Alexander Sellar, died July 30, 2008. A much loved son, brother and uncle. We miss you everyday. You'll always be close to our hearts.
- Annie and all the family.

RODGER - Alister (Sunshine), beloved husband, father and papa, passed away August 16, 2003. Still dearly loved and sorely missed.
- Elsie (1437) xx.

WEIR - Treasured memories of Elsie, our dearly loved mum, gran and great gran, who died August 12, 2003. In a lovely garden sleeping. Where flowers softly sway. Lies a precious mum and gran. Who's loved and missed each day.
Jean, Margaret, Liz and families, Oban.

McKNIGHT - Billy. You left a place no one can fill. I miss you now and always will.
- Margaret and family.

MILNE - Janice, passed away August, 14, 2005. Loving thoughts of our times together. With memories I shall keep forever. Dearly loved and greatly missed.
- Jimmy.

MILNE - Mum, died August, 14, 2005. You left a place no one can fill. We miss you now and always will. Memories will last forever.
- Your sons, Gary and Andrew.

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- Jimmy.

WEDDINGS



Beaton - Brown
Victoria Beaton and Quentin Brown were married at St Munda's Parish Church, Glencoe on July 11, 2010. They went on to The Ballachulish Hotel to celebrate their marriage.
Photograph by Perfect Images, Dunbeg, Oban.



Machean Hamilton - Johnson
Lynn Machean Hamilton and Christopher Johnson were married at Castlebay Cathedral, the Isle of Barra on July 17, 2010. They celebrated at Castlebay Hall.
Photograph by Perfect Images, Dunbeg, Oban.



MacKinnon - Akiyama
Grant Fraser MacKinnon son of Donald and Allison MacKinnon from Tobermory and Naeko Akiyama daughter of Yoshinobu and Etsuko Akiyama from Akita City, Japan were married at Glengorm Castle on June 12th, 2010.



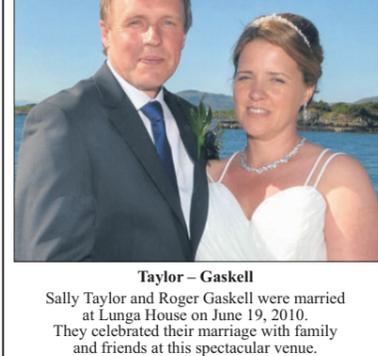
Benson - Wright
Donna Benson and Gordon Wright were married at Ardarnaiseig Hotel on June 22. They celebrated here with family and friends.
Photograph by Perfect Images, Dunbeg, Oban.



MacIntyre - Mackenzie
Yvonne MacIntyre and Mal Mackenzie were married at The Lochnell Arms Hotel, North Connel on July 31, 2010. They enjoyed their marriage celebrations at the hotel.
Photograph by Perfect Images, Dunbeg, Oban.



King - Craig
Lorraine King and Iain Craig were married at Oban Registry Office on July 24, 2010. They celebrated their marriage with their guests at The Argyllshire Gathering Halls.
Photograph by Perfect Images, Dunbeg, Oban.



Taylor - Gaskell
Sally Taylor and Roger Gaskell were married at Lunga House on June 19, 2010. They celebrated their marriage with family and friends at this spectacular venue.
Photograph by Perfect Images, Dunbeg, Oban.



Winfield - McGilvray
Catriona Winfield and Gordon McGilvray were married at Taychreggan Hotel on July 8, 2010. They enjoyed their wedding celebrations at the hotel.
Photograph by Perfect Images, Dunbeg, Oban.



Clarke - Duncan
Stephanie Clarke and Cameron Duncan were married at The Oban Bay Hotel on July 10, 2010. They celebrated here with family and friends.
Photograph By Perfect Images, Dunbeg, Oban



Ehrfurth - Frye
Carrie Ehrfurth and David Frye were married at Caig Waterfalls, Spean Bridge on June 17, 2010. They celebrated their marriage in the local area.
Photograph by Perfect Images, Dunbeg, Oban.



MacDougall - Campbell
Helen MacDougall and Gus Campbell were married at The Oban Bay Hotel on July 3, 2010. They celebrated their marriage at the hotel.
Photograph by Perfect Images, Dunbeg, Oban.

ECCLIASTICAL NOTICES

LONDON QUARTERLY GAELIC SERVICES
Will be held in Crown Court Church of Scotland, Russell Street, Covent Gardens, W.C.2 as follows:
12th September, 2010 at 3-30pm
The Revd Murdo MacLeod, Kirriemuir.
12th December 2010 at 3-30pm
The Revd Kenneth MacDonald, Scalpay.

SCOTTISH EPISCOPAL CHURCH ANGLICAN COMMUNION
Thursday 12 August 2010
St John's Cathedral, Oban
Choral Evensong 19.30
(Inauguration of 100th Anniversary celebrations)
Sunday 15 August 2010
Trinity 11
St John's Cathedral, Oban
Holy Communion 08.00
Festal Eucharist for 100th Anniversary.....10.15
Preacher: The Revd Canon Allan MacLean
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(01631) 562323
St James, Ardbrecknish, Cladich
No Service
St Columba, Gruline, Mull
Holy Eucharist 11.00
St Columba, Bishop's House, Iona
Holy Eucharist 08.00
Evensong 20.00

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Hamilton Memorial Pairs at the Railway Bowling Club

PICTURED above are the winners of the Railway Bowling Club's Brian Hamilton Memorial Pairs, Alan Robinson and Ian Gregor with runners-up Alan Lawrie of Kinlochleven BC and Margaret Thomson of Willowbrae BC, Edinburgh. Some 48 competitors took part, meaning that both the Railway's own green at Inverloch and the nearby Lochaber Bowling Club green at the B.A Social Club had to be used.

BOWLING

The August 1 competition followed the club's charity singles, which was held the day before. Martin Keenan came out on top and Fran Wood of Willowbrae was runner-up on a day that raised £150 for charity. The money has been added to the club's charity pot, which will be allocated to local good causes at the end of the season.

Good turn out for Isle of Mull half marathon

THE 22nd Isle of Mull annual half marathon and 10 kilometre run was held last Sunday with almost 150 competitors taking part in the day.

The course stretched along the shoreline from Craignure with Paul Acari crossing the finishing line in Salen first to win the half marathon event. The Kilbrachan Amateur Athletics Club member was awarded £100 prize money for his efforts.

A warm day provided the runners with plenty of a challenge and ensured that the course record was not even close to being broken – the £250 prize for the feat remaining safely intact.

This year saw a larger than usual turnout with 109 runners competing in the adult events while 38 children also took part in the races. There was good local representation with 28 runners from Mull taking

HALF MARATHON

on the feat. Competitors came from all over the UK to take part and the occasional Australian and German runner added a little international colour.

Organisers would like to thank everyone who helped make the day such a success.

Results: Half Marathon Male 1st prize of £100 was won by Paul Acari Kilbrachan AAC; 2nd prize of £75 was won by Peter Middleton Shrewsbury AC; 3rd prize of £50 was won by Scott Kennedy Bellahouston Roadrunners.

Female 1st prize of £100 was won by Gillian Carr Corstorphine AAC; 2nd prize of £75 was won by Mary McCutcheon Giffnock North AAC; 3rd prize of £50 was won by Caroline McKay Edinburgh Triathletes.

10k 1st Male: Alex Chalmers Springburn Harriers; 1st Female: Liz Thomson Metro Aberdeen; 1st boy under 18: Stephen de Klee; 1st boy under 16: Cianan Whyte; 1st boy under 14: Tom Scuttin; 1st girl under 16: Lauren Carnath; 1st girl under 14: Amy Wilkie; 1st boy under 12: Henrie de Klee; 1st girl under 12: Sarah Gibbons; 1st boy under 10: Ian Ralston; 1st girl under 10: Kate Scuttin.



The group of runners prepare to take on the half marathon.



Paul Acari at the end of his journey.

Fighting Fort William lose to Formartine

'We gave them two goals which is ridiculous'

By Stephen Norris

FOOTBALL

Highland League Fort William 1, Formartine United 3 FOR ALL of 60 seconds it looked as though Fort William could chalk up a win in their first home game of the season at Claggan Park.

Michael Ellis had just slammed home a perfect Ian MacLellan cutback after eight minutes to cancel out Stuart MacKay's third minute opener and home fans were in full flow.

Fort should have built on their equaliser, but seconds later the ever-dangerous Barrie Stephen controlled a low cross, turned inside Michael Fahey and planted a sweet shot into the far corner to restore Formartine's lead.

With Craig Campbell making his home debut in partnering Andy Martin in

defence, Fort had their work cut out to deny the fast-moving North Lodge side.

But Formartine could easily have been down to ten men after Mark Simpson's ugly lunge on Jonnie Hewitt after 12 minutes merited only a yellow card.

Play swung from end to end and keeper Christie had to look sharp to gather a Michael Ellis cutback before Formartine's Bagshaw screwed his shot wide when it looked easier to score.

A speculative Chris MacLeod effort on 40 minutes had Christie scrambling to tip the ball over then Stephen somehow fired over from close range at the other end.

Stuart McKay blazed over after the break as Formartine pressed but the striker made amends on 50 minutes with an easy finish from



Fort midfielder Chris MacLeod deceives Ross Gardiner and Calum Irvine in the Formartine box. 10.1331001e01

Bagshaw's cutback to give his side a two-goal cushion.

Marc Young should have made it four soon after only to stumble over his shot but Fort were not lying down and MacLeod almost caught out Christie with a fine effort.

MacLean put the accent on youth in an attempt to salvage the game and young Logan Barker and Lewis Corbett did their selection hopes no harm with their

contribution. On 75 minutes Barker's cross almost found the inrushing Jonnie Hewitt then Barker himself had a late chance but snatched at his shot and Christie gathered easily.

Fort's day ended on a low note when Ryan Haggerty was sent off by ref Alan Frew for a late challenge.

Manager Calum MacLean told The Oban Times: 'We gave them two goals and to

give a team like that two goals is ridiculous, really. They are a fantastic team and will be there or thereabouts come the end of the season.'

Fort met Nairn County in the North of Scotland Cup at Claggan Park on Tuesday night and travel to Fraserburgh in the league on Saturday. Winger Sean Ellis could be back from injury for the Fraserburgh game, MacLean said.

Rodgers wins Skye Bridge 10k

ATHLETICS

LOCHABER Athletic Club made it a double in the Skye Bridge Bridge 10k race on Saturday.

Inverloch's David Rodgers was first through the tape, while Dawn Scott, also from Inverloch, was first woman home.

The event, staged in perfect conditions, attracted another large field of athletes for the scenic run from Kyleakin round Kyle of Lochalsh and back.

Sponsored by the Red Skye Restaurant, the race drew 67 competitors from all over Scotland and was run on a warm dry day with a firm breeze to keep the athletes cool.

Race organiser Jonathon Mackinnon said: 'I'd like to say thanks very much to our sponsors, and all the marshals and people driving cars for us.'

First Skye and Lochalsh runner home was James McInnes.



David Rodgers from Lochaber Athletic Club winning the 10k race. 10.1331001e01

MacKay is Fort Augustus champ

GOLF

FORT Augustus Golf Club held their club championship on Saturday, with David Mackay the eventual winner. David shot a 150 for the 36-hole competition. Second place went to Andrew Gilchrist with 152, and Jonathon Seymour finished third with a score of 156.

The handicap section needed a playoff after Alec Barnett and Jonathon Seymour both score 3d 137. Alec won the playoff with a birdie on the second hole.



Club championship winner David Mackay. Fort William GC

GOLF

THE ROYAL Bank of Scotland Cup was held at Fort William Golf Club across the weekend, with Steven Jamieson winning with a score of 144. Second place in the 36-hole competition went to David Fairgrievs with 153 and third was Neil Henderson, who shot a 159.

Round 1 results - 1, Steven Jamieson, 73; 2, David Fairgrievs, 76; 3, Ian McCallum, 77. Round 2 results - 1, Steven Jamieson, 71; 2, David Fairgrievs, 77; 3, Neil Henderson, 78.

Fort William Golf Club is holding a three-man Texas scramble this Sunday.

Mallaig lift the MacDonald Cup

MacDonald Cup Final Mallaig 3 Celtic 1

FOOTBALL

MALLAIG won the MacDonald Cup by beating league champions Celtic 3-1 in the final on Friday night. Celtic were looking to add the MacDonald Cup to their trophy haul but were denied by the league runners-up.

Heavy rain made conditions at the BA Club difficult, but Mallaig seemed to cope slightly better and had a 1-0 halftime lead thanks to a goal from Neil Cameron. Celtic equalised soon after the break when Adam Watson struck, but Mallaig kept going and got their reward 15 minutes from time when

Cameron got his second goal of the game to give his side the lead. The victory was assured with five minutes to go when Cameron Muir scored to make the final score 3-1.

Celtic manager Ronald Wegner said: 'The rain ruined the game. There wasn't much football being played, just lots of kick and rush. But that's no excuse, if you don't put the ball in the back of the net you'll get beaten.'

The winning side were presented with their trophy on the pitch after the game.

Wild Theme wins Road to the Isles Regatta

SAILING

THE ROAD to the Isles Sailing Association held its cruising yacht regatta off Arisaig from July 29 to August 1.

The event consisted of two passage races, one up to Isle Oronsay on Skye where an evening in the Eileen Iarmain Hotel was enjoyed before the return race back to Arisaig.

The next two days were round the buoys races between Arisaig and Eigg. The winds varied from light to fresh, giving each boat a chance to excel, with Seraphia

Wild Theme and Caloo within three points of each other going into the last race. The racing was extremely

close with the lead changing continuously and ultimately Wild Theme triumphed with Caloo pushed into fourth place by the well sailed Contessa of Rhu.

The social events were hosted by Arisaig Marine, with the local produce donated by The Ben Nevis Distillery, Andy Race fish merchant and Glenuig Smokehouse greatly enjoyed by the competitors.

Results: Race 1 - 1 Seraphia, 2 Wild Theme, 3 Caloo; Race 2 - 1 Wild Theme, 2 Caloo; Race 3 - 1 Seraphia; 2 Wild Theme; 3 Caloo; Race 4 - 1 Wild Theme; 2 Seraphia; 3 Contessa of Rhu. Overall results - 1 Wild Theme (R&H Fryer); 2 Seraphia (J&P Fowler); 3 Caloo (J&C Jamieson).



Winning boat Wild Theme sails into the lead at one of the race starts.



Winners of the 2010 West Ardnamurchan Regatta.

West Ardnamurchan Regatta

SAILING

WEST ARDNAMURCHAN Regatta enjoyed near perfect sailing conditions as hundreds flocked to Kilchoan for the 27th event since its revival in the 1980s.

Eight vessels competed in a range of sailing races on Thursday before taking to the water again on Friday, the regatta's big day.

Light drizzle in the afternoon did nothing to dampen the enthusiasm of competitors and spectators on the shore.

A varied programme of watersports included the raft race – with a record nine craft taking part – and men's, women's and mixed canoe and rowing races. A powerboat race provided an exciting finish to proceedings.

Sailing trophy winners included Iain Cameron, who first attended the Kilchoan

Regatta as a boy in 1941. Local band Gunna Sound provided the music at the evening dance in Kilchoan Community Centre, which was packed from 8pm until late.

Regatta co-organiser Rosie Curtis told The Oban Times: 'It was a very successful day. There was a good crowd and we were really happy at how things went. It just seems to be getting stronger and stronger every year.'

Vice-chairman Alastair MacColl said: 'We had 10 in the powerboat race at the end of the day, which was a really spectacular finale.'

The regatta was reconstituted as an annual event in 1984, 22 years after it fell into abeyance in 1962.

Ballachulish and Under 17s get off to a good start

FOOTBALL

Kinloch Cup FORT William under 17s got off to a flying start in the Kinloch cup, beating Rangers 9-0.

Rising star Logan Barker scored a first-half hat trick, with Liam Kennedy and Declan McNeil also scoring to make to the half-time score 5-0. Barker added two more in the second half, McNeil got his second of the game and Andy MacLean got the final goal to make the score line an emphatic 9-0.

Fort coach John Matheson said: 'It was just one of those days where the young boys did well. Everything we hit seemed to go in.'

Lundavra defeated Caol United 4-2 in a match played at the BA Club last Thursday.

Duthie Cup BALLACHULISH swept aside Welfare League champions Celtic in the first game in the Duthie Cup. They won the match,

played last Monday night at Jubilee Park, 5-0 with Jamie MacDonald getting a hat trick.

The score was 1-0 to the home side at half time thanks to a penalty from MacDonald. Ballachulish started the second half with a slick passing move down the left wing. A cross from Steven Davit ended up in the back of the net after a clever dummy from Scott Henderson bamboozled the

Kinloch Cup							
	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Fort William Under 17s	1	1	0	0	9	0	3
Lundavra	1	1	0	0	4	2	3
Caol United	1	0	0	1	2	4	0
Rangers	1	0	0	1	0	9	0

Duthie Cup							
	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Ballachulish	1	1	0	0	5	0	3
Mallaig	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Ardnamurchan	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Celtic	1	0	0	1	0	5	0

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SHINTY

Fixtures

August 14 2010
All throw ups 2.30 unless otherwise stated

Scottish Hydro Premier Division
Fort William v GMA
John MacPhee
Glenurquhart v Inveraray
Duncan Kelly
Kingussie v Oban Camanachd
Ron Kennedy
Newtonmore v Bute
Colin MacDonald

Marine Harvest North Division 1
Beaully v Inverness
Donald MacRae
Lochaber v Skye
Russell Ross
Kilmallie v Strathglass
Charles Young
Lochcarron v Kinlochshiel
John MacLeod

Marine Harvest South Division 1
Inveraray v Ballachulish
Duncan Kerr
Lochside v Glenorchy
Deek Cameron
Oban Celtic v Taynuilt
Graham Irving

Marine Harvest North Division 2
Skye v Kilmallie
Daniel MacRae
Fort William v Kingussie
Billy Wotherspoon
Glenurquhart v Beaully
John Sloggie
Newtonmore v Lovat
David Mitchell

Marine Harvest South Division 2
Bute v Kyles Athletic
George O'Rourke
Tayforth v Aberdour
Billy Nimmo

Marine Harvest North Division 3
Aberdeen Uni v Lochaber
Graham Cameron
Boleskine v Lochcarron
John Sloggie
Inverness v Strathglass
Robert Morrison

Ross nets four times to overcome Kyles Athletic at Mossfield Fort William and Kingussie book Camanachd Cup Final



Kyles' Peter Currie 'drops in' to tackle Kingussie defender Ally MacLeod at Mossfield Picture - John MacTavish

THE CLINICAL finishing of Ronald Ross again proved the difference between Kingussie and their opponents as Ross's 'hat-trick plus one' helped his side into another Camanachd Cup Final.

However, Saturday's semi-final 6-2 winning margin flatters the victors, with the balance of play a lot closer than the scoreline suggests.

Kingussie manager Steven Borthwick welcomed Fraser Munro back into his line-up and also had to field defender Ally MacLeod, back after a period of injury, when Iain Borthwick was involved in a bizarre road accident a few miles from Oban which left the player slightly injured. Borthwick narrowly missed a stray dog on the road near Benerloch, stopped to check the animal was safe, and was himself struck by another passing vehicle.

On the field, Kyles missed the steadying influence of defender Donald Irvine, and with Fraser MacDonald allotted the thankless task of controlling talisman Ronald Ross, they found themselves a goal down after five minutes as Ross blazed with home a thunderous shot.

Seven minutes later Kingussie were two ahead, and again Ross provided

SHINTY

Scottish Hydro Camanachd Cup semi Kyles 2 Kingussie 6

the finish - this time another venomous strike which cannoned off goalkeeper Kenny MacDonald's body and into the net.

Colin MacColl pulled a goal back for Kyles but Thomas Borthwick restored Kingussie's two-goal cushion within three minutes when he fired into the roof of the Kyles' net.

Kyles played their best shinty of the semi-final tie at the start of the second period and were rewarded when their captain Roddie MacDonald pulled a goal back. Kingussie then survived a close call as MacLeod cleared the ball off his own goal-line as Kyles piled on the pressure as they searched for an equaliser.

However, a quick break up field produced another goal from Ross and Kyles' lost much of their earlier momentum and fluency.

Two minutes from time, Fraser Munro netted Kingussie's fifth, with Ronald Ross bringing his personal tally to four with his side's sixth goal on the stroke of full-time.

Glen take points to survive

SHINTY

Scottish Hydro Premier Division Glenurquhart 4 GMA 0

THE DEPTH of problems for the bottom two teams in the Premier Division became deeper after last Saturday's only Scottish Hydro Premier Division tie produced a win for Glenurquhart which takes them five points clear of second bottom Oban Camanachd.

John Barr opened the scoring with a long-range effort after 19 minutes and Neale Reid put the home side two ahead going in at the interval after he reacted first to a rebound off Mid Argyll's goal keeper Donald Oliver.

Eddie Tembo pounced on a half chance mid-way through the second-half to put the result beyond doubt and Neale Reid added a fourth goal with 10 minutes left to play.

This Saturday, Mid Argyll won't relish the task of meeting title chasers Fort William at An Aird, while second-bottom Oban have an equally difficult task away at Kingussie. Glenurquhart welcome Inveraray to Drumnadrochit, while in the remaining tie, Bute travel to play Newtonmore.

Kinlochshiel miss out on top slot

SHINTY

Marine Harvest North Division One Kilmallie 5 Kinlochshiel 3

KINLOCHSHIEL had the opportunity to go top of North Division One but found Kilmallie in no mood to oblige them.

Fraser Massie put the home side ahead after three minutes but Neil Fraser countered a minute later. 'Shiel then took the lead through Keith MacRae but the teams reached the interval all square after John Stewart equalised on the stroke of half-time. Stewart then added another in the 70th minute, with Peter MacIntyre making the score 4-2 minutes later and although Finlay MacRae pulled a goal back with only minute remaining, John Stewart netted his hat-trick with virtually the last hit of the match to ensure that Kilmallie go into this Saturday's home tie against Strathglass with confidence. 'Shiel are away to Lochcarron this weekend.

SHINTY

Results

Scottish Hydro Camanachd Cup Semi Final
Inveraray 2 Fort William 4 after extra time
Kyles 2 Kingussie 6

Scottish Hydro Premier Division
Glenurquhart 4 GMA 0

Marine Harvest North Division 1
Skye 2 Inverness 2
Kilmallie 5 Kinlochshiel 3

Marine Harvest South Division 1
Lochside 4 Kilmory 6
Inveraray P Ballachulish P

Marine Harvest North Division 2
Skye 3 Glenurquhart 2
Kingussie P Glengarry P
Kinlochshiel 3 Kilmallie 2

Marine Harvest South Division 2
Aberdour 3 Bute 2

Marine Harvest North Division 3
Lochaber P Ardnamurchan P
Lochcarron 6 Aberdeen U 5

Eight in a row for Fort William

FORT WILLIAM needed extra time to secure their eighth consecutive Camanachd Cup Final place as they bid to win the trophy for a fourth consecutive year.

On Saturday at Mossfield, Drew Ferguson put Fort William ahead against Inveraray after half-an-hour of end-to-end play but Grant Griffin equalised one minute before the break to set-up a thrilling second-half.

Inveraray snatched the lead after 10 minutes of the restart when Euan McMurdo struck in spectacular style but the celebrations were short lived as Drew Ferguson produced an equally good goal on the hour mark to draw the teams level again.

Fort William switched

SHINTY

Scottish Hydro Camanachd Cup semi Inveraray 2 Fort William 4

John MacDonald to midfield and Duncan Rodger forward but Inveraray thought they had won the cup tie with a late goal, only for the effort to be ruled out for offside by referee Kelly and the match went into extra time.

On the 100th minute, Inveraray goalkeeper Graeme MacPherson made a stunning save to deny Gary Innes but Gordie MacKinnon followed up to slot the ball home. And the place in the final in Inverness was made safe when Victor Smith came off the bench to net a fourth goal.



Inveraray's Andrew McMurdo blocks the shot from Fort William's Gordie MacKinnon Picture - John MacTavish



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You may hand it into The Oban Times Head Office, Lochavullin, Oban by the same time. Otherwise all entries must be posted.

Competition Rules

No responsibility will be accepted for entries which are delayed, mislaid or lost, and proof of posting cannot be accepted as proof of delivery. The Company's decision is final on all matters relating to the competition and no correspondence will be entered into. The final decision rests with the Company.

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John McPhee, left, celebrates with his teammates on the podium at Brands Hatch.

John makes the podium at Brands Hatch

JOHN McPhee's stock continues to rise as he finished on the podium at Brands Hatch at the weekend in the British GP 125 championship.

MOTOR CYCLING

The 15-year-old from Connel was third overall but was placed first in the ACU Academy Cup section (under-16s).

John's team, Bradley Smith/KRP Racing, had all three podium places, so it was also a day to remember for mechanic Gary Turner, from Oban, who collected the team prize.

Starting fourth on the grid, John got off to a blistering start and was sitting in second place for one lap until he was overtaken by teammate James Lodge who, in doing so, set a new lap record.

Starting fourth on the grid, John got off to a blistering start and was sitting in second place for one lap until he was overtaken by teammate James Lodge who, in doing so, set a new lap record.

Elf Too takes top honours at West Highland Yachting Week

THE WEST Highland Yachting Week fleet had a strong and wet beat down the Sound of Mull from Tobermory to Oban on Friday, August 6, the last day of the six-day series.

SAILING

The shortened course at the Yule Rock Buoy made an interesting finish as many of the 121-strong fleet struggled with the flood tide and a lightening wind but the majority of the race had seen gains made by working the Morvern shore. The passage race ended the popular regatta that has run for 63 years based between Craobh, Oban and Tobermory.

Split racing

Thursday saw the fleet split racing different courses with the Tunnock's spinnaker fleet managing two races off Kilchoan and the Argyll restricted sail fleet sailing off the entrance to the Sound of Mull. Previously the racing has been Round Lismore

and round the buoys in the Firth of Lorne.

Tied for the overall points series with five points are Robin and Christine Murray's First 40 Elf Too and Robin Ferguson's X332 Hoodlum racing restricted sail classes two and four.

The overall winner of the Peter Cocks Memorial Trophy went to Ayrshire boat Elf Too, which won both the Tennents Caledonian 25th Anniversary Salver for the best corrected time in the Tobermory to Oban passage race as well as the Iona Shop Trophy for the yacht with the best total corrected time over the three passage races.

Steve Cowie's Zephyr from Fairlie and Chris Tiso's Thunderbird of Rhu tied on points in Class 1b but on countback it was Zephyr winning the last race that lifted the class trophy.



The crew of Elf Too won the overall award, the Peter Cocks Memorial Trophy.

Gordon Tourlamin's Sunbird, the CNB 60 being sailed by the Sunbird team from Ardrossan in Class 3a took a bullet in the final race but it was not enough to pull up on points to Geoff Bowerman's AeRo who finished second overall and Iain MacNair who lifted the class win with First by Farr.

The newly introduced IRC Class 3b was closely contested with Alan Jeffrey and Paul Scut's Carmen II from Helensburgh taking second place in the final race

to win from Ken Grant's Tigh Soluis II by just one point. Steven Fortheith of Oban pulled out all the stops on the First 31.7 Shadowfax to win Class 5 overall. Consistency saw Ruaridh Angus with his Hustler SJ30 Misjif keep ahead in the points series to lift the silverware in Class 7 as well as winning the Angus Meldrum Trophy for the best overall corrected time in the Oban to Tobermory passage race.

David Cooper's Redwing took Class 8 with Judy

Orr and her MGC 27 from Campbeltown winning restricted sail Class 9.

This year the event has received support from Tunnock's, The Oban Common Good Fund, Argyll and Bute Council, Tobermory Whisky and Tobermory Harbour Association have also stepped aboard with support as has Caledonian MacBrayne, The Crown Estate and West Coast Motors.

Full results have been posted on www.whyw.co.uk



The yacht Carmen gets some wind in her sails.

Picture by www.yachtingimages.co.uk

Course record smashed

THE 32-year-old course record at the Ben Kenneth Hill Race in Lochboisdale, South Uist, was smashed by the first three competitors to complete the course.

The race record of 33 minutes has stood since 1978 and has been held by Ronald J MacDonald of South Lochboisdale, a winner on 10 occasions.

This year's winner, Alasdair Anthony from Edinburgh, competed the course in a new record time of 29 minutes 41 seconds, with David Rodger from Lochaber Running Club second 30 minutes 18 seconds and Alex Keith

HILL RACE

from Inverness, a past winner, third in 32 minutes 21 seconds.

First local home was D A MacLellan, in seventh place, and second local was Angus Campbell in 39 minutes 14 seconds who was followed by his two brothers.

First female home was Eilidh Wardlow who also smashed the previous best ladies time coming home in eleventh place, in 39 minutes 37 seconds, with Lorna MacLeod, also in her first race, second in 50 minutes 25 seconds.



Members of the Scottish Hydro National District Select Under 17 Shinty Squad pictured outside Croke Park in Dublin, the home of Gaelic Games and head quarters of the Gaelic Athletic Association. The boys enjoyed a tour of the stadium during their three-day stay in the city. The boys won their two shinty/hurling matches against a County Offaly select squad and a Dublin select squad. Pictured with the boys are Ronald Ross, National Shinty Development Officer, left, and Darren Reid, Argyll and Bute Shinty Development Officer. Graham Cormack, Coaching and Performance Manager, also accompanied the squad on the trip.

Saints do the double over Milton

Pre-Season Friendlies
OBAN SAINTS 2 MILTON 0
SAINTS U14s 5 MILTON U14s 2

LAST Saturday Oban Saints senior team played host to top Caledonian League side Milton. The Bannockburn club took their Under 14 team to Oban as well to play the Saints Under 14s and it turned out to be a good day for both Saints teams with the senior side winning 2-0 and the youths recording a fine 5-2 victory against their Forth Valley Development League opponents.

Saints had several players unavailable for this game so it gave Iain Jackson a chance to give new signing Karl Fitzpatrick a run out.

The senior game was played in three half-hour sessions with the Oban lads unlucky not to be in front before the first break with good chances falling to Allan MacKay, Donald Campbell and Myles McAuley, who hit the bar and Asen Gaydardzhiev had a good effort go inches past the post.

The visitors had several professionals in their ranks including the former Rangers and Hearts front man Steven Boyack.

some excellent football in the warm sunshine, but it was the home side who always looked the more likely to score and this they did right at the end of the second session when a long ball from Tim Woodcock fell kindly for Craig MacEwan who calmly chipped the Milton keeper to make the score 1-0.



Willie Gemmell

The visitors were determined to get back into the game and put Saints under a bit of pressure, in the last half hour, but the home side weathered the storm and came roaring back into the game themselves and Myles McAuley should have scored when he raced clear, but he blasted his shot over the bar.

Both teams were playing

FOOTBALL

the victory with 10 minutes remaining when he found the net with a low drive to make the final score 2-0.

Manager Iain Jackson was delighted with the performance of his players against one of the top amateur teams in the country.

The Under 14 match was played on the 3g community pitch and like the first team the Oban side had several regulars missing, but they were still too good for Milton winning 5-2 thanks to goals from Daniel MacMillan, Fraser MacFarlane (2), Alan Buchanan and Connor Howe.

Milton, like Saints, are a Scottish Football Association Quality Mark Club.

The Oban side continue their pre-season build up this Saturday with a home game against Lochgilhead Red Star. The match will take place at Glencruitten with a 2.30pm kick-off. Referee in charge is Peter Laing.

The Oban side start the defence of their league title on Saturday August 21 with a home game against Arkleston. The match will take place at Glencruitten with a 2pm kick-off.



Robert Wilson in action on his Kawasaki ZX6.

Robert to race at the Ulster GP

AN ARGYLL motorcycleist will be competing in the world's fastest road race today (Thursday).

Taynuilt's Robert Wilson has received an invitation to compete at the Ulster GP at Dundrod, which is seen as a stepping stone to the Isle of Man TT.

World renowned international road racers such as Guy Martin, Ian Hutchinson, Ian Lougher, Adrian Archibald, Gary Johnson and Keith Amor have also signed up.

Robert said: 'I think my invitation came on the back of my performances in the North West 200 race last year, which is also in Northern Ireland.'

MOTOR CYCLING

'I nearly didn't go because it was going to cost me too much but the race organisers kindly gave me free entry. I think they are trying to encourage more Scottish guys to come over.'

Fastest

The race is billed as the fastest road race in the world with riders reaching speeds of up to 135mph.

Robert, who rides a Kawasaki ZX6, thanked everyone who has helped him with his racing and sponsorship this season and is especially grateful to Billy Robertson and John Stoddart, who will be assisting him today in Northern Ireland.

Oban Bowling Club

BOWLS

ON SUNDAY Oban Bowling Club's men travelled to Campbeltown for the Argyll and Bute top ten.

Oban played well and drew 2-2 with their Argyll rivals. Oban, however, had 62 shots to Campbeltown's 58 and therefore Oban were the winners of this round. On the Oban green six teams competed for the Iona Shop Trophy.

The outright winners were John MacLaren, Maureen Goldie and May Hardie.

Football coaching

FOOTBALL

LOOKING for something to keep the children busy on those teacher in-service days?

Argyll and Bute Council's Football service is offering a two-day football session on the August 17 and 18 at Oban High School.

The session will be based around the 'creative player'. For more information regarding this new course please contact football@argyll-bute.gov.uk or 01631 572194.

Saints Ladies

FOOTBALL

OBAN Saints Ladies are in action this Sunday when they play host to Dumfries on the 3g pitch at Oban High School, kick-off 2pm.

Ten team members climbed Ben Nevis last week and raised around £1000 for club funds.

Killin Golf Club

GOLF

THE KILLIN Golf Club Gents Open on August 7 attracted golfers from clubs throughout west and central Scotland.

Scratch (The Davies Trophy): 1 Eric Lindsay (Blairgowrie) 64; 2 Michael Fraser (Glencruitten) 69; 3 Joe MacIntyre (Culcieff) 70.

Handicap (The Melia Quiche): 1 Andy Cousins (Killin) 60; 2 P Smith (Kenmore) 61; 3 G Aitken (Killin) 63 BIH.

Longest Drives
Category 1 (9th & 18th): Joe MacIntyre (Culcieff) 2m.
Category 2 (7th & 16th): S Miller (Culcieff).

Nearest the Pin
Category 1 (3rd & 12th): J Jones (Glencruitten) 2m.
Category 2 (5th & 14th): L Begg (Tillicoultry) 4ft 1.
All in two (6th & 15th): Jim Rutherford (Killin) 3 ft.
The Wee Claret Jug (Best Local Overall): Andy Cousins 60.
Magic 2s: K. Mackie (Glencruitten), I Clark (Dalnally), C Woods (Killin), C McKenzie (Glencruitten), A. Cousins (Killin) x2, G Aitken (Killin), J Ronald (Killin), Begg (Tillicoultry); J Burton (Killin); E Lindsay (Blairgowrie) x 3, P Smith, (Kenmore), CSS 65.

Oban Cricket Club

CRICKET

IN A short social match rather memorable for its unique approach by the visiting team, Oban Cricket Club notched up a comfortable victory against the FBBs on Sunday at Taynuilt.

The FBBs showed a novel approach to determining the order of their playing team by producing a set of scales, with preference given to the heaviest team members. Standout performances with the bat for Oban were provided by Sukanta Debnath (34), Allan Laycock (20) and Isaac Forster (78).

After an appreciated tea break the FBBs donned an array of Hawaiian shirts to better appreciate the Taynuilt sun and provide amusement for the spectators.

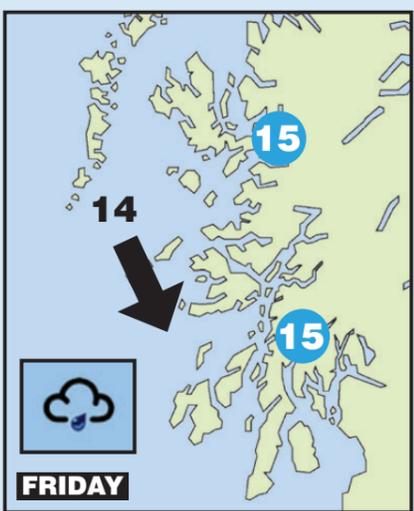
Tides

Tide tables for Oban during the week from Thursday, August 12, 2010 are listed below with differences for major ports listed beneath. All times are GMT (add one hour BST)

Date	am	pm
Thur	01.12 0.4 07.03 4.0 13.14 0.1 19.17 4.3	
Fri	01.53 0.5 07.40 3.9 13.57 0.2 19.56 4.1	
Sat	02.34 0.6 08.19 3.7 14.41 0.4 20.34 3.8	
Sun	03.16 0.9 09.00 3.5 15.28 0.7 21.15 3.5	
Mon	04.03 1.2 09.46 3.2 16.18 1.1 22.00 3.1	
Tues	04.58 1.5 10.48 3.0 17.16 1.4 23.04 2.8	
Wed	06.06 1.7 12.37 2.8 18.26 1.7 *** **	

Ardrishaig	-5.35	Lochboisdale	+0.30
Campbeltown	-5.30	Mallaig	+0.25
Crinan	-0.47	Portree	+0.55
Islay Port Ellen	2.00	Tobermory	+0.16
		Dover	+5.30

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the weather

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Thursday
Sunny intervals
Winds moderate northerly.
Temperatures 12°C to 16°C

Friday
Sunny Intervals.
Winds moderate north westerly.
Temperatures 11°C to 16°C.

Weekend Outlook
Light rain throughout.
Winds light to moderate south westerly.
Temperatures 12°C to 16°C.

Ferry Crossings/Sea States
Oban to Barra/South Uist - Moderate
Oban to Coll/Tiree - As above
Kennacraig to Islay - As above

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