

The Oban Times & WEST HIGHLAND TIMES

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Business Section

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Police dive in to pull man from bay

FOUR police officers have been praised for their quick actions in pulling a teenager from deep water in Oban Bay.

Members of the public alerted the officers to the 18-year-old man, who was in the water about 50 metres from the Railway Pier at 1.45am on Sunday.

The coastguard was contacted and constables Darryl Burns and Joel Edwards swam out to help the man. PCs Andy Barron and Mark O'Donnell pulled him onto a nearby fishing boat before Oban Lifeboat took him to a waiting ambulance.

The casualty was treated at Lorn and Islands Hospital.

Hospital ward merger completed

THE FORMAL merger of Ward C and Cruachan Ward at Lorn and Islands Hospital, Oban, took place this week.

The completion of the new ward was postponed from the spring to enable additional work to be undertaken in the ward.

This involved upgrading two side rooms with en-suite bathrooms - funded by Oban Hospice - and the creation of a wet room which is nearing completion. The ward will be named Ward I.

Hospital bosses said a small number of staff still remained displaced due to the merger but were hopeful of identifying suitable posts in the near future.

Dame Judi will be star attraction

JAMES Bond actress Dame Judi Dench will be interviewed by TV comedian Clive Anderson at the latest fundraising event for Oban Phoenix Cinema campaign. The event will take place on Saturday October 1 at Inverary Castle as part of a ball hosted by the Duke and Duchess of Argyll. The Duke, Dame Judi and Mr Anderson are all patrons of the cinema.

Also performing will be The Royal Conservatoire of Scotland. A limited number of tickets are available for a minimum donation of £100 from Katharine McKerrell on 01631 563014.



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Smiling through the pain: Badly injured Jim Montgomery shows his wrecked bike following a crash during a fundraising cycle.

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Stalemate over plans to redevelop derelict hotel

NEGOTIATIONS over the future of the Argyll Hotel site on Oban's esplanade have reached a stalemate.

The site was approved for demolition and redevelopment earlier this year.

However, council planners told developers Alan and Calum MacLeod they must have a contractor in place for the rebuild before the derelict building can be pulled down.

The MacLeods say it is ludicrous to ask for the contractor to be in place as anything could happen and the contractual arrangement could fall through.

The council argues it is common practice for local authori-

ties to have certain assurances in place before planning permission is formally given.

'We want the council to remove the condition,' Mr MacLeod senior said, 'but to date they have not been willing to do this.'

'What is to happen to the Argyll if we are not allowed to demolish? Every day there is further decay. Every day its value diminishes.'

'It is only the planners' overwhelming need to have the last word that has stopped a new hotel being up and running bringing 60 new jobs for the town.'

Calum MacLeod added:

'We have already made a huge financial commitment to this project and we continue to do so every day that it is not moving forward. This condition causes great difficulty and makes it difficult for the future funding of the building.'

The council says it is unwilling to compromise. A spokeswoman said: 'There is an undetermined planning application seeking to remove the condition but that has not been accompanied by any justification as to why the condition is regarded by the applicants as an insurmountable impediment in this case.'

'Nor has any suggested alternative mechanism been

advanced which would provide an alternative safeguard that the building will not be demolished until re-development is committed.'

'The applicants have been made aware of this deficiency and have asked that the application be put on hold until they have considered alternative safeguards that they may be able to sign up to.'

'The purpose of having a condition to prevent demolition until redevelopment is contractually committed is to prevent a building being demolished and a site left vacant without prospect of rebuilding following on in the short-term.'

Argyll folk among best waste recyclers in Scotland

PEOPLE in Argyll and Bute are among the top recyclers in Scotland, according to the latest figures.

More than 6,000 tonnes of household waste was recycled or composted in the local authority area, 44.8 per cent of the total rubbish collected.

The figures, for January to March this year, are well above

a national average of 36.3 per cent.

It makes Argyll and Bute sixth in the league table for recycling rates.

Figures for 2010 to 2011, show Argyll and Bute recycled 41.5 per cent of its waste, making it 16th in Scotland, but more than 32,000 tonnes was still being sent to landfill, incurring more

than £1.5million in landfill taxes. A spokesperson for the council said recycling rates fluctuated depending on the weather and time of the year.

She said recycling rates sometimes increase at the start of the year as people get new electrical goods for Christmas and recycle the old ones.

She added: 'The council's

recycling and composting rate has steadily been above the 40 per cent mark for the past two years, while waste sent to landfill has continued to fall. We hope to see this landfill reduction trend continue in 2011/12 and beyond.'

Cash-strapped GRAB Trust faces uncertain future - see page 2.

Coming Soon!

Iain Bruce-Low & Annmarie Fraser look forward to welcoming you in their new Salon early October

For appointments and enquiries please call 07780 747914 or 07787 168971
31 Stafford Street, Oban

Sheriff's warning to dealers after two addicts are jailed for drugs offences

DRUG dealers who target Oban can expect 'severe' punishment, a sheriff has warned.

Sentencing two drug addicts who admitted involvement with supplying heroin, Sheriff Douglas Small told them: 'There is a serious drugs problem in Oban.'

'I have said on many occasions in this court that people who are convicted of dealing drugs on a commercial basis can expect to be dealt with severely.'

Both defendants were arrested in Operation Independence, when undercover police, acting on intelligence, targeted drugs networks in the town.

Thomas Carberry, on remand at

Barlinnie Prison, was sentenced to 16 months after he pleaded guilty to being concerned in the supply of heroin.

Oban Sheriff Court heard on Tuesday the 32-year-old had sold the Class A drug to three female police officers on three separate occasions between May 22 and May 24.

Procurator Fiscal David Glancy said the officers had called Carberry who then sold them wraps of heroin for £20 each at a bus shelter at Station Square and in a car park near Nelson Road, close to Oban High School.

Defending, Calum Weir said Carberry's story was a familiar one, as he found himself in debt

to drug dealers and came to Oban from Glasgow in an effort to escape them. He said: 'It wasn't long before Mr Carberry was caught up on again by these individuals.'

Debt problems
He was offered the opportunity of addressing his debt problems by becoming involved in the supply of drugs.

'He certainly dug himself into a hole which he somewhat foolishly tried to get himself out of, other than by contacting the authorities.'

William McConnell, also on remand at Barlinnie, admitted being concerned in the supply of heroin.

Mr Glancy told the court an officer codenamed Audrey had phoned

McConnell three times on May 25 to ask if he could supply heroin. He said he could not provide the drug but passed on the name and mobile phone number of another man. This man was later arrested on charges of supplying the undercover officers with heroin.

Defending, Sukhwinder Gill said McConnell, who had five previous convictions for possession of heroin, had been taking drugs from the age of 15. The 31-year-old was unemployed, she said, and 'unable to fund his habit'.

Describing McConnell as a 'facilitator' who was 'part of a chain' of drug supply, Sheriff Small sentenced him to six months in jail.

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Something fishy going on in class!

YOUNGSTERS who cared for their own trout eggs as part of a school project have received prizes for their work.

The 'Rivers in the Classroom' project was run by Loch Awe Improvement Association and Argyll Fisheries Trust with six primary schools, Furnace, Inverary, Kilchrenan, Kilmartin, Kilmichael Glassary and Dalmally, taking part.

Children at each school had 10 trout eggs to care for and monitor as they hatched and grew into alevin.

Then they were involved in releasing the young fish back into the rivers they had come from and later took part in an electrofishing trip to look at stock levels.

The project was praised by Michael Russell, Education Minister and MSP for Argyll and Bute, as he handed over certificates and prizes to the top schools at the Dalmally Show.

Dalmally came first, Kilchrenan were second and Inverary third.

Hazel Stanworth, of Argyll Fisheries Trust, co-ordinated the project and developed a teaching pack for the schools.

She said: 'It's just been great to raise awareness and get them involved in what's going on in lochs and rivers where they live.'

'The kids have engaged so much with it, they have loved it. They were really good at keeping an eye on the fish.'

I went into the classroom every week, going into different topics, like what fish eat, the different insects, what fish you find here, threats to them,' she said. I was actually surprised how much knowledge some of the kids have.'

'It's not just about keeping fish healthy, it's about keeping the whole environment healthy.'

'They came up with some really good ideas about how they could help. I was really impressed.'

Argyll Fisheries Trust is hoping to run a similar project in the future with other local schools.



Dalmally Primary School came top in the 'Rivers in the Classroom' project and received their prize from Michael Russell MSP. 15_136rivers01

Cash crisis puts GRAB Trust future in doubt

AN ARGYLL charity could be forced to shut its doors by March unless it receives an urgent injection of funding.

For 18 years the Group for Recycling in Argyll and Bute (GRAB) Trust has helped Argyll and Bute Council to meet its goals for recycling and environmental education but in February this year funding was totally withdrawn by the council.

Julie Fairbrass, manager, said there was no warning the cut would be so drastic.

'We could have taken a big cut and still been able to deliver some services that would enhance the council's waste prevention work, but that was not what occurred, it was a complete cut.'

'I understand the differences in priorities – people aren't going

REPORT
by CHRISTINE
McCARTNEY
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co.uk

to lose their homes if they don't have waste education. I do have sympathy for the council because I realise there have been cuts from the Scottish Government but I think they have been a bit short-sighted.'

'I don't think the council would have achieved their recycling rates if it wasn't for us doing the public awareness and education – they will categorically deny that.'

The charity provided resources for teachers and more than 80 waste awareness workshops each year for thousands of Argyll pupils. But as the school

term gets under way, this year there will be no GRAB input in the classroom after the service level agreement, set to run until 2020, was cancelled early.

GRAB also runs the Argyll and Bute Real Nappy Network and the Argyll and Bute Beach Forum.

While GRAB receives small grants for some of these projects, without some source of core funding, it will be impossible to employ staff and maintain the organisation.

Five jobs are at stake and all staff have already cut their hours to try to preserve the charity's future. Yet Julie believes the charity offers good value for money and if it is forced to close, there will be extra costs for the council, from answering enquiries about waste and

recycling to cleaning council-owned beaches. She said: 'I think there will be a bit of a void, definitely. I can't see there's anyone really that does the same things in Argyll and Bute.'

And Julie believes the same pressures are threatening many charities and groups carrying out important long-term work, though that makes funding even more competitive.

A directors' meeting later this month will decide on a plan to secure an income for the organisation's work. They are exploring a new 'upcycling' business, turning old textiles into new products for sale, an environmental consultancy or providing team building and volunteering days for companies. The staff and volunteers are determined to secure GRAB's

survival, but there is a small window in which to make a breakthrough.

A council spokeswoman said despite a review of waste management in 2010, which identified five per cent savings, Argyll and Bute's budget allocation from the government was less than expected.

She said: 'The council had just weeks to identify an additional £5.4million in savings. The proposal to remove funding for the GRAB Trust was one of these additional savings options at the budget meeting in February, which members agreed to accept.' As the trust is providing support and information on recycling to the authority, the council gives them office space and help with financial services, she said.



Lord George Robertson with children from Port Ellen Primary School at the unveiling of the memorial plaque. Photograph by Mark Unsworth, Islay Studios.

Memorial unveiled to Ileach who became war hero in America

A MEMORIAL to an Ileach who became a hero of the American War of Independence was officially unveiled on Thursday on a hillside overlooking his birthplace in the parish of Kildalton.

The distinguished 'Son of the Revolution' Major General Alexander McDougall was born in humble circumstances in a black house at Portantruin on the outskirts of Port Ellen in 1732.

When he was six he and his family emigrated to America. At 19 years, he returned to Islay, married his full cousin Nancy MacDougall, a local surveyor's daughter, and once again crossed the Atlantic.

He went on to captain two gun sloops and made money

in the process. This led to him becoming a successful New York merchant before taking up arms in the battle for independence. He rose through the ranks becoming a Major General, and went on to become an elected member of the US Congress and served as State Senator.

He was also the first president of the newly established Bank of New York, now the Bank of New York Mellon.

McDougall died in New York in 1785 and was buried in the graveyard of the city's Presbyterian Church.

The memorial was built by Nerubas mason Douglas Smith and is situated on ground donated by William Gemmill, the current tenant farmer of Portantruin.

were pupils and staff from Port Ellen Primary School and representatives from the BNY Mellon which gave financial assistance for the provision of the memorial. Also present was Dr Malcolm Ogilvie, chairman of the management committee of the Museum of Islay Life which commissioned the project.

Military presence at the ceremony was provided by Lieutenant General Sir Hew Pike, former commanding officer of the Third Parachute Regiment.

The memorial was built by Nerubas mason Douglas Smith and is situated on ground donated by William Gemmill, the current tenant farmer of Portantruin.

secure adjudicators, venues and sponsorship for the event but are still looking for more people to help with chairing, stewarding or even making the tea.'

For further details, or to volunteer, contact Jane MacNeil on jmdouglas@macneil@aol.com.

The syllabus and entry forms are now available on the An Comunn Gàidhealach website where there is a specific page for Mòd Ionadail Bharrach is Bhartsaigh - <http://www.acgmod.org/localmods/detail/barra>. The organising committee are organising their event to take place in March 2012.

For details of Mòd Ionadail Uibhist please contact Fiona MacAulay on fiona@gnes.net.

Preparations underway for return of Barra and Vatersay Provincial Mòd

PREPARATIONS are well underway for the staging of the first Barra and Vatersay Provincial Mòd since the 1930s.

The event will take place on September 30 and October 1. Instrumental competitions including fiddle, accordion, clarsach and instrumental groups will take place on the Friday evening with piping, oral, vocal and choral events on the Saturday.

With the Royal National Mòd taking place in the Western Isles in October, the Barra event will provide the perfect platform for those going forward to compete in Stornoway.

Provincial Mòd liaison officer Riona Whyte has visited the island on several occasions, calling at local schools and holding an after school workshop to encourage participation.

The syllabus and entry forms are now available on the An Comunn Gàidhealach website where there is a specific page for Mòd Ionadail Bharrach is Bhartsaigh - <http://www.acgmod.org/localmods/detail/barra>.

The organising committee has been working hard to

Council to pay out extra £212,000 for bus services

ARGYLL and Bute Council will pay out an additional £212,898 in bus contracts for 2011/12, despite a recent reduction in routes and services.

The local authority has predicted it will spend a total of £6,684,121 for the 2011/12 financial year, up on last year's total spend of £6,471,223, 20 per cent of which was on fuel costs.

The authority says the annual inflation uplift on bus contracts is calculated using figures published for August each year, using a formula including the Retail Price Index (RPI) and movements in fuel prices.

Nearly a quarter of the latest increase, £4,580, is on fuel costs alone.

For details of Mòd Ionadail Uibhist please contact Fiona MacAulay on fiona@gnes.net.

Go ahead for three houses

OUTLINE permission has been granted for three houses on land next to the Old School House, Appin. There was a previous consent for the houses on the site, in a National Scenic Area. A new private access from the A828 Oban to Fort William road has also been approved.

Start-up grants available up to £1,000

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If your business is trading over or near the VAT threshold and has plans to grow, you could be eligible for Argyll and Bute Council's Competitive Business Growth grant of up to £3,000.

ACT NOW to apply for grant funding – deadline 30 September 2011.

To find out more contact Business Gateway on 01546 605459 or email business.gateway@argyll-bute.gov.uk



Beachd Ailein Ailean Caimbeul

CHA GHABHAINN IONGNADH ged a bhiadh móran agaibhse, mar mi fhinn, ann am beagan de cheò an-drásta a' feadhainn ri cuid de thachartasan agus chó-dhúnaidhean a thugis.

Chuir mi-ri'an agus droch stiùireadh bhancairean eacnamaidh an t-saoghail ann a clais crionaidh mar nach fhacas riagh roimh agus b' fleudair cisean an t-sluagh a chleachadh gus bancaichean a chumail a dol. Dh' aonaitheach a' mhòr-shluagh nach fhaodadh leithid seo tachairt a-rithist agus gum feuntean rian air lughan bancaireachd gus nach biadh gin cho mórr a-rithist is nach gabhadh an leigleod fodha. Ach a-nise the Co-Chairdeas Ghlinnachan Bheattann ag rádh nach e seo an t-ámairson a leithid is gum feumar an toiseach tionnsgal agus cosnadh ait-muadhachadh. Ach aig an aon ám, tha sinn a' cluimintach nach eil an eacnamaidh a' fás mar a bha an t-Seansal

Ferry review delayed further

THERE is no end in sight for the Ferry Review as Transport Scotland fails to be drawn on a date.

The long awaited ferry review, which was due to be published at the start of 2011 has been delayed yet further, a Scottish Government spokesman has confirmed.

The spokesman would not be any more specific with a date other than it would be sometime later this year. It is understood there are a number of substantial issues within the review, which are taking longer to put into the draft than expected. Communities throughout Argyll and Bute are waiting on the outcome of the review in order to move forward with plans for transport.

Some residents on the Isle of Luing are hoping the review will back plans to build a bridge between the mainland and the island. On the Isle of Lismore islanders are split over plans to remove the ferry service from Oban altogether. The draft ferry review plan will allow further debate on these contentious subjects before a finalised plan is produced toward the middle of the parliamentary term.

Alert after yacht dragged anchor

RESCUE helicopter 177 and Islay Lifeboat were launched last Thursday in response to mayday call from a yacht in Loch Tarbert, west of Jura.

The *Lochinvar*, which had two people aboard, was dragging anchor and at risk of founders when the emergency call was made. Two other vessels at anchor also came to assist.

The helicopter was stood down when the *Lochinvar* managed to free her anchor and regain control.

Islay Lifeboat continued to the scene and stood by while *Lochinvar* eventually managed to re-anchor safely.

Fishing gear seized by police

A TEENAGER allegedly caught poaching on the River Awe has been charged and had his fishing equipment seized by police.

The 19-year-old from Clydebank was found to be fishing without a licence near Brander Lodge on Sunday evening.

Heat pump plan for Atlantis

ATLANTIS Leisure will be cutting its fuel bills with a new air source heat pump.

The pump will be put in on vacant land at the rear of the Oban leisure centre after a detailed noise assessment is carried out.

Cottage scheme given go-ahead

AN APPLICATION to reinstate a derelict cottage in Ellenebeich was unanimously approved at a meeting of Argyll and Bute Council's Planning and Protective Services Committee.

The property, at number 31 on the Isle of Seil, will see the cottage transformed from a ruin to a double fronted home with parking in the style of the cottages on the busy village street.

Permission renewed

PERMISSION to build a house on a hill overlooking Tobermory Bay has been renewed.

Mr and Mrs Adrian Hargreaves have been given consent for the single storey home northwest of Beaumont, Tobermory, despite pressure on the local water network.

Newsdesk:
01631 568000

Range of issues raised during MP's rural tour

ALAN Reid MP visited the islands of Colonsay, Seil, Easdale and Luing as well as several Lorn villages last week as part of his summer tour of his constituency.

Mr Reid told *The Oban Times*: 'Getting round the villages and islands mean that I find out the issues that concern people in all parts of Argyll and Bute. Among the issues raised this week were fears that Lorn and Islands Hospital is being run down by the health board. Several constituents spoke of ward closures and services being moved to Fort William or central belt hospitals.'

'The new sewage treatment works at Balvicar is an appalling eyesore in what used to be a beautiful seaside location,' he said. 'It is noisy and smelly. Sewage is leaking from the uncovered tanks. It cost a fortune to connect a handful of houses. One islander quite rightly described it as Argyll's equivalent of the Edinburgh trams.'



Competitors set off at the start of the Oban Sea Kayak Race.

Crowd gathers for sea kayak race

A LARGE crowd lined the railings around Oban Bay as 51 elite kayakers cut through the water at the start of the round-Kerrera Oban Sea Kayak Race.

Overcoming difficult conditions last Saturday, race winner Calum Urquhart, of Inverness, beat the winning time set at last year's maiden event by 17 seconds when he finished the 20km course in one hour,

55 minutes and 24 seconds. Cornwall's Mark Peters was second and Jonathan Burleigh, of Aberdeen, came in third. One notable absentee, however, was last year's winner John Willacy.

In an entry list filled by some of the UK's best kayak racers, Oban's Bruce MacGregor performed brilliantly to come in seventh overall.

Organiser Gus Brydon said: 'We had an elite field of competitors for the race and they were all really up for it.'

'Word must of got out about last year's successful event because the quality of competitor we have now is right up there, as the finishing times have shown.'

'With John Willacy unable to make it, the field was wide open and we saw a great race.'

Oban Lifeboat, which is more than £1,000 better off as the sole beneficiary of race proceeds, sounded its horn to start the race at 1pm, before the racers paddled around Kerrera and back into Oban Bay.

A barbecue and a live band at Kilbowie Outdoor Centre ended the day for the competitors, many of whom have already signed up for next year's event.

Fault blamed for chaos at high school traffic lights

TRAFFIC lights chaos at Oban High School is due to a faulty 'detection loop'.

The news is of little comfort to those who are waiting in the queue to get into town - for more than 30 minutes busy times.

Traffic, coming into the town from the south on the A85, has been backed up to Tullich in Upper Soroba.

Regular drivers say they have never seen such problems getting in and out of town. To get a clear run through the town, people were adding an extra 30 minutes onto journeys.

Wilson Scott, of Oban, said: 'The light sequence must be needing re-phased. As a driver, it took me 23 minutes to get from Soroba House Hotel to the high school lights. When you pass through these lights, the road ahead seems to be clear.'

Mr Scott was one of many frustrated drivers who contacted *The Oban Times*.

Argyll and Bute Council said: 'One of the detection loops which is linked to the computer-controlled timing device has been damaged. This means that instead of the controller monitoring traffic flows and constantly changing the timings



Traffic chaos ensued when a detection loop in the traffic lights failed causing more than 30 minute waits for some to pass through the town at the traffic lights at Oban High School. 16_136traffic1

to maximise flows, the lights have been operating on the original fixed timing system.

The manufacturers are scheduled to repair the fault this month. In the interim, roads staff have changed the timings to reduce the queues coming in from the south.'

Motorists advised of more road repairs

WITH closures under way on the A85 Oban to Glasgow road at Connel, Scotland TransServ has announced two further road work schemes starting next week.

The A82 trunk road will be closed for five nights from 10pm to 6am between Tarbet and Crianlarich for a £20,000 safety improvement and drainage scheme.

Motorists are being advised to allow extra time for their journeys, though access for emergency services and local residents will be maintained.

Meanwhile in Taynuilt village, daytime work on the road surface will be carried out with one lane closed and a 10 mph

Good Food Guide award is 'a pat on the back'

THE ISLE of Mull is officially the place to eat the best seafood, after Tobermory restaurant Café Fish was named the best fish restaurant in the UK by the prestigious Good Food Guide.

Jane McDonald, director of Café Fish, said they were overwhelmed to be awarded the top title. 'Liz and I are over the moon to receive this prestigious award, particularly as we are just a small, unassuming restaurant.'

Early indications are that work at Connel will finish on schedule, with tonight, Thursday, being the final road closure.

Real time updates are available from TranServ on twitter at www.twitter.com/scot_transerv

The award is a pat on the back for everyone connected with the Café: our wonderful staff, Johnny and Andrew who deliver our fresh catch every day, and all the other hardworking Mull suppliers who we depend on for fresh, local produce. Not forgetting the kind and generous support of our lovely customers – the locals and visitors to Mull who make working in Café Fish an absolute pleasure.'

The manufacturers are scheduled to repair the fault this month. In the interim, roads staff have changed the timings to reduce the queues coming in from the south.'

and it's gratifying to know that customers appreciate this.'

She added teamwork continues to be the secret of their success.

'The award is a pat on the back for everyone connected with the Café: our wonderful staff, Johnny and Andrew who deliver our fresh catch every day, and all the other hardworking Mull suppliers who we depend on for fresh, local produce. Not

forgetting the kind and generous support of our lovely customers – the locals and visitors to Mull who make working in Café Fish an absolute pleasure.'

I would like to remind people that the 999 system is for emergency calls only and any misuse may jeopardise genuine calls coming through to us quickly.'

'I will be specifically focussing on managing the consultation process with businesses, visitors and employees within the town which will directly inform a final business plan upon which all local businesses will be balloted.'

'A comprehensive business baseline questionnaire is available now, which all businesses will be invited to complete.'

BID4Oban chairman Graham MacQueen added: 'Pauline and

other members of the steering group will be visiting businesses throughout the town to ask them to complete the multiple choice questionnaire. Projects will address the main issues and concerns businesses have locally and will be developed

into a costed business plan by spring 2012. The steering group needs all Oban businesses to complete the questionnaire either online at www.bid4oban.co.uk or by contacting Pauline on 07930 313172. Your support is appreciated.'

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OT

Lorn Lines

A FABULOUS flower show proved the healing nature of plants when it raised an impressive £4,325 for charity.

The Oban and Lorn Horticultural Society Annual Flower Show had a great array of plants, flowers, vegetables, honey and children classes on view.

Organisers were pleased with the number of competitors and the number of people involved in every class.

Glencruitten Road Church Hall was certainly full of colour. An auction was held raising more money for the group to give away.

Trophies: Challenge Trophy by J C Paton Oban: R MacKillop; Oban Town Council Challenge Cup: S Black; Oban & Lorn Horticultural Society Challenge Trophy: I Brown; Challenge Trophy presented by Messrs W & H Hay Oban: I Brown; Etive Challenge Trophy: B Hay; Mrs Willow of Dunbarton Challenge Trophy: D MacDougall; Alistair Macleod Memorial Trophy: I Brown; Oban Times Challenge trophy: H MacKenzie; Strathcona & Mount Royal Challenge trophy: J Grieve; Challenge Trophy presented by Mrs H Hutton, Oban: F Dunne; Challenge Cup presented by the late Lady Campbell of Arduine: J Grieve; The Wills Cup: J Kirkpatrick; Alexander Binns: H MacKenzie.

Oban in Bloom 2011: Small Gardens: Thomson Quaich: 1 Christine Dryden, 2 Duncan Black, 3 D Macleod; Medium Gardens: MacKechnie Cup: 1 Anne Black, 2 Elizabeth MacIntyre, 3 F John MacKenzie; Large Gardens: McDougall Cup: 1 Ross Dalgety, 2 Kathleen Hamilton, 3 Andy MacDowall; Commercial Premises: Cakebread Cup: 1 Lorn & Islands District Hospital, 2 Aulays Bar, 3 Bossards Patisserie; Hotels and Guest Houses: MacTavish Cup: 1 The Royal Hotel, 2 Glenbevie Guest House, 3 Oban Caledonian Hotel; ACHA: Oban in Bloom ACHA Shield: 1 David Black, 2 Mrs J MacLean, 3 David Reid; Hazeldean Crescent.

Kinlochlaich Salver (Best Private Garden): Christine Dryden; Best Display of Hanging Baskets: Homebase Cup: The Royal Hotel; Oban Times Quaich (Overall Champion): Christine Dryden; Judges: John Grieve and Ronnie MacKillop.



Prize winners at Oban Flower Show. 16_t340IBwinners1



WOMEN in the Oban area are being asked to join the Pink Aerobics Challenge at Atlantis Leisure on September 10 to raise money for a breast cancer charity.

More than 100 participants are expected to attend the event in Oban, which gets women, dressed in pink, to go through two hours of aerobics in aid of the Pink Ribbon Foundation.

It is the third time the sponsored event has been held at the leisure centre and in that time more than £4,000 has been raised. Organiser Karen MacInnes said: 'This is a really simple way for women to get involved in fundraising without having to give up weeks of your life training.'

'This event is open to women of all fitness levels; they can take part for as long as they are available.'

To register for the event, contact Karen on 01631 566800. Sponsor forms can be collected from Atlantis Leisure.



SUPPORTERS of Oban Phoenix Cinema held a bingo night at McCallum Court, Dunbeg, on Wednesday August 24.

Members of the community joined in with McCallum Court residents for a fun, prize-filled evening.

Mike McManus debuted as a bingo caller and prizes were generously donated by local businesses and locals. The night raised £86 for the campaign to re-open the cinema.



A FARMHOUSE store will soon be opening on Argyll Square, Oban.

The Pantry, a farmhouse store using local, Scottish and British produce, will be opening on September 27.

The shop, in the former Trespass premises, will be run by Jenny and Robbie Love of The Horsebox and Archie and Donna MacCulloch of Roxy's Cafe.



A PLANNING condition, preventing a house at the former Oban Rare Breeds Park from being lived in before sheds are demolished, has been lifted.

Permission was given for a home to be built on the site in July 2010, but planners said all sheds and outbuildings must be pulled down before anyone moved in. Most of the old buildings have been removed, but the applicants argued they need a shed for storing wood and it makes no sense to demolish an existing shed only to build a new one.



Young duo are best in business

REPORT

by EDEL KENEALY
ekenealy@obantimes.co.uk

A CHAMPION kite surfer has been named Argyll's top young entrepreneur.

Helen Thompson, from Tiree, was crowned young entrepreneur of the year on Monday following the successful launch of her kite-surfing business on the island.

Organised by the Prince's Scottish Youth Business Trust (PSYBT), the entrepreneurial awards recognise successful business people who have received support from the charity.

Despite launching in the middle of a recession, the firm has proved popular with local businesses and Mull farmers.

Andrew Kean, of Dunoon company First Point USA, presented Helen with her award of £1,000. He said: 'These awards give recognition to the talented, ambitious young entrepreneurs that are helping our local communities to flourish and prosper and we are delighted to be able to provide our support and encouragement.'

The 25-year-old, who has won medals at the World Kite Surfing Championships, said winning the PSYBT award is a major boost.

'It is really, really brilliant,' Helen said. 'It has given me a profile in Argyll and I hope more people will know what I'm about.'

Intending to take full advantage of the exposure, Helen will have the opportunity to boost her profile on a national scale as she will be considered as a potential finalist for the national PSYBT awards.

Another islander, Craig Rutherford from Mull, was named runner-up at the regional award. The 21-year-old founded his own plant machinery business, Rutherford Plant Limited, in September 2009.

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Andrew Kean, of Dunoon company First Point USA

TROPHY WINNERS

Baking: Ardlea Perpetual Challenge Cup for most points in the baking section: Sheena Rodgers; Tullich Perpetual Challenge Trophy for the best exhibit in the baking section: Helen Gibson; The Mary Smith Memorial Trophy: Helen Gibson; The Arichaslich Trophy for the winner of the best exhibit in the largest class(es): Ron Duncan; The SJ Noble Perpetual Memorial Medal for the best girdle scone: Miss L Henderson.

Preserves: The Tullich Challenge Trophy for most points in preserves section: Karen Campbell.

Home Industries Trophies: The MacLennan Perpetual Challenge Cup for most points in the Home industries section: Andrea Scott; Janet MacLennan Memorial Trophy for most points in knitting classes: Helen Gibson; Challenge Trophy for best piece of embroidery: Rae Green; Special Prize £5 from DAS for best exhibit in handicraft: June Taylor.

Horticulture: The Dunorran Perpetual Challenge Cup for most points in vegetables: May MacKenzie; Braeside Perpetual Challenge Cup for most points in classes flowers: Billy Hay; The Glenview Perpetual Challenge Cup for best exhibit in the horticulture section (vegetables): Hugh Macleod; The Maithland Rose Bowl for the best pot plant: Hugh Macleod; The Lilian Chrystal Memorial Trophy for the best Rose bloom in the Show: Queenie Strickland; Special Prize National Vegetable Society medal and certificate for the most meritorious exhibit in the horticulture section: Hugh Macleod.

Floral Art: The Dorothy Bingham Perpetual Challenge Cup for the best exhibit in the floral art classes: Patricia Trennan; The Kath Martindale memorial cup for the best arrangement in a sherry glass: Helen Gibson; Special Prize The Liz Fellowes memorial prize for the most points in the floral art section: Sybil Macpherson.

Crooks and Sticks: The Kerra Cup for the best hazel Cromag: Robbie Campbell; Perpetual Challenge Tankard for the most points in the open classes: Arthur Dent; Perpetual challenge trophy for best exhibit in the stick section: Arthur Dent; The Jewson Cup for best horn head shepherds crook: Arthur Dent; Special

Prize: £10 from the Scottish Crookmakers association for the winner of the novice class: Duncan Burns.

Paintings and Drawings: Annual Challenge Cup for the best painting: Thomas Orr; Photography 2011: The Bob Steer Memorial Challenge Cup for best entry in the photographic section: Stephen Lawton.

Pet Snaps: Special Prize £10 awarded from Bob Prestidge and Gill Chrystal for best entry in Pet Snaps: Nicholas Crawford.

Dogs: Champion dog Audrey Campbell with Betty; reserve: Colin Cameron with Luna; The Murdoch Perpetual Challenge Trophy for best collie: Ian Livingstone with Gary; The Amisfree Perpetual Challenge Trophy for best spaniel: A Cameron with Kira; The Glenquach Perpetual Challenge Trophy for best any other breed: Colin Cameron with Luna; The Lorna Schuster Perpetual Challenge Quaiche for best terrier: Jean Gore with Peerie; The MacLurg Perpetual Challenge Trophy for best exhibit not classified - large breed: Kate Craig with Jess; The Cameron Perpetual Challenge Trophy for overall champion dog: Audrey Campbell with Betty. Terrier Race: The Ardeath Tankard for winner of the terrier race: Ruby Bosomworth, Ormsay, with Freddie.

Children's section: The Children's Trophy for best exhibit in the children's section: Eve Harvey; The Upper Sonachan Cup for best exhibit in the largest Class(es): Lisa Thom; The Dennis Turner Memorial Trophy for best handicraft: Lisa Thom; The Ken Baird Memorial Trophy for best photo of a flower: Katrina Dow; Special Prizes: Medals, presented by DAS for all 1st Prize winners: Ruaraidh Rankin; The Thomas Potter memorial prize of £5 (1) for finger painted picture: Ruaraidh Rankin; The Thomas Potter memorial prize of £5 (2) for painting of a stone: Emily Jamieson; The Frances Baird Memorial prize of £10 to go with T70; Katrina Dow.

Shinty: The Pat Chrystal Memorial Trophy: St Columbas; The Iain Black Memorial Trophy for most improved team - Junior shinty: Taynuilt; The Donald & hiker Morrison Cup for best Juvenile Player: Daniel McVicar, St Columbas.



Robbie Campbell from Fort William and Arthur Dent, of Doune, were among the top trophy winners in the crooks and sticks. 15_136dal10



Ewan Glendinning knocks out a quick spurtle using ancient woodturning techniques and equipment. As well as the Scottish Green Woodworkers, there were demonstrations of dry-stone dyking and crook making at the show. 15_136dal13



Mini snouser Betty is expecting pups and she must be blooming as the judges picked her as the champion dog. She also helped Joseph MacVicar win the young handlers' class. 15_136dal07

REPORT
by CHRISTINE MCCARTNEY
cmccartney@obantimes.co.uk

'We never expected as many as that.'

'The home industries were also up: people are definitely garden more and they are making their own things.'

Inveraray and District Juvenile Pipe Band entertained the crowds throughout the day and while the senior shiny between Glenorchy and Inveraray was cancelled, the junior tournament went ahead.

Plans are already underway for a spring show dance and new attractions at next year's show. Rhona added the committee would welcome new and particularly younger members.

She said: 'It is a good day when it all comes together, it is worth while.'

Show season ends in style

Organisers at Dalmally are delighted with turn-out

THE SHOW season finished in style at Dalmally on Saturday. Crowds poured into a busy field, with everything from alpacas to zorbing to entertain and hotly-contested competitions in classes across the show.

Rhona Crawford, show secretary, said the secret of Dalmally's success is its friendly atmosphere and strong community connections: 'We try and compete as much as we can with the bigger shows. The committee goes out especially to the other shows to get ideas.'

'Everybody keeps looking at the weather forecast the whole week, whereas I can't look because I'm too nervous. In actual fact, the weather was kinder to us than we thought.'

'The poultry is more popular than ever. It was a good section and lots of the children got involved. The dog show was the biggest we have had, with over 170.'

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Gardener Hugh's in seventh heaven

Hugh MacLeod, from Benderloch, almost swept the boards in the horticultural tent, winning seven classes and two trophies for his impressive vegetables.

He also took the National Vegetable Society medal and certificate for the most meritorious exhibit in the horticulture section.

'I love growing the leeks and onions.'

'A lot of people ask if I use piles of fertiliser, but it's just good horse manure and hard work,' he said.

15_136dal08



Report, results and pictures of the livestock classes - see page 15

Beinneun Windfarm Opportunity for community participation



Background

- RidgeWind, one of the UK's leading independent wind farm developers, has been investigating the potential for a wind farm at Beinneun (location shown overleaf) since early 2009
- RidgeWind believes that a wind farm at Beinneun has good potential to be consented and built, not least because it is adjacent to the Millennium Wind Farm, which has been operating since 2008
- A layout for the site has been developed comprising 25 turbines
- RidgeWind has agreed to help the community to form, and will continue to support, a co-operative, principally comprising local individuals and organisations
- The purpose of the co-operative is to promote and provide projects relating to renewable energy and to provide financial and other support to the development of the proposed Beinneun Wind Farm, with a view to ensuring that the local community secures the benefits that an operational wind farm at Beinneun would bring

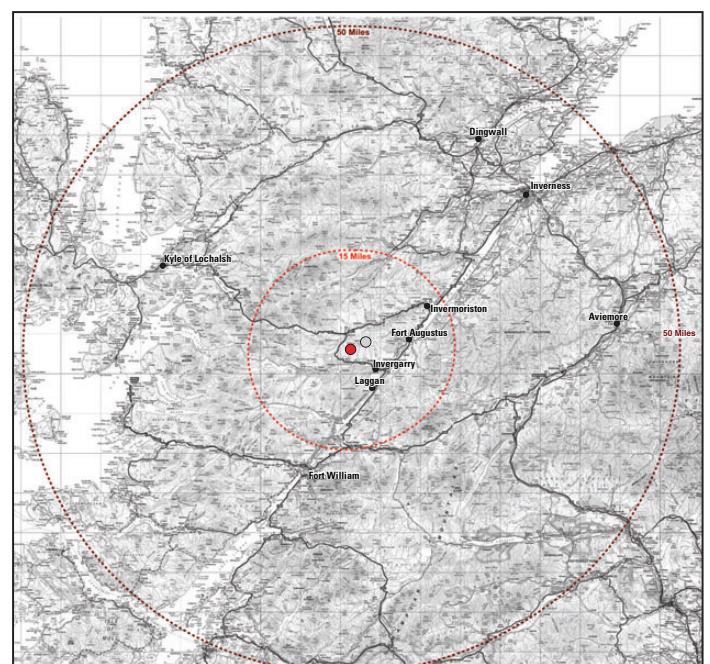
Opportunity to Participate

- To support its objectives, the co-operative is seeking to raise between £100,000 and £200,000, which it would contribute towards the costs of the planning process for the proposed wind farm
- If planning consent and a connection to the electricity network are obtained, the co-operative would be awarded an uplift of 50% on its contribution (ie £1.50 return for a £1 investment)
 - Potential for co-operative to keep some or all of its monies invested in the project from that point, and earn interest thereon
 - Only half of the co-operative's contribution will be returned if planning consent and network connection not obtained
- Opportunity for community participation, through subscription for shares in the co-operative
- Priority will be given to local individuals and organisations
- Minimum subscription £250, maximum £13,300

If you are interested in receiving more information, please register your interest at the contact details set out below.

An offer document, which will contain full details of the terms of the share offer, is expected to be available in late-August 2011, with the offer period likely to close in late-September 2011.

Location and scope



Intention would be to prioritise applications for subscription on the basis of proximity to the proposed site.

First Priority: 15 mile radius

Second priority: 50 mile radius

- Proposed Beinneun Wind Farm
- Existing Millennium Wind Farm

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It is intended that further information, including an offer document, will be published in due course in respect of the opportunity to subscribe for shares in the co-operative established to promote and support the development of the Beinneun Windfarm.

OT

Accused denies stabbing man in neck

A MAN has denied leaving his alleged victim's life in danger after stabbing him on the neck in Kinlochleven.

Andrew Thomson, aged 27, of 426 Dyke Road, Knightswood, Glasgow, pled not guilty to assaulting the man by striking him on the neck with a knife to his injury, causing permanent disfigurement and endangering of his life at 13 Glendale Street on February 5.

There are 14 people on the witness list for the trial, which is due to be held at Fort William Sheriff Court on November 7.

More talks on joint community hall in Onich

PROPOSALS to investigate building a new joint community hall in Onich will get a second airing at a public consultation meeting in Nether Lochaber Village hall tonight.

The event follows an initial meeting on the issue in the nearby church hall on August 24, hosted jointly by representatives of the hall committee and Nether Lochaber Parish Church of Scotland.

Both organisations have plans to replace their own halls and are seeking local people's views on whether a single hall to serve the community would be practical and desirable.

Village hall committee chairperson Christine Cameron told *The Oban Times* there were likely to be a 'lot of questions' at tonight's meeting, which starts at 7.30pm.

'Now that we have started consultations, we want to keep going,' she said. 'We very much want the public to be involved in all discussions.'

A further meeting with church representatives, probably within the next month, was being sought, Ms Cameron said.

Cars vandalised

FOUR parked vehicles were vandalised in a Fort William Street over the weekend.

The cars were all on Nairn Crescent, Upper Achintore, and were empty when they were scathed.

Plans agreed for Claggan Park stands

PLANS for new stands at Claggan Park were agreed on Tuesday night at a Fort William FC committee meeting.

The project, funded by Claggan Park owners Highland Council, is understood to be costing around £125,000.

The structures will be built across the pitch from the existing stand and will accommodate 63 spectators each.

The nine-metre stands will be built on either end of a concrete pad, with a similar-sized space in between for a third stand if funding becomes available. The home and away dugouts will fill the gap between the new all-seated enclosures meantime.

Fort FC chairman John Watssman said the new stands would bring spectators much closer to the action. 'People coming from other clubs will see the progress being made at Claggan,' he said.

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Talented piper keeps hitting the right notes at Northern Meeting

TALENTED Roy Bridge piper Sandy Cameron continued his extraordinary summer of success when he won three trophies at the two-day Northern Meeting in Inverness last Friday.

Sandy, 14, who is from Inverlair, won the under-15 march, the under-18 piobearachd and the under-18 aggregate competitions.

The youngster won three Drumnadrochit medals, the Pipe Major William Young Trophy, the Evan MacRae Trophy, the British Legion Plaid Brooch and the Pipe Major Angus MacDonald

Memorial Trophy. Sandy, who is tutored by Iain MacFadzean of Kyle, also won a Nicol Manson engraved chanter and Donald MacPhee reeds.

Final six

Sandy also reached the final six in the under-22 category at the Argyllshire Gathering on August 25.

Seamus O'Baoighill from Sleat was second in the piobearachd, while the day before Niall Stewart from Kyle won the Highland Society of London gold medal. 20_136sandy01

Ex-pupils plan golden evening

One-off concert to be staged by talented musicians who attended Lochaber High

SOME OF the most illustrious musical talent to pass through Lochaber High School will come together for a one-off concert in Fort William next Friday evening as part of Blas 2011.

The star-studded cast for 'Lochaber Gold' at the Nevis Centre includes Gary Innes, Kaela Rowan, Ewen Henderson, Annie Grace and James Mackintosh, with a special performance from the Lochaber High School Pipe Band.

As well as the music, some of Lochaber High School's famous former pupils will take to the stage to talk about their time growing up in the area, such as Charles Kennedy MP, Donald

Park, Catherine MacLeod and Duncan Shearer.

Former LHS pupils Gary Innes and Hugh MacLennan will be hosting the night, and Gary told *The Oban Times* the concert would be 'light-hearted and good fun.'

He said: 'It's a chance to celebrate all the wonderful music and people who have come out of Lochaber. All the music will be songs written by Lochaber people or about Lochaber.'

'In between songs former pupils will come up on stage and have a blether with Hugh, chat about their time growing up in the area and what they've gone on to do.'

The idea for it came off the back of last year's 50th anniversary celebrations for the school, and we can celebrate all the things that are good about the school.'

Fergie MacDonald will break out his accordion for his first public performance since undergoing a heart bypass earlier this year. Another special performance will come from fiddler Angus Grant, who turns 80 two days before the concert and taught many of the younger musicians who are taking part.

Tickets for Lochaber Gold are still available from the Nevis Centre or www.blas-festival.com

30 Years Ago

Those Were The Days



Thursday, September 10, 1981

Connel bridge climbdown

THE THREAT of daytime closure of the Connel Bridge to allow for repainting was lifted on Friday, as forecast in last week's issue. Scottish Office Minister Malcolm Rifkind told John Mackay MP, who had raised the matter with him, that the work would instead be done overnight in the period October 5–November 7.

The wording of the letter hardly conceals that someone, somewhere, has been on the wrong end of a ministerial rocket over the handling of the whole affair, but one point on which Mr Rifkind is standing firm is the need for the closure to be signed at Tyndrum – something which tourist interests had protested would damage the season in the Oban area.

The text of Mr Rifkind's letter is: 'Following the strong representations made, my department have been in touch with the contractor to consider what adjustments to the closure times might be possible. He is now prepared to reduce to the minimum the work that requires the bridge to be closed, to carry out that work between the hours of 11.30pm and 5.30am and to delay it to the end of the contract period, which in effect means closure will not take place until October 5 and will end on November 7.'

Marina yes, causeway no

REGIONAL councillor David Webster spoke in favour of an Oban marina and against a causeway to Kerrera when he addressed Oban Community Council on Monday evening.

Councillor Webster said that he supported a scheme to build between the North Pier towards the Railway Pier with pontoons in the centre and fishing boat berthing on the seaward side. The plan included some dredging of the seabed beside the new wall and infilling of the beach to allow George Street to be widened to provide parking facilities.

Community council chairman Alick McLeod said he hoped the scheme would come to fruition. 'I have heard very little in the way of objections to a marina although we do not want a causeway,' he said. 'It makes me very sad to see skilled people in Oban being made redundant and I want to see employment brought to the town. I do not think that anyone could be against that,' he said. He added that ideally he would like to see a bridge to Kerrera but that was the most expensive proposal of all.

The council also agreed to write to Strathclyde Regional Council, urging them to keep the question of the South Pier very much in mind, as the temporary pontoons were not a substitute for the pier.

Don't kill our community, Bonawe pleads

THE PEOPLE of Bonawe this week continued their fight to keep their bus service at its present frequency. In an open letter to the transport manager of Highland Omnibuses they expressed indignation at his response in last week's *Oban Times* to the effect that the service was under-used beyond Connel.

Last week's story said talks would be held this week on proposals to withdraw the 5.45pm bus from Oban to Bonawe and the Saturday service.

The open letter, with 20 signatures, states: 'It seems obvious to us that there will be fewer people on a bus towards the end of its journey since people will be getting off all along the route. The Bonawe area is not as heavily populated as the Connel area, but we depend on the service as much as anyone else.'

'Has the transport manager considered the needs of the people of Bonawe and North Connel? The 5.45pm service from Oban to Bonawe is used every day by people from this area who work in Oban. Within the next month 10 more Bonawe quarry workers expect to be made redundant – these men will have to find work and will depend on this bus service.'

MSPs back Mallaig ferry link campaign

MOVES to restore the ferry link between Mallaig and Lochboisdale have received a major boost after MSPs overwhelmingly backed the proposal in Edinburgh.

The Scottish Parliament's public petitions committee agreed their support after hearing presentations from a three-strong delegation from Lochaber and South Uist on Tuesday afternoon.

Caol and Mallaig councillor Allan Henderson, Stòras Uibhist chairman Angus MacMillan and SU chief executive Huw Francis argued a revived link would boost economic activity at both ports and substantially cut journey times.

Multi-million pound plans to upgrade Lochboisdale harbour,

felt we made a really compelling economic case for both the Outer Isles and Mallaig. The committee did not know why the route had not been reintroduced already. We got an assurance that the petition will be carried forward to Scottish Ministers and that they will make a plea on our behalf. They could have dismissed it very easily, but that was not the attitude they took – it was very positive.'

Committee convener, Highlands and Islands MSP David Stewart confirmed support for the route and that the petition was 'still active'. He said: 'I am convinced that this is an idea whose time has come. It clearly has great advantages for the Mallaig area in bringing vessels into the port

and for freight traffic in cutting sea journey times to three and a half hours.'

'The Mallaig road is now an excellent route and Mallaig has good port facilities. We have all the ingredients there for people to use the ferry.'

'The committee agreed to write to the Scottish Government to continue this petition, and to confirm that the reintroduction of the direct service between Mallaig and Lochboisdale is being considered as part of the Scottish Ferries review. We are also asking for a timescale for the publication of the draft ferries plan.'

The hearing came after an e-petition on reintroducing the ferry link attracted 818 signatures.

Group's online bid to attract Gaelic teacher

LOCHABER High School head teacher Jim Sutherland has welcomed moves by a Lochaber community group to encourage applications for the vacant Gaelic teacher's post at the school.

Iomaire Ghàidhlig Loch Abair (Lochaber Gaelic Initiative) has set up a new website, www.tidsear-lochabair.org, an information portal on all aspects of life in Lochaber for those considering Gaelic jobs in the area, particularly teaching.

Its home page states: 'Lochaber is a great place to live and work and a great place to be

involved in Gaelic. There is a real enthusiasm to promote the language and an active scene, which supports those involved in teaching.'

The move follows news that Lochaber High School's sole Gaelic teacher will start a new job at Portree High on September 16.

Mr Sutherland told *The Oban Times*: 'I was unaware of this development until you told me about it. I am grateful for any help that anybody can give to attract Gaelic teaching staff to the school.'

Applications for the post, which is currently being advertised by Highland

Council, close tomorrow (Friday). Domhnall Morris of Comunn na Gàidhlig said: 'The Iomaire is hoping to support Highland Council in attracting candidates for the position and is able to assist with sourcing accommodation.'

'Lochaber has a great tradition supporting Gaelic and the various groups in the area have come together to support Highland Council in attracting a new Gaelic teacher to the area. The successful candidate will be well supported by an active group of parents and organisations.'



Ciaran Ross and Peter Logie of CLIC Sargent get a bird's eye view of the abseil route down the college's accommodation block.

Skye couple support CLIC abseil

AN ISLE of Skye couple are backing a CLIC Sargent fundraising abseil at Sabhal Mòr Ostaig, the Gaelic college in Sleat, after the charity helped them during their son's battle with leukaemia.

Margaret and Neil Ross, from Snizort, hope the October 22 event – a public abseil down the seven-storey accommodation tower – will raise vital cash for the charity.

Their son Ciaran, aged nine, was diagnosed with acute lymphoblastic leukaemia in May 2008 and spent nearly a year in Glasgow at the Royal Hospital for Sick Children in Glasgow.

Margaret stayed close by in a NHS Highland flat after

spending six weeks in CLIC Sargent's Home from Home accommodation.

Neil would drive the five hours down from Skye on Fridays after work to spend the weekend.

Ciaran has been back at school since June 2009 and attends the children's oncology clinic regularly at Raigmore Hospital, Inverness.

The family is supported by a CLIC Sargent social worker and nurse, and have holidayed at the charity's holiday house in Prestwick.

Margaret told *The Oban Times*: 'We really appreciate the help CLIC Sargent has given us at a very difficult time.'

CLIC Sargent community

fundraiser Peter Logie said the experiences of Ciaran's family were 'pretty typical' of those affected by cancer while living in a remote location.

Urging people from across the West Highlands to take the plunge, he said: 'By taking on this challenge, folk can really help us make a difference to families like Ciaran's.'

'The abseil will be open to those over the age of 16 and 18 stone and under.'

Pipers and cheerleaders are expected on the day to support those taking part.

To register, contact Peter Logie on 01463 713080, at peter.logie@clicsargent.org.uk or text 'abseil' to 07889 119147.

Jobs boost with opening of new betting shop



Oban FM DJ Maggie May, pictured with staff members, cut the ribbon to declare Oban's second Ladbrokes store open. The new betting shop is across from the existing branch, opened in 1970, in Stevenson Street and staff will be shared between the two. However, the opening of the new branch has resulted in the creation of seven new jobs in the town. Maggie was given a free bet worth £50, with proceeds going to Oban Riding for the Disabled. 15_136ladbrokes01

GENERAL KNOWLEDGE CROSSWORD

Across

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- 8 Included (6)
- 9 Ring (4)
- 10 Impetus (8)
- 11 Throwback (7)
- 13 Beater (5)
- 15 Ritzy (5)
- 17 Too sentimental (7)
- 20 False belief (8)
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- 23 Team number (6)
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**Entrepreneur
hopes to clean up**

BARCALDINE entrepreneur Michael Forbes, of Forbes Boat Care, is venturing into consumer products by releasing his first polish and cutting compound.

It comes after Michael realised there wasn't a product on the market that matched his requirements following the discontinuation of his favourite brand last year.

While specifically targeted at boat care, the products, FBC Marine Polish and FBC Cutting Compound, can also be used on road vehicles and caravans.

Forbes Boat Care will distribute the products in Scotland, while deals for UK-wide distribution are being negotiated. Michael, an ambassador for the Prince's Scottish Youth Business Trust, said: 'I've launched a new website to sell the polish under the FBC Marine Products brand and I've already started looking at another couple of products that could sell well.'

More information at www.fbcmarineproducts.co.uk.

**Engineering
boost for SAMS**

A £6.5MILLION programme is to be launched to develop engineering expertise specialising in renewable energy, delivered, in part, in Oban.

The scheme will see universities and the industry provide training for up to 50 of the best engineering students in the country. The scheme will partly be delivered by the Scottish Association for Marine Science at Dunbeg, near Oban.

The new centre will be funded through the Energy Technologies Institute and the Engineering and Physical Sciences Research Council.

Head chef Gary is quick to plunder nature's larder

A TAYNUILT chef who has made foraging fresh fare for his restaurant his passion is hoping to spread the word with a series of forest walks.

Gary Goldie, Scotland's Chef of the Year 2011 and head chef at the Ardanaiseg Hotel, regularly takes trips into the forest to gather up the ingredients for his popular dishes.

The best flora and fungi in the area is picked for inclusion in some of the hotel's signature dishes, while any unusual finds are verified for safety before special dishes are concocted around them.

Such is the variety of tastes, textures and aromas that the mushrooms he has gathered have found their way into all sorts of dishes, from delicate starters and rich wholesome soups to delicious mains and – most ingeniously – decadent desserts, including an intriguing chocolate fondant.

So renowned for his self-confessed 'healthy obsession' has Gary become that he has even appeared in television documentaries demonstrating the extent of nature's larder.

Now he's hoping to encourage locals and visitors to embrace foraging.

Gary, who has worked at the hotel for 14 years, 13 as head

Oban firm signs deal to supply subsea cameras

REPORT

by STEVEN FLANAGAN
sflanagan@obantimes.co.uk

AN OBAN company is to expand after signing a multi-million pound deal to produce subsea cameras for the world's fastest growing aquaculture technology supplier.

Precision Subsea Electronics, based in Lochaline Road, signed the landmark agreement with Norwegian firm Ocea Gruppen AS during last month's AquaNor show in Trondheim, marking its first major foray into the rapidly expanding global aquaculture market.

The pan-tilt cameras will be re-sold by Ocea Gruppen AS with its own branding after being showcased during the AquaNor show, the largest and most prestigious trade show in the aquaculture industry.

Delighted

Company director Steve Davis said: 'We are delighted that the design and quality of our products has been recognised by such an ambitious, global company as Ocea.

'The potential from this is very, very good.'

'We are now in the global market and, because we're small, professional and flexible, we are able to be more reactive to trends and developments than other companies.'

'There are other high-end products for subsea industries in development, not just for aquaculture, but for other markets. We can't say what they are at this stage though.'



Janet Milne and Steve Davis of Precision Subsea Electronics with the pan-tilt cameras they will produce for Norwegian firm Ocea Gruppen AS. 15.136precision

The company started in Oban in 2005 after Steve recognised a gap in the industry for quality, wireless subsea cameras to service thriving local fish farms.

Originally based at the Marine Resource Centre in Barcaldine, the company moved to its current premises in Oban three years ago to expand its operations.

In that time, the company

has developed a loyal and enthusiastic local customer base and while the agreement will

allow the business to grow, it won't change their commitment to the area that has served them so well so far.

Janet Milne, director of operations at Precision, said: 'This deal is great for us and it's great news for Scotland. We will

also be taking on more people.

'But it is important people note that we've not sold the company. We're still actively designing and producing new products and we will still maintain our commitment to our local customers.'

'From here we will consolidate our position and look forward again.'

Mr Davis added: 'We have no

plans to move from Oban. Here,

we can go and test something

straight away and this is where

our clients are.'

'Aside from that, for me it's a

relief living in Oban in terms of

the lifestyle.'

'Oban has helped this business

develop over the years and I

hope that continues.'

Health and safety tool kit unveiled

FREE copies of the Scottish Centre for Healthy Working Lives Workplace Health Tool Kit are being distributed by the Inverclyde branch of the Federation of Small Businesses.

Both members and non-members can pick up a copy of the workplace health guide, an invaluable toolkit that contains information on legal responsibilities, improving

workplace health and tools and templates to help complete the necessary tasks to comply with legislation.

Records

Finished examples are included to aid completion of risk assessment, health and safety policy and accident records.

Alan Parker, local branch vice chairman, said: 'This toolkit

is aimed squarely at the small business community and allows any business to have access to all the information they require in order to implement their health and safety policy, employee health and reduce costs.

The toolkit is available by contacting tobemory@mull.com or Stewart.farmer@fsb.org.uk.

McEwen's store is open for business



Open for business – staff prepare to welcome shoppers to the new McEwen's store. Pictured are operations director Ian Mutch with Katie Dunn, store manager Audrey Hunter, Debbie Dunsmore and Grace Forbes. 08.134mcewens1

Firms provide treats at launch of Schiphol flight

FORT William-based Lochaber Farm Shop and Highland Sweet Treats contributed to celebrations marking Inverness Airport's launch of its inaugural flight to Schiphol, Amsterdam, recently.

The companies' produce formed part of a luxury food hamper presented to Schiphol aviation marketing manager Ivo van der Vlis by Inverness Airport manager Graeme Bell, as a goodwill gesture to the new link between the cities.

Mr Bell said: 'We approached suppliers from all over the country who have kindly



John Forteith, left, takes delivery of Forteith Foodservice's new sales fleet from Ben Nevis Motors' Iain MacFarlane. 08.136forteith

donated produce for this special presentation, offering a little piece of Scotland to our Dutch counterparts.

'Obviously the launch of the Inverness to Schiphol route is fundamental to the growing success of both Scottish and Dutch tourism.'

'We also potentially have food producers from surrounding areas who may look to use the Schiphol service to export their goods abroad, so we wanted to highlight the great products our home grown companies are producing and exporting,' he added.

This pilot scheme has run for a year and is still open for applications until the end of September,' explained councillor Neil Mackay, Argyll and Bute Council's spokesperson for enterprise, energy, culture and tourism.

'Growing or starting a business isn't easy in the current climate

Tasty deal for Oban catering wholesaler

BEN Nevis Motors in Fort William has agreed a deal to sell five new ultra-efficient cars to Oban's catering wholesaler Forteith Foodservice.

The new fleet of Ford Focus Zetec diesels will be used by the company's sales reps and will drastically cut fuel bills as well Co2 emissions, with each car falling in to the £30 a year road tax bracket. Iain MacFarlane, sales executive at Ben Nevis Motors, said: 'It's the first time we've dealt with them and it

was a great deal for all. These cars will not only help seriously reduce their carbon emissions per kilometre, but will save a lot in fuel too.'

Senior partner of Forteith Foodservice, John Forteith, said: 'The main focus for us was to get environmentally friendly cars that are serviceable locally and deliver good value, lowering our running costs. We were also delighted with the sales support that Iain has given us.'



Nikki Gunn of Highland Sweet Treats and Alison MacIntosh of Lochaber Farm Shop donated produce.

but there is help available and any businesses interested in applying for the funding should get in touch as soon as possible to ensure they don't miss out.'

The start-up grant can offer between £500 and £1,000 to help a new business with start-up costs and a business can apply up to six months after they have started trading, although no costs already committed can be claimed.

As well as full-time businesses, part-time businesses with the potential to become full-time are eligible.

Businesses from across the area have already taken advantage of the funding and recognised the benefits of the wider support available from Business Gateway, including Isle of Seil Saddlery, a new business providing a range of services to horse owners.

'Growing or starting a business isn't easy in the current climate

but there is help available and any businesses interested in applying for the funding should get in touch as soon as possible to ensure they don't miss out.'

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'Growing or starting a business isn't easy in the current climate

Practical help, advice and support for new and growing businesses

To find out how Business Gateway can help your business, contact the local office on 01546 605 459 or visit www.bgateway.com

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business gateway
slighe gnothachais

EASDALE

EASDALE branch of Royal British Legion Scotland held its annual fair on Saturday August 27 in Seil Island Hall. The event was opened by Patrick Cadzow.

In total, £1,326 was raised on the day, which was a wonderful amount in the present economy.

Members give their heartfelt thanks to the communities of Seil and Luing, to all visitors who supported this event and to piper Donald Campbell.

All funds raised will be shared between various forces charities, including Combat Stress and Erskine Hospital.

PLOCKTON

THE PLOCKTON sailing season ended on Saturday August 27 when all boats were eligible to race in the Jubilee Race for the Islay Trophy.

Six local boats and two centreboards entered.

Michael Hay left his local boat *Nan* on its mooring and borrowed his brother's Flying 15 *Ffionair* and won the trophy, beating Sandra Byrne, *Scorrybreac*, by 32 seconds. Third was Morag Amos, *Eala Bhan*.

The race also counted as the third Visitors' Cup race.

As a result, Ian Hay, *Seolta*, won the cup with eight points, second was Douglas Hamilton, *Ajax*, with nine points and Morag Amos, *Eala Bhan*, was third with 10 points.

All in all, it was a great season for the Hay family with Ian winning four trophies and sons David and Michael also winning four trophies each.

Green fingered pupils at Glenelg

Glenelg Primary School pupils celebrate achieving their Silver Eco Schools Award in front of their polytunnel where they have been growing fruit and veg over the summer.

LEWIS

SHAWBOST School has received a mixed report card from HMIE inspectors.

Staff were recognised for providing high levels of care for young people's wellbeing and the head teacher for his leadership.

The use of the local area and community to celebrate cultural heritage and sporting activities also won praise.

RAASAY**Crofter's delight at seven little Tamworths**

RAASAY man Paul Camilli has welcomed the arrival of seven new piglets at his South Arnish croft.

Bracken the sow produced the Tamworth piggies in the straw-filled ark on August 19 - and the four boars and three gilts all doing fine. Mum was running a temperature after the birth but responded well to a course of antibiotics.

Paul told *The Oban Times*: 'They will be weaned in six weeks time and then up for sale. Tamworths are a hardy outdoor pig well suited to the west coast climate, a little slower to mature and with less fat than other breeds.'

Paul is also the motorman on the ferryboat the *Loch Striven* which runs between Raasay pier and Sconser.



The South Arnish piglets look right at home in the ark at one day old.

LOCHALINE

STRONG winds in the Sound of Mull last Monday morning resulted in the Dutch yacht *Salash* being damaged and totally disabled. The vessel's troubles were spotted by charter boat owner Bob Jones, who brought his boat *Gaelic Rose* alongside the stricken boat.

Mr Jones realised that as the radio antenna was under water the crew could not have radioed for help. Securing a towline and

accompanied now by another charter vessel *Sound Diver* with coastguard Lee Brown at the wheel, they were able to tow the yacht to Ardornish Bay.

So much of the mast and rigging was underwater it was impossible to take the boat into the shallower waters of Loch Aline.

The two people on board the Dutch yacht were offered the services of a diver to clear the rigging and remove the mast.

The yacht was finally alongside the new pontoons in Lochaline on Monday evening and was met by the Lochaline coastguard who offered further assistance.

KILNINVER

ANTIONETTE Mitchell, Kilnivver and Kilmelford Community Council (KKCC) planning officer, writes: 'At present there are two major planning issues in the Kilnivver area which may have significant implications for their local communities and - or both - the land and marine environment.

'The first one, which has already gone to application, is that of the relocation of the

Ardmaddy Fish Farm. KKCC has asked the planners for an extension on the time permitted in which to submit letters of comment so that they can study the application and all the attendant information, discuss it at the community council and then gain an overall feeling of the community towards it. The second project is the Clachan Wind Farm, and all of you should have received leaflets concerning this. At the time of writing this has not gone to application, by the time of print it may well have done, as the application, we are told by the developer, is imminent.'

'KKCC would urge the community that before they write to the planners either supporting or objecting to these applications, they please make themselves fully aware of the information made in these applications and other information surrounding them.

'Each application should be studied in light of the effect it could have on its particular area. Applications can be studied online and copies are held at Kilmelford village shop and in the Oban planning office.'

Handicraft section results from Lochaber Show

RESULTS from the handicraft section of the recent Lochaber Agricultural Show, held at Inverlochy Castle Farm at Torlundy:

Mrs Elma MacKellar Cup for most points overall - Vic MacPherson. WRI Cup - Edythe Knowles. Home baking: Mrs Isabel Campbell Cup for most points - Sheena MacGillivray Silver Spoon for champion baker (presented by Shaw family) - Sheena MacGillivray. Mrs Van Voss Cup for runner-up - Margaret Bellwood and Valerie Forsyth. Spean Bridge Hotel Cup for best exhibit - Mary Kerr.

Produce and preserves: Mrs A McColl Cup for most points - Sheena MacGillivray. Mrs M Bateman Cup for most points in home baking and produce and preserves - Sheena MacGillivray. Braeroy Estate

Cup - Sharyn Morgan. Knitting: Mrs R MacLennan Cup for most points - Mary Kerr. Mrs Isobel MacPhee Quaich for runner-up - Edythe Knowles.

Handicraft: Lochaber Agricultural Society Cup for most points in classes 43-53 - Ann MacGillivray. Marshall and Pearson Shield for most points in classes 54-60 - Helen Leslie. John Kerr Trophy for most points in classes 54-57 - Emma Sessions and Helen MacColl.

Floral Decoration: Mrs Ann MacCallum Cup for most points - Cathie Hamilton. The BOSS Salver for runner-up - Sheena MacGillivray.

Floral: Ness Motors Shield for most points - Vic MacPherson. Vic MacPherson Shield for most points for dahlias 81-83 - Gayle

Rand. Garden produce: P Robertson Shield for most points - Vic MacPherson and Gayle Rand. Ruth Langton Cup for runner-up - Lochaber Rural Education Trust.

Hunter Ross Bowl for most points in floral and garden produce - Vic MacPherson.

Schools: Lundavra Cup for primary school with most points - Spean Bridge. Jessie Corsor Cup for nursery or playgroup with most points - Spean Bridge.

Children: Boy and girl with most points in each age section. Nursery/playgroup - Sorley Swaby and Leila Berardelli/Chloe; P1&2 - Ruairidh Poll and Reba Hunter; P3&4 - Craig Allot and Alice Campbell; P5&6 - Jocken Baak/Fergus Berardelli and Mairi Bell; P7 - Ben/Stephen and Carla Berardelli.

LISMORE**Donald Black retrospective**

A LARGE number turned out for the opening of a retrospective of Donald Black's art at the museum.

As a self-taught artist Donald has, throughout his life on the island, chronicled the land and its people in watercolours and pen and ink drawings.

Of great interest and value are the wartime scenes when the surrounding waters were filled with vessels and the land with troops.

For a time, Donald taught the art group and he also designed the Comann Eachdraidh logo based on Castle Coeffin.

The exhibition, which can be seen in the museum room, was arranged by Margaret Black who officially opened it and introduced Donald and his work. She has included a number of photos which give background and complement the art work.

Joy Dunlop

THERE was a small but very appreciative audience to hear singer Joy Dunlop perform in Lismore hall with fiddle player and cellist Patsy Reid and guitarist Paul Tracey.

Joy's soprano voice has a great range and she expressively covered many moods in her Gaelic song selection.

She also danced very impressively to a couple of numbers. Patsy Reid played a five string fiddle for which she is justly famous, as well as a normal fiddle and cello, and together with Paul Tracey's guitar they offered both great accompaniment and excellent solo performances of strathspeys and reels.

Family ceiliadh

COMANN Eachdraidh Lios Mor was pleased when musicians from Oban and Lorn Strathspey and Red Society generously offered to perform at a family ceiliadh to raise

funds for Comann Eachdraidh. It was a most successful evening and the music and dancing were appreciated and enjoyed.

Museum visit

THE PRIMARY school children were invited to the museum recently to learn all about how it works and to meet the many volunteers who are helping to make it such an impressive repository of their heritage.

Lorraine King, the newly appointed access officer, introduced the children to all the curators starting in the main exhibition space where Bob Hay, curator of objects, showed them salient features and told them they could visit anything with no charge as long as they are accompanied.

They were intrigued when Margaret Black, curator archive, gave them all white gloves before they could handle valuable old documents and photos, and invited them to read from a school diary from several decades ago.

Librarian Barbara McDougall taught them how to find books in the library by consulting a printed on an online catalogue and raise

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MUSEUM**GAENOR Roger, of the Centre for Rural Health, was on the island recently as part of the continuing evaluation of health care needs on Lismore.**

GAENOR Roger, of the Centre for Rural Health, was on the island recently as part of the continuing evaluation of health care needs on Lismore.

The study, which started in 2009, is entirely independent - though funded by NHS Highland - and is designed to garner the views of islanders on current health services and what they would like to see in future.

A questionnaire went out to all islanders earlier this year and of the 180 sent out, 105 were returned.

Gaenor said this showed the strength of feeling there is around the health issue on the island.

Gaenor will present her report to the Argyll and Bute Community Health Partnership and the island in October. If you want to find out more, please contact Gaenor Rodger, Centre for Rural Health, 01463 255893, email gaener.rodger@uhi.ac.uk.

House results - 1 Nevis 318; 2 Duich 244; 3 Hourn 197.

Down Your Way**This week - Mallaig**

TOURISM operators may be reporting a mixed picture on the season so far across the West Highlands – but for the Mallaig to Armadale ferry, at least, it appears to be full steam ahead.

CalMac, which operates eight daily sailings Monday to Saturday and six sailings on a Sunday during its summer timetable, reports business well up on 2010, except for commercial vehicles.

A CalMac spokesman told *The Oban Times*: 'The Mallaig-Armadale service has had an excellent spring and summer so far, from April 1 to July 31, with passengers, cars and coaches all showing significant increases in traffic on the same time last year.'

'Biggest increase is in coaches – 23 per cent - although this has to be treated with some caution as coach companies plan their itineraries on a cyclical basis. Next is passenger traffic, which is up 17 per cent, and cars too are up 12 per cent.'

Commercial vehicles, which includes lorries and vans, is down nine per cent.

He added: 'Without detailed research, it is not possible to know the precise reasons behind [the increase], but it is likely they reflect the efforts of the Visit Sleat marketing group which has been working hard to attract tourist traffic to that end of Skye, plus our own promotional work with the Clan Donald Centre at Armadale, which encourages day trippers from Fort William and around Lochaber.'



Busy: passenger numbers on the Mallaig to Armadale ferry are up on last year 2010. f36mallaig01



THE WEST Highlands may be experiencing a mediocre tourist season, but Mallaig Heritage Centre appears to be bucking the trend.

According to the latest figures, 4,495 visitors have come through the doors since April 1, eclipsing last year's total of 3,910 by around a fifth.

Curator Malcolm Poole gave the monthly breakdown as April - 522 (442 in 2010); May - 901 (576); June - 970 (608); July - 902 (1,223); August 1,200 (1,061).

Mr Poole told *The Oban Times*: 'Apart from July we are doing quite well this year. We are almost 20 per cent up – but I can't put a finger on why.'

The centre will receive an additional attraction for display within the next few days – a collection of photographs depicting the life and times of people on Canna through the 20th century.

The exhibition, comprising 50 scenes, has already been on display at the National Trust for Scotland centre in Glencoe and the West Highland Museum in Fort William.



Daniel MacPhee, second left, with the rest of the Breab crew.

A MALLAIG High School pupil is one of six Gaelic-speaking youngsters starring in a reality TV series on BBC ALBA.

Daniel MacPhee, aged 15, along with a cast including Katie MacDonald, 17, from Uig on Skye, Annmarie MacNeil, 16, from Barr, and Gordon MacLennan, 16, from Stornoway, are on TV screens in 'Breab' ('Kick'), every Wednesday night at 6.05pm for six weeks.

Breab, which was shortlisted in the young people category at this year's Celtic Media Festival, is back for a fourth series and will provide an insight into the lives of the young Gaels as they are set an array of challenging tasks.

Daniel and his friends try out go-karting, a cookery challenge and sleeping under the stars for a night.

The youngsters also take on being firefighters for the day, an acting challenge on the River City set and a 40ft bungee drop.

Daniel, the youngest of the cast, works in the kitchen of a local restaurant and loves hanging out around Mallaig with his friends.

He isn't sure what he wants to do when he leaves school, but 'would love to make lots of money!'



MALLAIG High School held its annual sports day last Wednesday.

Year results:

SI Boys - 1 Archie Gillies, 19 points; 2 Kyle Ingram, 17; 3 Michael Dyer, 14. SI Girls - 1 Nicole Simmonds, 23; 2 Caitlin Woobums, 12; 3 Jennifer MacPhee, 10.

S2 Girls - 1 Kelsey MacBeth, 21; 2 Caitlin Muir, 19; 3 Megan Morrison, 9. S2 Boys - 1 Ewan Tibbets, 23; 2 Nathan Ritchie, 18; 3 Finn Robinson, 9.

S3 Girls - 1 Hazel MacInnes, 21; 2 Chloe McLean, 20; 3 Fiona Gilmore, 7. S3 Boys - 1 Mitchell Edgar, 13; 2 Anthony Whitton, 12; 3 equal, Matthew Bird and Liam Dyer, 10.

ARDCHATTAN

ARDCHATTAN Community Council has three new members, after nominations were invited last month.

Margaret A Adams, Lachie Strathern and Iain S MacLean will all join the council. No election was held as only three candidates put themselves forward for seven vacant seats.

The next meeting of the community council will take place at Ardchattan School, Bonawe, on Tuesday September 20 at 7.30pm.



OUTLINE planning permission has been granted to build a house in the garden of Ashdon, North Connell.

There were no objections to the application for the site, next to the Abhaian Achnacree river. The house will use existing public access from the C25 Bonawe Road.

GREAT GLEN

GREAT Glen Way rangers are running a series of 'Navigation for Numpties' events to help those with a less than perfect sense of direction.

During the six-part course the rangers will introduce participants to the theory and practice of navigating in the outdoors.

Four evening workshops will be held at Glenarry Hall, Invergarry, and the course will finish with an afternoon of orienteering in beautiful woodland near Fort Augustus, followed by a day's hill walking up the challenging but scenic Meall Dubh. The practical weekend sessions run from September to October 2011.

Lynda Dodd, countryside and long distance route development officer, said: 'If you love the idea of the great outdoors but reckon that a Corbett is a wee comedian off the telly, and always rely on others to read maps, then we are here to help you.'

'We'll help you lose any fear of a compass, unravel the mysteries of maps and open up new possibilities to enjoy the countryside.'

Workshops will run on September 21 and 28, October 5 and 12 from 7-9pm; the orienteering afternoon will be on October 22 from 1-3.30pm, with the hill walk on October 29 from 8.30am-4.30pm.

For more information contact 01320 366633 or greatglenway@highland.gov.uk.

CANNAS

A BEACH clean 'hit squad' has cleared a large amount of plastic waste from the Isle of Canna's shoreline.

National Trust for Scotland volunteers came from as far away as Bristol, Cumbria and Cambridge to spend a week working and helping out on the island, including picking up seabird plastic along scenic Canna Bay.

The waste had been washed up in spring storms and came from as far away as northern Spain and the US Gulf Coast.

Islanders raised the issue of plastic waste and what to do with it at a meeting on the island with MSP Dave Thompson.

It is hoped Highland Council will be able to provide a plastic waste facility to prevent the plastic going to land fill.

LOCHAWE

A LOCHAWE filmmaker has launched a multi-media show in Montreal, Canada, after winning a prestigious award in the country.

Sheena Mairi MacDougall this year became the sixth Scottish artist to be awarded the prestigious Conseil des Arts et des Lettres du Québec and Centre of Contemporary Arts Glasgow Artistic Residency in Montreal.

Sheena spent three months on the residency with her studio based at the post production media centre of Productions Réalisations Indépendantes de Montréal and her apartment provided in the co-operative of artists at Lézarts.

Infusing film, photography and sound, Sheena's project creatively captured moments of creative interaction.

As an adventurous traveller herself, Sheena's work focused on transient travellers who passed through Montreal during the summer.

Sheena returns to Scotland in October to resume her post at Glasgow Media Access Centre where she runs the education and outreach department teaching moving image and media literacy.

JURA

PLANNING permission has been granted to install the 10-metre MetMast at Ardluasa on Cnoc an Lomair in August as the first step in evaluating the potential of the site for a wind turbine project.

It is planned to install the mast at the end of September



These happy youngsters are the new primary one intake at Craignish Primary School in its 150th anniversary year. The school has welcomed six new primary ones to Ms Joyce Henderson's combined P1-4 class and so far playing in the school's playground has been the highlight. 08_134craig01



Jamie and Rebecca from Kilninver Primary School enjoying their first days at the big school. 16_136kilninver1



Calum Paterson, Logan McLean, Innes Connell and Caleb Usher are the new primary one pupils on the Isle of Luing.



The new primary one class at Strath of Appin primary love the school's fantastic outdoor play equipment. Six are joining the mainstream school with one starting the Gaelic Medium Unit. 15_136tapp01



Four new primary one pupils started Barcaldine Primary School this year, swelling the school roll to 21 this year. 15_136ptbar01



Three boys comprise the new P1 intake at Glenelg Primary School for session 2011-12. Four pupils left P7 to attend high school at the end of last session. The current roll at Glenelg, including nursery, stands at 39.

and Jura Development Trust said any assistance would be welcome.

THE ISLAND'S cricket team lost out to Islay in the annual inter-island cricket match last Sunday.

Jura's players claimed the cold temperature was the reason for the defeat.

JURA Care Centre's new part-time community support worker Moira Stirling has already had lots of calls on her time.

Moira thanked everyone for their welcome and for the support she has received.

DUNBEG

WEST HIGHLAND Housing Association has applied for planning permission to knock down four homes on Kirk Road and rebuild them.

The four semi-detached houses, at 3 to 6 Kirk Road, are currently vacant.

Lesley MacInnes, chief executive, said: 'We are in discussions with our lenders at present and are hopeful of being able to announce something shortly.'

THE organisers of a local community market are appealing for information about two large white signs which went missing last week from near Dunbeg.

The A-frame boards belong to the LORN producers market and give details about the dates and times of markets.

They were last seen at the bus stop at the Dunbeg road end on Tuesday last.

ST Oran's Church, Connel, and Dunbeg Flower Show took place in the Church Hall, Connel, on Saturday September 3.

Entries were down on previous years.

A big thank-you is due to all the exhibitors, especially

Barcaldine Primary School for its efforts in making the show a success. Proceeds from the sale of the flowers and vegetables go to church funds.

Trophy winners: Falls of Lora Trophy, Hans Dawson; Campbell Trophy Floral Art Pl-3, Ewan MacPherson;

Campbell Trophy Floral Art P4-7, Craig MacCorquodale; Campbell Trophy (Baking Pl-3) Abi MacCorquodale; Campbell Trophy (P4-7) Jessie MacLean; Shona MacKenzie; Mansie Trophy Baking High School, Kate Little; Peggy Sinclair Trophy Baking, Isobel Groat; Centenary Trophy Runner-up Baking, Liz Lamb/Caroline Henderson; Achnacloich Trophy Floral Art, Alison Dawson;

Louvan Cunningham Trophy Runner-up, Marion Fisher; Catherine MacCallum Trophy, Duncan Black; Black Trophy, Ian Brown; Hugh McPherson Trophy, Billy Hay; Duncan MacPherson Memorial Trophy, Billy Hay; Henderson Trophy, Heather Morrison/Anne MacKenzie; Hugh Gillies Memorial Trophy, Ian Brown; Angus Ferguson Trophy, Jim Groat; Evan MacDonald Memorial Trophy, Achaleven Primary School; St Oran's Challenge Trophy (Best Exhibit in Show) Dougal MacDougall; Jimmy Black Trophy (Best Dahlia) Dougal MacDougall.

THE SCREEEN Machine returns to Aberfeldy next week, with a great selection of films that includes Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows Part 2 and Bridesmaids.

The mobile cinema will visit Aberfeldy on Tuesday and Wednesday, September 13 and 14. For more information and to book, visit www.screenmachine.co.uk.

LOCH LOMOND

USERS of the national park in Loch Lomond and the Trossachs are being urged to take part in a nationwide consultation.

The survey is considering ways to make the park sustainable and accessible by gathering information from anyone who uses or drives through the park.

Issues such as protecting capercaille, improving toilet provision, mitigating flooding, better traffic management and affordable housing for young people are up for consultation. More details are online at www.lochlomond-trossachs.org/nationalparkplan.

Phase one included work to the kitchen with new units, double sinks and a separate sink for hand washing only, new hot water system and floor covering which took place September to November 2008.

Phase two resulted in toilets

upgraded, ceilings replaced and insulated, new light fixtures, painting and new floor coverings.

These took place in April 2010.

The group is now ready to undertake phase three of the project and is applying for support to replace the roof, install insulation, replace internal ceilings and make internal alterations so the building is more energy efficient to save on heating costs.

Fire doors will be upgraded and external lighting improved.

A store room will be converted into disabled toilet, disabled access will be improved at the main door and an external storage unit is planned.

ABERFELDY

A section of the Big Strand, near the airport, will receive a thorough clean on Saturday September 17 as part of Beachwatch, the Marine Conservation Society's national beach clean and litter survey.

The beach clean will start at 2pm, meeting at the Big Strand down the track alongside the airfield.

For further information, please contact Polly at Re-JIG on 0180880.

FEIS Óigridh Ile Dhíthra's weekly classes in traditional music are set to double.

The new programme offers group work for the first time, an exciting development which will help the children learn to play together for sessions and performances.

Group classes will be led by Sabhal Mòr Ostaig traditional music graduate Clare Jordan.

Other new classes are whistle, with Ciara MacTaggart, and accordion, led by Niall Kirkpatrick.

All classes take place at Ionad Chaluim Chille Ile.

To register, email info@FOID.org.uk or call Tink Hastings on 07549 522679 or 01496 850010.

ISLAY

FOLLOWING the huge success of the Rogha Bárachd Ile project this summer, which has generated so much renewed interest in the Islay Bards, a new leaflet on the subject was presented at Ionad Chaluim Chille Ile.

It was put together by Fergus Muir and Margaret Anne MacTaggart, bringing together valuable information about local heritage.

The bilingual leaflet contains well researched biographical information on William Livingstone, Duncan Johnston and brothers Charles and Duncan MacNiven, with extracts of their poetry, illustrated with photographs of the Bards.

Featured is prizewinning art by local children using the themes of the Bards' poems.

At the event, there was a second chance to hear the wonderful new music written for some of the poems by composer Clare Jordan, performed by Feis Óigridh Ile Dhíthra.

VOLUNTEERS are needed for Re-JIG's beach project to help clean a part of the Big Strand.

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KILMORE

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ing, better traffic manage-

ment and affordable

housing for young people are

up for consultation. More

details are online at www.lochlomond-trossachs.org/nationalparkplan.

LOCH KILMORE

RESIDENTS in Kilmore are

anticipating the next phase of an

upgrade to the village hall.

The group behind the

improvements are taking a

phased approach to the

upgrade of the hall.

Issues such as protecting

capercaillie, improving toilet

provision, mitigating flood-

ing, better traffic manage-

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KILMARNOCK

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The Oban Times

& WEST HIGHLAND TIMES

Does survival depend on locals' spend?

MANY Highland and island communities gauge the success of their micro-economies by the success of their tourist season. It makes sense, doesn't it? More people come in, more money is spent.

Yet the Isle of Jura is probably just one example of a pattern emerging throughout the region in these straitened times.

A seemingly burgeoning tourist sector and the arrival of a rich landowner - the latter subject of Allan Cochrane's column on this page - has not helped the village shop maintain a profitable business and other island businesses not directly affected by the tourist trade are fighting just to keep their heads above water.

It seems that the success of these micro-economies has little to do with the fleeting farthing and more to do with the spend of reliable residents.

GLASGOW LETTER

Milngavie shinty tournament

IT IS hard to believe it is 13 years since the formation of Milngavie and Bearsden Shinty Club to produce home based players to ensure the continued development of the game in Glasgow.

At one time the city supported several adult teams but, over the years, this has declined till now only Glasgow Mid Argyll remains. All of these teams, including Mid Argyll, relied on players who came to live in the city from major shinty playing areas around the Highlands but with improved transport this supply of players dwindled.

Milngavie and Bearsden has been a success story with many of their youngsters now featuring in the senior ranks for Mid Argyll and, indeed, in a recent game, all but two of their players learned to play the game in the city.

Early in its development the committee in Milngavie recognised the importance of being recognised nationally and, as well as taking teams to tournaments throughout Scotland, they organised their own tournament. This proved very successful.

Saturday September 10 is the date of the 2011 tournament at Auchencloch, adjacent to Murray Park, starting at 10am. It is expected there will be teams from the Badenoch area, Oban and Portree as well as other shinty strongholds competing with the hosts and representatives from the Gaelic speaking schools in the Greater Glasgow area. There will be tournaments for three different age groups ranging from P1-2 through to P7 with a new prize, the Alasdair MacNiven Memorial Trophy, being competed for by the youngest group.

BBC Alba will be recording for programmes to be broadcast at a later date. They will look at how the game in Glasgow has changed over the years and in particular will focus on recent developments such as the emergence of clubs like Bearsden and Milngavie.

National Youth Pipe Band of Scotland

ON SUNDAY September 11, at 3pm in the Strathclyde Suite, the Development Band will perform its new show 'The Next Generation'.

It will feature new music from them and a joint performance between the Senior Band and the National Youth Brass Band of Scotland. Members of the senior band have composed the music alongside composer/arranger Jim Sutherland. Tickets are available from the Piping Centre on 0141 353 8000 or online at www.thepipingcentre.co.uk/youth-pb.

Ceol's Craic

A CELEBRATION of the life and work of Sorley MacLean will take place in the CCA on Sauchiehall Street on Saturday evening, September 10.

Proceedings start at 6pm with a conversation cafe and with drama, workshops, poetry readings and the

Correction

WITH reference to the story in last week's Oban Times, 'Driver Veered onto wrong side of road', we have been asked to clarify that Donald Birrell of Garfield, Ardconnel Terrace, Oban, was involved in a collision as he turned out onto the A85 while another driver veered onto his side of the road.

He was charged with driving without due care and attention, not careless driving as was stated in the paper.

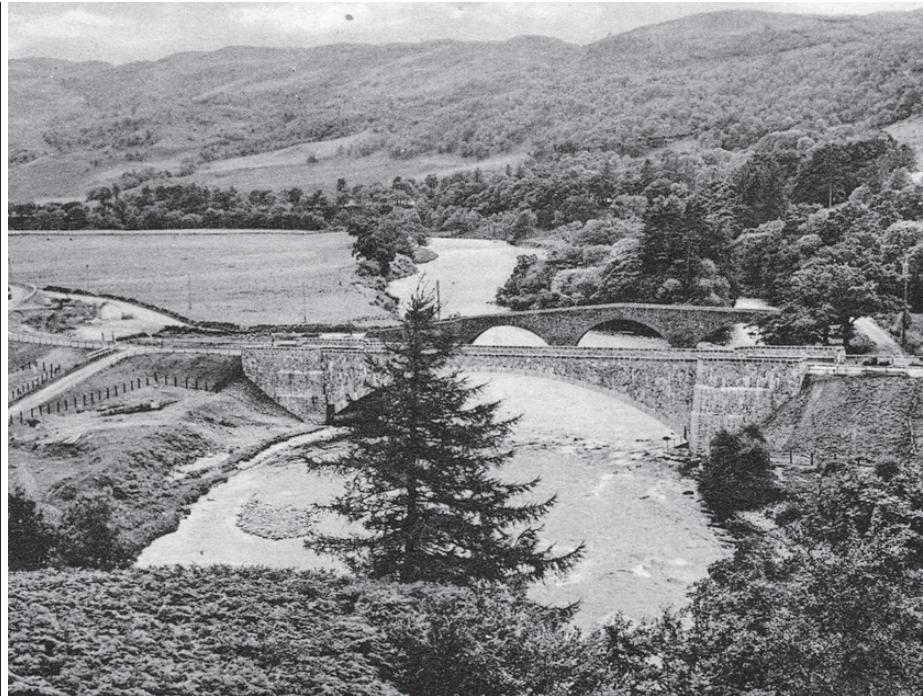
PRESS POLICY

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

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

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

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



Old and new bridges on River Awe, Taynuilt

This week's flashback photograph shows the old and new bridges on the River Awe, Taynuilt, in days gone by. It was submitted by Miss Margo Macdonald of Oban. 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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Rumble strips a step too far

Sir,
Whilst I applaud the efforts of SUSTRANS and the North Lorn cycle track, which I myself have used on a number of occasions, I have significant concerns regarding the rumble strips that have been added at the main carriageway crossings, which seem to have been installed with no reference to the appropriate specifications.

The Department for Transport and Scottish Executive's Road Marking Manual (2003) states that such rumble strips should be no higher than 6mm. Those at the crossing at Barcaldine and Appin have been measured at 20mm, more than three times the stipulated maximum height.

Further, for every one bicycle that uses these crossing points, hundreds of vehicles will have been inconvenienced and, over time, possibly damaged.

I fully recognise that safety is important, but these rumble strips are a step too far and the users of the cycle path must take some responsibility for their own safety at the crossings.

It could also be argued that these strips have the opposite effect and actually reduce safety in that they may distract drivers, are likely to cause traction issues under braking - especially for motorcycles - and perhaps full cyclists into a false sense of security in assuming that all drivers will slow down for the strips.

Inote that the set of rumble strips in south Appin has already been 'sanded down' and I hope the rest will be remedied in the very near future.

Name and address supplied.

Complaints vindicated

Sir,
I refer to your report in *The Oban Times* of September 1 concerning the Office of Scottish Charity Regulator (OSCR) and its report on the conduct and behaviour of Eilean Eisdeal.

Having read the OSCR report, it is difficult to see how Eilean Eisdeal directors can claim that OSCR have 'dismissed' the complaints against them.

For example, it seems that Eilean Eisdeal have failed to properly consult the community, ignored conflicts of interest among the directors, failed to comply with its own objections and properly give notice of the nomination of directors.

OSCR concluded that Eilean Eisdeal directors should 'increase transparency and openness and improve engagement with the community'.

It seems to me that when you add all this up, the complaints made about Eilean Eisdeal and its directors are thoroughly vindicated.

Sadly, this is the second time that Eilean Eisdeal has been investigated by OSCR and recommendation made to improve their behaviour. Have they learned this time?

Keith Oversby, Musdale Road, Kilmore.

Council won't operate snack van

Sir,

An article in last week's *Oban Times* reported on the outcome

of the use of an area of land within the council car park at Ganavan, Oban, for use for the siting of a mobile snack bar during the summer months.

This gave the impression that the council could be the operator of the facility, which is not the case.

Although consent had been sought by the property department of the council, the purpose behind this was to be able to make a pitch available for rent by a private operator, as the council has done elsewhere in Argyll where it has land available and where there is demand for mobile or seasonal catering.

In my capacity as chairman of the Planning, Protective Services and Licensing Committee which granted permission, I can confirm that in reaching a decision, my fellow councillors and I were fully aware of the circumstances of this application.

Councillor Daniel Kelly, Chairman, Planning, Protective Services and Licensing Committee.

Murky world of local decision-making

Sir,
Effective public scrutiny of our elected councillors in Lochaber died four years ago.

That was the result of the abolition of the Lochaber Area Committee.

Instead, local residents are treated to an occasional ward forum with business preoccupied with worthy but bland reports and presentations from various public bodies.

The inconvenient questions that really concern people are shunted to the end of the meeting; to a time when busy people have already sat through two hours of hot air and want to go home.

Councillors meet fortnightly, in secret, for a ward business meeting. During their cabal, our representatives dish out thousands in discretionary grants every year, without us knowing the reasons for their approval or conversely why an organisation is refused assistance.

Over the last year, they have discussed the removal of the weekly skip collection, a trial scheme for switching off streetlights and the closure of public toilets.

They do all of this without minutes published for general consumption. Admittedly, the sanitised version of events is issued through a press release giving only a flavour of their deliberations.

It took a Freedom of Information request from me to shine a light on the murky world of local decision-making, where only scant notes of decisions made are kept and councillors fail to declare interests when they should.

Councillors should not be surprised if residents treat their actions with scepticism or question their motives when there is no transparency.

Over the next nine months we will hear lots of claims about the good councillors have done for our community as they seek re-election.

They can start by opening up the council chamber and meet the public so that, if we chose, we can watch, listen and judge for ourselves.

Andrew Baxter, Kinlochleven.

Clear up mess at Jacob's Ladder every morning

Sir,
Oban could improve its image as a tourist attraction at comparatively little cost by diverting its street cleaners up Jacob's Ladder early each morning to clear up the mess left the evening before by inconsiderate drinkers who congregate on the benches.

This might signal defeatism in enforcing the ban on the outside drinking of alcohol. But it would vastly improve the image of the town for the large pedestrian traffic of tourists who are directed by guidebooks up Jacob's Ladder en route for McCaig's Tower.

For such a small change in street maintenance, memories of the town would be unmarred by sights as unsavoury as those currently experienced as tourists mount the steps to get the best view that Oban offers its visitors.

Ian Reid, by email.

Exceptional bike repair service

Sir,
Four weeks ago on a Friday night and nine others were mountain biking round Loch Etive and Glen Kinglass at the start of a weekend of riding.

Two major mechanicals put the whole weekend in jeopardy, however we got to Oban at 5pm with fingers crossed and found Kevin and his wife, at Bits and Bikes off the main street, closing for the weekend.

He diagnosed the problem there and then and was honest enough to say he could not repair the major damage to the wheel and that he did not stock another.

However, he offered to dismantle and rebuild it overnight with new parts so that we could all carry on the next day, and he had the wheel and other parts ready for 9am.

What a service he provided and the cost was no more than that he would normally charge.

We cannot recommend him highly enough and wish him every success in the future.

Gordon Dalziel, Kelso, Roxburghshire.

Macaulay Cup final success

Sir,
Through your columns, I would like to thank everyone who made this year's Macaulay Cup Final the success it was.

Special mention goes to the girls on the gates, the girls on the teas, the boys who erected tents and banners, the Macaulay committee who worked for months to set the event up, the ground staff who had the site at Mossfield in immaculate condition, our sponsors Artemis for their continued support, the

judges and the police who ensured that the day ran smoothly.

I know whose head is in the sand professor, and it's not Mr Stewart's.

Alan Thomson, by email.

YOUR LETTERS

THE EDITOR welcomes letters of approximately 300 words in length for publication on this page. The editor also reserves the right to shorten, to amend or to refuse to print them. Names and postal addresses must be supplied, including on emails, to indicate good faith. A daytime telephone number is also required for verification. Anonymous letters or those supplied without a contact telephone number will not be printed. Please write or fax to: Letters page, The Oban Times, PO Box 1, Oban, Argyll, PA34 4HB. Fax: 01631 568001. Email editor@obantimes.co.uk.

Alan Cochrane

THE DAILY TELEGRAPH'S SCOTTISH EDITOR



IT'S ALWAYS said that you need a small fortune to buy and run a Highland estate, but first you should start with a big fortune. There's plenty of money in it, it's true, but unless you strike a Klondike in gorse numbers nearly all of it goes in the 'Out' column.

As it stands only the richest need apply. But, surprisingly in these devolution days of land reform, community buy-outs, statutory rights of access and even of recession, there appears to be no shortage of applicants. One of the attractions, at least for those who don't know Scotland, is the price. On the face of it you get a helluva lot for not a lot even if those thousands of acres may also amount to a helluva lot of bugger all. What you do get for your money, whether you want it or not, is responsibility; and it can be a pretty awesome responsibility. In these egalitarian days, landowners are expected to play a vital role in the community.

The buying and selling of large tracts of Scotland is perfectly legal, but still looked upon as not quite right - indeed, almost criminal - by many of the Levellers amongst our political masters. As such, any wrong turn - real or imagined - by these nouveau lairds is denounced in the most trenchant of terms.

Thus was the decision by Greg Coffey, the new owner of the Ardfin Estate on Jura, to close the famous Jura House walled garden, roundly slammed by all concerned. Not surprisingly, when there are votes to be gained, Mike Russell, the local MSP for Argyll, joined in, bemoaning the fact that a valuable tourist attraction - the garden attracts 2,500 visitors a year - had been lost.

However, there may well be another side to the story. Mr Coffey is apparently planning significant investment at Ardfin, including large-scale improvements to its gardens, which he would then re-open to the public. But the bad news got out first and having been taken aback by the battering he took in the press when the garden closure was first revealed, when last I checked he was saying nowt. Leaving aside the fact that this is the first Aussie I've heard of who wants to behave like a shrinking violent, I think it's a pity he's not speaking up for himself. If he is prepared to improve his new acquisition, then he cannot say it's no-one's business but his. He will learn that in Scotland everyone is interested in what landowners do with their estates; indeed we've even got a new organisation to represent them and to try to improve the image of those who own land.

What the few residents of Jura are hoping for is this new estate owner to become a real part of the community, play an active part in supporting that community and engage with them on a personal level. What they don't want is someone helicoptering in once a year and ignoring their new possession for the rest of the time. I am very much with them in this hope but I also think that Mr Coffey is due a bit of patience until we see what manner of laird he turns out to be.

The fact is that cash resources coming into the Highlands and islands in the shape of new estate owners is not only inevitable, it is desirable. Used properly, this money is the best way of maintaining and revitalising the most remote parts of Scotland, like Jura, where viable crofting communities cannot take over formerly privately-owned estates. We need an influx of people with large fortunes being lured northwards by the majesty and grandeur of our countryside. Who wouldn't want to own a chunk of it?

But the best of them will become active and integral parts of the communities in which they've chosen to live, even as they watch those large fortunes growing smaller, often on a daily basis.

Read Alan Cochrane's column in full in the latest Scottish Field.

A view from the tower

by McCaig

A new Scottish political party?

'A WEEK is a long time in politics', said a Labour politician on his dismissal from a Cabinet.

<p

Art society with plenty of reasons to celebrate

REPORT

by CHRISTINE McCARTNEY
cmccartney@obantimes.co.uk

FORTY artists, 40 years and more than 200 quality works of art – Oban Art Society has plenty to celebrate at this year's annual exhibition.

The show began last Friday and there was a festive atmosphere at the traditional opening evening, where a beautiful chocolate and strawberry cake was served to mark the anniversary.

Monika Smyth, committee member, said they were delighted to have ten new artists showing this year.

She said: 'Ian Gowdie, who is a lovely artist, was not able to take part due to illness, but it is great to have newer contributors. We have over 200 entries this year, which is about 20 per cent up.'

'Our sales are also very healthy. We sold about 20 on the first day which is excellent, particularly in times of recession.'

'Many of our artists love painting but don't know how to exhibit. In actual fact, in many

galleries, you will see paintings not half as good as what are on display here.'

Graham Fraser, owner of Alba Art shop and long-time supporter of the art society, agreed the quality of work was very good. 'The subject matter is varied, from African ladies to ships in distress at sea, from Dunstaffnage marina to the Outer Isles.'

This exhibition is a great opportunity for tourists and local people to find themselves a unique piece of original work at an affordable price.

To mark the anniversary year, a special presentation of a painting was made to The Honourable Michael Shaw, honorary president of the art society and son of founder member Lady Kilbrandon.

Robert McCulloch won the coveted Alba Cup in this year's competition voted for by guests at the show's opening evening. This year's theme was a picture of a pet, and Robert enjoyed painting his friend's dog Maya.

The art show continues until this Saturday, in the Army Cadet Hall, Tweeddale Street.



Art Society chairwoman Ann Sorley cuts the birthday cake, aided by Graham Fraser of Alba and honorary president The Honourable Michael Shaw. 15_136art01



The plot thickens: Sue Rawle is combining a diving holiday with signing copies of her murder mystery Deep Trouble. 08_136author1

Ex-Runrig star to open charity auction

ARTIST and former Runrig singer Donnie Munro is to open a charity auction on the Isle of Skye on October 1.

Nearly 40 artists with a connection to Skye, including Mr Munro, have donated work for sale to 'Art in the Attic' at the Sligachan Hotel in aid of Crossroads Care, Skye and Lochalsh and the Joseph McGoff Foundation.

Other donors include Royal Scottish Academy painters Will Maclean, Marian Levin and Barbara Rae, Mary MacLean – the daughter of the poet Sorley MacLean – and Gillian Jones, sister of Runrig band member Malcolm Jones.

Skye women Catriona Coghill and Teresa Munro organised the

event after both women lost brothers to cancer. Catriona's brother Iain Campbell and Teresa's brother Joe McGoff died within months of each other in 2009.

Teresa, from Portree, has also set up the Joseph McGoff Foundation in memory of Joe, from Glasgow.

The foundation supports smaller charities working in underprivileged communities across the world, providing fresh starts for individuals.

Teresa said: 'The idea behind Art in the Attic is to give neglected, unwanted pieces gathering dust a new lease of life. In this way we, his family and friends continue to cherish Joe's memory and support

his ideals.' Catriona added: 'The fantastic response to our call for donations of art is an indication of the respect Crossroads has in our community. Sligachan Hotel is also donating three watercolours of Marsco by artists who painted there in the 1920s and 1930s.'

Mr Munro, who is also director of development at Gaelic College Sabhal Mòr Ostaig, said: 'This is a very special event being held for the benefit of two very worthwhile causes and in honour of the memory of two very special people.'

Joe and Iain, said Mr Munro, had been 'absolutely committed' during their lives to helping those less fortunate than themselves.

'This fundraising event is in large part a legacy of their humanity and concern for others,' he said.

Artwork can be previewed on Friday September 30 between 10.30am and 8pm or online at www.sligachan.co.uk/skye-charity-auction.php

For those who can't attend the auction, proxy bidding can be arranged.

Sixteen artworks will be sold live by an auctioneer, the remainder by silent auction.

An Art in the Attic sale, with pieces donated by members of the public sold for a fixed price, will run alongside the auction throughout the day.

COMMUNITY NOTICEBOARD

OBAN & DISTRICT NEEDLEWORK GROUP

Guide Hall, Soroba Road Tuesday, September 13, 2011 @ 7.45pm

Speaker: Valerie Reilly (retired curator of textiles/ Paisley Museum) "Rationing Fashion - Clothing during WWII" £3 visitors All Welcome

CAR BOOT SALE AT THE WELLY, TYNDRUM

Sun 25th September 9am - 4pm

£5 per vehicle. No commercial business. All vehicles must be pre-registered. Tel: 01838 400 271

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Parliamentary date for the Three Wee Crows

THREE Wee Crows Theatre Company was chosen to present a performance of Full Circle - Evolution to Devolution at the Scottish Parliament Festival of Politics.

The performance took place in the Holyrood Parliament Building in Edinburgh on Saturday August 27. Evolution to Devolution was developed specifically for the Politics Festival.

It combined a selection of material from their repertoire - with some pieces written for the event - to plot significant milestones in the history of Scotland.

It was a huge opportunity for the company to bring its skills to Edinburgh and the Scottish Parliament.

The event created a unique opportunity not only to showcase them, but also to be ambassadors for the culture and heritage of Argyll and Bute.

Jazz singer to sing at Mary's Meals charity gig

JAZZ singer Carol Kidd will top the bill at a gala concert to be staged in Glasgow in October by artists and musicians for Dalmally-based charity Mary's Meals.

The evening concert will take place in the City Chambers in George Square on October 28, following an arts and crafts fair during the day. The exhibition will be opened by Magnus MacFarlane-Barrow, the founder of Mary's Meals, and the Rev Laurence Whitley, minister of Glasgow Cathedral, a patron of Artists for Mary's Meals.

Singing Kettle sets sail for show on Islay

THE SINGING Kettle will be sailing into Islay for the first time this weekend with a Pirate Party show in Bowmore Hall.

Kate MacAffer, who is on the hall committee, said they were excited to be hosting the singing extravaganza. She said: 'I'm sure it will be a fantastic family event.' The audience can join in the nautical nonsense by dressing up as pirates.

Vikings invade Oban for three-day conference

OBAN is under attack from Vikings.

The Viking Surgical Club, a group for surgeons who practice in remote and rural areas, arrived in town this week for a three-day conference. The conference is held annually at different venues. Last year's event was in Shetland.

gig argyll guide

your essential guide to live music in argyll

Mon - Sat (except Tuesday) >	Scottish Show 8pm at 8pm
Skipinnish Ceilidh House	Club night with DJs
Saturday >	11pm - 2am
Skipinnish Ceilidh House	CAIRDEAS
Friday 9 September >	
Markie Dans	
Saturday 10 September >	CEOL AN AIRE
Markie Dans	
Thursday 15 September >	THE IMAGINEERS
Markie Dans	
Friday 16 September >	PETER JAGGER
Markie Dans	

"See local press for details"

Local Producers Market

Thursday 15th September

Kintail Farm, Benderloch, 1 mile along the Tralee road

10 am to 3 pm

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Corran Halls Upcoming events



THE OSILLIGI WARRIORS

Saturday 17th September

Doors 7.30pm

Tickets Adult £10 Conc £6

RESERVED SEATING



One Night of Queen Gary Mullen & The Works

Friday 30th September

Doors 7.30pm

Tickets £16.50

RESERVED SEATING



Roger Dean Sings The Johnny Cash Story

Friday 14th October

Doors 7pm

Tickets Adult £16.50 Conc £14.50

RESERVED SEATING



"Six and a Tanner"

Tuesday 25th October

Doors 7.00pm

Starts 7.30pm

Tickets Adult £12 Conc £10

PG

This autumn sees BAFTA-winning actor and director David Hayman starring in the hugely powerful one-man play Six and a Tanner. Based on a true story, this is a powerful, moving and hilarious tribute to life in all its absurdity. Written by Rony Bridges the play sees a middle-aged man relive the joys and tragedies of his 1950s childhood as he rages at the coffin of his dead father. Is it an act of revenge, or redemption? Or simply the moment in a man's life when he faces his own mortality?

Monsters Ball 2011

Saturday 29th October

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OBSAN Electrical Services, known as OES Ltd, has underlined the value of establishing a good, local, reputation by this week celebrating its 40th anniversary.

Formed in 1971 by Forth Electrical Services, the company has gone from strength to strength, thanks in no small part to its dedicated, hard working team, many of whom stay for their entire careers.

Nobody epitomises that as much as Sandy

Dunlop, who first joined the company in 1972.

In his time there, he became managing director and guided OES through years of continued growth, expanding both the client base and the services on offer.

Now though, after 39 years of service, he has handed the reigns over to Angus MacPherson, who joined OES in 1992 shortly after completing his apprenticeship as an electrician.

Sandy will remain with the company as a consultant until next year, notching up his 40th year of service, before calling it a day.

There have been more than a few changes in the business during that time, but one thing remains the same.

Sandy said: 'Some of our client base has been with us for 30 years, they keep coming back. That's because of the quality and range of work we deliver.'

'Most of the staff have been here a long time too, a lot of them for over 30 years.'

'There have been lots of changes in the industry. Health and safety has totally altered every aspect of the job.'

'There are lots of new regulations too. In some cases it's good; but it has created a lot of paperwork.'

'We've got emails as

well – you can't just say something is in the post anymore!'

Angus, who was appointed as managing director in December last year, said key to the company's success was keeping up with the rapidly changing market, diversifying into other areas of service delivery, whilst maintaining a commitment to the local community.

'We support community events where we can,' he added. 'We sponsor Oban Saints U14's football team; this is just one example of the sporting groups around our area which carry out such great work in developing the kids of our community for the future.'

'Part of our commitment to the community means we continue to take on local apprentices and develop their careers here.'

'With the end of one era comes the start

of another and Angus is hoping to continue the success of the previous decades by adopting the same ethos that has worked so well in the past.'

OES is still part of the Forth Electrical Services, now known as FES Ltd, regarded as Scotland's largest independent services group.

As part of that, it is able to offer a group approach to undertake all aspects of service provision, whilst ensuring a local identity is maintained. That includes all trades maintenance services, fire and security installation and maintenance – data, comms, and CCTV – high voltage systems – facilities management – all aspects of electrical installation, testing and certification.

OES also utilise a range of local sub-contractors, making no job impossible, from small

household domestic work to large-scale industrial jobs, including undertaking work in the rapidly growing renewables market, currently they are involved in several HV network connections for Hydro and Wind generation projects throughout Argyll.

The ability to offer a main contractor role gives an alternative to prospective clients where projects are predominantly services lead, a complete turnkey solution can be achieved.

If 40 years of experience doesn't offer enough peace of mind, the company also holds memberships to the Select and NICEIC trade bodies, who regularly inspect their work to ensure it reaches the highest standards.

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There's just no stopping Gregor

ATHLETICS

THE SECOND of two additional 5k races in the Atlantis Leisure Race Series took place on the evening of August 30.

These extra events had been added to the fixture list owing to the popularity of the first three rounds.

The route for this final 5k was along the cycle path at Ganavan. The runners assembled at the Dunbeg end of the path, ran to Ganavan car park and on for a further 500m to the bus stop where the runners turned and retraced their steps back to Dunbeg.

Once again Gregor MacGregor outclassed the rest of the field finishing first in a time of 18.13. Cameron McKellar and Alastair Hall renewed their rivalry for second and third places.

Cameron prevailed on this occasion finishing in 20.01 with Alastair third in 20.08. Cameron and Alastair were first and second respectively in the male veteran category with Gordon Binnie coming third in a time of 21.50.

In the women's event first place went to Isabella Pierrot in a time of 23.49, Moira Newiss was second in 24.37 with Karen Wesley coming home in third place in a time of 25.40.

Although last week's race concluded the 5k series for this year, runners can still look forward to the Oban Half Marathon which will be held on October 2.

Full details are available at Atlantis reception desk.

Players line up for finals day

TENNIS

FINALS day of the 2011 Oban Tennis Club Championships will be held this Sunday at Atlantis Leisure starting at noon.

Finals will be held for all six events which include Men's and Women's Singles, Men's and Women's Doubles, Mixed Doubles and Under-18 Singles.

A plate competition will also take place for players not involved in any of the finals. All players, members and non-members, are welcome to enter on the day.

Sportsdesk:
01631 568000

Agnes and Alan make a winning pair



Ewan McLellan of John McLellan & Co Ltd, sponsors of Lochaber Bowling Club's pairs bowling competition at the BA Club green, hands over the trophy to the winners Agnes Boyle and Alan Lawrie. Runners-up were Gordon Hamilton and Liz Kennedy.

The poor weather overnight made it a touch and go for the competition to go ahead on Sunday morning, but the large turnout of bowlers battled through the heavy showers.

Blustery conditions make for fast Round Shuna Race

BLUSTERY conditions did not deter a hardy 27 boats out of the 51 entries for this year's Round Shuna Race run by Clyde Corinthian Yacht Club.

The fleet racing from Craobh Marina enjoyed a fast passage in this annual pursuit race round the Island of Shuna, where the skipper decides which way round to leave the island.

Taking line honours and first in the dinghy class was Andrew

Chapman of Oban who revelled in the conditions with his Laser Radial Zzaaa.

John Watson's Elan 40 Texa was first over in the keelboat fleet to also win Class 1 overall. Joey Gough's Tangle o'the Isles finished second and Billy Forteith's Shadowfax third.

In Class 2 Mid Argyll's Donald Phillips raced his Moody 335 Whigmaleerie superbly to win from Alan Gent-Whyte's

An Sulair and Brian Wiseman's Westerly Storm Sorr of Appin.

In Class 3 Alison Chadwick's Hot Toddy took the win from Colin Hibbert's Grey Silkie and Kenny MacKinnon's Contessa 26 Clandara.

With a win in the feeder and a second in the pursuit race, the trophy for the best overall performance for the weekend went to Joey Gough and Tangle o'the Isles.

Amateur course record at Askernish

THE ASKERNISH Open was the highlight of a weekend of golf at the South Uist club over the last weekend in August.

The event celebrates the opening of the restored course and new clubhouse that took place in August of 2008 with honorary club president Kenny Dalglish present.

Competitors travelled from Europe, Africa, and the Americas to join those closer to home for an unforgettable golfing weekend.

Friday's Stableford competition - the inaugural Mackenzie & Ebert Quaich saw Stornoway low-handicapper Andy MacDonald take the honours.

Andy, playing Askernish for

only the second time ever, shot a remarkable 2-under gross 70 - a new amateur course record.

Saturday's open saw Askernish greenkeeper Norrie MacKinnon triumph in the 13-28 handicap section, whilst Niall MacPherson of Benbecula won the 0-14 handicap section.

Overall men's champion was Kyleakin's Jonathan MacKinnon who played a round he described as 'second to none' as he pipped Alisdair Henderson of Stornoway.

The Ladies nett competition saw a home victory as Morag Nicholson triumphed over Jane Nicholson of Stornoway.

In the gross section Tina Russell of Ireland came as runner-up to Jill MacKinnon of Skye who, despite taking a 12 on the final hole, triumphed to take the crown of Askernish 2011 ladies champion.

Sunday saw the International Team Competition - a windy affair with rain rolling through - won by a visiting troop of Finnish golfers.

In the Texas-Scramble team format scoring was always going to be good and the international visitors didn't disappoint with their two teams shooting under par. The eventual winners were a group of Finnish and English - Martin Ebert, Tom Mackenzie, Ville Nurmi, Timo Manserus with a score of 70 gross - 67 net.

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To find out more about living and working in Argyll & Bute visit us at www.argyll-bute.gov.uk



PLANNING

These applications listed below together with other related documents may be inspected between 09:00 - 17:00hrs Monday to Friday at Municipal Buildings Albany Street Oban PA34 4AW, at the alternative locations detailed below or by logging on to the Council's website at www.argyll-bute.gov.uk. Written comments for the following list of applications should be made to the above address within 21 days of this advert. Please quote the reference number in any correspondence.

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

Ref	Proposal	Site Address	Location of Plans
11/01328/PP	Erection of temporary 50 meter high meteorological mast for a period of 3 years.	CarnDearg Land North East Of Garraon Ardunie, Argyll And Bute	Sub Post Office Kilmelford
11/01392/PP	Erection of dwellinghouse.	Muircroft Lochdon Isle Of Mull Argyll And Bute PA64 6AP	Sub Post Office Craignure
11/01449/PP	Demolition of existing office building, siting of new building and erection of 2.4 metre high fencing and gate	Oil Depot Glengallan Road Oban Argyll And Bute PA34 4HG	Oban Area Office
11/01498/PP	Erection of 4 no replacement single storey dwellinghouses	4 Kirk Road Dunbeg Oban Argyll And Bute PA37 1PP	Sub Post Office Dunbeg
11/01504/PP	Change of use of land for siting of mobile snack van.	Land To The South Of Unit PA2 (Macqueen Brothers) Glengallan Road Oban Argyll And Bute	Oban Area Office
11/01510/PP	Change of use of village hall to dwellinghouse.	Former Village Hall Dalmally Argyll And Bute PA33 1AA	Sub Post Office Dalmally
11/01560/PP	Variation of condition 4 (change of road surface of the vehicular access bellmouth to the site from dense bitumen to concrete) of planning permission 08/0220/DET for erection of dwellinghouse and installation of septic tank and soakaway	Site Opposite Struan Isle Of Colt Argyll And Bute PA78 6TE	Sub Post Office Isle of Coll
11/01563/PP	Erection of dwellinghouse, installation of sewage treatment plant and formation of vehicular access	Land North West Of Eboras Lodge Ardun Isle Of Mull Argyll And Bute	Sub Post Office Bunessan Isle of Mull
11/01575/PP	Conversion of garage roofspace to form holiday letting accommodation	Largieside Longsайд Road Oban Argyll And Bute PA34 5JU	Oban Area Office
11/01611/PPP	Site for the erection of a croft house	Croft No 5 Crainich Isle Of Lismore By Oban	Sub Post Office, Lismore
11/01615/PP	Relocation of cabin numbers 6 and 7 (previously approved under 06/01640/DET) and substitution of cabin numbers 8 and 23 (previously approved under 06/01640/DET) with new plots 35 and 36	Dalavich Chalet Park Dalavich Argyll And Bute	Sub Post Office Taynuilt
11/01621/PP	Erection of extension to dwellinghouse (retrospective)	Sithe Mor House Kilchenan Taynuilt Argyll And Bute PA35 1HF	Sub Post Office Taynuilt
11/01642/PPP	Site for the erection of dwellinghouse and installation of septic tank	Land East Of Lorn Sawmill Site Taynuilt Argyll And Bute PA35 1HY	Sub Post Office Taynuilt
11/01646/PPP	Site for the erection of 5 dwellinghouses	Land At Former Lorn Sawmills Site Taynuilt Argyll And Bute PA35 1HY	Sub Post Office Taynuilt
11/01647/PPP	Site for the erection of dwellinghouse and installation of septic tank	Land East Of Arruin Farm Cottage Glen Lochy Argyll And Bute	Sub Post Office Dalmally

TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING (SCOTLAND) ACT 1997 (AS AMENDED), RELATED PLANNING (LISTED BUILDINGS AND CONSERVATION AREAS) (SCOTLAND) ACT 1997

Ref	Proposal	Site Address	Location of Plans
11/01020/PP	Change of use of workshop to post office and shop (class 1)	Old Village Hall Dervaig Isle Of Mull Argyll And Bute PA75 6QJ	Sub Post Office Dervaig
11/01534/PP	Erection of 12 no flats	Land North Of Oban Congregational Church Tweeddale Street Oban Argyll And Bute	Oban Area Office
11/01551/PP	Erection of gate house	Land South West Of Dunolie House Garavan Road Oban Argyll And Bute PA75 6PB	Oban Area Office
11/01565/PP	Revised design to planning permission 10/01713/PP previously approved for the formation of ancillary accommodation to main house.	5 Argyll Terrace Tobermory Isle Of Mull Argyll And Bute PA75 6PB	Tobermory Area Office
11/01592/PP	Erection of extension to form ancillary/ holiday letting unit	Land North West Of Dunearn Ellenabeich Isle Of Seil Argyll And Bute	Sub Post Office Balvicar

These applications listed below together with other related documents may be inspected between 09:00 - 17:00hrs Monday to Friday at 67 Chalmers Street Ardrishaig PA30 8DX, at the alternative locations detailed below or by logging on to the Council's website at www.argyll-bute.gov.uk. Written comments for the following list of applications should be made to the above address within 21 days of this advert. Please quote the reference number in any correspondence.

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Ref	Proposal	Site Address	Location of Plans
11/01613/PP	Alterations and extension to dwellinghouse.	19 Shore Street Port Wemyss Isle Of Islay Argyll And Bute PA47 7ST	Sub Post Office Portnahaven

Argyll & Bute Council encourage planning applications to be made on-line through The Scottish Government website: <https://eplanning.scotland.gov.uk>. The Council maintain a Register of planning applications which can be viewed during normal office hours at Planning and Regulatory Services, Dalriada House, Lochgilphead, Argyll, PA31 8ST. A weekly list of applications can be viewed at the above address and at all Council Libraries. Any letter of representation the Council receives is considered a public document and will be published on our website. Anonymous or marked confidential correspondence will not be considered.

COUNCILLOR SURGERY

Councillor Donald McIntosh (E-W 4 Oban South and the Isles) Councillor McIntosh will be holding a surgery in The Lounge, Coll Hotel, Isle of Coll on Thursday 15th September 2011 from 3.00 - 4.00pm. Appointments are not necessary. Councillor McIntosh can also be contacted by email - [daniel.mcintosh@argyll-bute.gov.uk](mailto:donald.mcintosh@argyll-bute.gov.uk)

TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING (SCOTLAND) ACT 1997

The applications listed below, along with plans and other documents submitted with them, may be examined between the hours of 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday to Friday (excluding public holidays) at the AREA PLANNING AND BUILDING STANDARDS OFFICE, FULTON HOUSE, GORDON SQUARE, FORT WILLIAM, PH33 6XY; online at www.highland.gov.uk and, where given, the alternative location(s).

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

Reference Number	Development Address	Proposal Description	Alternative locations where application may be inspected
11/02972/FUL	Chalet Nevis View Muirsheilch Bonvie Fort William PH33 7PB	Change of use from holiday house to residential accommodation	Lochaber Area Planning & Building Standards Office (14 days)
11/03098/LBC	Kinloch Castle Isle of Rum PH43 4RR	Alterations to lead parapet, valley gutters and downpipes	Mallaig Service Point Regulation 5 - affecting the character of a listed building (21 days)
11/03106/PIP	Plot 5 Land 720m S E of Moss of Keppoch Moss of Keppoch Ainsig	Erection of 2 semi-detached houses (amendment to 09/00430/PIPO)	Mallaig Service Point (14 days)
11/03107/PIP	Plot 4 Land 660m S E of Moss of Keppoch Moss of Keppoch Ainsig	Erection of house (amendment to 09/00430/PIPO)	Mallaig Service Point (14 days)
11/03111/FUL	Fireach Old Ferry Road North Ballachulish Onich Fort William PH33 6SA	Alterations to ground floor to create self contained flat	Lochaber Area Planning & Building Standards Office (14 days)

PLEASE NOTE OUR NEW ADDRESS
ePlanning Centre, The Highland Council, Glenurquhart Road, INVERNESS IV3 5NX
Email: eplanning@highland.gov.uk



Farmers' call for shoppers to buy Scottish



Behind the Label' campaign aims to convey some of the many reasons our farmers take such pride in the quality of the beef, lamb and pork they produce.

"Our quality assurance schemes are among the best and most long-established in the world, giving consumers confidence in the high standards of welfare, quality and traceability behind our 'Scotch' brands".

The 'Get Behind the Label' campaign, set to run for five months, will bring the country into towns and cities with the billboards featuring typical Scottish livestock farmers located in 780 sites around Scotland.

And by visiting www.getbehindthe-label.com consumers will have the chance to visit a virtual farm.

Other farmers starring alongside Sybil MacPherson in the online films are Morayshire-based beef farmers and butchers Jock and Mike Gibson, Perthshire beef and lamb farmers George and John Ritchie and Fife pig producers Andrew and Craig Pinnie.

Abattoirs and land use dominate joint NFUS and Agricultural Forum meeting

ARGYLL'S abattoirs and the relationship between farming and forestry were the hot topics for those attending a joint meeting of the National Farmers' Union Scotland Argyll & the Islands Regional Board and the Argyll & the Isles Agricultural Forum.

During the morning meeting, which was held in Ardkinglas House, Cairndow, Fergus Younger, the forum's development manager, outlined the challenging issues facing Arran, Mull and Islay abattoirs.

MSPs Mike Russell and Kenneth Gibson were at the meeting, as was MP Alan Reid and all were keen

to see what can be done to support small-scale peripheral abattoirs.

There was also a tour of Glen Fyne looking at aspects of farming and forestry and a lively discussion about the challenges of integrating differing land-use objectives whilst maintaining agricultural activity.

John Semple, NFUS Argyll & the Islands chairman said: "We are working towards a balanced approach which recognises the need for food production and where tree planting can complement hill farming, not jeopardise its existence."

Angus MacFadyen, Argyll & the Isles Agricultural Forum chair-

THE GOVERNORS OF CATHERINE McCAGG'S TRUST McCAGG SCHOLARSHIP IN CELTIC

A number of McCAGG POST GRADUATE SCHOLARSHIPS of the annual value of £750 or such form as the Governing Body considers appropriate, tenable for one year are OPEN FOR AWARD TO MASTER OF ARTS of any of the Scottish Universities who have included Gaelic among the subjects of their course. It is a condition of tenure of the Scholarship that the holders shall carry out a programme of study of any Celtic subject or group of subjects or of any subjects directly connected therewith, approved by the Governors after consultation with the Senatus of the University attended by the holder. Entry for Scholarship should be made on or before Monday 31st October, 2011.

ANNE F WILSON

Clerk to the Governors, c/o McLeish Carswell, 7 Admiral Street, Kinning Park, Glasgow, G1 2DT

GOODS VEHICLE OPERATOR'S LICENCE

Allan MacDonell trading as Allan MacDonell of Barlea Farm, Glenbarr, Tarbert, PA29 6UT is applying for a licence to use 1 goods vehicles and 1 trailer. Owners or occupiers of land (including buildings) near the operating centre who believe that their use or enjoyment of that land would be affected, should make written representations to the Traffic Commissioner at Hillcrest House, 386 Harehills Lane, Leeds, LS9 6NF stating their reasons, within 21 days of this notice. Representors must at the same time send a copy of their representations to the applicant at the address given at the top of this notice. A guide to making representations is available from the Traffic Commissioner's Office.

MARINE (SCOTLAND) ACT 2010 Marine Construction: Construction of Pier Berth/Rock Approach

Notice is hereby given that JST (FLOATING PIERS) LTD has applied to the Scottish Ministers of the Scottish Government, under Part 4 of the Marine (Scotland) Act 2010, in respect of construction of a pier berth/rock approach at:

Description	Latitude	Longitude
Pennycross, Pennyghael	56° 21.78'N	06° 02.41'W

(WGS84)
Plans showing the position of the works may be inspected at the office of UPM Tilhill, Claremont, Glencruitten, Oban, Argyll, PA34 4QA

Objections relating to safety of navigation or environmental issues in respect of the application should be made in writing to:

Licensing Operations Team, Marine Scotland, Marine Laboratory, 375 Victoria Road, Aberdeen, AB1 9DB within 28 days of the date of this notice or by email: MS.MarineLicensing@scotland.gsi.gov.uk, quoting reference: FKB/A1313

Advisory group for SAC research farms

A NEW advisory group has been set up to help plan future activity at the Scottish Agricultural College's (SAC) Kirkton and Auchtertyre research hill farms near Criarlarich.

In the letter of invitation each member of the group accepted, SAC Chief Executive and Principal Professor Bill McKelvey said: "We see the need for increased activity in practical research and knowledge transfer for the hill farming sector and we would like your help in pursuing this".

The Advisory Group consists of: Sybil MacPherson (Chair) Brackley, Dalmally; Stuart Christie, Achlyne, Killin; Bert Leitch, Lagganula Farm, Ulva Ferry, Mull; Angus McCall, Culmauly Farm, Golspie; Kathy Peebles, QMS; Grant Moir, Loch Lomond and the Trossachs National Park; Niall Campbell, SAC Oban, and Tony Waterhouse, SAC, Kirkton & Auchtertyre.

Changes During the 40 years SAC has worked at Kirkton there have been various changes in the fortunes of hill farming as agricultural policy altered and evolved in Scotland and the EU.

The decline in the sector has been reflected in the research income available for Kirkton and Auchtertyre.

There is an opportunity now to reverse this with the new five-year Scottish Government research programme which sees the development of profitable and sustainable livestock systems, which includes extensive hill systems.

The advisory group will hold its first meeting at Kirkton on Tuesday October 18.

Forthcoming Events

20th September (Oban) Horticulture Introduction to Polytunnels

20th & 21st September (Kintyre & Mid Argyll) Sheep Health & Ewe Condition

9th November (Kintyre) Beef Herd Management

15th November (Oban) Sheep Dipping Workshop

Further Details on Oban Events Niall Campbell, 01631 563093 Kintyre & Mid Argyll Events John Forster, 01

**DALMALLY SHOW LIVESTOCK
TROPHY WINNERS**

Cattle
Challenge Cup for best animal bred by a crofter, shepherd or stalker: Michael Poland;
Overall Cattle Champion: Awarded sash and £100 presented by Scottish Woodlands: France Farm, J & C McKechnie; Overall Reserve Cattle Champion: M Poland. The Craig Perpetual Challenge Cup for Overall Champion: France Farm, J & C McKechnie; The Captain R A Oldham Memorial Perpetual Challenge Cup for Reserve Champion: M Poland; Challenge Cup for best Cross Bred Calf: France Farm, J & C McKechnie; The Balure Trophy for best bullock in Show: Martin Hall.

Cattle
Confined champion: Mrs J H Strickland, Cladich; Confined reserve champion: Mr & Mrs R D Schuster; Open champion: M Poland; Reserve champion: W & T Thomson; Perpetual Challenge Cup for best animal in Highland Section: Michael Poland; Crunchy Challenge Cup for best Highland bull Stark bred by exhibitor: McMillan & Lawrence; Glenogle Perpetual Cup for best heifer: M Poland; Brig R W L Fellowes Memorial Perpetual Challenge Cup for Reserves Champion: W & T Thomson; Achnacloch Perpetual Challenge Trophy for the best group of Highland Cattle, 3 animals: Q Strickland; Glenstra Perpetual Challenge Quaich for best animal in the confined classes: Q Strickland; Medal presented by DAS to winner of Young handlers class: Mhairi Dempster.

Galloway Cattle
Champion: D Maxwell, Ben Lomond; Reserve champion: Willie MacLean, Inverglen; Perpetual Challenge Cup for best animal in Galloway Section: D Maxwell; Medal awarded by DAS for the winner of the young handler class: Lyn McLean.

Commercial Beef Cattle
Confined champion: M Hall; Confined reserve champion: M Hall; Open champion: J & C McKechnie; Reserve champion: M Hall; The Lescraigie Perpetual Challenge Cup for Champion in Confined section: M Hall; The Ormsary Perpetual Challenge Trophy for best animal in commercial Beef (not BP): J & C McKechnie; Challenge Cup for best animal in Class 30: M Hall; Challenge cup for best pair of cross-bred cattle, 1 year old and under 2: M Hall; The Bidwells Shield for Reserve Champion in commercial Beef section: M Hall; The McCallum Cup for the Reserve Champion in the confined section: M Hall; The Calum McDonald Memorial

Trophy for the best exhibit in the Commercial Beef Section 2011: J & C McKechnie.
Blackface
Sheep
Confined champion: J & J MacPherson; Confined reserve champion: Blarghour; Open champion: D Jackson; Overall champion sheep, awarded £100 and Sash by Scottish Woodlands; Open reserve champion: D Murray, Lurgan; Young Farmer Champion: A&G MacPherson; Young Farmer Reserve Champion: Stefan Zdrak; Confined Trophies: Perpetual Challenge Cup for best male sheep: J&J MacPherson; Perpetual Challenge cup for best female sheep: J&J MacPherson; Anderson Memorial perpetual challenge cup for best female group of ewe, gimmer and ewe lamb: J&J MacPherson; The Duncan Sinclair memorial perpetual challenge Rosebowl for champion confined sheep: J & J MacPherson; The John McConachie perpetual challenge trophy for the exhibitor with the most points in the confined section: J&J MacPherson.

Open Trophies
The perpetual challenge Trophy for the best animal in young farmers' classes: A&G MacPherson; The Balliemeanoch perpetual challenge quaich for overall blackface female champion: D Jackson, Pole; The Blarghour perpetual challenge quaich for overall blackface male champion: Jim Fairlie; Royal Bank of Scotland perpetual challenge trophy for exhibitor with most points in open section: D Jackson; Perpetual challenge cup for champion sheep in show: D Jackson; Perpetual Tankard for best sheep, any age, of opposite sex to the champion: Jim Fairlie; Trophy for best ram lamb bred by exhibitor: Jim Fairlie; Perpetual challenge cup for best female group of ewe, gimmer and ewe lamb: D Jackson.

Poultry

Achlian Perpetual Challenge Cup for the best fowl in Show: Mr J McTavish & Ms B Jenkins (Black Pekin Pullet); Challenge Shield for the exhibitor with the most points in the poultry section: Mr J McTavish & Ms B Jenkins; Achnacarron Trophy for the runner-up to T29: George Campbell (Scots Grey Hen); Perpetual Youth Trophy for the best exhibit by a child under 16, presented by Mr J J Webster: Emma Dixon; Rosette for the best bantam: Mr J McTavish and Ms B Jenkins; Rosette for the best waterfowl: Emma Dixon (Apricot Call Drake); Rosette for the best Large Fowl: George Campbell (Scots Grey Hen).



Cattle champion was November-born Limousin cross Luck's A Fortune from Jim and Catherine McKechnie of France Farm. 15_136dal06



Willie MacLean has had a good season with Morag Odhar of Mottistone, adding the Dalmally Highland Cattle champion title to impressive results at Lorn, Appin, the Royal Highland and Yorkshire Shows. 15_136dal01



Reserve Highland Cattle champion was from W&T Thompson of Woodneuk Fold, Barrhead, with their four-year-old cow with calf at foot. 15_136dal02

Surprise Dalmally cattle winner

REPORT

by CHRISTINE MCCARTNEY
cmccartney@obantimes.co.uk

at the Royal Highland Show and supreme cattle champion at Lorn Show earlier in the summer. She is out of Morag Odhar 2nd of Kindrochit, by Eoin Mhor of Miungairigh.

In the sheep ring, the champion Blackface was a three-crop ewe, Black Velvet, from Jackson, Pole, Lochgoilehead. Her sire was a £1,600 Netherwood and her dam out of a £800 Midlock. She was reserve champion Blackface at last month's Cowal show and top of her class at every show she contested this year.

Mr J McTavish & Ms B Jenkins topped a large poultry section with their Black Pekin pullet.

With Dalmally's reputation in the Highland cattle and Blackface circuit secure, Angus MacKay, cattle convenor, said the high quality of entries continued to encourage local farmers in the confined area to compete on equal terms.

'Local farmers are still upping their game to compete. There are sheep here that could compete well at any show in the country.'



Champion in a hotly-contested Blackface section was three-crop ewe Black Velvet, from Jackson, Pole. 15_136dal05

RECRUITMENT

Youth Worker /Assistant (Permanent)

£23,724 - £25,932(Pro rata)

16 hrs per week

Tarbert

Islay

Involves evening and weekend work

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Youth Worker /Assistant (Permanent)

£23,724 - £25,932 (Pro rata)

16 hrs per week

Involves evening and weekend work

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£20,372 - £21,626

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Catering Assistant (Permanent)

£13,427 - £14,662 (Pro rata) Easdale Primary School Ref: CTF00866

15 hrs per week

Term time - 3 hours per day, Monday - Friday.

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Home Carer (Temporary)

£8.57 per hour

Variable hours

01546 604048

Closing date: 23 September 2011.

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www.arryll-bute.gov.uk/jobs

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PART OF ARGUS CARE GROUP.

Require the following

Head Cook

Full Time, Rate of Pay Negotiable
Experience preferred but not essential
as full training will be given.

You can contact Arlene Campbell, RGN, Manager
on e-mail: lynnoflorne@arguscare.co.uk or
phone 01631 720278 for more details.

Please also visit our website: www.arguscare.co.uk

Ref: CMC00289
Ref: CMC00291

Mull Ref: CMC00409

Oban Ref: DVR00129

Kintyre Ref: CMA00513

Scottish Sea Farms

Marine Site Manager

Eday, Orkney Islands

Scottish Sea Farms wish to recruit a proven and exceptionally skilled salmon farm manager to develop and strengthen our new marine salmon farm at Eday in the Northern Isles of Orkney.

Eday is a unique and challenging marine environment with exceptional potential and sensitivity. Candidates must demonstrate excellence in all aspects of fish husbandry including fish health and welfare, feeding optimisation, containment, infrastructure maintenance and skilled seamanship. If successful you will be hardworking, focused on achieving your own key performance indicators and developing the potential within your staff.

Scottish Sea Farms requires significant financial investment for this new site and we require your energy and vision to help shape our success.

To be considered you must ideally already be a site manager within the aquaculture industry. You will have excellently developed risk assessment skills and be able to demonstrate your commitment in developing a strong safety culture. You will be open, honest and communicate with ease at all levels. Your ability to plan ahead will be matched by close attention to detail. It is essential to value the unique Orkney identity and have the skills to grow premium-quality differentiated salmon for a customer with the highest expectations.

Scottish Sea Farms Ltd site managers are already expected to be industry leading - with competence in finance, budget control and planning, stock management, stakeholder interactions, personnel management and promotion of health and safety. Eday will test and develop these skills and in return Scottish Sea Farms Ltd will offer an attractive salary package, company vehicle, pension support and production bonus, along with a commitment to support your development with training and close mentoring.

All applicants are required to have a full, clean drivers licence.

Please contact Angela Hand on 01786 445521 or

angela.hand@scottishseafarms.com for more information.

Closing date for applications is 30th September, 2011



The Scottish Salmon Company

Companaidh Bhradan na h-Alba

The Scottish Salmon Company is a leading independent producer of high quality Scottish Salmon. We are committed to high standards of animal welfare, sustainable operations and promoting a responsible environmental policy.

We are currently recruiting for the following located at our Marine Site on the Isle of Gigha:

MARINE OPERATIVE

(Ref MO/I/G/09/11)

(Salary £15,965 to £19,570 per annum dependant on experience)

The ideal candidate will be enthusiastic, self-motivated, have good communication skills and be able to demonstrate prior experience of working within a small, focused team in a constantly changing and challenging environment. Previous aquaculture and boat handling experience is desirable but not essential as the company will also offer further development opportunities through its in-house training and also through external providers.

Working hours are normally 40hrs per week Monday to Friday, with weekend working required on a rota basis. Overtime is paid at enhanced rates.

A full, clean driving licence is also essential for these positions.

In return, the Company offers a comprehensive pay and benefits package including entry into the Company Pension Scheme after the qualifying period.

For an application form and job description, please contact:

HR Department, Ardkinglas Estate, Cairndow, Argyll, PA26 8BH.

Tel. No. 01499 600 435

Email: cairndowhr@scottishsalmon.com

Closing date for applications: 5.00pm Friday, 16th September 2011

Visit our website at www.scottishsalmon.com

JOB WITH A DIFFERENCE!

A vacancy has arisen for a Boatman/Handyman and Housekeeper on a Scottish Estate in a beautiful Location.

The post is ideal for a married couple Boatman/Handyman to carry out general maintenance on the Estate (Engine Knowledge essential)
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Accommodation provided.

For further information please contact 01248 374228 or email: dfmscotland@hotmail.co.uk

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James Gillespie's High School, 35 hours per week

Salary: £21,438 - £34,200 Ref: EDN2555

Closing Date: 23 September 2011

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BABY EQUIPMENT

BOYS' TODDLER BED from Argos in good condition. Blue with vehicle graphics, side panels. £40 (with or without foam mattress) Telephone 07900 048362 Connell.

BRITAX ISOFIX KIDS CAR SEAT good condition, £40 Telephone 01631 567043.

MAMAS AND PAPAS COT BED pine cot bed with mamas and papas mattress if required. Sturdy in good, clean condition, £49 Telephone 07767 760048.

MOSES BASKET WITH WOODEN rocking stand, cream broderie anglaise trim & canopy, mattress. Really lovely condition, £15 Telephone 07432 617583.

SAFETY 1ST TOILET TRAINING POT with handles and lid, £5 Telephone 07432 617583.

BICYCLES

BOYS' BICYCLE 6 speed 20" wheel, y frame suspension, red and blue paint work, good condition, £20 Telephone 01631 564335.

THOMAS THE TANK Engine 10" bike with stabilisers and Thomas sounds. Suitable for age 2+, £15 Telephone 01546 600097.

BUILDING / DIY

BLACK DPM visqueen, 250 mu, 4 x 25metre, BBA approved, £23 Telephone 07789 333659.

FENCEPOSTS 10 round fence posts. Used for short period, £5 Telephone 01631 770311.

SKIRTING primed white MDF with moulded decoration along top. 120 x 15mm, 3 x 3m lengths and 1 x 2.4m length, £5 Telephone 01631 770311.

CAR ACCESSORIES

THULE ROOF BARS came off Land Rover Discovery, good condition, £35 Telephone 01866 822023.

CD'S, DVD'S AND VIDEOS

DVD LABELLING KIT Plus Labels and Discs, £25 one Telephone 01631 710352.

DVDS Over 200 blank discs+ cases, £48 Telephone 01631 710352.

LEVERAGE SEASON 1 (DVD) As seen of TV, 4 discs-13 episodes. Bought new, used once. With special features, run time 553mins feature subtitles if needed, £7.50 Telephone 01546606475.

CLOTHES, SHOES AND ACCESSORIES

TRESPASS FLEECE JACKET Bargain. Small men's grey, logo around collar, full zipped. 2 pockets inside and outside, polyester, £3.50 Telephone 01546 606475.

COMPUTERS AND GAMES

BROADBAND ROUTER BT voyager 205 with disc, instructions, cables and 2 filters. Only used for a short while, £5 Telephone 01631 770311.

COMPUTER MONITOR Acer 15" LCD screen with matt silver frame. Model AL1716. Tilts, leads included. Good working order, £20 Telephone 01631 770311.

DOMESTIC APPLIANCES

SWAN 1800w Pet Master cylinder vacuum cleaner with turbo boost. In very good condition, £30 Telephone 01631 565707.

WASHING MACHINE Hotpoint Aquarius 6kg, 1000spin, working order, £49.99 Telephone 01631 564826.

DOMESTIC PETS

CAVALIER KC SPANIEL Tri colour KC spaniel pups for sale, 1 boy & 1 girl. Ready now, both parents can be seen, £250 Telephone 01631 760116.

JACK RUSSELL puppies, 1 dog, 1 bitch, happy healthy pups, 8 weeks old. Well fed, fully weaned, wormed and ready to go. Both parents owned, £150 cash Telephone 01546 603770 or 07766 535569.

EQUESTRIAN

CONNEMARA CROSS 14.2 hh. Mare. Excellent mother/daughter share, or first/second pony. Honest and genuine, all rounder

with excellent jump. Tack and rugs included, £1,200 Telephone 07775 618606.

WELSH B 12.2HH Welsh B 12.2hh. Bay gelding, lead rein or first pony. Has done all pony club activities, with a huge jump. Tack and rugs included, £1,000 Telephone 07775 618606.

FURNITURE

3 PIECE SUITE Free to uplift, clean but tired, cotton covered, usable with throws, perhaps suit rental or stopgap. Telephone 01770 850516 or 07836 743944.

COFFEE TABLE limed oak effect with shelf on underside, lovely condition, £25 Telephone 01546 606504.

NEST OF TABLES limed oak effect, lovely condition, £20 Telephone 01546 606504.

PINE DRESSER beautiful rustic pine antique dresser, 2 drawers and cupboard below and display shelves above, £175 Telephone 07767 760048.

SIDEBOARD pine sideboard with 3 drawers & 3 doors. It is very good condition, £49.99 Telephone 01470 572213.

WEANERS FOR SALE Oxford Sandy and black weaners for sale, ready now, £50 Telephone 01631 570938.

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HOME FURNISHINGS

BALLERINA wall clock and bin for kids bedroom, £4 Telephone 01631 770311.

IKEA CURTAINS modern grey fine cotton long curtains with white circular swirls tab top approx 108"long x 56"wide, £10 Telephone 01631 720369.

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BELKIN WIRELESS ROUTER network card, adaptor, excellent condition, £45 Telephone 01631 710352.

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BT HOME HUB BT, £10 Telephone 01631 710352.

ELECTRONIC MEMORY TYPEWRITER Facit 8111, with line memory display, £49 Telephone 01631 710352.

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FILING CABINET metal, 4-drawer, colour brown/beige, lockable, good condition, size H132, W47, D62 cms, £20 Telephone 01546 886300.

MODEM ROUTER Zoom ADSL, £25 Telephone 01631 710352.

COMPUTERS AND GAMES

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NICKY CLARKE PRO-CERAMIC HAIR Brand new sealed in packaging, unwanted gift. High salon temperature 200 degrees. Ceramic plates, fast heat up, np £24.99, £10 Telephone 07432 617583.

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OLD DUTCH BANTEMS 1 pair, 1 trio. Old Dutch are one of the smallest breed of Bantem in the world and are very colourful. Also Eggs for incubation for sale. Telephone 01967 402123.

PULLETS FOR SALE brown, black or pure breeds, ducks, feeders, drinkers, hen sheds, £ Telephone 01470 572213.

WEANERS FOR SALE Oxford Sandy and black weaners for sale, ready now, £50 Telephone 01631 570938.

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MARRIAGE



SHAW - DONN

At church of Scotland, Glencruitten Road, Oban on Saturday August 27, 2011 by the Rev Dugald Cameron, Iain, younger son of Robert and Josie, Acharonich, Barbreck to Julie Anne, younger daughter of Ian and Anne, Palace Hotel, Oban.

DEATHS

MACNEIL - Pat (née Johnstone), formerly of Oban, died suddenly at home in Renfrew, mum to Stephen, Kenneth, Iain and Martin. Sadly missed. RIP.

MACPHERSON - Peacefully at home on September 2, 2011 surrounded by her family, Caroline (Carrie) MacPherson (née Munro) dearly beloved wife of Ewen, darling mother of Carol, Sara, Edith, Donald and Ewen, and adored granny and great granny.

McDOUGALL - Peacefully at Royal Alexandra Hospital, Paisley on August 31, 2011, Allan of Arivoullachallum, The Lotts, Port Ellen, Islay, aged 75 years, loving husband of the late Elizabeth McLeish (Ela), a much loved father of Margaret, Cathie and Allan and the late Andrew, a dear papa to all the grandchildren. Interred in Kilnaughton, Islay on Tuesday, September 6.

O'BRIEN - Rosemary passed away peacefully at Dunaros Hospital on September 4, 2011. Beloved wife of Patrick. Funeral Service to be held at Torsay Parish Church on Friday, September 9 at 1pm.

PETRIE - David Dick. Bravely with a fighting spirit at Edinburgh Royal Infirmary on Wednesday, August 31, 2011. Beloved husband of Grace, devoted dad to Gill, much loved brother, brother-in-law and uncle, a good friend to many.

STEWART - Lee beloved daughter of Mairi and Alex, died tragically in road accident on September 2, 2011, darling Mummy to Ilona and much loved sister of Ross and Jamie.

STODDART - Peacefully at home, on the evening of September 6, 2011, in her 85th year, Johan Bennett Stoddart, beloved wife of the late David, much loved mum of John and Sally and treasured grandma to David and Susie.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

CARSWELL - Rosemary, Ronald and Gavin wish to thank family, friends and neighbours for their expressions of sympathy, letters, phone calls, cards, flowers and baking received following the recent sad loss of Dougie. Many thanks to Taynuilt Surgery, District nurses, Doctors and Marie Curie nurses with a special mention to Dr Bennett and Susan Black. Rev Robert Brookes for a comforting service, Mary Nicolson for her eulogy and to piper Donald McNeill, organist and elders of Muckairn Church, Taynuilt Hotel for an excellent buffet, to D & A Mum for their sensitive funeral arrangements, and to all who paid their last respects at the church and graveside. And everyone who contributed to the retiring collection for Marie Curie Cancer Care which totalled £1,182.73.

GAMBLE - The family of the late Joan (Inverlochy), wish to thank all relatives, friends and neighbours for their kind expressions of sympathy during their recent bereavement. Special thanks to Margaret McLean for the uplifting Celebration of Joan's life, Silver Rose Funeral Directors for all arrangements and all who attended Woodside and gave so generously to Renfrew & Govan Inner Wheel Charities.

GIRVAN - Alice and family of the late Tommy, would like to thank everyone for cards, letters, flowers and telephone calls received in their recent sad loss and all who travelled to Inverness for the funeral.

HENDERSON - Helen and family wish to thank all relatives, friends and neighbours for the cards, flowers and support received on the sad loss of a dear husband and dad, to the staff at Roxburgh House and the Broughty Ferry Health Centre District Nurses for their tender care, Susan Sutherland for the comforting service, Robin and the team at Selwood Funeral Directors and all who paid their last respects to Norrie at Dundee Crematorium and donated so generously to Alzheimer Scotland.

GRADUATIONS



Kirstie Maclean recently graduated from the University of Strathclyde with a Bachelor of Arts in German and Spanish. Kirstie is the daughter of Susan and Murdo Maclean, Kingsburgh, Isle of Skye and the granddaughter of Rita and the late David Campbell, Kingsburgh and Annie and Kenny Maclean, Muir of Aird, Isle of Benbecula.



Donald MacFadyen Lawrie, recently graduated from Heriot Watt University with B. Eng with 2:1 honours degree in Electrical and Electronics Engineering (Mobile and Digital Communications). Donald is the son of Ross and Mairi Lawrie, Achosrigan, Appin and the grandson of Roberta and the late Archibald Lawrie, Appin and of Margaret and the late Niall Campbell, Strachur. Donald is a former pupil of Strath of Appin Primary School and Oban High School.



Dr Archie Graham, graduated from University of Aberdeen on July 7, 2011 with a PhD in Education. Dr Graham previously taught in Kilmartin Primary, Kilchattan Primary and St Columba's RC Primary School. He is currently a lecturer in Initial Teacher Education at the University of Aberdeen.



Graduated in March 2011 from the University of Amsterdam, the Netherlands, with a PhD in Psychology with thesis "The Influence of Decision Initiation Motives on Decision Making".

Ilona is the daughter of John and Mariska and the grand daughter of the late Alex and Margaret McNeill of Frederick Crescent, Port Ellen, Islay.

Ilona has taken up a position as Post Doctoral Research Associate at the University of West Australia, Perth.



Rosie Collinge from Eastdale Island, graduated from St Andrews University with a MA (hons) 2:1 in English and Philosophy. Rosie is a former pupil of Oban High School, she is now working as a Content and Review writer with a Search Marketing Agency in London.

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WEDDINGS



FLEMING-CHAMBERLAIN
Ann Fleming and Charles Chamberlain were married at St Conan's Kirk Loch Awe on August 6th 2011. They enjoyed a celebration meal at the Taynuilt Hotel with family and friends before partying the night away at their wedding dance in The Argyllshire Gathering Halls.

Photograph by Perfect Images, Dunbeg, Oban



SPEDDING-LOVAT
Joanne Spedding and Ian Lovat were married at Kilcamb Lodge, Strontian on July 23rd 2011.

They celebrated their intimate wedding with close family and friends in this beautiful location.

Photograph by Perfect Images, Dunbeg, Oban



MULLAN- CHESTER
Navette Mullan and Richard Chester were married at Caig Waterfalls on July 30th 2011.

Following their marriage ceremony witnessed by their children they celebrated by enjoying a bike ride through the amazing highland scenery and climbed Ben Nevis the following day.

Photograph by Perfect Images, Dunbeg, Oban



SKYES- PYE
Abbie Skyes and Chris Pye were married at Glenfinnan House Hotel, Glenfinnan on July 30th 2011.

They celebrated their marriage at this stunning venue with family and friends.

Photograph by Perfect Images, Dunbeg, Oban



BAKER- ADAM
James and Flora Baker (Lochgilphead) are delighted to announce the marriage of their son Alastair to Louise, the daughter of Alexander and Christine Adam (Aberdeen) on Friday July 22, 2011, at the Dalmahoy Hotel, Edinburgh.

CHARITY DONATIONS

HENDERSON - The family of the late Jessie Henderson would like to express their sincere thanks to relatives, friends and neighbours for their kind expression of sympathy through letters, cards, flowers and phone calls, following their recent loss. Special thanks to Craig Nevis Surgery and staff, Dr Ian Gartshore and staff of Mallaig Medical Centre and to the staff of the MacKintosh Centre for their kindness to Jessie while in their care. Thanks to Rev Corbett and John Fraser for an uplifting service, to May MacIntyre organist and to Ewen and John at MacLellan Funeral Directors for their sensitivity and services. To all who paid their respect at the church and graveside and to Fay and staff at Caol Community Centre for refreshments provided.

MACDONALD - Iain MacDonald and family would like to thank relatives and friends for their kindness and support after the sad passing of Jess. Thanks to Jeff MacCormack for a heartfelt service and a big thanks to Catriona Hoey and family for their caring handling of the funeral. A collection of £638 was raised for the Yorkhill Family House.

MEMORIAMS

CAMPBELL - In loving memory of my husband and our father Angus, who died September 12, 1990.

The years we spent together. The happy days we knew. Are lived again so often. With memories of you.

- Cathie and family, Caol, Corpach and Falkirk.

CAMPBELL - In loving memory of a dear son John, who died September 7, 2003.

Always in our thoughts.

- Mum, dad and family.

GUINN - Treasured memories of a dear wife, mother and grandmother May, who passed away September 7, 2010.

Sadly missed along life's way.

Quietly remembered always.

- Iain, David, Skye and Lewis, Tiree.

HARDEN - Leslie. Loving memories of my dear husband who passed away five years ago September 7. Loved and missed always.

- Shirley and family.

JORDAN - In memory of our dad, papa and great grandpa, Frank Arnold, passed over September 8, 2010.

"Gone home".

- Love from the families in Scotland and Australia.

MAYNARD - In loving memory of our dear mother and grannie Peggy, died September 8, 1977.

Always remembered Happy memories of a dear mum.

Johnnie, Morag and family, Dalmally, Margaret, Alice and family, Benbecula.

MACKAY - In loving memory of my darling daughter Eilidh killed on her way home on July 30, 2003 by a reckless driver.

No chance to say goodbye.

Another birthday coming up on 11th of this month.

Love and miss you greatly darling.

- Love Mum

MACPHAIL - John A.C.

MacPhail Taken from us September 10, 2001

A light from our household gone, a voice we loved stilled.

A place is vacant in our home which can never be filled.

Some may think you are forgotten, though on earth you are no more

In memory you are with us as you always were before.

With love we remember Catherine MacPhail taken from us June 26, 2008.

A devoted Mum and Dad;

Granny and Papa to the Family.

Till the day break and the shadows flee away ; Sol Ch 2 V 17

Mairi,Iain,Catriona,Kerry,Aren,Katie and Andrew xx

Achnaha

MARSHALL - In loving memory of all our loved ones who, over the years have passed away at Kilpatrick, Bunessan, Isle of Mull.

Senga and family.

STEWART - In loving memory of Mary Jane, who died September 11, 1999.

A much loved mother and granny.

Always in our thoughts

Margaret, Allan, Emma, Beth and Aidan xx

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HENDERSON - Helen and family wish to thank all relatives, friends and neighbours for the cards, flowers and support received on the sad loss of a dear husband and dad, to the staff at Roxburgh House and the Broughty Ferry Health Centre District Nurses for their tender care, Susan Sutherland for the comforting service, Robin and the team at Selwood Funeral Directors and all who paid their last respects to Norrie at Dundee Crematorium and donated so generously to Alzheimer Scotland.

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St Oran's soup lunch success

Volunteers from St Oran's Church, Connel, were hard at work in the church hall last week. Serving soup, fresh rolls and tasty home-baking, the group raised £771 to support disabled servicemen's charity BLEMSA. The last of the regular summer soup lunches for church funds was held on Thursday, September 1.



Alasdair Davidson

THE VILLAGE of Glenelg and the wider community were saddened by the passing of Alasdair Davidson in Raigmore Hospital, Inverness on July 30, aged 86 years.

Baptised Alexander Cross but known to all as

Lochside ease to Bullough Cup win

LOCHSIDE'S new coaching team of David MacInnes and Tony Hill won their first silverware when they took the Bullough Cup back to Oban.

MacInnes played as a result of a number of absent regulars and he got his name on the scoresheet in a 5-0 demolition of Aberdour's second team.

The experienced Brian MacCallum (2) and David Devine were joined on the scoresheet by Daniel MacKinnon, who scored the goal of the game with a 35-yard rocket.

In truth, the final was mostly one-way traffic, with the Aberdour goalkeeper making a number of excellent saves to keep the scoreline in single figures. The match was played in Aberdour after the pitch at the neutral venue of Bute was declared unplayable.

MacInnes said: 'It was a comfortable win and we could have



The victorious Lochside Rovers with the Bullough Cup.

scored a lot more if we needed to. But it is a trophy win and we all celebrated properly on the way home.'

'I was pleased with how the boys played and youngsters Alex Dunnings and George

MacMillan did really well. Ian 'Gus' Campbell looked good on his return from injury.'

Lochside have eight players to return for this weekend's trip to Kyles Athletic, where a draw will be good enough for them to

secure third place in the league. 'We are going with as strong a team as possible because we want to get that third place in the league. If we could do that I would say we could look back on this season as a good one.'

Double delight as town youngsters take honours

OBAN Camanachd demonstrated the strength of its youth teams after winning both age-group competitions on Sunday at the South of Scotland Sixes at Mossfield.

Oban Camanachd's Robert MacIntyre and Oban Celtic's Daniel Madej, respectively, won the under-14 and under-17 player of the tournament awards.

A healthy entry of 18 teams made for a great day of youth shinty and the tournament also formed part of the trial process for the South of Scotland under-14 and under-17 Select Squads that will compete against their North counterparts in October.

In the under-14 competition it was Oban Camanachd, Oban Celtic, Inveraray and Strachur that just edged out an unlucky Milngavie and Bearden team into the final four positions.

In the semi-finals Oban Camanachd beat their local rivals Oban Celtic while Strachur



The victorious Oban Camanachd under-17 and under-14 teams.

came from 2-0 down to make the final with a golden goal in extra time. In the final, Oban Camanachd's reliable defence proved the difference, allowing

their forward players to snatch the all important goal.

In the under-17 competition the two Oban-based teams progressed to the final, seeing

off challenges from Glasgow Mid-Argyll and Kilmory.

There was little to separate the two teams, with Camanachd emerging 3-2 winners.

Kilmory face nailbiting battle to secure survival

KILMORY'S survival in South Division One depends on whether they can finish ahead of bottom-placed Aberdour, according to chairman Angus Gilmour.

The league's bottom two teams have still to play at Lochgilphead, with the Mid Argyll men also hopeful of winning at Kyles Athletic the following week.

However, first of all Kilmory host league champions Bute, who will be looking to protect their 100 per cent record.

Gilmour said: 'The must-win game is the one against Aberdour; it would be a major miracle if we could get something out of Bute this weekend.'

'The problem this season is we haven't had the consistency in team selection. However, I have no doubt that we can muster a

strong team for these important three remaining games.'

A draw with Ballachulish last weekend has all but secured OBAN CELTIC'S league survival with two games left to play.

Relegation-threatened Kilmory must win their remaining three games to match Celtic's points tally, so another point in Celtic's final two games will see them finish above the Mid Argyll team.

David Hamilton of Oban Celtic said: 'It was the usual story for us, in that we had the early pressure but didn't take our chances.'

Celtic have no game this weekend.

BALLACHULISH manager Willie Sutherland said he was disappointed to end the season

with a draw against Oban Celtic.

In what has been Balla's best season for a number of years, Sutherland was hoping to complete their fixtures with a win.

'I thought a draw was a fair result in the end,' he admitted. 'Considering we have been battling relegation in the past few seasons, I am pleased at how this season has gone.'

In the far north, KINLOCHSHIEL set out their stall for next season in the Scottish Hydro Premier Division with a crushing 7-2 win over Lochaber at Spean Bridge in their final game to make it 14 wins out of 14.

Captain Keith MacRae is relishing the prospect of playing premier shinty next season.

'Our main ambition will be staying up, but it would be great to get a good run in the cups as well,' he said. 'We will be looking for a mid-table finish – we don't want to be involved in a relegation battle. Our defence has been pretty good all season and only let in 10 goals in 14 games. The midfield got 10 goals and the forwards scored a good few goals as well.'

LOCHABER have all but secured second place in north division one despite a heavy 7-2 loss at home to champions Kinlochshiel last weekend.

Michael Delaney's men have a free weekend as they prepare for their last game of the season.

If they avoid defeat in their final game against Lochcarron they will be confirmed as runners up and well placed for a shot at the title next season.

SKYE CAMANACHD will look to finish their season with a flourish when they take on Caberfeidh in their last match of the season at Pairc nan Laoch on Saturday.

Nui MacDonald's men have gained just eight points from 13 games, but a win over Cabers would apply a little gloss to a lacklustre campaign.

LOCHCARRON were within

minutes of beating Inverness last Saturday, but a last minute strike from David Hignam secured a 2-2 draw at Batter Park.

Inverness took the lead in the sixth minute but two goals from Gregor Cushnie put Lochcarron into a 2-1 lead before half-time.

Just when it looked like the home side would hold out, Hignam snatched a share of the points. Lochcarron have no game this weekend.

Fixtures

Saturday 10 September
(all throw-ups 2.30pm unless stated)

Scottish Hydro Premier Division
Oban Camanachd v Fort William
Ted McDonald
Glenorchy v Glenurquhart
Billy Wotherspoon
Kilmallie v Newtonmore
Evan MacRae
Kyles Athletic v Kingussie
Colin MacDonald (3pm)

Marine Harvest North Division 1
Skye v Caberfeidh
Jock Matheson

Marine Harvest North Division 2
Lova v Fort William
Donald MacRae
Kinlochshiel v Glenurquhart
John MacLeod

Marine Harvest South Division 1
Kyles Athletic v Lochside Rovers
Ronnie Campbell

Kilmory v Bute
Gus Campbell

Results

Scottish Hydro Premier Division
Glenorchy v Inveraray
Postponed

Kilmallie v Lova
Postponed

Kingussie 1, Newtonmore 6

Kyles Athletic 4 Fort William 1

Marine Harvest North Division 1
Lochcarron 2, Inverness 2

Lochaber 2, Kinlochshiel 7

Caberfeidh 3, Beauly 3

Marine Harvest North Division 2
Lochaber 2, Newtonmore 4

Kinlochshiel v Kilmallie
Postponed

Lochaber 4, Fort William 2

Skye 3, Glenurquhart 1

Kingussie 6, Lova 1

Marine Harvest North Division 3
Caberfeidh 7, Lochbroom 2

Marine Harvest South Division 1
Ballachulish 1, Oban Celtic 1

Taynuilt v Bute
Postponed

Kyles Athletic 2 Glasgow MA 3

Strathdean Cup Final
Glenorchy 2, Newtonmore 3

Bullough Cup Final
Aberdour 0, Lochside Rovers 5

League tables

Scottish Hydro Premier Division

	P	W	D	L	pts
Kyles Athletic	14	11	3	0	25
Newtonmore	14	10	3	1	23
Fort William	17	10	2	5	22
Glenurquhart	16	7	2	7	16
Kingussie	15	5	5	5	15
Kilmallie	15	7	1	7	15
Inveraray	15	5	1	9	11
Lova	15	5	1	9	11
Oban Camanachd	13	4	2	7	10
Glenorchy	14	0	0	14	0

Marine Harvest North Division One

Kinlochshiel	14	14	0	0	28
Lochaber	13	8	1	4	17
Beauly	14	6	5	3	17
Caberfeidh	13	6	3	4	15
Lochcarron	13	4	5	4	13
Skye	13	3	2	8	8
Inverness	14	1	4	9	6
Strathglass	14	1	2	11	4

Marine Harvest South Division One

Bute	13	13	0	0	26
Glasgow MA	15	9	3	4	21
Lochside Rvrs	15	8	2	5	18
Taynuilt	15	7	2	6	16
Ballachulish	16	8	2	7	16
Oban Celtic	14	4	4	6	12
Kyles Athletic	14	5	0	9	10
Kilmory	13	2	2	9	6
Aberdour	15	2	1	12	5

Marine Harvest North Division Two

Newtonmore	18	16	1	1	33
Fort William	16	11	3	2	25
Glenarry	15	10	0	5	20
Kingussie	18	7	2	9	16
Lochaber	18	7	0	11	14
Skye	17	6	1	10	13
Glenurquhart	16	6	0	10	12
Lova	16	6	1	9	11
Kinlochshiel	16	5	1	10	11
Kilmallie	16	3	3	10	9

Marine Harvest South Division Two

|
| |

Allan wins A&B strokeplay title

GOLF

ALLAN McKie's birdie finish in his second round was enough to give the Glencruitten member his first Argyll and Bute Area Strokeplay title over Machrihanish.

Leader in the morning after a one-under-par 69, his level par afternoon round consolidated his position at the top of the leaderboard.

David Graham capped off a fine day for the host club by winning the youth's title from Glencruitten's Robert MacIntyre by one shot.

Oban ladies win

BOWLS

SUNDAY saw the Oban Ladies Top Ten team go to Ardriishaig to defend their County Championship title.

They did this by first defeating Bogleha from Dunoon in the morning match and in the afternoon they came out on top in the final against a strong Campbeltown team. In the final Oban lost the singles but won the pairs, triples and fours to record a 6 points to 2 win.

Lorne play at home

RUGBY

OBAN Lorne welcome Clydebank to Glencruitten this Saturday for Oban's opening RBS West Division 2 game of the season at 3pm.

The visitors will provide a stern test after their opening day 22-14 win over Uddingston last weekend.

The club was saddened by the passing of former captain and club president, Dave Petrie, last week. The first team game away to Lenzie last weekend was postponed as a mark of respect.

Photo finish as Neville wins Scottish A-Plate

YOUNG Oban karter Neville Parrott won this year's Scottish Series A-Plate by one hundredth of a second after overtaking his closest rival on the final corner of the last race.

This is the first season Neville and twin brother Daniel have competed in adult races, having dominated the UK junior classes last year.

However, without the backing of a major sponsor and exam commitments the 17-year-olds have not been racing as regularly as they would have liked.

At the recent Alba Plate competition at Golspie – the twins' first races in two months – Daniel proved the more consistent performer, qualifying second for the final. Neville, who had struggled for pace all day qualified in last place.

However, Neville found form



Neville Parrott closes in on final race leader Douglas Simpson, before passing him on the final corner. t36neville1no

More sport - see page 13

Event is sun-kissed success

200 competitors in Kerrera triathlon

TRIATHLON

in three weeks. The Kilphedar woman recently won a silver medal at the age group world championship in Spain.

Race organiser Duncan MacEachen highlighted the quality of the field but also the sunny weather as two factors that contributed to a great event but insisted it could not have gone ahead without help.

I want to thank everyone who helped support this event, especially Oban Mountain Rescue Team (OMRT), Graham MacQueen, the community of Kerrera and too many others to mention, he said. The atmosphere on the day was electric. It was incredible to see 200 swimmers coming towards you.

Proceeds from the event will be donated to OMRT. The triathlon was also filmed by The Adventure Show programme.



Competitors arrive on Kerrera after the swim section of the Craggy Island Triathlon. t36tri04

Youngsters strut their stuff at Oban Express Primary Football League

THE YOUNGEST teams of the Oban Express Primary Football League (junior league) once again took to the rugby pitch in sunny and warm weather.

The crowd turned out in record numbers to see the enthusiasm and excitement that all the players in the fun fours bring to the game.

It was especially nice to see another appearance from the new Primary 1 team K-Oz Saints.

For Swifts, Ewan McFadgen and Robbie MacKay made their debuts and played really well, encouraged by their team mates.

Spartaks' Cooper MacIntyre had a great day during which he showed off his outstanding dribbling skills and Andrew Boyle also had a fantastic day tackling like his life depended on it.

Over in the seniors at the Oban Community Pitch it was business as usual with the opener a Lochgilphead derby, which saw the

older Red Star team score through Brodie Kalachi and Kian Francis without reply from the young Scorpions.

Red Star went on to win at Tralee but found Thistle keeper Jamie Forgrave impossible to beat in a scoreless draw. Thistle narrowly defeated Lochness with a single goal from Oran Bryce but went down by the same score line to Saints Boys when Danny MacCush pounced late on.

Saints Boys won against the Jags but found Lochness keeper Gary MacCush in inspired form to keep them at bay. The Jags went on to recover and an exciting match with Scorpions ended goalless but in their last game Liam Tanno popped up with the winner over Galaxy. Scorpions had Cammy Williamson and Craig Miller on target in their game at Pumas.

Wasps had a hard day at the office and went down to Galaxy with

PRIMARY FOOTBALL

Ellis Hunter netting and Lochness also scored three against the Wasps.

Tralee notched a fine win over Pumas Black with the ever impressive Ryan Henrickson scoring two without reply. Saints 2002 had the terrible twosome in Lennon and Lewis Campbell in goalscoring form as they notched wins against both Pumas sides.

The game of the day was the derby between Pumas White and Pumas Black. The Blacks went into the lead when Lewis Budge was felled in the area and he dusted himself down and slotted home in off the post. The Blacks held out for long periods but James Beaton broke clear from the pack and hammered home the all important equaliser.

Taynuilt pick up first point of the season

THE NEWLY-formed Taynuilt Amateurs recently recorded a 3-3 draw in their first ever match in the Central Scottish Welfare League.

Taynuilt hosted Kirkmichael, who last year reached the final of two of the league cups.

A second Chris McCaig goal in the 80th minute had given the home side a 3-2 lead but a controversial equaliser in the closing stages denied Taynuilt a win.

At a Kirkmichael corner, Taynuilt goalkeeper Ben Pollock

Summer Trophy at Tobermory GC

GOLF

THE JUNIOR Aggregate Summer Trophy has been won by Lewis Wilshire.

Played once a week during the summer school holidays the best four rounds from six decided the winner.

The trophy was presented to Lewis after the Lions Day Golf, as the Lions very generously donated £200 towards the running of Tobermory Junior section.

Iona Trophy triples

BOWLS

THE triple of John McLaren, May Hardie and Hugh MacCorquodale recently won this season's Iona Trophy at Oban Bowling Club.

Youth results and fixtures

YOUTH FOOTBALL

OBAN Saints youth team results - Under 13s 3, Drumchapel United 2. Saints scorers were Lay Cooper (2) and Lomond MacPherson. Kilpatrick 0, v Under 14s 2. Saints scorers - Liam Jackson and Ross MacMillan. Under 15s 1, Ardencaple 2. Alan Buchanan netting for Saints. Ardencaple 3, Under 16s 3. Scorers for Saints were Rory Bruce, Rhuraidh Cain and Coll MacKenzie.

This weekend's fixtures: Riverside v Under 13s; Goldenhill v Under 14s; Renton v Under 15s; Clydebank Phoenix v Under 16s.

Islay golf results

GOLF

SEPTEMBER Medal: 1 Angus MacAllister 88 less 23 net 65; 2 David Livingstone 76 less 7 net 69; 3 Walter McLean 90 less 19 net 71. Css 70.

Athletic prove to be a Thorn in the flesh

FOOTBALL

Scottish Amateur League Premier Division
Oban Saints 1
Thorn Athletic 1

SAINTS played host to Thorn Athletic at Glencruitten last Saturday and the Oban side will be wondering why they didn't pick up all three points in a game they dominated for long spells.

The home team had what looked like a perfectly good goal chalked off in the first minute.

Ross Maitland and Craig MacEwan combined to set up Donald Campbell whose cross into the box found the unmarked Asen Gayardzhiev who tapped

the ball home, but to everybody's amazement referee Gary Stephen blew for offside.

One minute later Saints found themselves a goal behind when Ryan Campbell failed to head clear and the ball fell to Gary Wilson who shot through a ruck of players past keeper Graham Douglas.

Offside

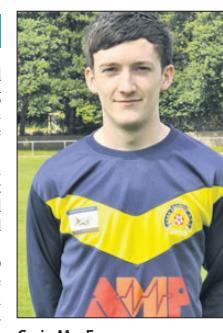
Saints came storming back into the game and Asen had the ball in the net, but this time it was rightly chalked off for offside.

The home team dominated the second half and created several good chances before they even-

tually equalised when Donald Campbell crossed for Craig MacEwan who buried the ball past Liam McWilliams to make the score 1-1.

The home team were well on top, but the winner just would not come and it was a much relieved Thorn Athletic who celebrated at the end of 90 minutes.

This Saturday Saints travel to take on Castlemill in a league match. The game will be played at Peter Brownlie Park, Cambuslang, with a 2pm kick-off.



Craig MacEwan

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Weather

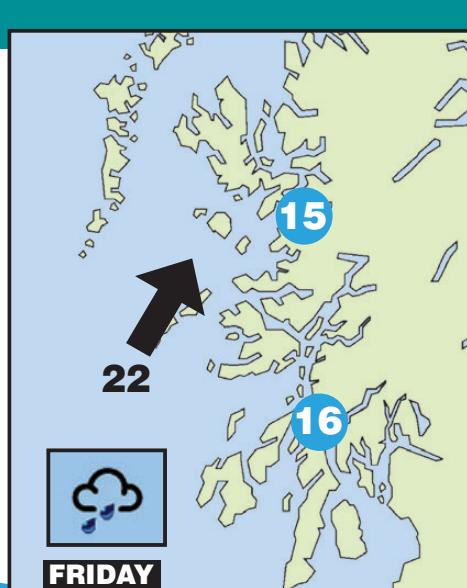
Thursday Sunny intervals.
Winds moderate west, south westerly
Temperatures 10°C to 14°C

Friday Heavy rain.
Winds moderate south, south westerly
Temperatures 14°C to 17°C.

Weekend Outlook Heavy rain showers.
Winds moderate southerly.
Temperatures 12°C to 16°C.

Ferry Crossings/Sea States
Oban to Barra/South Uist
Oban to Coll/Tiree
Kennacraig to Islay

Moderate
Moderate
Moderate



Tides

Tide tables for Oban during the week from

Thursday, September 8, 2011

are listed below with differences for major ports listed beneath.

All times are GMT (add one hour BST)

Date	am	pm
Thu	03.54	2.9
Fri	04.33	3.1
Sat	04.33	3.3
Sun	05.03	3.5
Mon	05.31	3.7
Tues	06.09	0.9
Wed	06.41	0.9

Date	am	pm
Thu	03.54	2.9
Fri	04.33	3.1
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Tues	06.09	0.9
Wed	06.41	0.9

Date	am	pm
Thu	03.54	2.9
Fri	04.33</	

The following pages are from the Fort William (Northern) Edition of The Oban Times.

The Oban Times prints two editions of the paper. There is the main edition as well as the Fort William (Northern) Edition.

Sometimes pages that appear in the Fort William edition do not appear in the main edition (and vice versa).

As an electronic subscriber you get the main edition plus the pages that appear in the Northern edition.

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- Fort firms provide treats at launch of Schiphol flight
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Accused denies stabbing man in neck

A MAN has denied leaving his alleged victim's life in danger after stabbing him on the neck in Kinlochleven.

Andrew Thomson, aged 27, of 426 Dyke Road, Knightswood, Glasgow, pled not guilty to assaulting the man by striking him on the neck with a knife to his injury, causing permanent disfigurement and endangerment of his life at 13 Glendale Street on February 5.

There are 14 people on the witness list for the trial, which is due to be held at Fort William Sheriff Court on November 7.

More talks on joint community hall in Onich

PROPOSALS to investigate building a new joint community hall in Onich will get a second airing at a public consultation meeting in Nether Lochaber Village Hall tonight.

The event follows an initial meeting on the issue in the nearby church hall on August 24, hosted jointly by representatives of the hall committee and Nether Lochaber Parish Church of Scotland.

Both organisations have plans to replace their own halls and are seeking local people's views on whether a single hall to serve the community would be practical and desirable.

Village hall committee chairperson Christine Cameron told *The Oban Times* there were likely to be 'a lot of questions' at tonight's meeting, which starts at 7.30pm.

'Now that we have started consultations, we want to keep going,' she said. 'We very much want the public to be involved in all discussions.'

A further meeting with church representatives, probably within the next month, was being sought, Ms Cameron said.

Cars vandalised

FOUR parked vehicles were vandalised in a Fort William Street over the weekend. The cars were all on Nairn Crescent, Upper Achintore, and were empty when they were scratched.

36>
9 771468 629072



Talented piper keeps hitting the right notes at Northern Meeting

TALENTED Roy Bridge piper Sandy Cameron continued his extraordinary summer of success when he won three trophies at the two-day Northern Meeting in Inverness last Friday.

Sandy, 14, who is from Inverlair, won the under-15 march, the under-18 piobaireachd and the under-18 aggregate competitions.

The youngster won three Drumnadrochit medals, the Pipe Major William Young Trophy, the Evan MacRae Trophy, the British Legion Plaid Brooch and the Pipe Major Angus MacDonald

Memorial Trophy. Sandy, who is tutored by Iain MacFadzean of Kyle, also won a Nicol Manson engraved chanter and Donald MacPhee needs.

Final six

Sandy also reached the final six in the under-22 category at the Argyllshire Gathering on August 25.

Seamus O'Baoighill from Sleat was second in the piobaireachd, while the day before Niall Stewart from Kyle won the Highland Society of London gold medal. 20 f36sandy01

MSPs back Mallaig ferry link campaign

MOVES to restore the ferry link between Mallaig and Lochboisdale have received a major boost after MSPs overwhelmingly backed the proposal in Edinburgh.

The Scottish Parliament's public petitions committee agreed their support after hearing presentations from a three-strong delegation from Lochaber and South Uist on Tuesday afternoon.

Caol and Mallaig councillor Allan Henderson, Stòras Uibhist chairman Angus MacMillan and SU chief executive Huw Francis argued a revived link would boost economic activity at both ports and substantially cut journey times.

Multi-million pound plans to upgrade Lochboisdale harbour,

By STEPHEN NORRIS
snorris@obantimes.co.uk

improvements to the A830 Fort William to Mallaig road and increased leisure and industrial activity at Mallaig port added weight to their call for the route to be re-started.

The service was axed in 2001, after a stop-start history dominated by the emergence of Oban as the main port to the southern Outer Isles. Demands for sailings from Lochaber to South Uist to resume have been made ever since.

According to Councillor Henderson, to win the backing of a Scottish Parliament committee represents a major step forward.

He told *The Oban Times*: 'I am convinced that this is an idea whose time has come. It clearly has great advantages for the Mallaig area in bringing vessels into the port

and for freight traffic in cutting sea journey times to three and a half hours.

'The Mallaig road is now an excellent route and Mallaig has good port facilities. We have all the ingredients there for people to use the ferry.'

'The committee agreed to write to the Scottish Government to continue this petition, and to confirm that the reintroduction of the direct service between Mallaig and Lochboisdale is being considered as part of the Scottish Ferries review. We are also asking for a timescale for the publication of the draft ferries plan.'

The hearing came after an e-petition on reintroducing the ferry link attracted 818 signatures.

Group's online bid to attract Gaelic teacher

LOCHABER High School head teacher Jim Sutherland has welcomed moves by a Lochaber community group to encourage applications for the vacant Gaelic teacher's post at the school.

Iomaire Ghàidhlig Loch Abair (Lochaber Gaelic Initiative) has set up a new website, www.tidsear-lochabair.org, an information portal on all aspects of life in Lochaber for those considering Gaelic jobs in the area, particularly teaching.

Its home page states: 'Lochaber is a great place to live and work and a great place to be involved in Gaelic. There is a real enthusiasm to promote the language and an active scene, which supports those involved in teaching.'

The move follows news that Lochaber High School's sole Gaelic teacher will start a new job at Portree High on September 16.

Mr Sutherland told *The Oban Times*: 'I was unaware of this development until you told me about it. I am grateful for any help that anybody can give to attract Gaelic teaching staff to the school.'

Applications for the post, which is currently being advertised by Highland Council, close tomorrow (Friday). Domhnall Morris of Comunn na Gàidhlig said: 'The iomaire is hoping to support Highland Council in attracting candidates for the position and is able to assist with sourcing accommodation.'

Lochaber has a great tradition supporting Gaelic and the various groups in the area have come together to support Highland Council in attracting a new Gaelic teacher to the area. The successful candidate will be well supported by an active group of parents and organisations.'



Ciaran Ross and Peter Logie of Clic Sargent get a bird's eye view of the abseil route down the college's accommodation block.

Skye couple support CLIC abseil

AN ISLE OF Skye couple are backing a CLIC Sargent fundraising abseil at Sabhal Mòr Ostaig, the Gaelic college in Sleat, after the charity helped them during their son's battle with leukaemia.

Margaret and Neil Ross, from Snizort, hope the October 22 event – a public abseil down the seven-storey accommodation tower – will raise vital cash for the charity.

Their son Ciaran, aged nine, was diagnosed with acute lymphoblastic leukaemia in May 2008 and spent nearly a year in hospital in Glasgow at the Royal Hospital for Sick Children in Glasgow.

Margaret stayed close by in a NHS Highland flat after

spending six weeks in CLIC Sargent's Home from Home accommodation.

Neil would drive the five hours down from Skye on Fridays after work to spend the weekend.

Ciaran has been back at school since June 2009 and attends the children's oncology clinic regularly at Raigmore Hospital, Inverness.

The family is supported by a CLIC Sargent social worker and nurse, and have holidayed at the charity's holiday house in Prestwick.

The abseil will be open to those over the age of 16 and 18 stone and under.'

Pipers and cheerleaders are expected on the day to support those taking part.

To register, contact Peter Logie on 01463 713080, at peter.logie@clicsargent.org.uk or text 'abseil' to 07889 119147.

fundraiser Peter Logie said the experiences of Ciaran's family were 'pretty typical' of those affected by cancer while living in a remote location.

Urging people from across the West Highlands to take the plunge, he said: 'By taking on this challenge, folk can really help us make a difference to families like Ciaran's.'

'The abseil will be open to those over the age of 16 and 18 stone and under.'

Pipers and cheerleaders are expected on the day to support those taking part.

To register, contact Peter Logie on 01463 713080, at peter.logie@clicsargent.org.uk or text 'abseil' to 07889 119147.

Plans agreed for Claggan Park stands

PLANS for two new stands at Claggan Park were agreed on Tuesday night at a Fort William FC committee meeting.

The project, funded by Claggan Park owners Highland Council, is understood to be costing around £125,000.

The structures will be built across the pitch from the existing stand and will accommodate 63 spectators each.

The nine-metre stands will be built on either end of a concrete pad, with a similar-sized space in between for a third stand if funding becomes available. The home and away dugouts will fill the gap between the new all-seated enclosures meantime.

Fort FC chairman John Watsman said the new stands would bring spectators much closer to the action. 'People coming from other clubs will see the progress being made at Claggan,' he said.

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Wealth of high school 'Lochaber Gold' talent takes to festival stage

SOME of the most illustrious musical talent to pass through Lochaber High School will come together for a one-off concert in Fort William next Friday evening as part of Blas 2011.

The star-studded cast for 'Lochaber Gold' at the Nevis Centre includes Gary Innes, Kaela Rowan, Ewen Henderson, Annie Grace and James Mackintosh, with a special performance from the Lochaber High School Pipe Band.

As well as the music, some of Lochaber High School's famous former pupils will take to the stage to talk about their time growing up in the area, such as Charles Kennedy MP, Donald Park, Catherine MacLeod and Duncan Shearer.

Former LHS pupils Gary Innes and Hugh Dan MacLennan will be hosting the night, and Gary told *The Oban Times* the concert would be 'light-hearted and good fun'.

He said: 'It's a chance to celebrate all the wonderful

music and people who have come out of Lochaber. All the music will be songs written by Lochaber people or about Lochaber.'

'In between songs former pupils will come up on stage and have a blether with Hugh, chat about their time growing up in the area and what they've gone on to do.'

'The idea for it came off the back of last year's 50th anniversary celebrations for the school, and we can celebrate all the things that are good about the school.'

Fergie MacDonald will break out his accordion for his first public performance since undergoing a heart bypass earlier this year. Another special performance will come from fiddler Angus Grant, who turns 80 two days before the concert and taught many of the younger musicians who are taking part.

Tickets for Lochaber Gold are still available from the Nevis Centre or www.blas-festival.com.



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TV spotlight on Raigmore maternity unit

A SERIES about the maternity unit in Raigmore Hospital is among the programmes featuring on Gaelic TV channel BBC ALBA over the autumn.

Entitled 'Midwives: Mnathan-Gluine', the five-part series charts the highs and lows of life in the busy maternity ward.

The first episode will be broadcast on Friday, September 23, at 8.30pm.

Blue shark found washed up on beach

A SIX-FOOT blue shark has been found washed up on an Isle of Lewis beach.

An RSPB Scotland conservation officer came across the pregnant female at Barvas on the island's Atlantic seaboard.

The find comes as the Shark Conservation Society prepares for a two-week survey of all sharks off the Hebrides – possibly including great whites – on September 16.

The blue shark can range from Norway to South Africa.

Skye businesses in running for food and drink awards

ISLE OF Skye businesses figure prominently among the nominees for 2011 Highlands and Islands Food and Drink Awards, which were announced on Tuesday.

The Red Roof Café Gallery in Glendale has been shortlisted for three categories - best use of local food and drink, the environment award and the business award.

Creelers of Skye, in Broadford, is also a contender for the best use of local food and drink, while the Isle of Skye Brewing Company is nominated for the innovation award.

South Uist salmon smokers Loch Duart Limited are shortlisted in the new product category.

Swimmers set to brave Loch Linnhe

ENTRIES are being taken for the annual Loch Linnhe Swim on Sunday, September 18.

The event, which sees hardy individuals swim across the loch to Fort William, gets underway when seniors aged 16 and over take to the water at Tresraig at 9.30am.

The juniors aged 12-16 will swim from the spit at Seafield Gardens along the shore to Lochaber Yacht Club at 10.30am.

For more details and an entry form, email moragswims@btinternet.com.

Show attracts record number of handicraft entries

ENTRIES for the handicraft section at Lochaber Show were up 20 per cent to a record 1,092 across 114 classes, organisers report.

Chairman Paolo Berardelli said it was 'particularly pleasing' for the handicraft committee that children's entries did especially well.

He said: 'This is more proof that the policy of allowing free entry for children over the last two years has encouraged children to attend the show and take part.'

The 2011 show has a kids' tent for the first time, with educational stalls from the Wool Board, Lochaber Beekeepers, Scouts, Highland Council rangers and Lochaber Rural Education Trust.

Mr Berardelli added: 'We are committed to building on this year's success to ensure the future of this important local event.'

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Ruaridh Shaw and Laura Davis - Lochaber Schools Pipe Band winners.

Prizewinning young pipers celebrate

LOCHABER High School head teacher Jim Sutherland presented two young pipers with trophies following Lochaber Schools Pipe Band's final parade of the summer in Fort William High Street last week.

S1 pupil Ruaridh Shaw, who was still in primary school when he started playing with the band, won the cup for best newcomer as the most improved piper or drummer.

Laura Davis of S6 won the June Standen

Memorial Shield for the best turned-out piper or drummer of the season. Laura, also a talented singer, rugby player and accordionist, has been playing the tenor drum with the band for two years.

The pipe band performs every Tuesday and Thursday evening from mid June until the end of August, with just a two-week break at the beginning of the school holidays.

The youngsters are a self-funding group,

and the street concerts have been the band's main source of income for almost 40 years.

The band has been invited to perform at the Lochaber Gold concert on Friday September 16 at the Nevis Centre as part of the Blas Festival. The concert, part of the 50th anniversary celebrations of Lochaber High School, celebrates the achievements of former pupils and some of the best musicians to have come out of Lochaber.



Provost of Lochaber Allan Henderson, front, and wife Sandra, right, celebrate the opening of the new Shopmobility Lochaber premises with staff, volunteers and service users.

New Lochaber Shopmobility office

A SERVICE to help people in Lochaber with mobility problems access local shops has moved into a new base at Fort William bus station.

The new portable office will allow

Shopmobility Lochaber to better cater for its ever-expanding client list. The £25,000 premises are bigger than the former base and have storage for wheelchairs, power-chairs and electric ride-on scooters.

Provost of Lochaber, Councillor Allan Henderson and wife Sandra opened the new office. Provost Henderson said: 'It is a fantastic service for anybody with any kind of mobility problems.'

Artificial reef set to boost Lochaber diving industry

Lochaline centre to sink former Navy warship

THE DIVING industry in south Lochaber is set for a boost with a local centre set to create an artificial reef by sinking an ex-Royal Navy warship in the Sound of Mull.

Lochaline Dive Centre is behind a plan to submerge a British Naval Destroyer into the water to provide a new underwater tourist attraction.

The sunken vessel will attract marine wildlife and encourage coral to grow. A new

organisation, Sound of Mull Artificial Reef Trust (SMART), has been set up to take forward the community tourism project and to study the feasibility of three potential sites for the reef.

The venture will receive £35,000 of funding from Highlands and Islands Enterprise (HIE).

Artificial reefs have been created in a number of locations across the world including Australia and Canada, but the

Lochaline reef will be the first of its kind in Scotland and only the second in Europe.

SMART said the project had been partly inspired by the environmental and economic success of HMS *Scylla*, which was submerged near Plymouth in 2004.

A spokesperson said: 'This could bring similar benefits to the west coast of Scotland and the Highlands and Islands.'

Residents increasingly satisfied with council services

HIGHLAND residents are increasingly satisfied with council services, according to a report going before councillors in Inverness today.

The findings summarise 1,153 Citizens' Panel members' responses to the council's annual performance survey published earlier this year. The panel acts as the council's reference group on how well it is serving the public. The report to the full Highland Council meeting states:

85 per cent of respondents are satisfied with council services - the highest score in nine

years – and 38 out of 41 council areas surveyed have more people satisfied than dissatisfied with them.

10 services now show net satisfaction of over 70 per cent - libraries, service points, walking routes, payment of council tax, public parks and open spaces, registrars, museums, refuse collection, sports facilities and the countryside ranger service.

On-line contact with the council is now 19 per cent – compared with six per cent in 2007.

Fewer people made a complaint - 14.5 per cent compared with 18.5 per cent the previous year.

Top five most important services are, in order - roads repairs and potholes; winter road maintenance; refuse/bin collection; recycling facilities and primary education.

Over half of all respondents list speeding cars, dog fouling, littering, alcohol misuse, vandalism and anti-social behaviour by young people as their top community safety concerns.

Commando Memorial to be extended

THE COMMANDO Memorial at Spean Bridge is likely to be extended to cope with the number of visitors flocking to the site to pay homage to fallen soldiers.

Highland Council, which owns and maintains the memorial to World War II commando soldiers who trained in Lochaber, was alerted to the problem by the Commando Veterans Association.

They say the large number of tributes being laid and ashes being scattered in the memorial garden means the site needs to be expanded. The garden also pays tribute to soldiers killed in more recent conflicts, including Afghanistan and Iraq.

Councillors will consider a report from council officials which recommends the

Gleylag goose shooting season opens on Outer Isles

THE SHOOTING season on Gleylag geese in the Outer Isles opened last Thursday, giving crofters the chance to control their numbers.

There is no limit to the number of birds that can be shot by individual crofters and no game licence is required.



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Trust hands out first quarry cash

Pontoons, games and gala week plus woodlands benefit from windfall

MORVERN Community Trust (MCT) has made the first investments from the £300,000 cash windfall the community has been given as part of a deal with the owners of the Glensanda quarry.

Morvern was one of two areas to gain from a community benefit fund set up as part of a deal between Highland Council and Aggregate Industries for the construction materials group to expand the quarry from 303 acres to 509 acres.

Ardgour will also benefit, with each community being given annual instalments of £25,000 over the next 12 years.

Morvern Community Trust (MCT) was set up to distribute the money and earlier this year held its first public meeting to discuss how to invest the cash. MCT decided to put £5,000

about funding three or four times a year, but it depends on how many applications we receive.

We want to invest in things that will benefit the community.'

Dr Taylor said: 'We are keen to ensure that Morvern's natural resources are optimised and will look favourably on developments which maintain the rich variety of wildlife, our ability to grow wood, our river and inshore fisheries, our terrestrial and marine historic heritage.'

Residents in Ardgour are currently in the process of setting up a community trust and will start receiving instalments once the group is in place.

Glensanda Quarry is one of the largest in Europe and produces more than 7,000,000 tonnes of granite aggregates for the construction industry every year.

Man sentenced to 80 days for threatening to bite police officer

A MAN who threatened to bite off the face of a policeman after being found drunk and asleep on a path at the Corran Ferry has been jailed for 80 days.

Appearing from custody, Stephen Christie, of 41 Kintore Tower, Cambuslang, pled guilty to behaving in a threatening or abusive manner by acting aggressively and threatening violence upon two police officers on the A82 at Corran.

The incident occurred at around 7am on August 30.

Procurator Fiscal Simon Crabb told Fort William Sheriff Court police had been called after members of the public saw Christie, aged 37, asleep on a path by the road.

When officers arrived and woke Christie he quickly became 'aggressive and agitated.'

'There comes a time when the patience of the court runs out.'

Newsdesk 01397 703003

Shotgun threat man spared jail term

A FORT William man who drunkenly threatened to shoot police officers and bouncers with a shotgun has narrowly avoided jail.

During the incidents, Brian MacDonald compared himself to Raoul Moat, the man who shot three people in Cumbria last year.

MacDonald, aged 40, got into an altercation with bouncers after being thrown out of the Ben Nevis Bar for being too drunk.

He said to them 'I'm Raoul Moat and I've got a shotgun, I've got a hit list and you're both on it.'

He later made similar threats to two police constables outside the Maryburgh Inn.

MacDonald, of 4 Glen Nevis Place, pled guilty to two charges of behaving in a threatening or abusive manner. He admitted repeatedly shouting and swearing at door stewards and threatening to shoot them with a shotgun on August 4.

Sheriff Douglas Small ordered MacDonald to carry out 160 unpaid work, to attend alcohol counselling and banned him from entering any licensed premises in the town.

Sheriff Small said: 'Your threats caused considerable alarm.'

'I have been told you do not own a shotgun but those people didn't know that.'

'I could have imposed a custodial sentence but I think it is better for you to be given the chance to tackle your alcohol addiction.'



Lochaline Dive Centre plans to submerge warship in the Sound of Mull. Photo courtesy of Iain Thorburn.

WITH NEW TRANSLATION BY RORY BREMNER



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Archery club on target with plans for new course

KINLOCHLEVEN-based South Lochaber Bowmen are pressing ahead with plans to open a new field archery course after securing funding from Highland Council's ward discretionary budget.

The course, situated on Forestry Commission land in Brecklett, Ballachulish, has been created by dedicated volunteers and should soon be operational.

The Scottish Field Archery Association (SFAA) and Forestry Commission approved the plans, and provided advice to ensure the course meets stringent safety standards.

The SFAA have also hinted future competitions could soon be staged at Brecklett, which could bring a financial boost to both the club and the local area.

The club will hold an open public meeting at Ballachulish Tourist Information Centre on Thursday, September 15

at 6.30pm to give a short presentation on the Brecklett course and will be happy to answer any questions.

Meanwhile, the club is also staging family nights in Lochaber High School sports hall every Wednesday evening.

The sessions will continue for the next month and coaches welcome all newcomers, although children must be accompanied by a keen adult.

About 25 people tried out the sport at the first session.

South Lochaber Bowmen was set up only last year, but already boasts about 60 cub, junior and adult members in Kinlochleven.

Children (minimum age eight) can attend an indoor session at The Leven Centre between 6.30pm to 7.30pm on Monday evenings.

There is also an indoor session held for adults on a Tuesday evening between 7pm to 9pm.

New talks in fight to keep nurses

WEST Ardnamurchan representatives will meet again with NHS Highland and the Scottish Ambulance Service on Tuesday as their fight to retain 24-hour emergency district nursing cover continues.

The parties will meet in private in Kilchoan on Tuesday evening, with a public meeting to follow.

After a meeting last month ended in stalemate, angry locals expressed their concern that no 'realistic ideas' had so far been made.

West Ardnamurchan Community Council chair Rosie

Curtis said: 'We're demanding that they come up with concrete, workable and realistic ideas that the community can live with.'

SAS said they will have 'detailed proposals' to discuss with the community at the meeting.

NHS Highland announced the decision to withdraw the existing district nursing cover last December, saying it was 'neither safe nor sustainable'.

But following a determined campaign from the public, they agreed to postpone the decision for a year while talks took place.



55/6 donned fancy dress for the annual school hike last Friday.

High school pupils brighten up annual fundraising hike

LOCHABER High School's annual hike last Friday once again proved a colourful affair as 55/6 donned fancy dress to lead the whole school on a walk up to the

Rural Complex at Torlundy and back. Sponsor money pledged so far in aid of school funds totals £9,140. Ten per cent will be donated to Macmillan Cancer

Care with the remainder being used to support extra-curricular activities in the school. The hike was organised by deputy head teacher Donald MacLean

Thanks also go to Forestry Commission Scotland and Isabel and Linda Campbell of the Rural Complex. More than 700 pupils took part in the event.

Heart surgery spurs Sean on

AN ISLE OF Rum man who underwent a heart bypass operation tackled a gruelling charity hill walk on the island's nature reserve last week.

Sean Morris, 43, and fellow islander Neil Boyd, 21, climbed the Rum Cuillin ridge, summiting the five peaks of Hallival, Askival, Trollaval, Ainsival and Sgurr na Gillean to raise money for the British Heart Foundation (BHF).

But following a determined campaign from the public, they agreed to postpone the decision for a year while talks took place.

pains. Following tests which showed he had coronary heart disease at the age of just 42, Sean was operated on at Aberdeen Royal Infirmary.

The recovery went so well that he was able to return to his physically demanding job for Scottish Natural Heritage (SNH), carrying out practical management and monitoring the island's wildlife.

Sean, who has lived and worked on Rum for more than 10 years, said: 'Neil and I managed to complete the 14-mile section on Wednesday.'

'I wanted to do this charity walk to pay tribute to the skill

and care of the surgeons, nurses and doctors before and after my operation, which meant I am able to lead a normal and active life with my wife and two-year-old daughter once again.'

'I was keen to give something back by raising money for the British Heart Foundation (BHF) to help their research into heart conditions.'

'I would also like to pay tribute to the support they give to heart patients and their families and this was also a good way of making people more aware of the health benefits of visiting Scotland's national nature reserves.'



Back to full fitness: Sean Morris takes a well-deserved rest with daughter Eve after his charity hike.

Councillors want users' group to consider pitch concerns

LOCHABER councillors gathered in Fort William last Monday at their regular business meeting to discuss and decide on local issues.

Present were councillors Donald Cameron, Bill Clark, Bren Gormley, Allan Henderson, Eddie Hunter and Brian Murphy. Councillor Michael Foxley gave his apologies.

Items included:

□ Claggan Park: Members were made aware of concerns that had arisen over the maintenance of the pitch at Claggan Park. It was agreed that the proper forum for these concerns was the pitch users'

meeting and that the issue should be raised there.

□ Complaint about Fort William town centre: Members considered correspondence expressing concerns about litter in the High Street. TECS have changed arrangements to ensure a street sweeper is in the High Street most mornings. In addition, work has been carried out with the litter enforcement officer and more visits are planned.

□ Fun Fair at An Aird: Members agreed that the fun fair could be situated at An Aird in September.

□ Achintore Gardens lighting: Members were informed of various lighting options for Achintore Gardens and it was agreed that an evening site meeting would be held to look at the options in situ.

□ Lochaber Hope: Members were updated about the activities of Lochaber Hope, which offers counselling and mentoring services as well as offering help for employees through the Employment Assisted Programme.

□ Invernevis refurbishment update: Members were updated about the Invernevis refurbishment

programme. First phase tenders are due to be returned next week – this will include main entrance door, full upgrade of the kitchen and an assisted bathroom on the first floor.

□ Caol Community Centre update: It was agreed that a meeting should be held with the Steering Group to determine the community's final views before the issue is reported to Resources Committee in October.

□ Pubwatch application: Members agreed to release a further £300 to Pubwatch for the creation of a website.



New area commander: Chief Inspector David Bushell

Community policing high on the agenda of new area commander

CHIEF Inspector David Bushell took over as the new area commander for Lochaber, Skye and Lochalsh last week.

He replaces previous area commander, Chief Inspector John Chisholm, who was promoted to superintendent and is now the North Division commander, based in Wick.

CI Bushell, originally from

northeast England, was previously area commander for the Shetland Isles. He has three children and enjoys outdoor sports including sailing, walking and cycling.

He said: 'I am very much looking forward to working in the Lochaber, Skye and Lochalsh area. I firmly believe in community policing which involves police being approachable, visible and responsive

to communities' needs. With the support of the public the policing here has been very effective with low crime levels and high detection rates.'

'It is one of the safest places to live, visit and work in the UK and I aim to ensure this continues.'

'I look forward to meeting and working with the people in the area.'

Police to carry out speed survey in Ballachulish

POLICE speed surveys are to be carried out in Ballachulish to discover if drivers are driving too fast through the village.

Local residents have complained about the speeds some vehicles travel on Albert Road.

Northern Constabulary's survey will measure the speed of every vehicle driving on the street to find out how many people are exceeding the 30mph speed limit.

If the average speed is too high, police will consider reducing the limit to 20mph or putting speed bumps in place.

Youngsters team up for construction challenge

PRIMARY seven pupils from the Fort William area will team up with senior pupils from Lochaber High School to take part in a construction competition.

'Bridging the Gap', jointly run by Active Schools and Construction Skills, will see secondary pupils 'buddying up' with the youngsters from Upper Achintore, Caol and Banavie primaries.

The groups will learn about the construction industry before being set the task of designing and building a small bridge. Gold, silver and bronze medals will be handed out to the winners at the end of the day.

The competition will be held on Tuesday and aims to teach the children new skills as well as being part of their transition to the High School next year.

Lochaber Street League kicks off

THE REARRANGED Lochaber Street League tournament will be held at the BA Club at 9am this Saturday.

Any youngsters aged between eight and 16 from across Lochaber are welcome to attend the seven-a-side football tournament with teams being created on the day.

The tournament was originally due to be played at Claggan Park last month but heavy rain left the pitch unplayable and the children disappointed.

The street league has been running throughout the summer offering match experience and coaching advice for keen young footballers.

Clarification

THE OBAN Times would like to clarify the Kinlochleven resident quoted in the article 'Councillors' toilet row' last week was Jayne Morrison, not Jayne Wilkinson as was reported.

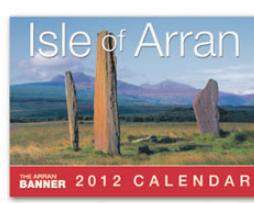
Ladies invited to rural trust centre

THE FIRST ladies meeting for the autumn and winter season of events at Lochaber Rural Education Trust centre at An Clachan, Torlundy, will be held on September 13.

The evening includes cookery demonstrations and tasting with 'The Pampered Chef' and includes supper.

The event is open to all ladies and booking is required with Linda on 01397 703819.

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Grow-your-own project praised

A GOVERNMENT minister has highlighted a Lochaber allotments project as an example of how rural communities can tap into funding.

Rural Affairs Secretary Richard Lochhead praised the Sunny Lochaber United Gardeners (SLUG) grow-your-own initiative at Plantation, in Fort William, when he attended the launch of the Scottish LEADER guide in Inverness last week.

The brochure lists 60 projects, including SLUG, which have used LEADER funding to help them get started. SLUG were awarded £65,000 for equipment, sheds, soil and other costs.

Mr Lochhead said: 'Rural Scotland's greatest asset is its people who are often best placed to know what their communities need and it is this grass roots knowledge which LEADER nurtures and supports.'

The issue was raised at a ward forum meeting at Astley Hall in the village last week.

Possible solutions to the problem include increasing the size of public bins and improving the village's recycling facilities. The possibility of introducing a solar-powered compacting bin was also mentioned.

Two representatives from Highland Council's waste management team said they would look into the matter.



VisitScotland regional director Scott Armstrong, Loch Sheil Cruises owner Jim Michie and project director at Outdoor Capital of the UK Frazer Coupland take in the sights at Glenfinnan on a Loch Sheil cruise.

Outdoor capital's £25,000 boost

A TOURISM promotion group comprising more than 100 Lochaber businesses has landed a £25,000 cash boost from a new VisitScotland fund.

Outdoor Capital of the UK will use the Active Growth Fund cash to help raise Lochaber's profile as a top destination for people seeking short breaks. The money will go towards brand development, social media initiatives and a PR campaign targeting Scotland and the north of England.

The group will also send representatives to next month's Adventure Travel World summit in Mexico to showcase Lochaber to hundreds of travel journalists from around the world.

OCUK, which includes a wide range of activity providers as well as hotels, B&Bs and holiday cottages, was one of the first groups to benefit from the fund.

OCUK project director, Frazer Coupland, said: 'Lochaber is a fantastic place to get active outdoors. This VisitScotland Active Growth Fund award will help us to promote our wide-ranging activities and accommodation and will further cement our reputation as the Outdoor Capital of the UK.'

VisitScotland regional director Scott Armstrong said: 'VisitScotland is delighted to be able to help Outdoor Capital of the UK to market all the fantastic things that this region has to offer.'

Police files

A HOLIDAY cottage near the A82 at Glenfintaig, north of Spean Bridge, was broken into and had windows smashed on Saturday, September 3, between 1.30pm and 6.30pm.



A BUILDING site on Kilmallie Road, Caol was entered sometime between 5.30pm on Wednesday, August 24, and 8am on Thursday, August 25. The wire fencing was cut and building materials from a property currently under construction were removed.

The site was entered again and damage caused to a portakabin overnight between September 1 and 2.

Anyone with knowledge of these incidents is asked to contact Fort William Police Station on 01397 702361 or the confidential line on 01397 702000.

Members of the public may also report any crime, offence or anything suspicious by phoning Crimestoppers on 0800 555111.

Sea cadets are all ship shape

LOCHABER Sea Cadets are celebrating after winning an efficiency pennant for the fourth year in a row.

The award recognises the high standards the unit achieved in the last 12 months.

The unit has been set new goals for the next year, including getting the cadets higher qualifications and increasing boating activities.

New Gaelic and English dictionary launched

A NEW Gaelic and English dictionary covering the professional language of local government and business has been launched on the Comhairle nan Eilean Siar (Western Isles Council) website.

Containing more than 7,500 headwords, the new dictionary has been produced by the European Language Initiative (ELI) with CnES and Highland Council.

The dictionary can be accessed at www.cne-siar.gov.uk/gaelic/dictionary.asp.

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**Medals galore for young rollerskaters**

LOCHABER Artistic Rollerskating Club has scooped an impressive haul of medals at one of the sport's biggest UK competitions - the Tyne Tees Tournament in Newcastle.

The youngsters bagged a staggering four golds, 13 silvers and 16 bronzes making

coaches Frieda Alexander and Penny Laird, and Frieda's committee extremely proud of their efforts.

The club has been promoting artistic rollerskating for 25 years and boasts a membership aged from two upwards.

Sessions are held at the Nevis Centre from noon on Sundays. Everybody is welcome and some skates are available for hire.

Above, Frieda and Penny celebrate the medal success with their proud team members.

Hospital makes the grade in inspection

NHS HIGHLAND has welcomed a positive inspectors' report on Mackinnon Memorial Hospital in Broadford.

The Healthcare Environment Inspectorate (HEI) ran the rule over the hospital during a pre-arranged two-day visit in July and found it well maintained with 'very good' overall standards of cleanliness.

Improve

Alison Hudson, lead nurse for Mid Highland community health partnership, said work to further improve procedures at Broadford was already underway.

Staff, according to the findings, understood their responsibilities regarding prevention and control of infection and maintained good communication with managers and the infection prevention and

control team. The report comes as NHS Highland embarks on a series of rigorous hospital inspections in response to public concern about healthcare associated infections.

Improve

Liz McClurg of NHS Highland said: 'The Inspectorate report shows that staff are engaging well with the prevention and control of healthcare associated infection (HAI).

'I can assure the public that NHS Highland will continue to strive to ensure that all of the hospitals across Highland reach and maintain the Inspectorate's required high standards.'

In the future, but I have every confidence that the team will be able to demonstrate further improvement in standards on an ongoing basis.'

A FORT William woman who badly scratched her ex-boyfriend's car has been ordered to attend anger management classes and pay £700 compensation.

Jodie Smith, of 32 Grange Road, pled guilty to wilfully or recklessly damaging the property of another by scratching the paintwork

of the car outside Lochside Apartments on Achintore Road on August 3. Fort William Sheriff Court heard Smith had been at her ex-partner's house when they got into an argument.

The 31-year-old left the house and the pair continued to argue as he stood on his balcony.

She then walked round the car scratching all four sides with an unidentified object.

Woman scratched boyfriend's car

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The soundscape is part of a day-long festival of activities and events around the harbour produced by new Skye and Lochalsh arts organisation Atlas Arts.

Contemporary designer craft exhibitions, film screenings,

dance performances, coracle-making workshops, coastal walks to Scorrybreac, water vessel races and broadcasting and sailing workshops will be ongoing during the broadcast.

Isle of Skye Pipe Band will play at the harbour at 5pm, while an auction of crocheted and knitted fish will be held in aid of Portree RNLI. Hundreds

of crocheted fish have been submitted – including 12 from an 84 year-old blind woman.

Atlas Arts co-ordinator Rosie Somerville told *The Oban Times*: 'Visually, whatever the weather, the *Celeste* is going to be stunning and unusual and something that people have not seen before. Has anybody actually seen a mirrored boat?'

'Pirate' radio boat lights up the airwaves

Mirrored yacht sails into Portree

By STEPHEN NORRIS
snorris@obantimes.co.uk

A 'PIRATE' radio boat will sail into Portree as the centrepiece for the Year of Scotland's Islands flagship event Bata Bréaga (Bonnie Boat) on Saturday morning.

The *Celeste*, a glittering yacht covered with 60,000 mirror tiles, will be escorted into port by a flotilla from Skye Sailing Club at 11am.

The premiere of Celestial Skye, a collection of stories, sounds, music and poetry recorded on the island, will be broadcast on the ship's Celestial Radio as a loop from 1pm until midnight on 87.7FM – a frequency only available four miles from the vessel.



'Pirate' radio boat the *Celeste* will be broadcasting from Portree harbour on Saturday.

Local radio station Cuillin FM will also carry broadcasts through the day so people can listen to the soundscape while walking anywhere on Skye.

Artists Zoe Walker and Neil Bromwich produced Celestial Skye from material collected from skippers, musicians, fishermen and poets from Skye and neighbouring islands Raasay and Rona.

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Man denies carrying out violent attack

A CORPACH man has denied carrying out a violent attack on a woman in her home.

Appearing at Fort William Sheriff Court from custody, John MacLellan, of 29 Clerk Drive, pled not guilty to assaulting the woman by repeatedly seizing her by the throat and body, compressing her throat, twisting her arms and forcing them up her back and pouring a bottle of wine over her, all to

her injury. The 23-year-old also denies repeatedly shouting and swearing, acting aggressively, preventing the woman from leaving the house and taking her phone and throwing it against the wall.

The alleged incidents happened at 7 Drumfad Terrace, Corpach on August 14 and 15. MacLellan was remanded in custody until the trial, which is due to be held on September 16.

Beinneun Windfarm

Opportunity for community participation



Background

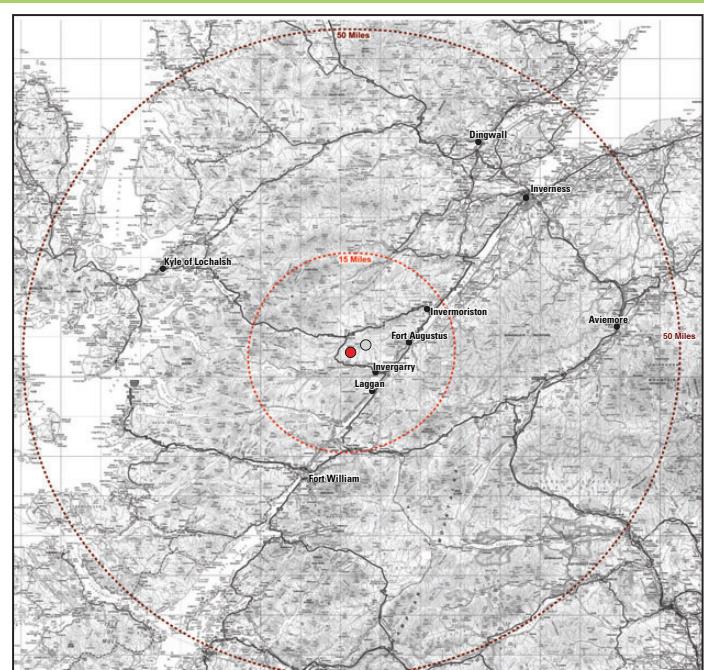
- RidgeWind, one of the UK's leading independent wind farm developers, has been investigating the potential for a wind farm at Beinneun (location shown overleaf) since early 2009
- RidgeWind believes that a wind farm at Beinneun has good potential to be consented and built, not least because it is adjacent to the Millennium Wind Farm, which has been operating since 2008
- A layout for the site has been developed comprising 25 turbines
- RidgeWind has agreed to help the community to form, and will continue to support, a co-operative, principally comprising local individuals and organisations
- The purpose of the co-operative is to promote and provide projects relating to renewable energy and to provide financial and other support to the development of the proposed Beinneun Wind Farm, with a view to ensuring that the local community secures the benefits that an operational wind farm at Beinneun would bring

Opportunity to Participate

- To support its objectives, the co-operative is seeking to raise between £100,000 and £200,000, which it would contribute towards the costs of the planning process for the proposed wind farm
- If planning consent and a connection to the electricity network are obtained, the co-operative would be awarded an uplift of 50% on its contribution (ie £1.50 return for a £1 investment)
 - Potential for co-operative to keep some or all of its monies invested in the project from that point, and earn interest thereon
 - Only half of the co-operative's contribution will be returned if planning consent and network connection not obtained
- Opportunity for community participation, through subscription for shares in the co-operative
- Priority will be given to local individuals and organisations
- Minimum subscription £250, maximum £13,300

If you are interested in receiving more information, please register your interest at the contact details set out below.

An offer document, which will contain full details of the terms of the share offer, is expected to be available in late-August 2011, with the offer period likely to close in late-September 2011.

Location and scope

Intention would be to prioritise applications for subscription on the basis of proximity to the proposed site.

First Priority: 15 mile radius

Second priority: 50 mile radius

- Proposed Beinneun Wind Farm
- Existing Millennium Wind Farm

The content of this document has been prepared by RidgeWind Limited and approved for the purposes of section 21 of the Financial Services and Markets Act 2000 by Inverleith Capital LLP which is authorised and regulated by the Financial Services Authority (FSA registration number 520669).

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Reliance on this document for the purpose of engaging in investment activity may expose an individual to a significant risk of losing all of the property or other assets invested.

Any recipient of this document who is in any doubt about the investment to which this document relates should consult a person who is authorised and regulated by the Financial Services Authority and specialises in advising on investments of the kind in question.

It is intended that further information, including an offer document, will be published in due course in respect of the opportunity to subscribe for shares in the co-operative established to promote and support the development of the Beinneun Windfarm.

FW

Police dive in to pull man from bay

FOUR police officers have been praised for their quick actions in pulling a teenager from deep water in Oban Bay.

Members of the public alerted the officers to the 18-year-old man, who was in the water about 50 metres from the Railway Pier at 1.45am on Sunday.

The coastguard was contacted and constables Darryl Burnside and Joel Edwards swam out to help the man. PCs Andy Barron and Mark O'Donnell pulled him onto a nearby fishing boat before Oban Lifeboat took him to a waiting ambulance.

The casualty was treated at Lorn and Islands Hospital.

Hospital ward**merger completed**

THE FORMAL merger of Ward C and Cruanach Ward at Lorn and Islands Hospital, Oban, took place this week.

The completion of the new ward was postponed from the spring to enable additional work to be undertaken in the ward.

This involved upgrading two side rooms with en-suite bathrooms - funded by Oban Hospice - and the creation of a wet room which is nearing completion. The ward will be named Ward I.

Hospital bosses said a small number of staff still remained displaced due to the merger but were hopeful of identifying suitable posts in the near future.

Dame Judi will be star attraction

JAMES Bond actress Dame Judi Dench will be interviewed by TV comedian Clive Anderson at the latest fundraising event for Oban Phoenix Cinema campaign.

The event will take place on Saturday October 1 at Inveraray Castle as part of a ball hosted by the Duke and Duchess of Argyll. The Duke, Dame Judi and Mr Anderson are all patrons of the cinema.

Also performing will be The Royal Conservatoire of Scotland. A limited number of tickets are available for a minimum donation of £100 from Katharine McKerrell on 01631 563014.

Newsdesk
01397 703003



Smiling through the pain: Badly injured Jim Montgomery shows his wrecked bike following a crash during a fundraising cycle. 15_136bike01

Stalemate over plans to redevelop derelict hotel

NEGOTIATIONS over the future of the Argyll Hotel site on Oban's esplanade have reached a stalemate.

The site was approved for demolition and redevelopment earlier this year.

However, council planners told developers Alan and Calum MacLeod they must have a contractor in place for the rebuild before the derelict building can be pulled down.

The MacLeods say it is ludicrous to ask for the contractor to be in place as anything could happen and the contractual arrangement could fall through.

The council argues it is common practice for local authori-

ties to have certain assurances in place before planning permission is formally given.

'We want the council to remove the condition,' Mr MacLeod senior said, 'but to date they have not been willing to do this.'

'What is to happen to the Argyll if we are not allowed to demolish? Every day there is further decay. Every day its value diminishes.'

'It is only the planners' overwhelming need to have the last word that has stopped a new hotel being up and running bringing 60 new jobs for the town.'

Calum MacLeod added:

'We have already made a huge financial commitment to this project and we continue to do so every day that it is not moving forward. This condition causes a great difficulty and makes it difficult for the future funding of the building.'

The council says it is unwilling to compromise. A spokeswoman said: 'There is an undetermined planning application seeking to remove the condition but that has not been accompanied by any justification as to why the condition is regarded by the applicants as an insurmountable impediment in this case.'

'Nor has any suggested alternative mechanism been

advanced which would provide an alternative safeguard that the building will not be demolished until re-development is committed.'

The applicants have been made aware of this deficiency and have asked that the application be put on hold until they have considered alternative safeguards that they may be able to sign up to.

The purpose of having a condition to prevent demolition until redevelopment is contracted is to prevent a building being demolished and a site left vacant without prospect of rebuilding following on in the short-term.'

Argyll folk among best waste recyclers in Scotland

PEOPLE in Argyll and Bute are among the top recyclers in Scotland, according to the latest figures.

More than 6,000 tonnes of household waste was recycled or composted in the local authority area, 44.8 per cent of the total rubbish collected.

The figures, for January to March this year, are well above

a national average of 36.3 per cent.

It makes Argyll and Bute sixth in the league table for recycling rates.

Figures for 2010 to 2011, show Argyll and Bute recycled 41.5 per cent of its waste, making it 16th in Scotland, but more than 32,000 tonnes was still being sent to landfill, incurring more

than £1.5million in landfill taxes. A spokesperson for the council said recycling rates fluctuated depending on the weather and time of the year.

She said recycling rates sometimes increase at the start of the year as people get new electrical goods for Christmas and recycle the old ones.

She added: 'The council's

recycling and composting rate has steadily been above the 40 per cent mark for the past two years, while waste sent to landfill has continued to fall. We hope to see this landfill reduction trend continue in 2011/12 and beyond.'

□ **Cash-strapped GRAB Trust faces uncertain future**
- see page 2.

Sheriff's warning to dealers who target Oban**Two addicts jailed over heroin offences**

DRUG dealers who target Oban can expect 'severe' punishment, a sheriff has warned.

Sentencing two drug addicts who admitted involvement with supplying heroin, Sheriff Douglas Small told them: 'There is a serious drugs problem in Oban. I have said on many occasions in this court that people who are convicted of dealing drugs on a commercial basis can expect to be dealt with severely.'

Both defendants were arrested in Operation Independence, when undercover police, acting on intelligence, targeted drugs networks in the town.

Thomas Carberry, on remand at Barlinnie Prison, was sentenced to 16 months after

he pleaded guilty to being concerned in the supply of heroin.

Oban Sheriff Court heard on Tuesday the 32-year-old had sold the Class A drug to three female police officers on three separate occasions between May 22 and May 24.

Prosecutor Fiscal David Glancy said the officers had called Carberry who then sold them wraps of heroin for £20 each at a bus shelter at Station Square and in a car park near Nelson Road, close to Oban High School.

Defending, Calum Weir said Carberry's story was a familiar one, as he found himself in debt to drug dealers and came to Oban from Glasgow in an effort

to escape them. He said: 'It wasn't long before Mr Carberry was caught up on again by these individuals.'

Debt problems

He was offered the opportunity of addressing his debt problems by becoming involved in the supply of drugs.

'He certainly dug himself into a hole which he somewhat foolishly tried to get himself out of, other than by contacting the authorities.'

William McConnell, also on remand at Barlinnie, admitted being concerned in the supply of heroin.

Mr Glancy told the court an officer codenamed Audrey had phoned McConnell three

times on May 25 to ask if he could supply heroin. He said he could not provide the drug but passed on the name and mobile phone number of another man. This man was later arrested on charges of supplying the undercover officers with heroin.

Defending, Sukhwinder Gill said McConnell, who had five previous convictions for possession of heroin, had been taking drugs from the age of 15. The 31-year-old was unemployed, she said, and 'unable to fund his habit'.

Describing McConnell as a 'facilitator' who was 'part of a chain' of drug supply, Sheriff Small sentenced him to six months in jail.

30 Years Ago

Those Were The Days
The Oban Times

Thursday, September 10, 1981

Connel bridge climbdown

THE THREAT of daytime closure of the Connel Bridge to allow for repainting was lifted on Friday, as forecast in last week's issue. Scottish Office Minister Malcolm Rifkind told John Mackay MP, who had raised the matter with him, that the work would instead be done overnight in the period October 5–November 7.

The wording of the letter hardly conceals that someone, somewhere, has been on the wrong end of a ministerial rocket over the handling of the whole affair, but one point on which Mr Rifkind is standing firm is the need for the closure to be signed at Tyndrum – something tourist interests had protested would damage the season in the Oban area.

The text of Mr Rifkind's letter is: 'Following the strong representations made, my department have been in touch with the contractor to consider what adjustments to the closure times might be possible. He is now prepared to reduce to the minimum the work that requires the bridge to be closed, to carry out that work between the hours of 11.30pm and 5.30am and to delay it to the end of the contract period, which in effect means closure will not take place until October 5 and will end on November 7.'

Marina yes, causeway no

REGIONAL councillor David Webster spoke in favour of an Oban marina and against a causeway to Kerrera when he addressed Oban Community Council on Monday evening.

Councillor Webster said that he supported a scheme to build between the North Pier towards the Railway Pier with pontoons in the centre and fishing boat berthing on the seaward side. The plan included some dredging of the seabed beside the new wall and in-filling of the beach to allow George Street to be widened to provide parking facilities.

Community council chairman Alick McLeod said he hoped the scheme would come to fruition. 'I have heard very little in the way of objections to a marina although we do not want a causeway,' he said. 'It makes me very sad to see skilled people in Oban being made redundant and I want to see employment brought to the town. I do not think that anyone could be against that,' he said. He added that ideally he would like to see a bridge to Kerrera but that was the most expensive proposal of all.

The council also agreed to write to Strathclyde Regional Council, urging them to keep the question of the South Pier very much in mind, as the temporary pontoons were not a substitute for the pier.

Don't kill our community, Bonawe pleads

THE PEOPLE of Bonawe this week continued their fight to keep their bus service at its present frequency. In an open letter to the transport manager of Highland Omnibuses they expressed indignation at his response in last week's Oban Times to the effect that the service was under-used beyond Connel.

Last week's story said talks would be held this week on proposals to withdraw the 5.45pm bus from Oban to Bonawe and the Saturday service.

The open letter, with 20 signatures, states: 'It seems obvious to us that there will be fewer people on a bus towards the end of its journey since people will be getting off all along the route. The Bonawe area is not as heavily populated as the Connel area, but we depend on the service as much as anyone else.'

'Has the transport manager considered the needs of the people of Bonawe and North Connel? The 5.45pm service from Oban to Bonawe is used every day by people from this area who work in Oban. Within the next month 10 more Bonawe quarry workers expect to be made redundant – these men will have to find work and will depend on this bus service.'

Jobs boost with opening of new betting shop

Oban FM DJ Maggie May, pictured with staff members, cut the ribbon to declare Oban's second Ladbrokes store open. The new betting shop is across from the existing branch, opened in 1970, in Stevenson Street and staff will be shared between the two. However, the opening of the new branch has resulted in the creation of seven new jobs in the town. Maggie was given a free bet worth £50, with proceeds going to Oban Riding for the Disabled. 15_136ladbrokes01

GENERAL KNOWLEDGE CROSSWORD**Across**

- 7 Northern (6)
- 8 Included (6)
- 9 Ring (4)
- 10 Impetus (8)
- 11 Throwback (7)
- 12 Beater (5)
- 15 Ritzy (5)
- 17 Too sentimental (7)
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Nicole is Mallaig High School sports champion

SCHOOL SPORTS

NICOLE Simmonds of SI was among the sports champions at Mallaig High School annual sports at the school last Wednesday.

After the flat races in the morning, the high jump competition was held in the afternoon and finished on Friday.

High jump results: SI Girls – 1, Nicole Simmonds 1.25; 2, Caitlin Woobums 1.15; 3, Nell McEoin 0.95. SI Boys – 1, Archie Gillies 1.20; 2, Kyle Ingram 1.00; 3, David Buick 0.95.

S2 Girls – 1, Kelsey MacBeth 1.15; 2, Caitlin Muir 1.05; 3, Megan Morrison 1.05. S2 Boys – 1, Ewan Tibbets 1.10; 2, Nathan Ritchie 1.05; 3, Finn Robinson 0.95.

S3 Girls – 1, Chloe McLean 1.20; 2, Hazel MacInnes 1.15. S3 Boys – 1, Mitchell Edgar - 1.50; 2, Liam Dyer 1.40; 3, Robert Poole Fuste 1.40.

S4 Girls – 1, Aimee Lawrie 1.15; 2, Alisha Gillies 1.10; 3, Solene Cargill 1.05. S4 Boys – 1, Liam McLean 1.65; 2, Aaron McLean 1.55; 3, Jamie MacEwen 1.40.

S5/6 Girls – 1, Aimee MacDonald - 1.25; 2, Rachael Robertson 1.10; 3, Abigail Jackson 1.10; S5/6 Boys – 1, Cameron Muir

Two in a row for Dr Finlay

'There has only been one faster time in the last ten or eleven years'

LOCHABER Athletic Club runner Dr Finlay Wild charged home ahead of a 490-strong international field to claim his second Ben Nevis race in succession on Saturday.

Finlay, formerly of Fort William but now based in Inverness, broke the tape in 1hr 29m 31secs, less than five minutes behind the all-time record set by Keswick AC's Kenny Stewart in 1984.

The flying doctor was almost six minutes inside his winning mark of 1hr 35m 39secs in 2010 and more than two and a half minutes clear of second placed Lloyd Taggart of Dark Peak Fell Runners.

The win the first leg of a double celebration – Finlay is 28 today (Thursday).

The 28 year-old follows in the footsteps of his mum Fiona

and dad Roger, who were both Ben Nevis Race athletes in the 1980s.

In 1981, Fiona was second woman home in 1hr 49m 19 secs, while Roger posted a time of 1hr 54m 20s. Fiona was almost two minutes quicker down the hill than Saturday's women's race winner, Angela Mudge.

Fantastic

Roger said of Finlay's success: 'There has only been one faster time than this in the last ten or eleven years. It's fantastic.'

Lochaber AC athletes again figured prominently, with Davie Rodgers seventh in 1hr 39m 33secs and Ruari Watt 16th in 1hr 44m 59secs.

Matthew MacDonald was 37th in 1hr 52m 22 secs and John Hepburn 29 seconds further back. Conditions were wet lower

down the mountain, but the summit itself remained generally free of mist and rain.

Dr Wild claimed the MacFarlane Cup as first man home, the Lochaber District Council Trophy for first local athlete and the Lovat Scouts Trophy for the first runner to the summit.

Dawn Scott was first local woman home on 20:06:17 to win the Turnbull Quaich.

Amanda Blackhall was close behind in 20:07:47.

Other Lochaber AC times included Graham Munro 1:55:12; Peter Kennedy 1:58:18; John Binnie 1:58:44; Richard Shaw, Keith Blackhall 2:00:54; Ali Kennedy 2:01:14 and Oliver Blomfield 2:03:27.

ATHLETICS



Lochaber AC men Ruari Watt, winner Finlay Wild and Davie Rodgers celebrate at the finish of the 2011 Ben Nevis Race.

Fort win Donnie MacLean Tournament



Winners and runners-up in the Donnie MacLean Memorial Tournament at Spean Bridge, Fort William and Newtonmore. 20_f36sixes06

Batting needs to improve

FORT WILLIAM cricket captain Paul Farrell is determined to improve his side's batting and is hoping funds can be made available for nets and a bowling machine.

Following his side's 119 run loss to Ross County last weekend, Farrell said: 'We know Ross County are a good batting side, so to bowl them out and keep them down to 170 runs is a major plus for us. But our batting let us down again, all out for 51 inside 20 overs was very disappointing.'

Ross County were in to bat first and Fort's bowlers played impressively, with Col Lavin getting three wickets for 56 while Derek Spencer had five for 21.

CRICKET

Fort went in to bat but were bowled out for just 51 runs in 17.2 overs. They play their final game of the season against Elgin at the BA Club on Sunday.

On Sunday, Fort's Sunday team played their last game of the season and waved goodbye to captain Pete Shepherd, who played his last game as skipper after six years at the helm.

The captain was able to help his team to a narrow victory, taking four wickets for just 12 runs.

Batting earlier, Fort scored 96 runs, with Davy Duncan hitting sevens fours on his way to a score of 43. The Fort Sunday team ended the season in fourth place.

FORT WILLIAM won the under-14 Donnie MacLean Memorial Tournament at Spean Bridge last Sunday, August 28, after beating Newtonmore 2-0 in the final. Goals from Calum Shepherd and Dejan Watson sealed the win, ensuring Fort came through the tournament as the only undefeated team.

Beating

The youngsters won through after beating home team Lochaber Camanachd 5-0, with goals coming from Dejan Watson (2), Lewis Morrison (2) and Calum Shepherd.

'More earned their slot in the final after narrowly defeating Kingussie 1-0 in the other semi.'

The competition attracted 10 teams in all – with Kinlochshiel, Inveraray, Milngavie and Bearsden, Lochcarron and Kilmallie also taking part. The semi-finalists were decided after coming top four in the nine-game round-robin section.

We are still searching for a

keeper,' he told the Oban Times.

'It would be great if John was back for the cup game, but it is far too early to say. It all depends if he has a reaction to the training and physio.'

Fort have no game this Saturday as Devronvale are on Aberdeenshire Cup duty. Instead, Conlon will try to get a game organised against an Inverness select to view potential additions to his squad.

Fort manager Danny Conlon says Campbell is swimming, jogging and receiving physiotherapy – but declined to forecast whether the experienced keeper would be in the frame for Fort's upcoming Scottish Cup tie against Bo'ness on September 24.

'We are still searching for a

FORT WILLIAM under-17s travelled to Inverness on Sunday and came away with a hard fought but deserved 6-2 win against league newcomers Inverness City.

After 20 minutes Fort striker Connor Wilson shot from just inside the box and the Inverness keeper produced an excellent save, however Kieron Vooley was on hand to follow up and slot the ball into the net to make it 1-0 to the Fort.

Fort settled down and Vooley applied a cool finish to 'Mackie' MacLellan's cross to make it 2-0.

Coach John Matheson praised his young squad for another

Fort continued to press in the second half and midfielder Alex Whittaker planted a fine header from a corner kick for Fort's third.

Inverness pulled one back after being denied by keeper Bradley Cameron, but Marty Munro fired home for 4-1 before Inverness again reduced the deficit to two.

The strikers got their reward for plenty running and hard work aligned with the wingers contributing well with good balls into the box.'

Martin Munro was again man of the match and Alex Whittaker posted another strong performance in midfield.

Youngsters continue impressive start

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Fine performance. He said: 'The younger boys who have come up from the under 15s squad have done very well and are well supported by the older boys helping them along with plenty of encouragement.'

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FOOTBALL

Forward Michael Ellis was sent packing in controversial fashion on 22 minutes when he looked to be fouled, then lunged into a retaliatory tackle which earned him a straight red.

Worse was to follow for the Fort when their trialist goalkeeper took down a Brora player in the box and was also red-carded – despite Fort claims a defender on the goal line meant he was not last man.

Despite being two men down, Fort held Brora to 1-0 at half-time, levelled through Sean Ellis and hit the bar – but numbers eventually told and Brora ran out 4-1 winners.

FOOTBALL

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September medal at Fort William

GOLF

FORT WILLIAM Golf Club September medal on Saturday saw Joe Sweeney take the win after a close finish, with Stevie Jamieson finishing just one shot behind.

Rusty Duncan's better inward half won him the senior medal competition on Sunday afternoon after he fished tied with Alex Stewart with nett scores of 66.

Results:
September medal – 1, Joe Sweeney 88-20-68; 2, Stevie Jamieson 73-4-69; 3, Frank Sweeney 89-14-75. Senior September medal – 1, Rusty Duncan 79-13-66 (BII); 2, Alex Stewart 79-13-66; 3, Frank Sweeney 81-14-67.

Medal winners at Fort Augustus

GOLF

FORT AUGUSTUS Golf Club held their medal winners' competition on Sunday, with all six medal winning golfers competing against each other.

Finlay Nicolson took the win with a nett score of 77. Campbell Burnett finished second with Gordon MacDonald in third. The autumn medal competition was held the day before, and was won by David McEwen.

Ben loses out by six seconds

CYCLING

DUROR speedster Ben Miller missed gold by just six seconds in the Scottish Cycling Youth Time Trial at Monikie Country Park, Angus, last Sunday.

The 16 year-old, riding for Nevins Cycles RT, bulletted round the challenging 20km course in 32min 22 seconds – just behind Gavin Shuttleworth from Stirling, of Velocity 44.

Steve Cairns of Perth United CC took the open title in 31:44.

Lochaber at home

RUGBY

LOCHABER will be looking to kick start their season when they host Garioch at Banavie on Saturday afternoon.

Blair MacRae's men got off to a disappointing start, losing their first game of the season 39-11 away to Ross Sutherland last weekend.

More sport - p13

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RUGBY WORLD CUP 2011

9 September - 23 October

Weather

Thursday Sunny intervals.

Winds moderate west, south westerly
Temperatures 10°C to 14°C

Friday Heavy rain.

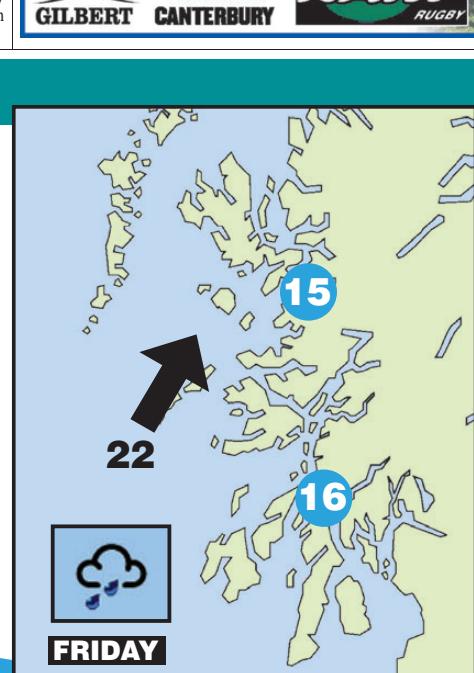
Winds moderate south, south westerly
Temperatures 14°C to 17°C.

Weekend Heavy rain showers.

Winds moderate southerly.
Temperatures 12°C to 16°C.

Ferry Crossings/Sea States
Oban to Barra/South Uist
Oban to Coll/Tiree
Kenna Craig to Islay

Moderate
Moderate
Moderate



FRIDAY

Tides

Tide tables for Oban during the week from

Thursday, September 8, 2011