

The Oban Times

& WEST HIGHLAND TIMES

Established 1861 No 8326

Thursday 27 October, 2016

www.obantimes.co.uk

85 pence



Royal National Mòd 2016

Photos, results and all the stories from this year's Mòd held in Stornoway 8 page special inside



DON'T FORGET

to put your clocks back 1 hour this weekend

Boom time for business as tourists flock to Argyll

SANDY NEIL
sneil@obantimes.co.uk

THERE has been a summer boom for tourism in Argyll, with many reporting doubled growth as more visitors flock to the West Coast on the weak pound.

Argyll and Bute saw a whopping 12.8 per cent increase in footfall in July, and 8.9 per cent in August – twice the Scottish average of 6.6 per cent and 3.4 per cent respectively – according to a recent study by Glasgow's Moffat Centre of 592 tourism attractions across Scotland.

'It has been the best year we have had in eight years,' said Calum Ross, owner of the Loch Melfort Hotel and a director of Argyll and the Islands Tourism Co-operative (AITC).

'We have doubled our growth. Businesses say it has been a good year or a very good year. It is across the board in tourism, but tourism is everybody's business. There are more people in the shops as well.'

Bid4Oban manager Derek Connery agreed: 'Guest houses, shops, pubs, restaurants have all done very well this year. The general consensus is it has been a great season.' He recently heard of one hotel in town that had not had an empty room for 50 nights on the trot.

Linda Battison, who runs Cologin Country Chalets at Lerags, also reported: 'We are going to be 10 per cent ahead this season. Vacancies are only just appearing now in late October. The season has been busier for longer. There are still a lot of overseas visitors in town.'

'Scotland has been seen as a safe destination. The weak pound is the biggest factor.'

Linda, a former chairwoman of the Oban and Lorn Tourism Alliance of accommodation and activity providers, added: 'Everyone has had a very good season. Boat operators have had a hectic year.'

CalMac's summer figures reveal a 42 per cent rise in cars travelling the Oban to Craignure route to Mull compared with last year – an increase of 86,890 to 123,999 until Friday

October 21, just before timetables switched from summer to winter. Similarly, passenger numbers rose on the route, but only at 14.32 per cent, from 459,741 to 525,558. Coaches also increased by 11.33 per cent, from 18,738 to 20,862.

CalMac area manager Robert Morrison said: 'It has been especially busy between Oban and Craignure, with a significant increase in traffic. We have been able to cope with this and the feedback we have received is that the community are pleased with the improved service, and the boost to the local economy, albeit that it has led to some

congestion on single track roads on Mull.'

Inveraray Castle has also seen a large increase on last season, and Dunollie Museum, Castle and Grounds has reported an 11 per cent increase in visitor numbers, plus a 30 per cent increase in sales.

After slower growth at the beginning of 2016, Dunollie's September sales jumped up by 51 per cent – double the figure from the same month last year. 'We have turned a corner,' said Dunollie's sustainability and development manager Jane Isaacson.

'We are getting more visitors and they are spending more. We projected 30 per cent, and we got 30 per cent, so we are happy, but we need to do that again next year – we need to grow in order to be sustainable.'

International tourists visiting Scotland broke through the £500 million spend barrier in the second quarter of this year for the first time, according to new figures released by the Scottish Government. Overseas visitors spent £540 million in the second quarter of 2016, compared to £493 million in same period in 2015. This is the highest quarter-two spend figures recorded. Visitors from Europe spent £276 million in the quarter up to June 2016, more than half of the overseas expenditure in this period.

Cabinet secretary for tourism Fiona Hyslop said: 'External factors, such as trading conditions and economic uncertainty caused by the referendum continue to present challenges for our tourism sector.'

Pure gold! Mòd winners celebrate



There was delight as pals from across the water took the Gold Medals at the Royal National Mòd. Carol MacLean from Tobermory and Hector Mackechnie from Savary, Lochaline, celebrated their huge achievement in winning the sought-after medals. Those who have 'gold cards' and are fluent in Gaelic took to the stage to compete in one of the Royal National Mòd's most prestigious competitions. Hector said he is now going to sing with his choir, Burach, while Carol has her eye on the 2017 Oban Times medal. Turn to page 9 for more Mòd coverage.

TIMESLINE

Group is set up to plan for skatepark

A COMMITTEE has been set up with the aim of creating a skate park in Oban.

It was formed on Monday night (October 24) at a meeting at the Rockfield Centre, with 22 young local skateboarders attending.

The committee is made up of young people, along with representation from Police Scotland, Argyll and Bute Council – youth worker and local councillors – and an experienced skateboarder.

Community input is being sought and anyone who might be able to offer any help should contact youth worker Kevin Irvine or Oban North and Lorn councillor Julie McKenzie.

Discussions on reopening parks

A MEETING is scheduled to take place today (Thursday) to determine when the play parks at Atlantis Leisure will reopen.

The meeting will be attended by the Friends of Oban Community Playpark, Atlantis Leisure, Wicksteed and Argyll and Bute Council. All parties are expected to agree to a short and long-term plan regarding the flooring in the big park.

Isle of Eriska win at food awards

THE Isle of Eriska restaurant has won Restaurant of the Year and Loch Fyne Oysters was highly commended for the Environment Award at the Highlands and Islands Food and Drink Awards, held in Inverness on Friday.

The food and drink industry supports around 30,000 full-time jobs and generates in excess of £1 billion per year for the region.





Set Lunch

Deep Fried French Brie or Wee Smoked Haddock Pot or Warm Chicken Salad

½ Sea Bass battered with Chips and Salad or 1 Ee-usk Fishcake with Chips & Salad or Home Made Steak Pie with Mashed Potatoes

Bread And Butter Pudding or Dairy Ice Cream or Two Cheeses

2 courses from 3 - £15

For reservations please call 01631 565666

Speed urged on university status

LOUISE GLEN
lglen@obantimes.co.uk

COUNCILLORS frustrated at the lack of speed on Oban's university town status have told officers they have 'no idea' why it is taking so long.

Argyll and Bute councillors said that, while they respected the fact that processes had to be met by council officers, they were disappointed with how long it was actually taking to get anything done in raising the profile of Oban as a university town.

The University of the Highlands and Islands, Argyll College and the Scottish Association

for Marine Science all have campuses in the town.

Speaking at the Oban, Lorn and the Isles area committee meeting recently, Councillor Roddy McCuish said: 'I was at a meeting last week discussing Oban as a university town.'

'I can't for the life of me understand why we are not further on with this one. Why can't we just move it on?'

'We have the university, and the students. It seems like a simple thing to me. Can we not have a sign on the approach into town enshrining this?'

Fergus Murray, head of development within the local

authority, said: 'At the moment we have 600 students and in the future we would like to have 1,600 students. The key driver to this [university town status] is academic excellence.'

'There is also a shortfall of houses.'

Mr Murray explained that 60 more houses were needed for the current student population living in the town. Other areas such as Inverness were helping Argyll and Bute Council the meeting was told.

Mr Murray continued: 'There is a lot of work going on in the background to try to take it forward.'

Councillor Elaine Robertson

reminded her colleagues what the university town status would do in being able to market the town.

Mrs Robertson said: 'We already have the seafood capital title which has raised the profile of the town and the university brand will add to this.'

Councillor Mary-Jean Devon told her colleagues to stop being so hard on themselves. She said: 'Things really are moving on and we are not appreciating it. We have to be more positive about the work that is happening.'

'The college and university are growing and we will achieve university town status.'



Winter value

For that special someone - Ee-usk vouchers - the perfect gift





Set Dinner

Salmon Mousse with toasted ciabatta or Thai Fishcakes with sweet chilli sauce or Smoked Haddock Chowder

Steak Pie with mashed potatoes or Baked ½ Sea Bass Mornay Sauce & Ee-usk Chips or Smoked Haddock Fish Pie Served with Salad

Sticky Toffee Pudding or Dairy Ice Cream or Two Cheeses

2 courses from 3 - £15

Oban launch for homeless mariners

A GROUP of people from a homeless centre in Sunderland visited Oban as part of a 'life-changing' sailing trip around the north-west coast of Scotland.

Residents and staff from the Salvation Army's Swan Lodge Lifehouse took part in a seven-day trip with the Cirdan Sailing Trust.

Before they were able to set sail, they had to make their way to Oban.

Swan Lodge administrator Craig Hilton said: 'Before we even set foot on the vessel there was the six-hour drive to get up to Oban.'

'Luckily, the Salvation Army team there looked after us and put us up for the night. We owe church leader Cath Sheldrick and volunteer Andy Finlayson a huge debt of thanks for their support and hospitality.'

Craig added: 'We had a diverse group of men and women of all ages, many of who have issues such as substance misuse and mental health problems.'

Craig said the men and women, aged between 34 and 55, worked together to make the sailing trip a success.

Lifeboat rescues yachtsman

THE VOLUNTEER crew of the Islay RLNI were asked to help evacuate an unconscious yachtsman last week.

Islay's RNLi lifeboat Helmut Schröder of Dunlossit launched at 11.40pm on Wednesday October 19 and travelled to Craighouse, where his yacht Ice Maiden was situated.

The local doctor and Jura coastguards were already on scene. The doctor stabilised the man, who was then transferred to the lifeboat. From there he was airlifted by helicopter to Crosshouse Hospital, Kilmarnock.

Coxwain Bruce Leaske said everything had gone smoothly.

Delight at festival success

HIGHLANDS and Islands MSP Donald Cameron has expressed his delight at the success of the inaugural Sheep Festival in Dalnally and has lodged a parliamentary motion noting this.

The festival, on Saturday October 15, raised more than £600 for the local school and playgroup, and drew in crowds from the surrounding area and beyond. There was an emphasis on promoting local wool textiles and charities including Mary's Meals were present.

Donald Cameron MSP said: 'Sheep farming is incredibly important to Dalnally, Argyll and the surrounding area and it is fitting there should be a festival celebrating this. I am delighted the event was a success. I look forward to future sheep festivals in Dalnally.'



Lismore islanders raised £5,695 for MND Scotland.

Ferry to ferry challenge bags ten times its target

SANDY NEIL
sneil@obantimes.co.uk

LISMORE'S Ferry to Ferry Challenge raised £5,695 on Saturday – more than 10 times its target.

Islanders ran, jogged, walked or cycled from the Port Appin to Oban ferries, either 22 miles on the mainland, or the length of the island from Port Ramsay to Achnacroish.

All challengers, including the eldest septuagenarian Ina MacColl, then met in dribs and drabs at the finishing line – JD Wetherspoon's pub in Oban – to loud rounds of applause.

One organiser, and runner, Laura Cook said: 'In the end 53 people took part in one way or another, from the very young

in buggies to pensioners we all pulled together.' The challenge was raising cash for MND Scotland, a charity supporting sufferers of motor neurone disease.

Laura explained on their Just Giving page: 'Earlier this year, a friend of ours was diagnosed with MND. It was a shock for us all, and as we all offered what little practical help we could, it really did seem like a drop in the ocean. We wanted to do something, but we were fairly limited. MND is an unforgiving disease, which doesn't discriminate in any way, it just keeps on taking. We have decided that although we cannot get rid of MND for our friend, we can stand beside her, we can fight with her and support her. Marlene was with us all the way.' The youngest chal-

lengers who took part were Ewan Livingston and Katie Cook, both 12, meanwhile another islander chose to cycle, because they 'can only run if there's sheep to be caught'.

The challengers had 'well and truly smashed' their £500 fundraising goal, Laura added: 'What started as a small group of friends doing something challenging to raise awareness and much needed funds, for a charity very, very close to our hearts just now, has turned into a community pulling together to stand as one. We started with five people, we are now 53.'

Many more joined the Saturday night community ceilidh in Lismore Public Hall.

'I am not sure how much dancing we could do,' joked an

exhausted Laura after running 22 miles, but she did manage to stand and sing a song she'd written about Lismore.

'Everybody brought a dish, we heated the food, poured the wine, and had dinner together as a community, sitting together as families do,' she said.

'We then had a fabulous raffle, which raised £611.'

Donated raffle prizes included whisky, prawns, oysters, champagne, candles, chocolates, restaurant and tour vouchers, and even lampshades and spanners. The Port Appin ferrymen also personally paid for everyone to cross between Lismore and Appin.

'There were speeches, more laughs, and a few more tears,' Laura continued. 'Marlene, our

inspiration for this whole event, received her presentation of flowers and her flight over the island. The whole day was a fantastic success, from start to finish. What started as five friends aiming to raise £500 turned into an entire community, friends and family raising £5,700 for MND Scotland. I am so proud of the whole community, for getting on board with this and making it such a magical day.'

'Living in a small community undoubtedly has its down sides, however when something happens to one of our own, we can rally and we can stand together as one.'

'Thank you all for taking this crazy idea and running with it. All that's left to say is: who's up for next year?'

High hopes for new Jura family homes

SIX NEW family houses could be built on Jura next summer by West Highland Housing Association to help address the island's need for more homes.

'We have a commitment to Jura,' West Highland Housing Association's chief executive Lesley McInnes told *The Oban Times*.

'People are saying there is a need for houses, especially with all the developments going on.'

Employment on Jura has been boosted this year by the army of workers building a world-class 18-hole private golf course on the 12,000 acre Ardfin Estate.

Its owner Mr Greg Coffey, a retired hedge fund manager, is reported to have spent more than £50 million of his £430 million fortune renovating Jura House and its grounds.

Earlier this year the island's 190-strong population surged by 50 per cent with the arrival of 85 contractors, with local businesses welcoming the increased trade.

'We would want to be building in the summer months,' Ms McInnes said.

'We want to fit in with the local environment [but] we tend to build two to three bedroom houses and people are keen for families to settle.'

'We want to understand where the housing needs to be. The housing association has a small site which we are keen to develop but it would not be able to carry six houses, so we will be looking for more land.'

Two more houses planned for Croft Park on Jura will no longer be built because of access issues, Jura Community Council reported in the minutes from its last meeting.

Oban Times
newsdesk
01631 568000

Hugh Smith's letter from *Islay*

Kilmeny Chapel

SITUATED in the still-in-use burial ground at Kilmeny in Ballygrant stands a fragment of a medieval chapel which gives the ancient Celtic site its name.

Known in Gaelic as Cill Mheindh, the now partially turf-covered ruin probably takes its name from the Celtic Saint Eithne, although it is unknown which particular saint of that name is commemorated at the site as several feature in Celtic/Irish folklore and among them is one who was considered to be the mother of St Columba.

Although little is known of the history of the Kilmeny Chapel, the site is well worth a visit. The west wall and gable is the only part of the building standing to a great height and the discovery of the foundations of the east wall would suggest the chapel was around 50 feet in length.

The earliest reference to a church at Kilmeny dates back to 1549 when it was listed as being one of the four churches on the island. It is thought the Kilmeny chapel origins show it as a dependent chapel in the Kilarrow



The west wall of Kimeeny Chapel.

parish and the lands on which it stands were registered in 1561 as being held by the Bishop of the Isles.

One of the most interesting historical artefacts remaining in the burial ground is the stub of a churchyard cross set on top of a grassy hillock.

A panel marking the rebuilding of the churchyard wall in 1876 refers to the site as Cill a' Mhanaich, 'the burial ground of the monk'. This is most likely a mispronunciation of Cill Mheindh, the name by which it is known to the Gaelic-speaking people of the island.

A number of interesting medieval grave slabs can be found in the burial ground surrounding the chapel ruins. These include carvings of foliage and

swords as well as a number of post Reformation burials.

The cemetery is also the last resting place of, among others, Mòd gold medalist Gilbert MacPhail and the stonemason Thomas Spalding who was responsible for the building of the Round Church at Bowmore.

Lying 400 metres north of the chapel is Kilmeny Parish Church which was adapted from a Thomas Telford's Parliamentary Churches design by Walter Frederick Campbell of Shawfield and Islay and the area's principal landowner at that time.

The church continues as a place of regular worship and is now linked with the parishes of Kilchoman and Portnahaven.

Islay House hotel

THE ISLAND'S leading mansion Islay House, known to generations of island natives as An Taigh Bàn, has been converted into a luxury country house hotel which currently has five rooms available for occupancy.

Following a 'soft launch' last month the 'A'-listed building will continue its currently limited operations until

the end of January of next year. The owners and operators hope the hotel will be up and running fully by Easter 2017.

This will see the full complement of 18 bedrooms in use along with quality dining provision, hospitality in the Peat Cutters Bar, and conference and function rooms geared to accommodate 100 guests.

The mansion house was built in 1677 by landowner Sir Hugh Campbell of Cawdor on pasture land at the head of Lochindaal known as Lag Buidhe.

It and the island passed into the ownership of the Campbells of Shawfield who carried out extensions and improvements to the property during their tenure.



Islay House Country Hotel.

Overwhelmed by financial troubles, the Shawfield Campbells were forced to sell and wealthy Basildon entrepreneur and MP James Morrison took over the reins in 1843.

The house remained the property of the Morrisons, now ennobled as Margadale, until 1985 when they sold it to American airline and navy pilot Captain Tom Friedrick.

Two years ago Captain Friedrick, who died at Newburyport, Massachusetts in June, sold it to business partners Steven Haag and Paul Brown who have pulled out all the stops, often encountering and overcoming great building and refurbishments problems, in their quest to create impressive luxury accommodation in a scenic setting overlooking Lochindaal.

Coffee morning

THE ROUND Church holds its regular coffee morning on Saturday October 29 in Bowmore buffet hall at 10.30am.

Admission is £3 and proceeds will go to the church fabric fund.
Hugh Smith, 4 Flora Street, Bowmore, Islay, PA43 7JX. Tel: 01496 810658.

HIRE and SUPPLIES

Great DISCOUNTS on Makita power tools

For all your hire and supply needs

Mill Lane, Oban PA34 4HA Tel: 01631 566306
online @ www.hireandsupplies.com

FLOORSHOP

DEALS DEALS DEALS

- LUXURIOUS FLOORING IN STOCK
- FREE MEASURING SERVICE
- BEDS

HAVE IT FITTED BY OUR PROFESSIONAL TEAM OR TAKE IT AWAY
CALL IN AND BROWSE OUR NEW CARPETS AND VINYLs

WE WON'T BE BEATEN ON PRICE

Telephone: 01631 563316 • Unit 12, Mill Lane, Oban, Argyll PA34 4HA

The Oban Times & WEST HIGHLAND TIMES

Don't miss our bumper Christmas

32 page Christmas special coming soon

Your essential guide to festive shopping, dining and entertainment

to discuss advertising requirements for your business please call us on 01631 568000

Call for Oban relief road

LOUISE GLEN
lglen@obantimes.co.uk

A RELIEF road around Oban 'has to be back on the agenda', councillors told Argyll and Bute infrastructure manager Fergus Murray last week. Discussing the development plan for Argyll and Bute, and in particular Oban, Lorn and the Isles area, councillors said the need for a ring road circumnavigating the town was 'urgent' and needed to be on the agenda so government funding could be sourced to make it happen.

While the original plan for a ring road was dropped some years ago, some councillors would now like to see it reinstated. One plan for the road would have seen it come off a new roundabout on the A85 near to the Pennyfuir cemetery site. The road would then have followed a route around the back of the town, finally coming into Oban beyond the traffic lights at the high school yet near the site of the new high school. The new Oban High School has been planned taking into account the longer-term

plans for the ring road. Councillor Kieron Green, Oban North and Lorn, raised the matter in response to a development plan being discussed for the area. He said that while the plan has never been universally popular, the lack of roads through the town means the need to discuss the subject was becoming increasingly 'critical'. Mr Green continued: 'We need to be pushing for a relief road that goes around the town. As the traffic to the ferry has

increased so has the use of the road through Oban. 'At times that makes it impossible to move around.' A relief road was part of the original projects for the Oban CHORD project back in 2006 but was moved onto a longer term plan after Stafford Street and the town centre improvements were undertaken. The road is understood potentially to cost somewhere in the region of £10million to £25 million, a bill that would mean government funding, rather than local authority funding, was sought for the area.

Councillor Iain MacLean, Oban North and Lorn, said: 'This is the issue that we need to address. 'Oban is a gateway to the islands and as business grows then we will need to make sure our infrastructure is suitable. 'There is no doubt about it - we need a relief road and we need it back on the agenda so that funding can be negotiated to drive this one as hard as we can.' Mr Murray said councillors' comments would be taken into account as the local development plan was written.

Litter picker Wayne sparks Oban beach clean

A MAN who is walking around the coast of Britain picking up rubbish as he goes visited Oban earlier this week and organised a beach litter pick-up. Wayne Dixon, 44, from Blackburn in Lancashire, set off from his home on February 1 and has so far walked 1,200 miles, raising around £4,000 for charities in the process. Wayne, who walks and camps with his trusty Northern Inuit dog, Koda, has 6,000 miles to go and anticipates that it may take them four years. He organises a litter pick-up event in each town, village or city that he stops in. Wayne, and those who helped, cleaned both the beach at George Street and the Esplanade in Oban.

New floating pier to boost timber extraction

A NEW floating pier is to be built on the shores of Ardcastle Forest, West Argyll, which could unlock an estimated £10million of the region's growing timber. With harvesting on the increase and the nearby Ardrishaig Pier already extremely busy, the new pier will boost the ability to ship greater quantities of timber to wood processors - an estimated 250,000 tonnes could leave from the pier over the next 10 years. The additional shipping facilities will be able to take larger boats in deeper water and cut down the need for using timber wagons on fragile rural roads, saving 3.5 million lorry miles. The pier and shore-side infrastructure is planned to be around 3,500 m² in size and will be able to stack around 3,000 tonnes of timber ahead of a vessel arriving.

Musician Guy raises £700 to help fund stem cell treatment for MS

AN OBAN musician who suffers from multiple sclerosis has raised more than £700 from a fundraising concert, which will help pay for stem cell therapy, writes David McPhee. Guy Forteith, 23, was first diagnosed with the condition when he was 16. He is currently trying to raise £22,000 so that he is able to receive the therapy. The singer-songwriter and sound engineer organised a night of music in Cuan Mor restaurant last Saturday, which raised £705 through entry fees and raffle tickets. Guy himself performed at the event and Oban artists Nicky MacInnes, Shannon



Guy during his gig last Saturday night.

Taylor, Colin Maclean, Laura Macleod and Jodie Nicholson, plus Moonshine Maggie joined him. However, there was also a special guest on the night - pianist Ralf Roeder. 'Ralf came all the way from

Germany to play,' Guy said. 'I have known him for a couple of years. I met him during an open mic night in Oban. I mentioned to him that I was doing a gig and he was interested in it.' Ralf, who both sings and plays piano, took part in duets with Guy and other local artists. Guy added: 'This was Shannon Taylor's first gig and she did really well.' Guy thanked the venue Cuan Mor restaurant, saying: 'It was great there. I want to thank everyone who donated and all the businesses that put in to the raffle.' People can still donate to his Just Giving page - guy-forteith-stemcells.

Breslin cleared of all but one charge

DUNOON councillor Michael Breslin has been cleared of five of six charges of breaching the councillors' code of conduct. A hearing of the Standards Commission for Scotland, which is responsible for ensuring integrity in public life, cleared Breslin on the grounds that he was entitled to make robust comments to council officials under Article 10 of the European Convention on Human Rights. However, the panel did censure the independent Argyll and Bute councillor for one breach of failing to treat a council officer with respect. Councillor Breslin, it said, had breached the code 'in respect of an email he sent to the council's head of governance [Charles Reppke] on December 29, 2014. 'Councillor Breslin chose to circulate the email to a number

of individuals, which resulted in the email being published on the ForArgyll website before the head of governance had the opportunity to reply. 'Publication on this website resulted in highly-critical comments being directed at the head of governance. This demonstrated a lack of courtesy and respect to the officer. 'The hearing panel considered that, by his actions, Councillor Breslin had undermined mutual trust and respect between himself and a senior officer of the council. Delivering the decision, the panel chairman Ian Gordon said: 'To help ensure public confidence in local government, the Standards Commission reminds every councillor about the importance of mutual trust and respect in their relations with council officers.'

Denying he leaked the email, Mr Breslin said: 'It is a vindication and it is an affirmation that a councillor can challenge officials on issues that affect their constituents. This is a landmark case. I will wait for a written judgement and consider an appeal. I will be seeking compensation.' The commission's full written decision will be published on its website in a week. SNP councillor James Robb, representing Helensburgh Central, argued the ruling was a 'pyrrhic victory', saying: 'I suppose Article 10 also allows officers to make robust and critical comments about councillors but I suspect they will show some restraint. 'It won't change the culture of secrecy that currently prevails. It doesn't get us any further forward in getting actual answers to

questions or timely responses. It just allows some councillors to be ruder to officers. 'Only the leaders of the council can change the culture that underlies its problems. Both "sides" will claim some sort of victory but it does nothing for the council going forward.' George Freeman, independent councillor for Lomond North, disagreed, arguing it was 'a good day for democracy'. He said: 'Anyone who understands this ruling will realise that it has major implications for all councillors and on what we can now say and do, and will be welcomed by all fair-minded people. Where many councillors were concerned about speaking out on issues, to a great extent, that fear has now been removed by the clarification that the case against Councillor Breslin has provided for all councillors.'

Dawnfresh receives green light to expand Etive 3 fish farm

A CONTROVERSIAL Loch Etive fish farm can expand its cage sizes only if it keeps to existing trout biomass, Argyll and Bute Council has decided, writes Sandy Neil.

Councillors granted planning permission for Scotland's largest producer of farmed trout, Dawnfresh, to move its Etive 3 fish farm, located at Port Na Mine at the eastern end of Loch Etive, 100m into deeper water, and increase the size of its mooring grid and 10 pens from 60m (granted permission in 2007) to 80m in circumference. An earlier application was withdrawn this year 'due to mis-description', because 'unauthorised' 70m cages had been installed since 2013. The latest application received 97 expressions of support and 307 objections. Supporters pointed to Scotland's growing fish farming industry contributing £1.86 billion annually, increasing by £110 million per year, and employing 2,257 people - 2,131 in the Highlands and Islands alone. Trout production on Loch Etive, one argued, 'helped sustain young families, local communities, services and schools, in an area where there are limited opportunities.'

'It would be imperative to limit biomass to the current consented maximum [458.4t] by means of planning condition, to ensure any future intended increase would prompt a planning application, and thereby enable at that time the necessary assessment of implications for wild fish interests.'

Dawnfresh expects to complete the enlargement within the next six months. Its farming director, Stewart Hawthorn, welcomed the decision, saying: 'We have been operating on Loch Etive for over eight years and love what we do here, carefully rearing high-quality food for people to enjoy here at home and around the world, while creating year-round well-paying jobs for people in our local community. 'Changing all of our pens to be the same size is something we have been wanting to achieve for some time. This will help us modernise our operations.' Campaign group Friends of Loch Etive (FoLE) was 'disappointed' by the decision to 'massively' increase cage sizes at the Etive 3 site, but it welcomed the council's planning condition 'to protect wild salmon and sea trout and Etive ecology', a spokesperson said. 'The decision, made in the face of overwhelming opposition from the public, will cause damage to the landscape, interfere with fishing and recreation, and is just another step towards an industrialised loch. 'Dawnfresh stated clearly there will be no increase in the biomass of farmed fish it intends to grow in these bigger cages, but FoLE and many others have long been concerned this is really just the first step in Dawnfresh salami-slicing its way to a much bigger farm at Etive 3 against the wishes of the Etive community. 'FoLE is pleased to see the council shares our concerns that this is just the start of Dawnfresh trying to get a much bigger farm at Etive 3. 'By placing a condition limiting the tonnage of farmed fish Dawnfresh can hold at that site to the existing tonnage, the council has made it clear to Dawnfresh that enough is enough. 'Until the company sees sense and stops submitting planning application after planning application, we will continue the fight to protect Loch Etive.'

IT'S TIME
TO BOOK YOUR AD IN THE 2017 OBAN INDEX

If you wish to advertise your business within the Oban 2017 Index please call Fiona 01631 568018

Manor House Hotel & Restaurant

Now is the time to book your special **Christmastime Party** Overlooking the Harbour
Gallanach Road • Oban
01631 562087
www.manorhouseoban.com

CLARINS

BIG Beauty GIFT

Choose 3 free treats worth £41*

Yours when you buy two or more recommended Clarins products, one to be skin care.

Available from Thursday 27 October - Saturday 12 November 2016.

Gordons Chemists
16 George Street, Oban
Tel: 01631 562063

*Based on average retail value of standard size products. A choice of 3 different products per customer while stocks last, choice subject to availability. Not to be used in conjunction with any other Clarins offer. Gift not available online.

"The friendly staff did a great job very quickly..."

"...and took all the old windows away leaving no mess."
- Alistair Gillies, Gorthleck

Cairngorm Group
tougher, warmer, smarter

1 Longman Drive, Inverness IV1 1SU Tel: 01463 238000
Tyock Industrial Estate, Elgin IV30 1XY Tel: 01343 545315
6-8 High Street, Thurso KW14 8AG Tel: 01847 894956
info@cairngormgroup.co.uk | www.cairngormgroup.co.uk

Like like us on facebook
www.facebook.com/obantimes

OT

At Random

MARTIN LAING
mlaing@obantimes.co.uk



The deep water of the loch is right beside the road.

Picture shows perils of A816

I OFFER no apologies for returning this week to the subject of safety on the A816.

This was, of course, the road where the McCorrisken toddlers Seth, two, and Leia, three, so tragically died back in July when the car in which they were travelling left the road and plunged into Loch nan Druimnean near Kilmelford.

There is a campaign, which I am fully behind, to have safety barriers installed. This, after all, is the main road between Oban and Lochgilphead and it is dangerous.

The need for barriers was brought into even sharper relief thanks to the work of Neil Owen, a pilot of unmanned aerial vehicles (UAVs) or drones, who runs ArgyllUAVs. Neil was prompted to send up a drone to take some superb aerial photographs after reading about the campaign two weeks ago, and he kindly sent a number of the pictures to us here at *The Oban Times*.

The photo printed here shows all too clearly how perilously close the stretch of road is to the loch beside it. It would take only the slightest of errors, or for a car to skid on spilled oil or some other substance, for a repeat of the tragedy in the summer.

And there is a very clear precedent for the erection of barriers. I was struck during a recent trip from Oban to Fort William by how many barriers there are on the A82 along the side of Loch Linnhe. The same can be said for the A85 alongside Loch Awe. If those roads are thought so dangerous that they warrant safety measures, then why not the A816?

We really need to keep banging this particular drum to force the responsible body to take action. And the sooner, the better.

Let's get the skatepark built

THERE has been considerable comment since we pub-

lished last week a story about the suggestion of a skatepark for young people near Oban's Corran Halls.

The lion's share has been very positive though there are, inevitably, some detractors who oppose the idea.

Why, though, are teenagers so disparaged – even feared – by so many adults?

As a parent of two young adults in their early twenties, I've enjoyed (and I use that word advisedly) contact with numerous adolescents in recent years.

And in almost all my interaction with these youths over the years, I've found them to be hugely interesting, bright, intelligent, sassy young people.

In the case of the skatepark, these youngsters, who are demonised in some quarters for using Stafford Street to hang out, are almost certainly the same.

Actually, they're outdoors, staying active, having fun and simply behaving as teenagers have always done.

Sure, there'll be the odd bad apple but that doesn't mean the whole barrel is tainted.

Let's hope those in the council engaging with the town's young people find out what tops their wish list and identify the best location to give them a skatepark.

MPs are right to fight changes

LOCHABER MP Ian Blackford and Argyll MP Brendan O'Hara oppose suggested changes to their Westminster constituency boundaries.

No wonder. The proposed amendments might tick the required boxes for population numbers per constituency but they are, frankly, preposterous.

The constituencies would be enormous. Mr O'Hara would represent an area that stretches from south of Campbeltown to Mallaig. Mr Blackford would have an area from Skye to east of Inverness.

The MPs couldn't possibly properly represent their constituents.

Oban Winter Festival team launch 2016 extravaganza

SANDY NEIL
sneil@obantimes.co.uk

THE Oban Winter Festival – 'the biggest winter party in the West' – has launched its 10-day programme of events, which will run from November 18-27 to entertain all ages.

The festival, now in its sixth year, is a celebration of Oban's unique culture and community, with street parades, international and local performers, fire artists, crafts, pipers, parades and family fun, all within easy travel distance in the town centre.

The fun begins with shop window-dressing, themed this year on 'a taste of winter', and judging takes place on Thursday November 17, when the winner will receive a bottle of prosecco. Kicking off the week and the festival's grand finale are the magnificent parades.

Santa and his reindeer parade will take place on Saturday November 19 at 5pm from the Corran Halls, leading up to the Christmas lights switch-on at 6pm in Station Square.

This year, instead of the Christmas tree on Stafford



Oban Winter Festival is organised by a small, crack team of volunteers, including David Smith, Karen Mackie, Eleanor MacKinnon, Pamela Lockhart and David Finlayson, above, who, with Louis Barrow and Kyle Lockhart, were awarded the Queen's Award for Voluntary Service this year.

Street, organisers will unveil a 12ft stainless steel abstract sculpture inspired by McCaig's Tower, to mark this Year of Innovation, Architecture and Design. Colour installations, designed in a competition posted to local primary schools, will add to the festival's spectacular finale and pyrotechnic display.

The bill for Friday November 18 features a Ballet West Winter Wonderland, a fashion show at M&Co, and a dress up event called *Fantastic Beasts and Where To Find Them*.

On Saturday, there is a Christmas science event at SAMS Ocean Explorer Centre at Dunstaffnage, a Victorian market in

the Rockfield Centre, and the Oban Winter Festival Scottish food and craft market in Oban Distillery.

Sunday sees Dunollie Makes Christmas. With traditional crafts, music, festive food and drink, and handmade gifts, it is guaranteed to get you in the Christmas spirit. There will also be a cloutie dumpling competition in the Corran Halls, and a performance from Three Wee Crows Theatre Company, presenting their acclaimed First World War production, *Home Fires – Broken Sons*.

The week also features many more craft markets, as well as whisky and gin tasting, Gaelic learning, a fairground, children's shows, cinema, jugglers, classical music concerts, camper van tours, late night shopping, jewellery making and even help with your Christmas gift wrapping.

On Friday November 25 there is an Atlantic Winter Dance Show and a Polski Fling in St Columba's Cathedral Hall. Guided walks of Oban's built heritage follow on Saturday November 26 as well as a Christmas

fair, a Congregational church coffee morning, haggis hurling, a roller disco, a 'Tartan Dash', a winter wonderland at Ganavan Woodland, and, finally, the Oban Pipe Band and Oban Winter Festival St Andrews ceilidh dance.

The family parade, with theme to be revealed, follows on Sunday November 27 at 5pm, before the festival finale starts at 6.30pm.

The festival also includes free exhibitions, displaying Oban's heritage at the War and Peace Museum on Corran Esplanade, and 'The Fabric of Society' at the Puffin Drive Centre.

There will also be an exhibition and sale of crafts by local artists on November 25-27 – The Room@Christmas – in the Rockfield Centre.

For more programme information, visit www.obanwinterfestival.com.

Should you choose to stay overnight in Oban to enjoy one or more of the winter festival events there are various options for your stay. You can find more details at www.visitscotland.com or www.oban.org.uk.

Oban's Hope Kitchen celebrates £150,000 lottery cash injection

OBAN'S Hope Kitchen has been awarded a £150,000 grant from the Big Lottery Fund, which will make a 'huge difference', writes David McPhee.

The money, which will be distributed in three yearly instalments of £50,000, comes at a crucial time as the charity is in the process of relocating to new premises.

Manager Lorraine MacCormick said that Hope Kitchen applied for 'a big grant' around six months ago, but their application was unsuccessful.

However, the Big Lottery Fund informed them that they would rather the kitchen apply for a medium grant.

'It's a relief,' Lorraine said. 'It will make a huge difference. We still need to do fundraising things but we won't have to find as much money. There are lots of people saying well done, which is really nice. We are just really delighted about it.'

The food bank, which feeds up to 30 people per day, has to raise around £75,000 per year to cover the running costs.

Oban Lorn and the Isles councillor Roddy McCuish, said: 'This is fabulous news. Hope



Manager Lorraine MacCormick, third from the right, with some of Hope Kitchen's volunteers. 17_144Hope01

Kitchen does great work locally and it's great to see them getting national recognition and vital funding. This is thoroughly deserved and we wish them all the best for the future.'

Big Lottery Fund Scotland chairwoman Maureen McGinn said: 'I am delighted Hope Kitchen has been successful in securing a Big Lottery Fund grant. The funding will make a big difference where it is needed most.'

Hope Kitchen also recently raised £3,510 in a crowdfunding

campaign, which will be used to help the organisation 'kit out' its new centre on Soroba Road.

Ms MacCormick added: 'We did not make our target [£12,000], but that was fine. We set it really high, so we are still delighted with what we got. With gift aid it will be around £4,000. It's a lot of money and it will go a long way. We need it, as we're really busy.'

Ms MacCormick is hopeful that the award-winning charity will be settled into its new premises by early next year.

Maternity service boost



OBAN'S hospital is set to gain an ultrasound scan for pregnant mothers early next year.

Currently local expectant mums are sent outside Argyll to the nearest obstetric scanning machine in Glasgow. But in 2017, once three new posts have been filled, women should be able to have an ultrasound – which uses sound waves to depict a real-time picture of the moving foetus – closer to home, Argyll and Bute Health and Social Partnership announced at its meeting this month.

A spokesperson said: 'We are continuing to move forward with the development of arrangements to provide planned scanning services for pregnant women. However, there is still some significant work to be completed, including staff finalising their training, appointments to the relevant posts and the appropriate equipment purchased and installed. We expect that this will be completed by spring next year with the service being operational shortly after.'

Halloween treat?
The trick is to go to Aldi.

Funszie Apples

See in store for great price

Haribo Super Mini Mix

£1.79
370g

Funszie Easy Peelers

See in store for great price

Bubbly Minis

Choose from Milk or White.

89p
150g

Halloween treat? The trick is to go to Aldi.

£2.49

each

Everyday Amazing.

Monster Pumpkin, £2.49 each. Funszie Apples, see in store for great price. Funszie Easy Peelers, see in store for great price. Haribo Super Mini Mix 370g, 48.4p per 100g. Bubbly Minis 150g, 59.3p per 100g.

Speed Networking Event

ARGYLL ENTERPRISE WEEK
18-20 OCT 2016

To take place at The Argyllshire Gathering Halls on the last day of Argyll Enterprise Week
- Friday 4th November.
1.30pm - 5pm

Excellent opportunity to meet, greet and do more business on your doorstep

If you wish to book your table please contact Nicky Murphy at the Oban Times on 01631 568000 or email nmurphy@obantimes.co.uk or you can register directly on the event booking website at www.eventbrite.co.uk (search under Argyll Enterprise Week)

OT

Barcaldine, Benderloch and Connel

SIGHTINGS of red squirrels are common in North Connel but one squirrel with a white tail is causing quite a stir.

This distinctive red squirrel has been sighted in gardens along the Bonawe Road over the past few weeks. A white-tailed red squirrel was sighted in the same area last year and it is unknown if this is the same one.

Keen nature photographers are on the lookout so if you spot this rare visitor, please post on *The Oban Times* Facebook Page.

NEIGHBOURS and friends of Laura Campbell are delighted with the response to the charity raffle organised to raise funds for CLIC Sargent.

Local and national businesses have offered generous prizes and the draw will take place at a dance in North Connel Hall on Friday November 18.

Laura is undergoing stem cell treatment for leukemia at the Queen Elizabeth University Hospital, Glasgow. Everyone wishes her a speedy recovery.

ENJOY home-baking and a chat at the pop-up cafe in Benderloch Church Hall every Friday from 2.30pm to 4.30pm. Everyone welcome.

PREPARATIONS are under way for Hallowe'en celebrations at Sutherland's Grove.

Barcaldine Community Association is organising a 'Spooky Woods' event for children. Storytelling, mask making, a spooky trail and lots more activities will take place at Sutherland's Grove from 6pm on Saturday October 29. Admission is £3.50 per child, adults free. Food and drink will be available.

Lochgilthead

SHARED Care Scotland is to hold a free information session in Lochgilthead Parish Church on how third sector organisations can apply for funds to provide short breaks for disabled children.

The Scottish Government Better Breaks Fund offers grants of up to £50,000 for projects that provide imaginative short holidays for disabled children and young people and their families in Scotland.

The fund aims to offer breaks that families can enjoy together or which allow parents and siblings to have time away from their caring responsibilities.

Shared Care Scotland administers the fund on behalf of the Scottish Government and they will be holding a free information session in Lochgilthead Parish Church at 10am on Monday October 31. As well as tips on making an application, organisations will talk about their experience of developing short break projects.

To register for a place at the workshop, contact Amanda Moffat on 01383 622462.

Oban

OBAN hospital staff and friends raised £4,500 for Macmillan Cancer Support at the Craggy Island Triathlon this month.

Seven teams from Lorn and Islands Hospital, comprising consultants, nurses and other medical staff, relayed the triathlon race, which sees competitors swim from Gallanach to the Isle of Kerrera, then ride 14km on a mountain bike, before running 8km over the bumpy off-road terrain.

'It was challenging, but we all really enjoyed it,' said triathlete Gillian Bisp. 'Thank you to everyone who supported us with their donations. We were delighted to raise £4,500. Quite a few of us work in the day unit and see the difference Macmillan makes.'

Air ambulance fundraiser

SCOTLAND'S only charity-funded air ambulance is looking for help from Santa to boost its festive fundraising.

Scotland's Charity Air Ambulance (SCAA), which operates regularly in the Oban area, has produced a Christmas card featuring the chopper flying to the aid of an injured Santa after his sleigh ploughs into a snow drift. SCAA chief executive David Craig hopes the cartoon card will have widespread appeal.

He said: 'Our vital work is serious and extremely demanding but the card is a bit of festive fun and shows that the SCAA is there for everyone - even Santa.'

The cards, priced £4 for a pack of 10 (plus postage and packaging), are available to order from SCAA on 03001 231111.

Rotary club boosts charity fund

MID ARGYLL Rotary Club has donated £100 to Simpson's Memory Box Appeal (SIMBA), a charity which helps parents who have lost a baby during pregnancy or birth.

Susan Simpson, SIMBA's Highland ambassador, was delighted to receive the cheque when she spoke at a Mid Argyll Rotary Club's meeting.

Roddy MacLeod, Rotary speaker secretary, said: 'All present felt it was one of the most emotional and thought provoking talks they have ever heard. Susan outlined the services the charity offers to those bereaved through the loss of a baby and shared how the death of their youngest daughter had led her to SIMBA, first for support, then to volunteer.'

Susan said: 'It was one of the best speaking engagements I've been invited to.



Mid Argyll Rotary Club president Ian Davidson presents Susan Simpson of SIMBA with the £100 cheque.

The members were very open about their own experiences and their thoughts and understandings of baby loss. This donation will help the charity continue to make a difference to bereaved families in Argyll.'

At the beginning of the month Susan and a team of four Argyllshire women joined 32,000 other runners in the Great Scottish Run in Glasgow, raising funds and awareness for the charity.

Susan added: 'It's particularly heart warming to have the support of Mid Argyll Rotary, which is well-known for supporting local and national charities.'

'SIMBA is grateful for their continued support in the work we are doing by organising support groups, funding family rooms in maternity units and providing a 'memory box' of mementos.'

New walk launched as part of million miles tribute to student

A NEW walk is to be launched in memory of Ellie MacDonald of North Uist who died from cancer aged just 23 only weeks after graduating from St Andrews University.

Ellie's mum Michelle - who has overcome breast cancer twice - will join family, friends and more than 100 students on October 29 at Cambo Estate in Fife to walk the nine-mile coastal path to Castle Sands, St Andrews.

It's a flagship event for One Million Miles for Ellie, an appeal to raise £1million for those touched by cancer.

After adding up all the miles covered by participants, organisers hope to hit their million mile target. Money raised will be split between Cancer Research UK, Maggie's and Macmillan Cancer Support. Participants will be encouraged to collect stones on the walk to add to a cairn to be created as a tribute to Ellie on the beach at Castle Sands.

Michelle, 51, of North Uist said: 'Ellie was so precious to all our family and meant everything to me. Ellie made a bucket list before she died and it was packed full of adventurous plans. It showed how she really believed anything was possible. We're keen to capture that enthusiasm, energy and inspiration in One Million Miles for Ellie.'

'Our family are so grateful to the amazing students at St Andrews Univer-



Ellie at St Andrews University.



Michelle Macdonald.

sity for supporting us.' More than £70,000 has already been raised since 1 Million Miles for Ellie started last summer when hundreds of purple balloons soared in to the sky as a tribute to Ellie.

It was a chance for Ellie's mum and dad, Michelle and Angus Macdonald, both 51, and for Ellie's brothers Fraser, 23, and Alexander, 11, and sister Sarah, 19, to

remember Ellie who died on September 18, 2014.

Purple, which was Ellie's favourite colour, was everywhere on the day of her funeral in North Uist, from the clothes mourners wore to the heather, lavender and thistles which filled the kayak she had loved so much.

Ellie was in her final year of a degree in management when she was diagnosed with bowel cancer in

December 2013. Her mum Michelle was with her every step of the way through her fight with the disease.

She said: 'I was with Ellie when she was told she had cancer. She took it so well. Her mum had got over it twice so why shouldn't she? I would have given her my life in a second but it doesn't work that way. To lose a child under any circumstances is hard to come to terms with. To lose a child to a disease that has blighted our family twice and taken a child already is unbearable.'

Ellie packed so much in to her final few months - graduating from university, kayaking with her dad, jumping for joy on a Spanish beach with her boyfriend Robert Przepiora, 26, and writing a bucket list of 10 wishes which included as number one a determination to 'destroy cancer'. But the cancer had spread to Ellie's liver and she died at Ninewells hospital, Dundee surrounded by her family.

Michelle said: 'Ellie is buried next to John Joseph, the baby I lost when I had cancer. Even if I started as a baby and lived a long life I know I couldn't walk a million miles alone but that distance could be covered with the help of people across Scotland and across the world. I don't need to do this on my own as I believe together we can beat cancer. That will be my tribute to Ellie.'

Taynuilt

TWO POPULAR Taynuilt residents are moving onto pastures new.

The Reverend Robert Brookes and Police Constable Alison Simpson, will both be moving away soon but were quick to point out the fact they are both leaving the village at the same time is purely coincidental!

Robert, who has been the minister for Muckairn Parish, Kilchrenan and Dalavich churches for the past seven years, is heading north to the parishes of Cawdor, Croy and Dalcross and, although sad to leave Taynuilt, is looking forward to his new challenge.

A keen Newtonmore Shinty Club supporter, Robert was delighted when his team recently won the Camanachd Cup, though he made a point of not celebrating too loudly since the losing finalists were Oban Camanachd!

He said: 'I've had a fantastic ministry here amongst lovely people and will be sorry to leave behind so many good friends.'

Alison arrived in Taynuilt more than six years ago to work as a community police officer and has enjoyed her work, making many good friends along the way.



The Reverend Robert Brookes and PC Alison Simpson.

She is taking up a new post at Dumbarton.

She said: 'I hope local people feel I've made a difference during my stay in Taynuilt and have always found me approachable.'

'It's been a pleasure working and living in the village and I look forward to return for future visits.

When I was on holiday once in Key West, USA, the police cars were marked with 'Policing in Paradise' and my thoughts are exactly the same for working in Argyll - apart from the midgets!'

Once Alison leaves her post, it is unclear whether Taynuilt police office will remain open.

MORVERN
lines**A land of many castles**

MORVERN and the surrounding territories is certainly a land of castles.

In the parish there is Kinlochaline, Glensanda, Ardtornish, Caisteal nan Con, the vitrified fort of Rahoy and any number of smaller duns. The mighty Mingary and Tioram castles lie to the north, with Duart, Lochbuie and Aros over on Mull.

On the other side of Loch Linnhe, Shuna, Stalker, Achaduin, Coeffin, Dunstaffnage, Dunollie and Kerrera guard Morvern's southern and eastern approaches.

Kinlochaline Castle, as the name implies, stands at the head of Loch Aline and is in the news just now because an application has been lodged with the Highland Council Planning Department to alter two window openings and install a wooden balcony on the south wall.

The castle was built in the 15th century and is of a type known as a 'tower-house'. Castles of this style and date were square or oblong without projecting parts, containing usually three apartments, one on top of another with stone barrel-vaulted basement rooms for storing food and housing animals. They were lit by narrow slits, not for defence, but for ventilation. Larger windows in the upper levels were built well above ground level to deter uninvited callers in the night.

Sometime during the 16th century the castle was remodelled but abandoned in 1690 by the MacLeans in favour of the Campbells.

It lay roofless until the 1880s when part of it was occupied by an old woman called Mary Cameron who had gone to live there following the loss of her nearby thatched cottage by a winter storm.

She kept cows and hens in the castle and entertained many visitors, including an *Oban Times* correspondent who called in September 1883, and wrote that she had an aversion to go to live in Lochaline village, "as a more miserable place does not exist". Mary was still in the castle two years later when a reporter from the *Highland Magazine* announced, 'Her sleeping apartment is unmercifully exposed to the elements...As a rule she passes the time knitting.'

In the 1890s the castle was repaired and roofed by Thomas Valentine Smith of Ardtornish, then attractively restored in 2000. It is now an eye-catching private-dwelling enhancing the ancient wooded landscape around the River Aline where it tumbles into the sea-loch.



Kinlochaline Castle c1865 before restoration.

Photograph: Iain Thornber.

According to local folklore Kinlochaline Castle was built by a female member of the MacInnes family. Her name has come down through the centuries as Lady Dubh Chall (Gaelic, the lady of the black hood) along with the legend that she paid her architect and his labourers with a quantity of butter equal to its size. There is no documentary evidence to support the MacInnes connection, although the castle was known until fairly recently among locals, as 'Caisteal an Ime', (Gaelic, the Butter Castle). Myths are the darlings of guide-books writers but in reality it was most likely built by one of the MacLeans of Duart who later styled himself MacLean of Kinlochaline. The MacInneses were never a major clan and, like the MacLeans, were servants to the MacDonnells, Lords of the Isles, who lived in nearby Ardtornish castle and controlled the whole of the Western seaboard.

One of the chief-less and landless MacInnes family, most of whom now live in America, has recently calculated that it would have taken more than 600 tons of butter to fill the castle.

The notion that so much butter was gathered and converted into money to pay a bill is absurd but it is worth noting that butter and cheese, instead of cash, were often accepted as rent in Morvern and elsewhere in the Highlands and Islands at the time. So perhaps that is where the butter story originated.

An interesting feature still to be seen above the fireplace in the N wall of the main first-floor apartment, is a sandstone plaque showing the nude figure of a kneeling female.

In her right hand she holds a round object, probably a plate, while she presses a flask to her body under her left arm; at the top left corner there is a bee-hive shaped object - perhaps a whisky jug. The scene is thought by some travel writers to represent Lady Dubh Chall dispensing hospitality although why she is naked is not explained.

The plaque may be a 'Sheila-na-gig', the equivalent of a page from a medieval *Playboy* magazine brought from Ireland when the castle was permanently occupied. Over the entrance door in the south wall, is another small carved stone plaque with a cable moulded border with a stag pursued by a hound, with a fish below.

Kinlochaline Castle is 'B' Listed - the second highest category given by Historic Environment Scotland for a building of special architectural or historic interest. For this reason the Architectural Heritage Society of Scotland has lodged an objection to the application. They say putting large windows relatively low down in the structure would be inappropriate. Their main concern, however, is the introduction of the wooden balcony with French windows protruding from the sheer vertical walls of the keep which, when viewed from the side and face-on, would be uncharacteristic of tower houses.

Iain Thornber
iain.thornber@btinternet.com

Not sure what to do for your
Office/Business Christmas Night Out?

Join us for
**Blasta's Festive
Fizz & Feast**

Friday 2nd to
Tuesday 20th
December 2016
from 5pm each night

£23.50
Per Person
3 courses with
a glass of
prosecco

B LASTA
RESTAURANT

The Royal Hotel, Argyll Square
Oban Scotland PA34 4BE

t: 01631 563 021 f: 01631 562 811

e: salesroyaloban@strathmorehotels.com
www.strathmorehotels.com

Bookings preferred but not essential

Housing hearing

APPLICATIONS for two Oban housing developments in Glenshellach will go to a discretionary local hearing, Argyll and Bute Council's planning committee decided last week at Kilmory Castle.

Argyll Community Housing Association (ACHA) plans to build 24 affordable flats, in two three-storey blocks of 12, in its final phase of a development west of Catalina Avenue. The application attracted no letters of support and 54 objections, citing the site's overdevelopment, and the 'inappropriate' scale this 'pair of sentry boxes' high above other houses. So far, 78 dwellings have been granted permission, bringing the total to 102 – above the 90 units allocated in the Local Development Plan (LDP).

ACHA has also applied to build 12 more houses by Hayfield, beside its four flats and 13 houses there, with six more units expected in a future application. The plan received no letters of support and 43 objections, mostly from local addresses, arguing the extra 18 dwellings would exceed the allocation set out in the LDP.

Skipinnish Hogmanay

THE TRADITIONAL Scottish music band, Skipinnish, delighted fans on social media by revealing that they will be playing in Oban at Hogmanay this year.

The West Coast band will be playing in the Skipinnish Ceilidh House.

Tickets for the event are currently on sale for £13.33. It will start at 9.30pm on Saturday December 31 and end at 3am on Sunday January 1.

Playpark cash bid

FRIENDS of Oban Community Playpark are hoping to secure £25,000 from the Aviva Community Fund, which will finance 800 projects throughout the UK.

To be in with a chance of winning, projects need public votes. Each person who signs up is able to vote 10 times.

To vote for the under-fives all abilities community play park, visit <https://community-fund.aviva.co.uk/voting/project/view/16-1852>.

Councillor's fears over care hours

SANDY NEIL
sneil@obantimes.co.uk

A 'COLOSSAL' deficit of '500 hours' of community care in Oban, Lorn and the Isles area could mean its new integrated care system is 'heading for a fall', fears a local councillor.

Councillor Iain MacLean raised the question of a '500 care hours deficit' at the October meeting of the Oban, Lorn and Isles Locality Health and Care Forum, where the figure met no denial from Councillor Kieron Green, policy lead for health and social care, or from Argyll and Bute Health and Social Care Partnership.

Councillor MacLean, an independent representative for Oban North and Lorn, told *The Oban Times* he feared if there was a 500-hour short-

age of care packages, the plan to integrate social and medical care at home could be 'heading for a fall'.

'In bringing together integrated care we are straight away looking at a reduced budget,' he said. 'We are looking at cutbacks and my concern is: is this going to impinge on the social care? I am quite worried we are in the footsteps of the way forward and we are in such a deficit. We are almost heading for a fall.'

If the figure is confirmed 'it's really quite colossal', he said. 'It's far too much. It needs addressing, urgently. I am calling for a fundamental review. Why do we have this inability to staff what we need?'

Argyll and Bute Health and Social Care Partnership did not deny the 500-hour

deficit, nor did it release a figure when asked by *The Oban Times*. But it did acknowledge that meeting the homecare need posed a 'severe challenge', and assured it had reduced the care hours deficit.

A spokesman said: 'It is well recognised that it is difficult nationally to attract people to work in homecare and this is particularly the case in remote and rural areas such as Oban, Lorn and the Isles.'

'This is one of the main reasons that meeting the level of homecare need required is a severe challenge. We have been trying to overcome these recruitment issues through working closely with our adult care at home providers, maximising the available time and staff that we have.'

'The forthcoming imple-

mentation of the Scottish living wage will, hopefully, help with the retention of staff and we are pleased that providers are taking this forward.

'We also have a working group in place with a full action plan to monitor the level of care required, ensure that we are assessing people correctly, allocating care hours as quickly as we can so that people don't have to stay in hospital any longer than they have to, and working alongside our local providers who have been exemplary in trying to address this problem.'

'Through this approach we have significantly reduced the number of care hours that are not met and we will continue to do what we can locally to meet the needs of our patients and service users.'

Painting positive picture of Oban



The 50 illustration students outside Oban Youth Hostel. The young people spent four days in and around the town as part of an annual field trip. 15_144ArtStudents02

OBAN was awash with pencils and pads as 50 Edinburgh College of Art students spent four days in and around Oban sketching its landscapes, writes David McPhee.

As part of an annual college field trip, the students spent four nights in Oban Youth Hostel.

The youngsters, who are all studying art illustration, took advantage the town's

transport links, venturing out to the nearby islands Kerrera, Staffa, Mull and Lismore, and visited local castles.

Oban has been the college's location of choice for the past four years – since tutor Atrid Kaekel visited the town and went back and said: 'We must take the students there.'

Astrid said: 'Oban is really accessible and,

more importantly, Oban is a place you can explore; there are no distractions like in a city.'

'It's exciting. It's almost an exotic place. It's good to get away and also Oban has this fantastic youth hostel that can cater to 50 people.'

'It's common for artists to work from photographs, but here it's more immediate.'

Johnathan Gillies, department head, said: 'Com-

ing to Oban gives them a chance to draw landscapes and from here they can go to the islands.'

The students will use what they have seen and found in Oban to create a series of more polished works.

One student, who will be creating a booklet about Staffa, said: 'We took the ferry to Staffa and went through Iona. I like visiting places with natural beauty.'

Recycling information packs to go out to every household in Argyll and Bute

HOUSEHOLD information packs for the new refuse and recycling service are set to arrive in the Oban area in early to mid November.

The new service is going live on Monday November 28 in Oban, Lorn and Cowal, and on Lismore, Tiree, Coll and Colonsay.

A household information pack containing a calendar with both collection dates and advice on how to use different bins, a letter, and a frequently asked questions sheet will arrive through the doors of households in Helensburgh and Lomond by the end of this week.

Argyll and Bute Council is introducing a new refuse and recycling service across the area – keeping recycling

services as they are and moving to a three-weekly schedule for general waste (green) bins.

Councillor Ellen Morton, policy lead for roads and amenity services, explained: 'Like all councils, we have to change the way we do things because of drastically reduced funding, with £10 million of savings this year alone. At the same time, we have to reduce the amount of waste that goes to landfill because we pay more than £80 in tax for every tonne.'

'Argyll and Bute Council is totally committed to recycling, which is why we have protected that part of the service. Recycling arrangements will be staying the same as they are now. By taking

advantage of the recycling options available people can save space in their general waste (green) bin, save money for council services and save money for themselves. By throwing away less food people could save hundreds of pounds each year – money which is better in their pocket than in the bin.'

'The more we can work together to recycle, the more money we can save. We can then protect the services people have told us are important to them, such as investing in regeneration projects, educating our young people, improving our road network and supporting vulnerable people.'

'The packs will provide information about the changes, how to use the

services and new collection dates.' Some of the key points about the new service are:

■ Additional recycling bins will be available free of charge.

■ Arrangements can be made for certain households to have a second green bin – where there are five or more people, where someone has a medical condition that generates waste or where families have children using nappies, and all other recycling options have been considered.

On October 13, an article in *The Oban Times* said recycled material was taken to landfill. This was incorrect. It should have read no recycled waste is taken to landfill. We apologise for this error.

Scottish Field NOVEMBER ISSUE OUT NOW

Dazzling Dumfries

BROADCASTER STEPHEN JARDINE ON THE JOY OF BEING A DOONHAMER

WHICH FLY DID RIVER AWE SALMON FIND IRRESISTIBLE?

WIN £1000 OF INTERIOR DESIGN VOUCHERS

www.scottishfield.co.uk

A LOCAL - CARING - CHARITY

NorthArgyll

EVENTIDE HOME ASSOCIATION LTD

61 YEARS AGO The North Argyll Eventide Home was opened by the people of Oban to provide a caring environment for the elderly of the area.

Today, fully modernised, it continues to provide exceptional residential and respite care for our old people. With consistent top scores at every inspection, Oban can be extremely proud to have such a high quality facility.

For more information please contact:

North Argyll Eventide Home Association Ltd.

North Argyll House, Connel Rd, Oban, Argyll PA34 5TG
01631 562168 info@northargyllhouse.org
www.northargyllhouse.org

Aldi Super 6 offers. We've chopped the lot.

On sale now.

Everyday Amazing.

Kale	55p 200g	Satsumas	55p 600g
Butternut Squash	55p each	Chestnut Mushrooms	55p 250g
Asparagus	55p 70g	Funsized Apples	49p min 5 pack

sale 200g, £2.75 per kg, Satsumas 600g, 91.7p per kg, Butternut Squash, 55p each, Chestnut Mushrooms 250g, £2.20 per kg, Asparagus 70g, £3.24 per kg, Funsized Apples min. 5 pack, max. 9.8p each. Fruit and Veg offers available Thursday 20 October to Wednesday 2 November 2016. New offers start Thursday 3 November 2016. Prices are correct at time of going to print but, due to growing conditions, are subject to change. Please see in store for latest offers.

Need more space?

HAVE WE GOT PLANS FOR YOU!

Why move when you can improve with a Cairngorm Conservatory?

Cairngorm Group
tougher, warmer, smarter

1 Longman Drive, Inverness IV1 1SU
Tel: 01463 238 000

Tyock Industrial Estate, Elgin IV30 1XY
Tel: 01343 545315

6-8 High Street, Thurso KW14 8AG
Tel: 01847 894956

info@cairngormgroup.co.uk
www.cairngormgroup.co.uk

OT

Viewpoint

PO Box 1, Oban, Argyll PA34 4HB
email: editor@obantimes.co.ukThe Oban Times
& WEST HIGHLAND TIMES

THE news this week that a massive rise in visitors coming to Argyll this summer saw many businesses reporting doubled growth is fantastic.

Hotels, guest houses, restaurants and pubs, visitor attractions and shops all benefited from the influx to the region, with many reporting that not only were there more visitors, but the season hasn't yet ended as visitors continue to come.

And CalMac reported ferry traffic particularly busy between Oban and Craignure on Mull.

This is good news as it means that many businesses will not feel as much pressure, worrying about how they will make it through the winter.

But we need to see the same level of influx next year for businesses to be able to build in a level of sustainability.

We have a great core product – first class accommodation, restaurants and pubs, attractions, not to mention the stunning scenery – we just need to ensure that our message keeps getting out as we must not rest on our laurels.



Days gone by – Prudential in 1991

This great photograph was sent to us by Hugh Clark, who now lives in Menstrie in Clackmannanshire. Hugh said it pictures staff from the Prudential offices in Oban and Fort William and that it was taken at the chairlift area at Ben Nevis 25 years ago.

Glasgow Letter

ROBERT ROBERTSON
robert.d.robertson@hotmail.co.uk

A fantastic Mòd comes to an end

There was a good atmosphere in a busy Stornoway over Mòd week.

Many of the revellers who filled the streets were familiar faces from Glasgow – including choirs from Glasgow who were in very good voice.

Such was the bustling nature of the island that it led one waitress to remark that she was delighted they had managed eventually to tow away the Transocean Winner (the rig that ran aground) because the Mòd was coming and there would simply be no room for it.

I had a very sensible Mòd, partly because I was adjudicating this year, and was in my bed before midnight every night. As I boasted about my early evenings and new-found restraint to a friend, he suggested that, during Mòd week, rather than being proud of that fact, I should actually be ashamed.

As we say goodbye to the Stornoway Mòd, we look ahead to Lochaber next year, Dunoon the following year, and (of course) 2019, when, for the first time in 29 years, the festival comes to Glasgow.

Don't be depressed by the post-Mòd blues?

If you are unfortunate enough to be in the midst of the dreaded post-Mòd blues, this coming weekend in Glasgow will sort you right out.

Friday night will go down in history as the first Eriskay annual gathering

Social media

THERE was a healthy response to our story that a suggestion has been put forward about possibly building a skatepark near the Corran Halls, with almost everyone in favour.

Wilma Wardrop praised: 'Good idea and it's about time. We should be encouraging the young people to be active and outdoors. A skate park would be a great addition to the town all ages could use it with bikes, skates and scooters.'



The Glasgow Islay Gaelic Choir (who came third in the Lovat and Tullibardine) nervously await results on Friday.

takes place in the Glasgow University Union. Tickets sold out extremely quickly some time ago.

Eriskay Lilt are playing for the dance and then will perform the following night in the Park Bar, starting at 8pm on account of the amount of Eriskay people expected to be in attendance.

Other events this weekend include the Glasgow Uist and Barra Association ceilidh dance on Friday night and the Glasgow Skye Association's Marag supper on Saturday – both in the Crawford Hall, Beith Street.

What's on

Friday October 28: Glasgow Uist and Barra Association ceilidh dance in the Crawford Hall, Beith Street.

Friday October 28: The first Eriskay annual gathering in the Glasgow University Union.

Saturday October 29: Glasgow Skye Association Marag supper in the Crawford Hall, Beith Street at 7.30pm.

Wednesday November 2: An Lochran Gaelic music session in the Lismore.

Thursday November 3: Glasgow Lewis and Harris Association Annual Dinner, Pond Hotel, 7.15pm for 7.30pm.

Philip Picken suggested: 'Since the council allowed the old Argyll Hotel to be knocked down on the provision of a new one being built. Why not use this eyecore of a site rather than a perfectly good communal area!'

Margaret Mclellan posted: 'Would that also cater for the teenagers I saw yesterday on bicycles, on and off the coping stones on the new bit at Stafford Street.'

Diarmid Macmillan cheered: 'Great

Friday November 4: Glasgow Lewis and Harris Association annual gathering concert, Glasgow University Union, 7.30pm.

Friday November 4: Glasgow Lewis and Harris Association annual dance, Glasgow University Union, 10.30pm-2am.

Thursday November 17: The Tìree Association annual gathering concert in the Partick Burgh Hall.

Friday November 18: The Tìree Association annual gathering dance in Glasgow University Union.

Saturday November 19: Gunna Sound in the Park Bar afternoon and evening.

Saturday November 19: Tide Lines in the art school, Glasgow, with support, at 7pm.

Pub scene

Park Bar

Friday October 28: Heron Valley.
Saturday October 29: Eriskay Lilt.
Sunday October 30: Dùn Mòr.

Islay Inn

Friday October 28: Crooked Reel.
Saturday October 29: The Raggaels.
Sunday October 30: Trail West.
Wednesday November 2: quiz night.



idea it's about time the kids had somewhere to go. But would it not be best on the grass beside new play-park.'

Sandra Rydings agreed: 'Great news. Hope this proposal becomes a reality sooner rather than later.'

Jack Low cautioned: 'skatepark next to a main road think health and safety will have something to say about that.'

Melanie Weetman offered: 'Beside Atlantis would be better.'

Let's have 'keep Oban beautiful' campaign

Sir,
I was interested to read David McCann's letter (*The Oban Times*, October 6) concerning the lack of a view at the viewpoint on Pulpit Hill.

I would be the last person to advocate the cutting down of trees, but it would be foolish to pretend that there are not occasions or locations where some careful tree removal might be advantageous.

One of the two seated viewpoints on Jacob's Ladder has a lovely view down over the bay and the Railway Pier, but the other looks into a solid bank of trees.

I'm certainly against the random felling or chopping of trees which has been and is going on all over Oban, often to allow individual residents a better view or to allow more sunshine to reach their gardens, though at the expense of many others who might enjoy the wooded greenery of the town.

I think we should be proud of Oban's wooded aspect and do everything in our power to keep it that way.

I agree with Mr McCann's point that the facilities for residents and visitors on Pulpit Hill could be better; I might add that the same applies to many parts of Oban.

With such a wonderful situation, a true gateway to the Isles, Oban attracts many visitors who appreciate the beautiful scenery of the area, but despite recent improvements along the seaford, other parts of the town are unkempt and uninviting.

Apart from the gradual loss of tree cover, there are obvious problems with litter, dog dirt, graffiti, scruffy buildings and dirty alleyways. Even our iconic visitor attraction, McCaig's Tower, lacks proper attention, and what could be a wonderful garden within this amazing structure suffers from only an annual shaping of shrubs into balls and cubes and an occasional cutting of the grass. For the rest of the season visitors have to put up with weeds, brambles and rubbish.

The positive side of all this is that it could so easily be improved. There are many concerned residents who give up their time to collect rubbish and cut back brambles, but we all need to get behind them.

Maybe the time has come for a 'Keep Oban beautiful' campaign. I would be delighted to hear from anyone who feels the same way as I do.

Maurice Wilkins,
Laurel Road, Oban.

Extra funding for care home is unjustified

Sir,
Paying £500,000 extra each year to keep open the surplus residential care beds at Struan Lodge in Dunoon can't be justified.

It is all our older people and carers in Oban and elsewhere – who get reduced or are denied support – who pay the price. Other towns can only look on enviously at the new day care

Beachd Ailein

ALLAN CAMPBELL
ailean@obantimes.co.uk

CHRÌOCHNAICH MÒD NÀISEANTA RÌOGHAIL 2016 ann an Steòrnabhagh air latha brèagha foghair le còisirean a' seinn taobh a-muigh Sgoil Mhic Neacail. Abair ceòl eireachdail agus mac-talla nan togalaichean brèagha ùr aig an sgoil a' cur loinn ris.

Taing a-rithist dha na h-uile a thug Mòd cho soirbheachail agus tlachdmhor dhuinn, agus taing dha muinntir Leòdhais a dhearbha a-rithist gum bheil aogheachd chàirdeil nan gnè mar a bha e riamh.

Bho thòisich cruinneachadh nan còisirean air Disathairne crìochnachaidd a' Mhòid Nàiseanta tha cuid a dh'òrain air tighinn gu bhith nan samhla air an tachartas, agus 's e Sine Bhàn fear dhiubh sin.

B' e Athair Raibeart MhicCaluim, à Baile Chille Chiarain, a dheasaich an rian a bhios aig na còisirean air an òran agus tha e na thlachd shònraichte dha Raibeart an stiùireadh leis. Chuir Coinneach MacThòmais, fear eile de cheatharnaich Earra Ghàidheil agus nan còisirean, crìoch air an t-seinn le òran eile a tha taghta aig cruinneachadh nan còisirean,

Cearcall a' Chuain! 'S neònach mura

facilities for older people proposed for Dunoon.

The chairman of the Integrated Joint Board (IJB), Councillor Kieron Green, gave us a grand speech about taking the difficult decisions and fairness at the last council meeting. He can't take the easiest and fairest decision on Struan Lodge.

The IJB has lacked leadership, vision and clarity of process since the retirement of Councillor Maurice Corry as chairman. The present incumbent should consider his position before real harm is done.

Councillor James Robb,
Argyll and Bute Council.

Skatepark proposal – two sides to the coin

Sir,
Beware of creating a skate board facility in Oban in response to a demand (imaginary) by local youth.

It is not so many years since one was built adjacent to Oban Lorne RFC's clubhouse. In no time it fell into disuse and stood for many a day as a rotting eyesore until it was finally pulled down and removed.

W Raymond Shaw,
4 Bellwood Street, Glasgow.

Sir,
I would love a skate park. My brother and I have been hooked on skating since I went on holiday to the skate park in Inverness. We have some small jumps but it's just not enough.

Liam Byers,
by email.

Teacher Angus was an inspirational figure

Sir,
It was with very great sadness that I read of the passing of Angus Nicol in your issue of October 6, 2016.

I first knew Angus as my Gaelic teacher at the City Lit when I was in London from 1984-86. He was an excellent teacher and his classes were always well supported.

I remember studying a Gaelic account of the life of Alastair MacColla with him, demonstrating his interest in the history of Argyll.

More recently, I met him at the Mods in Oban and Dunoon, a kenspeckle figure in his red tartan trews.

He was a fine teacher and a very fine gentleman, and I will miss him sorely.

Soraidh leibh Aonghais, agus sith Dhe maille ribh.

Richard Deveria,
by email.

First Minister should respect referendum

Sir,
It is hard to believe that it is only two years ago that the Scottish people voted decisively to stay part of the UK. What happened to 'respect the wishes

of the Scottish people', as we are now being dragged back to more division and a second round of constitutional bickering?

The focus of the SNP government is entirely on independence and not the wellbeing of Scotland or its services.

Over the nine years of SNP government things have deteriorated and services worsened. The school attainment gap has widened, our police are in crisis, children have been forced to wait years for mental health treatment and our roads are crumbling.

Meanwhile, the First Minister had her civil servants dusting off her indyref rule book and have been working all hours to deliver the draft referendum bill.

The Royal College of Nursing has warned that nurses are facing the perfect storm over staffing levels as they struggle under enormous pressure to provide frontline services along with GPs, doctors, dentists and other NHS staff.

There has not been a mental health strategy since the end of 2015, but the SNP managed to turn around a referendum bill in weeks. It is now crystal clear that the SNP's priority is not education, health, working for the poor or even the protection of the benefits of our EU membership.

It is only independence.

It is essential that First Minister Nicola Sturgeon starts to focus on her day job of governing and turn her attention to Scotland and its crisis-laden services.

Ursula Craig,
Cove.

Mixed messages over leaving the EU

Sir,
It was intriguing to note the First Minister, Nicola Sturgeon, state that she believes a deal could be reached which would allow Scotland, after Brexit, to retain membership of the single market, only to be immediately ridiculed by the Conservative Secretary of State for Scotland, David Mundell MP.

Interestingly, on the very same day it was heralded that the UK was looking at potentially continuing to pay billions of pounds into the EU budget after Brexit to maintain cherished access to the single market for the City of London and other key sectors.

The Prime Minister, Theresa May, also assured Japanese carmaker Nissan that trading conditions for its Sunderland manufacturing plant would not change after Brexit, suggesting that the government could pick favoured sectors to shield from the impact of leaving the European Union.

It is indeed interesting to note the UK government is happy to do deals for specific sectors and parts of the UK, but seems more than a little averse to recognising that Scotland voted overwhelmingly to remain in the EU.

Alex Orr
Leamington Terrace, Edinburgh.

Ailean Caimbeul

biodh cuid air an slighe dhachaigh a' beachdachadh air dìleab Mòd 2016, agus chan eil teagamh nach robh mòran a' fàgail Steòrnabhagh ag aontachadh leis a' bhriheamh ciùil Isobel Mieras a thuir gun robh na farpaisich uile air buannachadh.

Mar a thuir mi fhìn gu h-àrd saoilidh mi gun do bhuannaich a' choimhearsnachd gu làir, agus rè ùine bidh e intinnnach cluinntinn ìre an leasachaidh eaconamach a thug am Mòd thuca.

Nuair a tha mi fhìn aig Mòd feumaidh mi aideachadh gum bi mi a' call sealladh mionaideach air naidheachdan an t-saoghail agus tha urachadh agam ri dhèanamh nuair a thilleas mi dhachaigh.

'S ann an uairsin a bha mi a' leughadh aithris gum bheil dearbhadh ann gum bheil toradh na reifreinn air Brexit air gràin-chinnidh a dhùsgadh às ùr feadh na dùthcha.

Nach bochd sin, agus nach bochd an teisteanas e air dùthaich a bhrosnaich a daoine gus an saoghal a shiubhal is a beartas a chreachadh. Chan e adhbhar moite sam bith a th' anns an eachdraidh air mar a dhèilig Albannaich, agus Gàidheil nam measg, ri tùsanach ann an dùthchannan eile

agus tha fhios gum bheil spiorad ceartais a' comhairleachadh gum bheil coigrich an seo airdh air an aon seòrsa fàilte is a dh'iarradh sinne an dùthaich eile.

'S e masladh a th' ann gum bheil luchd-cleachdaidh is taice na Gàidhlig fhathast a' fulang droch bheil agus càineadh air an cànan nan dùthaich fhèin, agus bha e math gun do bhruidhinn John Swinney an aghaidh leithid sin ann an òraid cuimhneachaidh Aonghais MhicLeòid Diciadain seo chaidh.

Fad nam bliadhnaichean a thug mise ann an obair-leasachaidh na Gàidhlig b' e aonta eadar phartaichean phoilitigeach, a thaobh luach a' chàinain, an gluasad a bu chudromach agus dh'iarrainn sin fhaicinn ga urachadh!

JOHN SWINNEY'S recognition of Gaelic as a uniquely valuable part of Scotland's national heritage was good to hear last week. However, reaffirmation of cross-party commitment to the language would be particularly welcome now.

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

Press policy

WE AT The Oban Times endeavour to ensure that all our reports are fair and accurate and comply with the Editors' Code of Practice set by the Independent Press Standards Organisation (IPSO). We realise, however, that mistakes happen from time to time.

If you think we have made a significant mistake and you wish to discuss this with us, please let us know as soon as possible by any of the three methods: emailing editor@obantimes.co.uk; telephoning the editor on 01631 568046; writing to the Editor at The Oban Times,

Crannog Lane, Lochavullin estate, Oban, PA34 4HB.

We will attempt to resolve your issue in a timely, reasonable and amicable manner. However, if you are unsatisfied with our response, you can contact IPSO, which will investigate the matter. You can

either telephone IPSO on 0300 123 2220 or email inquiries@ipso.co.uk. IPSO is an independent body which deals with complaints from the public about the editorial content of newspapers and magazines.

We will abide by the decision of IPSO.

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.

Audiences and judges blown away by Gaels



Dingwall Gaelic Choir, winner of Lovat and Tullibardine Shield.



Islay Gaelic Choir won the Queen Elizabeth Coronation Trophy for the puirt and the unison singing trophy.

THE ROYAL National Mòd in Stornoway was resounding success – not only for everyone who took part in competitions but also for those who enjoyed the friendships and forged alliances between Gaelic speakers across the globe.

Dingwall Gaelic Choir lifted the Lovat and Tullibardine Shield. This is a prized possession for any chorister but among the strong competition from this year's choirs – in particular, from a much talked about arrangement from Oban Gaelic Choir – it was a testament to the hard work and determination of conductor Kirsteen Menzies and Gaelic tutors Steven MacIver and Father Don R MacIver and singers.

Anyone lucky enough to have a ticket for the Lovat and Tullibardine competition will know that the day itself is very special.

Among the hotly contested prescribed songs and own choice pieces, the audience often responds itself by singing some of the favourite 'hits' of the Royal National Mòd's back catalogue.

To the infamous words of Raibert MacCallum's 'let the song sing itself', the packed audience sang their favourite Gaelic songs while the adjudicators deliberated both the Gaelic pronunciations and the music of the outstanding pieces they had heard.

Lochaber Gaelic Choir gave a stunning performance in the Margrat Duncan Memorial Trophy competition and subsequently were rewarded with a well-deserved first place. Second were Portree Gaelic Choir.

Mull Gaelic Choir had a good outing in all competitions, winning the John Lockie Trophy for the highest marks in Gaelic in three competitions (A303, A305 and A306). Many of their solo choristers also had exceptional performances.

Barra Gaelic Choir, conducted by former Oban woman Lisa MacNeil, won the Lorn Shield along with the Mrs C MacDonald Silver Baton for the conductor of the winning choir and Captain Angus Steward Trophy for highest marks in music.

Islay, who deserve a special mention, chartered three flights between Islay and Stornoway and brought the largest contingent of choirs from off the island.

Organisers' determination paid off with performances for Prince Charles, Lord of the Isles, and winning trophies in the junior, senior and adult singing competitions.

Full results on page 16.

It's time to celebrate



Coisir Ghaidhlig Loch Abir, winner of The Margrat Duncan Memorial Trophy.



Barra choir conductor Lisa MacNeil with the Lorn Shield for rural choirs, presented by Norman MacDonald, convener of the Mòd.

Winners all the way



This year's winners of the prestigious Traditional Gold Medals at the Royal National Mòd in the Western Isles were Claire Macaulay from Ness, now living in Glasgow, and Torquil MacLeod of Stornoway.



Fiona Ross and Fergus Muir with the silver pendants.



Ceitidh Nic Dhomhnaill receiving the Lighting Electrical Cup from its donor, Alena Maclean.

Characters of the MÒD

Isla MacKechnie and Robert Robertson



Isla MacKechnie pictured with singer Robert Robertson.

IT CAN be really boring going for a week away with your mum and dad when they are singing in choirs at the Royal National Mòd.

But not for this young Morvern girl who made the most of what could have been a terrible week, including having a selfie with Robert Robertson.

She made friends with some of the older girls from the choirs staying in her hotel.

But all her patience paid off when her daddy, Hector, won the Gold Medal singing competition. It meant staying up way past her bedtime, and allowed her to awake until, well, at least midnight.



Fifteen-year-old Anna Nicolson won the junior advanced clarsach competition at today's Royal National Mòd in the Western Isles. Anna also won the intermediate two competition at the Mòd in Oban last year. 17_t44mod2016_clarsach

Carol Maclean and Hector MacKechnie were winners of this year's coveted Gold Medals at the Royal National Mòd in the Western Isles on Wednesday night. The Gold Medal competition is open to fluent Gaelic speakers who sing one song of their own choosing and one prescribed. 17_t44mod2016-_mod_medal



Pure gold medals are

Competition praise



Hannah Jane MacLeod, Bun-sgoil Chondobhrait, from Lennoxtown, won the gold badge for solo singing, 5-6 years. 16_T44_Mod_Hannah



Mairi NicAmhlaigh, Sgoil an Rubha, from Point, Lewis. Solo singing, 5-6 years. 16_T44_Mod_Mairi



Hazel Brandt, Bun-sgoil Taobh na Paire. Solo singing, 5-6 years. 16_T44_Mod_Hazel



Claire Duce, Sgoil Sir E Scott, from Harris. Solo singing, 5-6 years. 16_T44_Mod_Claire



Seumas Stiubhart, Bun-sgoil Taobh na Paire, Edinburgh. Solo singing, 5-6 years. 16_T44_Mod_Seumas



Ruairidh Sommerville, Bun-sgoil Ghaidhlig Inbhir Nis, from Inverness. Winner, solo singing, seven years. 16_T44_Mod_Ruairidh



The winning accordion player was Kyle Rowan, not Connor MacPhail as reported in last week's *Oban Times*. We apologise for the error.

Swinney pledge on Gaelic

EXTRACTS from the speech Deputy First Minister John Swinney made at this year's Royal National Mòd.

Mr Swinney said: 'The gains made for the Gaelic language have been impressive. We have a successful Gaelic-medium education sector operating within Scottish education. We have an increasing number of Gaelic standalone schools. We have a dedicated body, Stòrlann, set up to provide resources and support for teachers and pupils.'

'We have also benefited from the establishment of a Gaelic TV channel. This has been a success and has transformed broadcasting in Scotland. We have a Gaelic arts sector which punches above its weight and, without question, enriches the cultural life of Scotland.'

'Just over 10 years ago, Bòrd na Gàidhlig, was established, with statutory duties to promote the Gaelic language. We have excellent teaching and research in the Gaelic departments of our universities and the Scottish Parliament has passed strong legislation in support of Gaelic. An increasing number of local authorities and public bodies have Gaelic plans which list their commitments to Gaelic.'

'I think on any reasonable measure it would be fair to say we have made good progress.'

'The caution we need to add is that this impressive progress is not an end in itself and does not address all issues. There have been missed opportunities. There will still need to be campaigns and there will still be obstacles.'

'The picture of Gaelic development through the years has progressed from campaigning for recognition, to putting structures and projects in place. Now that we are at the point where we have good structures in place, we must ensure these are effectively used to strengthen the language and to reap the rewards of its contribution to the diversity that exists in Scotland's culture and language.'

'The reason for this commitment is quite simple. Gaelic belongs in Scotland. It has been spoken in this country for well over 1,000 years and I believe this places a duty and a responsibility on us as custodians of this heritage. This is not special treatment or favouritism or a nationalist plot. It is simply the steps that should be taken to secure a measure of fair treatment for our minority language.'

Raibert presents medal



RAIBERT MacCallum, from Kintyre has attended more Royal National Mòd competitions than anyone else.

In the 125th year of the Mòd, he has attended more than 70 of them.

This year, *The Oban Times* asked the wee toon man to present its medal for singing a prescribed song by a Lorn bard.

This year the song chosen was *Smealach a' Ghlinne* – a testing song 'full of rich language' that extols the virtues of the landscape – performed by DI Brown.

The Oban Times medal is believed to be the highest value of all medals

given to competitors to keep, at the Mòd. Made of 18-carat gold, Raibert says it is a 'shame' that more people don't enter the competition.

He can remember a time when more than 30 people would enter the event.

But as time has gone on, the number of people competing at the Royal National Mòd who have a 'gold car' (a tested level of conversational Gaelic competency) has fallen and therefore so has the number of people who are entitled to sing in the competition.

Raibert said: 'This is a great competition and perhaps it has fewer people entering because it is held at the same time as the choir competitions.'

Raibert MacCallum presents solo singer DI Brown with *The Oban Times* medal.

CalMac at home on the sea

IN AN innovative film exploring its enduring role at the heart of Scotland's West Coast, CalMac launched Your West Coast campaign last Thursday October 20 – a collaboration with well-known band Skipinnish.

At three-and-a-half minutes long, the video incorporates imagery from the 1944 David MacBrayne film *Islands of Youth* and other new CalMac footage physically projected onto the West Coast landscape.

It highlights both a modern sea change for the iconic Scottish ferry company, as well as the reassuring and enduring stability born of 165 years' service.

It is hoped that Your West Coast will also inspire islanders and travellers alike to share their memories and stories about what Scotland's western seaboard means to them, creating a unique record of first-hand accounts and tales captured in the individual voices of those who rely on these much-loved ferries – whether travelling fleetingly or regularly, from the Clyde to the Hebrides.

Unfolding to the melody and words of *Home on the Sea* by festival regulars Skipinnish – who fuse Highland tradition with contemporary sounds – Your West Coast was filmed at almost 30 locations by specialist Edinburgh projection company Double Take over 12 nights in the summer.

It encapsulates the importance of the ferries as lifeblood for the communities of the Clyde and Hebrides at work and at play; imagery and music tap into the special lure of the area as archival footage finds a comfortable home alongside bang-up-to-date clips of the modern isles and today's life and pursuits.

High-powered projectors beamed images on to an incredible array of subjects from entire mountains, ancient castles and a cathedral, to rowing boats, harbours and a bothy.

Each projection was recorded using timelapse cameras and the film was created from this footage.



More photos available online
OBANTIMES.CO.UK/MOD

as coveted awarded from president John

THE coveted Gold Medal competition saw Carol Maclean and Hector MacKechnie, members of Mull Gaelic Choir and Burach Gaelic Choir, walking away with the awards.

Carol had travelled from Tobermory, while Hector came from Lochaline to compete in the event in Stornoway.

Wednesday also saw the prestigious Silver Pendant competition take place at the Lewis Sports Centre, as Fiona Ross from Glasgow won

the ladies award and Fergus Muir of Bowmore won the men's title – turn to page 14 for photographs.

John Morrison, chief executive of An Comunn Gàidhealach, said: 'We've seen some fantastic performances in all the competitions, and last night's Gold Medal was truly outstanding. Huge congratulations to Carol and Hector.'

'The atmosphere around the Western Isles has been wonderful.'



Na Boireannaich Eile were winners of the quartet competition. 16_t44mod2016_winners



Keeping it in the family were the MacNeils, with mother Jane and daughter Anna, from Portree, had a successful Mòd, including winning the Duncan Chisholm Trophy.

16_t44mod2016_mother_and_daughter



Ryan Johnston, centre, Bowmore, won the James C MacPhee Memorial Medal.

Right: Coisir Gaidhlig Loch Abair (Lochaber) Gaelic Choir, who won the Margrat Duncan Trophy.

t44mod2016_Coisir_Gaidhlig_Loch_Abair_(Lochaber)



Betsy Marshall, from Edinburgh. Solo singing, 5-6 years.

16_T44_Mod_Betsy



Hannah Mackay, Sgoil nan Loch, from Balallan. Solo singing, 5-6 years.

16_T44_Mod_Hannah



Mairi Niclain, Sgoil Lionacleit, from North Uist. Solo singing, girls 12 years.

16_T44_Mod_Mairi



Rhianna Porch Boyle, Sgoil Ghaidhlig Ghlaschu, from Glasgow. Solo singing, girls 12 years. 16_T44_Mod_Rhianna



Coisir sgìre Port Rìgh (Portree) Gaelic Choir who took a respectable second in the Margrat Duncan competition. t44mod2016_Coisir_sgìre_Port_Rìgh



Megan Niclomhair, Bun-sgoil Stafainn, from Staffa. Solo singing, girls 12 years.

16_T44_Mod_Megan



Millie Shepherd, Sgoil Phaibil, from North Uist. Solo singing, 5-6 years. 16_T44_Mod_Millie



Erin Nic'Illoisa, Bun-sgoil Stafainn. Solo singing, girls 12 years. 16_T44_Mod_Erin



Flora Scott, Sgoil Sir E Scott, from Harris. Solo singing, 5-6 years. 16_T44_Mod_Flora



Frankie Dhomhnaillach, Bun Sgoil-Ghaidhlig Ghlaschu, from Islay, but lives in Glasgow. Solo singing, 5-6 years. 16_T44_Mod_Frankie

On song in close competition

Strong voices, great timing
make for more Mòd magic

Katrina's Mòd

KATRINA GILLIES RASMUSSEN

THE last song has been sung, the last poem has been recited, the last game has been played and all of the winners of this year's Royal National Mòd have now been found.

It has been a significant event, bringing together supporters of the language from all across the world. This year's Royal National Mòd gathered people to commemorate our language, music, tradition and certainly our shared history.

Mòd 2016 had something for all ages, Gael and non-Gael, from competitions to ceilidhs, and I was lucky enough to get a sample of everything on offer.

This year also marked 125 years since An Comunn Gàidhealach, the organiser of the Royal National Mòd, was founded, and it is a sign of the language's endurance that despite many challenges it continues to prevail.

I was fortunate enough to see many talented people in a number of different competitions. It was clear to me that everyone had practiced very hard for the competitions, and a lot of thought and effort had gone into the preparations.

It was also very clear that the staff who arranged this year's Royal National Mòd must have worked very hard to make sure that everything ran smoothly.

But no matter how much planning you do, problems will inevitably occur. During Mòd-week there are numerous competitions and many of those taking part enter into several different categories.

This is not unusual, especially not for the children. This year some children entered into as many as 10 different competitions. So what's the problem with that, you might be asking yourself? People should do as they please and if they want to participate in more than one event, then they should surely just do that. Right?

Well, the thing is, almost every single competition I went to we had to wait for a competitor to show up. And the reason why they're not there? They're at another competition. This, of course, holds up everything and the audience are forced to wait for what can be a very long time to get the final results.

It is especially a shame for the children who only enter into one competition. They're not going somewhere else but staying in their seat after they've performed. And they have to wait for a long time to hear how they have fared.

I experienced twice this week that the winner of the competition wasn't even there to collect the trophy because they were at another competition.

I'm not going to write what the solution to this problem might be, as I don't have an answer. I'm just stating that there is a problem that needs to be dealt with. Too many people have been sitting around waiting for competitors to show up this week.

That said, I have truly enjoyed this year's Mòd. It has been a fantastic experience and it's been a pleasure to be part of it. I know it takes a lot of planning to create such a grand event, and I can't wait to see the programme for next year.

Hopefully, it will be packed with many wonderful performances – but less waiting time.



Winner of Esme Smythe Trophy were Glasgow Islay Gaelic Choir. 16_t44_Mod_Winner



Coisir Ghaidlig an Oban women's choir. 16_t44_Mod_Coisir



Glasgow Gaelic Musical Association with conductor Kenny Thompson. 16_t44_Mod_Glasgow



Coisir Ghaidhlig Shruighlea. 16_t44_Mod_Coisir



Lothian Gaelic Women's Choir. 16_t44_Lothian



Dingwall Gaelic Choir, winner of the Lovat and Tullibardine Shield. 16_t44_Dingwall



Atomaig Piseag, Argyll Women's Choir with conductor Raymond Bremner. 16_t44_Mod_Atomaig



Christine Macintyre, Gaelic tutor for Oban Gaelic Choir, with the trophy for the highest marks in Gaelic for Oban Gaelic Choir.



Glasgow Islay Gaelic Women's Choir were the winning choir and their full choir took third in the puirt. 16_t44_Mod_Glasgow



Meet the Mòdfather



Kenny Thompson gets the crowd going.

HE is the Mòd Father, he is the conductor of the GGs (Glasgow Gaelic Choir), conductor of Islay Gaelic Ladies ... he is an international man of mystery.

The inimitable Kenny Thompson, the James Bond of the Mòd, decided that the singing on the stage during the women's

area choirs was good – but that the audience should be having a wee sing song themselves.

The lady the choir was waiting for was Elizabeth Jack who had been to sing with her quartet before coming back to sing with her choir Atomic Piseag.

Royal National Mòd bids farewell to Western Isles

AFTER eight days of competitions, performances and festivities, the Royal National Mòd bade farewell to the Western Isles.

Scotland's biggest Gaelic festival has been hailed a huge success as it leaves a legacy that will be remembered for years.

Thousands of Gaels and non-Gaels made their way to the Western Isles to enjoy all that the Mòd has to offer, with somewhere in the region of up to £2.5 million expected to have been generated for the local economy.

Officially closing on Saturday October 22 the massed choir made its way from Stornoway Town Hall to the Nicolson Institute for a final choral sing-a-long.

At the Nicolson Institute, representatives from 2017 host town, Fort William, Lochaber, received the ceremonial handover from this year's hosts, the Western Isles.

The 126th year of the Gaelic festival will take place in Lochaber from the October 13-21 next year.

Organised by An Comunn Gàidhealach, the event is the biggest and most important festival of the Gaelic language in Scotland.

This year saw a rise in under-18s competing in traditional singing events and literature sessions. The rising interest in the festival and traditional Gaelic culture bodes well for the future.



John Morrison praised the success of the Mòd.

The top prizes this year went to Carol Maclean and Hector MacKechnie in the Gold Medal competition; Claire Macaulay and Torquil MacLeod in the

Traditional Gold Medal; and Fiona Ross and Fergus Muir took home the Silver Pendants.

During the children's events on Monday and Tuesday, Màiri Callan, 15, of the High School of Glasgow, and Eòin Cuimeanach, 13, of Gairloch High School, won the Traditional Silver Medal competitions.

In the choir competitions, Barra Gaelic Choir won the Lorn Shield, Lochaber won the Margrat Duncan Memorial Trophy, and the Lovat and Tullibardine was won by Dingwall Gaelic Choir, who also walked away with a full sweep of the trophies available in the competition.

John Morrison, chief executive of An Comunn Gàidhealach, said: 'We've had a fantastic time in the Western Isles this year.'

'It's been great fun. We've seen some great competitions and the level of Gaelic has been outstanding.'

'From all those we've spoken to, the feedback has been brilliant. I'm delighted to have seen so many familiar faces competing this year, and it fills everyone at An Comunn Gàidhealach with pride to see new people entering the competitions. We hope they'll be joining us in Lochaber next year.'

'I'd like to extend our gratitude to everyone involved in running this year's Mòd, and particularly the local organising committee and all of our volunteers. Planning is already under way for Mòd 2017 in Lochaber and we look forward to seeing everyone there.'

Passion for Gaelic



Deputy First Minister John Swinney is presented with a 'thank you' gift from Allan Campbell, Oban Times columnist.

THE Deputy First Minister of Scotland, John Swinney, MSP, came to deliver the Angus Macleod memorial lecture on October 19 in Stornoway, during Mòd week.

Mr Swinney, who is also Scotland's education secretary, spoke of the importance of the Gaelic language, its

history and tradition in a room full of people. He stressed several times that the Gaelic language belongs to Scotland and that the Scottish Government will continue to support the growth in usage of Gaelic. He also highlighted that the current digital evolution

can and should help educate people about the Gaelic traditions, while emphasising that everybody should have access to the technology in order for it to work.

Mr Swinney talked in English because he doesn't speak the language himself but said he feels very passionate about it.



Twins Rachel and Emma Deans with the duet prizes.

t44mod2016_twins



CalMac's David Cannon meets Prince Charles, Lord of the Isles.

16_t44mod2016_david



Coisir Gaidhlig Inbhir Nis (Inverness) Gaelic Choir were second in the Lovat and Tullibardine.

t44mod2016_Coisir_Gaidhlig_Inbhir_Nis



Cumbernauld Gaelic Choir.

t44mod2016_Cumbernauld



Puppeteers Sonia Gardes, Charlotte Allan and Beth Frieden led an interactive performance at various locations in Stornoway.



Donna Dugdale from Mull won the learners' traditional medal.



Twin sisters Rowan and Rebecca Morris, aged nine, of Port Ellen Primary School, won this year's under-13 duet competition for Gaelic learners.



Glasgow Islay Gaelic Choir took third place in the puirt-a-beul.



Stirling Gaelic Choir.

US piper from Skye takes home senior trophies

J DECKER Forrest, currently living in Skye, won every single senior piping competition at this year's Mòd.

Decker was first introduced to piping in his home state of San Diego as a child and has been playing ever since.

He said: 'The Mòd is one of several important competitions in the annual piping calendar.'

'For me, the Mòd is unique from others, however, because it celebrates piping alongside other important areas of Gaelic culture like singing and poetry.'

'Also, the language is very much emphasised at the competition itself.'

The Gaelic language wasn't part of Decker's upbringing and he didn't learn the language until he came to Scotland. Today the Gaelic

language, culture and tradition is a very important part of his life.

'I, along with my wife and her family, who are from South Uist and Eriskay, speak Gaelic to our children. It's very much their first language.'

'Our eldest son, Seonaidh, really enjoys singing and had a great time at his first Royal National Mòd.'

'Competition has its drawbacks but I think it can be a wonderful thing, especially for children, as long as they enjoy it, strive to improve and don't fixate too much on the actual prizes and rankings.'

'The Mòd offers our family a way of engaging with the language and culture in a fun way which is different from day-to-day life the rest of the year,' Decker said.



J Decker Forrest from San Diego, now on Ornsay, won all of the senior piping competitions.



Louise's Mòd

LOUISE GLEN

I WISH I could put into meaningful words just how much the last hours of the Mòd mean to me.

But it is too difficult to do, because really I would need sing you a song to explain it.

The nearest thing I have is a song called *Cearcall a' Chuain*. There is something within this song that sums up the happiness and the bitterness of our time together at the Mòd.

We sing the song. But this is singing like you would not believe. People I've never met sing in my language.

Tones and notes and volume and pace that are wonderful – the notes seep into my very being and somewhere into my soul.

For me, the choral singing is a very spiritual encounter – for others it might be a spirit-fuelled encounter – but whatever it is I cannot put it into words.

That is the nature of singing what we do ... it is impossible to vocalise in any other way.

For me, that is the song of the Gaels – texture, understanding of words in a cadence that we cannot speak in so we need to sing it.

One night at twilight, reporters Katrina, Catriona and Ross and I set off for the Callanish Stones.

Stones brought into the landscape with a message, now lost, that is older than time itself, it seems.

Stones that have seen the coming and going of ice drifts, peoples, languages and cultures.

Of course by the time our little team outing set off and we had argued about the route, wanted about our busy days and got lost on a very narrow wrong road, we made it.

Of course it was closed. But not locked.

The four of us made our way up the winding path by the side of a dun and into the cathedral of the stones.

Unlike the stones in Orkney which were made for a huge event, these are intimate, discrete almost. It feels like someone's wee private stone circle.

All our phones ran out of charge at the same time, leaving us with very little light.

There were eerie noises from just beyond the perimeter of the stones.

Yes, we scared ourselves into a panic.

But Ross made us stand still for a moment and take a breath. He made us look beyond the stones onto the landscape where he pointed out a glimpse of the Northern Lights.

I felt insignificant as we stood there in the dark and thought about all that had gone on in this place.

In Japanese culture there is a belief that all that has come and all that is yet to come has a voice. Walls, they say, hold their ancestors. The Callanish Stones hold our ancestors. I am sure of it.

While I resisted the urge, I wanted to sing to them. But the team were all against some communal song.

When they are as old as me, they may think the song was important.

The final hours of the Mòd allows people to sing – at last-night parties, then at the massed choirs before people depart. In this case we were singing all the home on the CalMac ship.

I hate goodbyes, so three hours of singing fairly helps with the sharing of the regard, love and respect that I hold people in.

I think our understanding of each other is magnified because of singing together.

The words of *Cearcall a' Chuain* are about a journey about the big circle, life as an ocean voyage.

Our call to visit Callanish was part of that call, our time together in Gaelic song was all about that journey.

It is a year until we meet again. I am starting to learn my music and words now.



Children of all ages took part in drama competitions. Gaelic drama club Clann Thròndairnis won both the under-13 action song and under-13 drama awards.

Winners and competitors from the Mòd



Fiona Ross and Eileen Duncan with the John A Macrae Quach t44mod2016_Fiona



Eileen Duncan, Tunga, first place in qualifying competition for Silver Pendant. 16_t44_Mod_Eileen



Mairi McGillivray, Ile, participated in qualifying competition for Silver Pendant. 16_t44_Mod_Mairi



Oban High School pupil Anna Tait Westwell with her Gold Badge for clarsach competitions. 17_t44mod2016 anna westwell



Jackie Cotter, Dun Eideann. Solo singing, songs relating to Mull or Iona. t44_Mod_Jackie



Anne Bennett, Dun De. Winner of The Sarah Weir Memorial Trophy, songs relating to Mull and Iona. t44_Mod_Anne



Nicola Pearson, Calanais. Winner of The Kennedy-Fraser Cup and The Johanna Fortune Memorial Trophy, solo singing. t44_Mod_Nicola



Carol Maclean of Tobermory. t44mod2016_Carol



Shannon Maclean of Tobermory. t44mod2016_Shannon



Mary Macleod of Portree. t44mod2016_Mary



Campbell Mackenzie of Stornoway third place, silver pendant. t44mod2016_Campbell



Coinneach Macleod, from London, second place silver pendant. t44mod2016_Coinneach



Lynn Macdonald, of Islay, silver pendant competitor. t44mod2016_Lynn



Fergus Muir, of Bowmore, winner of silver pendant. t44mod2016_Fergus



Mairi McGillivray, of Islay, third place silver pendant. t44mod2016_Mairi



Islay Gaelic Choir took third place in the puirt competition with the highest marks in music. t44mod2016_Coisir_Gaidhlig_Ile



Morvern's Burach Gaelic Choir took third in the Sheriff MacMaster competition. t44mod2016_Burach



Mull ladies with their wee conductor Archie.



Taynuilt Gaelic Choir, with conductor Audrey MacLeod Paterson. t44mod2016_Taynuilt_Gaelic_Choir



Mull Gaelic Choir won the John Lockie Trophy for highest marks in Gaelic. t44mod2016_Coisir_Gaidhlig_an_Eilein_Mhullich



Barra Choir won the Lorn Shield at only their second attempt in the competition.



Bhac Gaelic Choir achieved second place in the puirt. t44mod2016_Coisir_Sgira_Bhac



Oban Gaelic Choir placed fourth in the puirt but gave 'outstanding' performances in all competitions. t44mod2016_Coisir_Gaelic_an_Obain

On cloud nine ... despite a tortuous wait for results

Singer **Robert Robertson** reveals the trials and tribulations faced by some members of Lochaber Gaelic Choir

IT WAS Friday afternoon at the Royal National Mòd in Stornoway. The final day of competitions. All the choirs had finished singing and the adjudicators were busy putting the marks together. Adjacent to a packed sports hall, the foyer of the Nicolson Institute was mobbed with nervous choristers crowding round a television screen showing BBC Alba's live coverage of the competition next door.

I stood among this throng of tense singers with Lochaber Gaelic Choir – with whom I had competed earlier in the day. Having won the Margrat Duncan competition last year, we were reigning champions.

But that did not ease the nerves as we waited for the adjudicators to announce the results. I was heading away on the aeroplane with a few of my fellow choir members and the arrival of our taxi was imminent. So were the results.

It was with huge reluctance that we had to head off to the airport, just as a rumour began to spread that the adjudicators had reached a decision.

The taxi driver kindly agreed to tune into Radio nan Gaidheal for us on the journey – which also had coverage of the big competition. Our excitement soon turned to frustration again as we reached the airport at the very moment the judges took the stage to deliver the results.

I have been on the verge of missing a plane once or twice, but never have I rushed so much through check-in and security as the five of us did in the hope that there might be a television or a radio in the departure lounge. Eventually we reached the lounge, and asked for the remote control to the wide-screen television on the wall which, for some ridiculous reason, was showing BBC News 24 as opposed to BBC Alba.

What is worse is that the BBC in London seemed completely unaware of the fact that



Members of Lochaber Gaelic Choir had to use creative thinking to hear the competition outcome.

the Margrat Duncan results were about to be announced in Stornoway and were instead reporting on a far less significant competition ... that between Donald Trump, a Leòdhasach man, and Hillary Clinton.

I rushed through the channels until I found BBC Alba. The adjudicators were in the middle of their speeches and were just about to announce the results.

We were all sitting huddled round this television, in front of a bemused departure lounge, and Fiona Cameron and Claire Delaney both had their Mòd programmes and a pen ready to note the outcomes. Any moment now, the judges would stop giving feedback, and give us the results we so desperately wanted to hear.

'Plane boarding,' said a voice, and everyone proceeded to the gate. 'No!' we screamed in

perfect unison – we had become quite good at that after all the choir practices. We stood steadfast, certain that we would find out our placement any moment. 'We've got a couple of stragglers,' shouted the steward. 'It's the Mòd, you see.'

Meanwhile, on the television, the adjudicators had finished their speeches and the chairman was about to speak.

Instead of announcing the coveted results, however, he declared that we would now hear the results of the Lovat and Tullibardine – the other competition that had run parallel to ours. This would take another 10 minutes – time we simply did not have.

In order to convince the girls that we now had to make our way to the plane which was sitting waiting for us, I had to do everything short

of physically dragging them away from the television to which they were virtually clutching in desperation.

'We're never going to know now,' howled a distraught Linda Delaney.

It is probably fair to say that, after such a long day, perspective had been lost slightly considering the flight was only to Inverness and we would, God willing, find out the results in about 35 minutes.

But the anguish in Linda's words was keenly felt by us all.

We had been dragged away from the telly in the Nicolson, forced to leave a taxi with a radio and now (at the most inopportune moment imaginable) we were having to extract ourselves from a third mode of media in order to board a plane that would ensure we were uncontactable

for the next half hour. A mere inconvenience, some might say, but, in the moment, to us, it was a horrifying thought.

I sat down in the plane to the sound of the steward requesting that we all turn our phones off. I did so obediently, but grudgingly.

As I switched it off, I thought of the rest of the choir together in the Nicolson and how they would be able to either celebrate, or perhaps commiserate, together, and cursed the dreadful unfortunate timing of the whole thing.

'We ask that you please fasten your seatbelt at this time and secure all baggage underneath your seats,' the steward mumbled on.

Our thoughts were elsewhere. Then, all of a sudden, from the back of the plane, came an ecstatic scream from Claire.

'We won!' We all cheered with elation and celebration without any consideration as to how she had found this out.

'We also ask that your seats and table trays are in the upright position for take-off,' our man continued, unnerved by our celebrations.

On finishing his spiel, the steward said: 'Can I just confirm that you all put off your phone at my request, ladies and gentlemen?'

The whole plane looked at a red-faced Claire who, without batting an eyelid, answered: 'Yes.' So we could fly home safe in the knowledge that Lochaber were champions again.

We had a wee celebratory dinner in Inverness by ourselves – wishing we were with the rest of the choir and our conductor, Rachel Walker, who had worked so hard and who thoroughly deserved the trophies.

Winning that trophy twice is a remarkable achievement for a choir that has only existed for two Mòds.

I'm sure they all had a great night in Stornoway but the five of us will never forget our journey home from the 2016 Mòd.

Mod Results Mod Results Mod Results

TUESDAY
Instrumental - Melodeon (single/double row instrument with simple Diatonic bass)
Under 13: 1 Tormod MacLinnine, Sgoil MhicNeacail, Salar Flaky Smoked Salmon Trophy and Gold Badge, 2 Faye Nic a' Ghobhainn, Sgoil MhicNeacail, Silver Badge, 3 Warren Dan Gillies, Sgoil a' Bhac, Bronze Badge; Junior Solo: Solo Singing Girls Age 11 Fluent: 1 Andrea MacDonald, Bun-sgoil Inbhir Pheofharain, Mayburn Gardens Cup and Gold Badge, 2 Eve Byrne, Bun-sgoil Chondobhrait, Silver Badge, 3 Anna NicLeòid, Rionnagan Rois, Bronze Badge; Choral - Unison Ages 13-18 Open: 1 Sgoil MhicNeacail, Mrs Campbell Blair Trophy and Angus M Ross Trophy, 2 Sgoil Sir E Scott, 3 Còisir Sgoil Lionacleit, Choral - Unison Under 13 Fluent: 1 Sgoil Sir E Scott, Aberfoyle & District Branch Trophy, 2 Rionnagan Rois, 3 Còisir Eilean an Fhraoich; Choral - Puirt-a-beul Under 13 Fluent: 1 Sgoil Sir E Scott, Mrs Helmut Schroder Cup, 2 Rionnagan Rois, 3 Còisir Òg Thron-dairnis; Duet Ages 13-15 Fluent: 1 Kirstyn Howarth & Faith Elson, Acadamaidh Rìoghail Inbhir Nis, Gold Badges; Solo Singing Boys Ages 9-10 Fluent: 1 David Chisholm, Rionnagan Rois, Gold Badge, 2 Matthew Gilmour Wright, Bun-sgoil Taobh na Pàirce, Silver Badge, 3 Andra Uisdean Cuimeanach, Bun-sgoil Ghèarrloch; Solo Singing Boys Ages 11-12 Fluent: 1 Tormod MacLinnine, Sgoil MhicNeacail, Gold Badge, 2 Finlay MacLennan, Bun-sgoil Ghàidhlig Inbhir Nis Silver Badge, 3 Seumas Caimbeul, Bronze Badge; Solo Singing Boys Ages 13-15 Fluent: 1 Samuil MacAoidh, Sgoil MhicNeacail, Gold Badge, 2 Eòin Coinneach Cuimeanach, Àrd-sgoil Ghèarrloch, Silver Badge, 3 Ruairidh Gray, Sgoil Lionacleit, Bronze Badge; Solo Singing Boys Ages 16-18 Open: 1 Alex John Moireasdan, Sgoil MhicNeacail, The Highland Society of London Trophy, Gold Badge and The Meryl Mae Stewart Memorial Trophy, 2 Duncan MacLeod, Acadamaidh Rìoghail Bhaile Dhuthaich, Silver Badge and The Meryl Mae Stewart Memorial Trophy, 3 Jonathan Fairgrieve, Sgoil MhicNeacail, Bronze Badge; Solo Singing Girls Ages 9 Fluent: 2= Evie Kellett, Comunn Gàidhealach Mhuile and Muireann Dalton, Sgoil Ghàidhlig Ghlaschu, Silver Badge, 3 Seona Brown, Sgoil Ghàidhlig Ghlaschu, Bronze Badge; Solo Singing Girls Ages 13-15 Fluent: 1 Màiri Callan, The High School of Glasgow, Gold Badge and Silver Medal, 2 Elizabeth Donner, Sgoil MhicNeacail, Silver Badge, 3 Marion MacCorquodale, Sgoil Lionacleit, Bronze Badge; Traditional Singing Girls Ages 16-18 Fluent: 1 Catriona Bain, Sgoil MhicNeacail, The Iain Morrison Memorial Trophy and Gold Badge, 2 Kathryn Morrison, Sgoil Sir E Scott, Silver Badge, 3 Cara Morrison, Sgoil MhicNeacail, Bronze Badge; Traditional Singing Girls 11-12 years only. Fluent: 1 Alice Nic a' Mhaoilein, Còisir Òg an Rubha, Gold Badge, 2 Erin Nic'Illoisa, Bun-sgoil Stafainn, Silver Badge, 3 Laura Robertson, Bun-sgoil Ghàidhlig Lochabair, Bronze Badge; Traditional Singing Girls Age 13-15 Fluent: 1 Màiri Callan, The High School of Glasgow, Traditional Silver Medal and Gold Badge, 2= Allison NicAoidh, Sgoil MhicNeacail and Ava MacKinnon, Àrd-sgoil Greenfaulds, Silver Badge; Traditional Singing Boys Ages 13-15 Fluent: 1 Eòin Coinneach Cuimeanach, Àrd-sgoil Ghèarrloch, Gold Badge and Traditional Silver Medal, 2 Cathal Callan, The

High School of Glasgow, Silver Badge, 3 Rory MacDiarmid, Sgoil Ghàidhlig Ghlaschu, Bronze Badge; Choral - Two-part Harmony Under 13 Fluent: 1 Sgoil Sir E Scott, Mrs Ann Grant of Laggan Memorial Trophy, 2 Còisir Eilean an Fhraoich, 3 Còisir Bun-sgoil Ghàidhlig Ghlaschu; Choral - Two-part Harmony Ages 13-18 Open: 1 Sgoil MhicNeacail, Oban Times Challenge Trophy and Mrs Hobbs of Invertochy Cup, 2 Sgoil Sir E Scott, 3 Còisir Sgoil Lionacleit; Junior Oral: Storytelling Ages 5-8 Fluent: 1 Jessica MacKay, Sgoil Sir E Scott, Alasdair Macinnes Memorial Cup and Gold Badge, 2 Seumas Stiùbhart, Bun-sgoil Taobh na Pàirce, Silver Badge, 3 Fiona Langley, Sgoil Sir E Scott, Bronze Badge; Storytelling Ages 9-10 Fluent: 1 Isabella Somerville, Bun-sgoil Ghàidhlig Inbhir Nis, Gold Badge, 2 Korin Weir-Stewart, Sgoil Ghàidhlig Ghlaschu, Silver Badge, 3 Innes John Begg, Sgoil Lacasdail, Bronze Badge; Storytelling Ages 11-12 Fluent: 1 Kaitlin MacDonald, Bun Sgoil Lacasdail, Gold Badge, 2 Molly Fox, Bun-sgoil Phort-rìgh, Silver Badge, 3 Erin Nic'Illoisa, Bun-sgoil Stafainn, Bronze; Ancient folk tale Ages 9-12 Fluent: 1 Mollie Fox, Bun-sgoil Phort-rìgh, Gold Badge, 2 Nuala Macdonald, Bun Sgoil Ulapuil, 3 Alasdair Stiùbhart, Bun-sgoil Taobh na Pàirce, Bronze Badge; Conversation Ages 13-15 Fluent: 2 Eòin Coinneach Cuimeanach, Àrd-sgoil Ghèarrloch, 3 Dòmhnall Lachlann Beaton, Acadamaidh Rìoghail Bhaile Dhuthaich, Bronze Badge; Silver Badge, 3 Poetry Recitation Ages 9 Fluent: 1 Amy MacRitchie, Sgoil Lionail, Gold Badge, 2 Muireann Dalton, Sgoil Ghàidhlig Ghlaschu, Silver Badge, 3 Ellie Cameron, Sgoil na Pàirce, Bronze Badge; Poetry Recitation Ages 5-6 Fluent: 1 Hannah Jane MacLeod, Bun-sgoil Chondobhrait, Reverend Donald Stewart (Duntulm) Memorial Quaich and Gold Badge, 2 Coinneach Mackenzie, Sgoil a' Bhac, Silver Badge, 3 Sarah Ann Mackenzie, Sgoil an Taobh Siar, Bronze Badge; Poetry Recitation Ages 5-6 Fluent: 1 Hannah Jane MacLeod, Bun-sgoil Chondobhrait, Gold Badge, 2 Coinneach Mackenzie, Sgoil a' Bhac, Silver Badge, 3 Sarah Ann Mackenzie, Sgoil an Taobh Siar, Bronze Badge; Reading Under 13 Fluent: 1 Anndra Uisdean Cuimeanach, Bun-sgoil Ghèarrloch, Gold Badge, 2 Emily Macdonald, Bun-sgoil Shléite, Silver Badge, 3 Molly Fox, Bun-sgoil Phort-rìgh, Bronze Badge; Poetry Recitation Ages 13-15: 1 Cathal Callan, The High School of Glasgow, Gold Badge, 2 Eòin Coinneach Cuimeanach, Àrd-sgoil Ghèarrloch, Silver Badge, 3 Blythe Wilson, Acadamaidh Inbhir Pheofharain, Bronze Badge; Reading Ages 13-15 Fluent: 1 Eòin Coinneach Cuimeanach, Àrd-sgoil Ghèarrloch, Gold Badge, 2 Hannah C MacLeod, Sgoil MhicNeacail, Silver Badge, 3 Dòmhnall Lachlann Beaton, Acadamaidh Rìoghail Bhaile Dhuthaich, Bronze Badge; Bible Reading Ages 13-15: 1 Eòin Coinneach Cuimeanach, Àrd-sgoil Ghèarrloch, Gold Badge and Bible, 2 Anna Niclaine, Sgoil Lionacleit, Silver Badge and Bible, 3= Marion MacCorquodale, Sgoil Lionacleit and Hannah C MacLeod, Sgoil MhicNeacail Bronze Badge and Bible; Poetry Recitation Ages 9 Fluent: 1 Amy MacRitchie, Sgoil Lionail, Gold Badge, 2 Muireann Dalton, Sgoil Ghàidhlig Ghlaschu, Silver Badge, 3 Ellie Cameron, Sgoil na Pàirce, Bronze Badge; Conversation Ages 11-12 Fluent: 1 Finlay MacLennan, Bun-sgoil Ghàidhlig Inbhir Nis, Gold Badge and Traditional Singing Boys Ages 16-18 Open: 1 Catriona Bain, Sgoil MhicNeacail, Gold Badge and Meryl Mae Stewart Memorial Trophy, 2 Claire MacLeod, Sgoil Sir E Scott, Silver Badge, 3 Emily Robertson, Còisir Òg an Rubha, Gold Badge, 2 Erin Nic'Illoisa, Bun-sgoil Stafainn, Bronze Badge; Presenting a Psalm Under 13: 1 Erin Nic'Illoisa, Clann Thron-dairnis, Jonathan MacDonald Kilmuir Trophy and Gold Badge, 2 Ross MacLeòid, Clann Thron-dairnis, Silver Badge, 3 Megan Niclomainn, Clann Thron-dairnis, Bronze Badge; Solo Singing Girls Under 13 Fluent: 1 Finlay MacLennan, Bun-sgoil Ghàidhlig Inbhir Nis, Gold Badge, 2 Seumas Caimbeul, Bun-sgoil Mhoire, Silver Badge, 3 John Angus Morrison, Sgoil MhicNeacail, Bronze Badge; Traditional Singing Girls 10 years and under. Fluent: 1 Ellie-Ceit Johnson, Sgoil Sir E Scott, Gold Badge, 2 Miss Arabella Manchester, Sgoil Bhaile a' Mhanaich, Silver Badge, 3 Seona Brown, Sgoil Ghàidhlig Ghlaschu, Bronze Badge; Traditional Singing Boys Ages 16-18 Fluent: 1 Micheal Callan, The High School of Glasgow, Neil MacLaine Cameron Memorial Trophy and Gold Badge, 2 Duncan MacLeod, Acadamaidh Rìoghail Bhaile Dhuthaich,

Mhoire, Silver Badge, 3 Rae MacIver, Sgoil Ghàidhlig Ghlaschu, Bronze Badge; Poetry Recitation Age 10 Fluent: 1 Mary Sophia Morrison, Bun Sgoil Lacasdail, Gold Badge, 2 Lexy NicLeòid, Bun-sgoil Stafainn, Silver Badge, 3 Korin Weir-Stewart, Sgoil Ghàidhlig Ghlaschu, Bronze Badge; Fluents Bible Reading Ages 9-12: 1 Arabella Manchester, Sgoile Bhaile a' Mhanaich, Gold Badge, 2 Seumas Caimbeul, Bun-sgoil Mhoire, Silver Badge, 3 Rae MacIver, Sgoil Ghàidhlig Ghlaschu, Bronze Badge; Poetry Recitation Age 7 Fluent: 1 Ruairidh Somerville, Bun-sgoil Ghàidhlig Inbhir Nis, Gold Badge, 2

Silver Badge, 3 Alex John Moireasdan, Sgoil MhicNeacail, Bronze Badge; Solo Singing Age 8 Fluent: 1 Luke Johnson, Sgoil Sir E Scott, Gold Badge, 2 Fiona Langley, Sgoil Sir E Scott, Silver Badge, 3 Isla Duke, Bun-sgoil Chondobhrait, Bronze Badge; Duet Under 13 Fluent: 1 Ellie-Ceit Johnson & Luke Johnson, Sgoil Sir E Scott, Gold Badge, 2 Alice Nic a' Mhaoilein & Kirsty Nicolson, Còisir Òg an Rubha, Silver Badge, 3 Caitlin Yule & Johanna MacIver MacLeod, Bun-sgoil Chondobhrait, Bronze Badge; Solo Singing Girls Age 10 Fluent: 1 Mary Sophia Morrison, Bun-sgoil Lacasdail, Nancy Craik Memorial Trophy and Gold

Badge, 2 Emily Macdonald, Bun-sgoil Shléite, Silver Badge, 3 Caitlin Yule, Bun-sgoil Chondobhrait, Bronze Badge.

WEDNESDAY
Senior Solo: Solo Singing Ladies Fluent: 1Ceitidh Smith, Inbhir Nis, Mary C MacNiven Memorial Salver and Mary C MacNiven Memorial Salver, 2 Ainsley Hamill, Cárannos, 3 Carol Maclean, Tobar Mhoire; Òran Mòr Ladies Fluent: 1 Carol Maclean, Tobar Mhoire, Mr and Mrs Archibald Macdonald Memorial TrophyJoyce Murray Trophy and £30.00 - Jessie M MacLachlan Memorial Prize, 2 Ainsley Hamill, Cárannos, 3 Ceitidh Smith, Inbhir Nis;

Fiona Ross, Glaschu, 3 Mairi McGillivray, Ile; Solo singing (Ladies): 1 Eileen Duncan, Tunga, Catherine M B Dunlop Quaich, 2 Fiona Ross, Glaschu, 3 Mairi McGillivray, Ile; Solo singing: 1 Nicola Pearson, Calanais, Kennedy-Fraser Cup, Johanna Fortune Memorial Trophy and £30.00 - An Comunn Gàidhealach, 2 Donna Dugdale, Tobar Mhoire, 3= Jackie Cotter, Dùn Eideann and Anne Bennett, Dùn Dè; Solo singing (Men): 1 Fergus Muir, Bogh Mòr, Katie Stewart Memorial Trophy, 2 Coinneach MacLeòid, Lunainn, 3 Campbell McKenzie, Steòrnabhagh; Solo singing (Men): 1 Fergus Muir, Bogh Mòr, Bank of Scotland

Obar Phuill, Drumelzier Quaich; Clarsach Elementary (Grade 1): 1 Rosaigh Mackintosh, Bun-sgoil Taobh na Pàirce, Florence Wilson Trophy and Gold Badge, 2 Esther MacLeod, Bun-sgoil Taobh na Pàirce, Silver Badge, 3 Eimear McShea, Bun-sgoil Taobh na Pàirce, Bronze Badge; Clarsach Advanced (Grade 5): 1 Anna NicNeacail, Àrd-sgoil Phort Rìgh, Duncan Chisholm Trophy and Gold Badge, 2 Màiri Callan, The High School of Glasgow, Silver Medal, 3= Ciorstaidh Chaimbeul, St Mary's Music School and Sophie MacDonal, Acadamaidh Drochaid an Easbaig, Bronze Badge; Clarsach Composition: 1 Anna Pearson, Bun-sgoil Taobh na Pàirce, Margaret Balfour Trophy, 2 Anna Tait Westwell, Dùn Eideann, 3= Rosaigh Mackintosh, Bun-sgoil Taobh na Pàirce and Esther MacLeod, Bun-sgoil Taobh na Pàirce; Clarsach Self Accompaniment: 1 Màiri Callan, The High School of Glasgow, Glendale Quaich and Gold Badge, 2 Lili McShea, Àrd-sgoil Sheumais Ghilleasbuig, Silver Badge, 3 Bronwen Stahl, Sgoil Naoimh Sheòrais, Dùn Eideann, Bronze Badge; Clarsach Intermediate 1 (Grade 2-3): 1 Erin NicGilliosa, Àrd-sgoil Phort Rìgh, K Barry Milner Trophy and Gold Badge, 2 Bronwen Stahl, Sgoil Naoimh Sheòrais, Dùn Eideann, 3 Sorchu Thompson, Àrd-sgoil Sheumais Ghilleasbuig, Bronze Badge; Solo Singing Learners: 1 Donna Dugdale, Tobar Mhoire, George Clavey Memorial Quaich, 2 Solo singing: 1 Anne Bennett, Dùn Dè, Sarah Weir Memorial Trophy and £20.00 - Mull & Iona Association, 2 Donna Dugdale, Tobar Mhoire, £15.00 - Mull & Iona Association, 3 Carol Maclean, Tobar Mhoire; Duet singing: 1 Emma A C Deans & Raonaid M J Deans, Comar nan Allt, Neil MacLean & Jenny M.B. Currie Trophy and £20.00 - Mòd Ionadach Mhuile, 2 Mairi MacLeod & Shona Macmillan, Càrlabhagh, £15.00 - Mòd Ionadach Mhuile, 3= Cath Fish & Calum Watt, Leòdhas, £25.00 - An Comunn Gàidhealach (Ladies); Silver Pendant Final (Ladies): 1 Fergus Muir, Bogh Mòr, Silver Pendant (Men) £50 for the highest overall marks in memory of Cameron MacKichan and £50 - Highland Office Equipment, 2 Coinneach MacLeòid, Lunainn, £30.00 - Cli Gàidhlig (Men), 3 Campbell McKenzie, Steòrnabhagh, £20.00 - Cli Gàidhlig (Men); Gold Medal Final (Ladies): 1 Archie Maclean Memorial Salver, £75.00 - An Comunn Gàidhealach (Ladies), £35.00 - Donald Thomson 1st Prize, Innis MacLeod Trophy and £25.00 - An Comunn Gàidhealach, 2 Ceitidh Smith, Inbhir Nis, £25.00 - An Comunn Gàidhealach (Ladies) and £20.00 - Donald Thomson 2nd Prize, 3 Ainsley Hamill, Cárannos, £20.00 - An Comunn Gàidhealach (Ladies); Gold Medal Final (Men): 1 Eachann MacEachainn, Samhairidh, Islander Shield (Men), Gold Medal (Men), £75.00 - An Comunn Gàidhealach (Men), Archie Maclean Memorial Salver, £35.00 - Donald Thomson 1st Prize and £25.00 - Gilbert McPhail, 2 Seumas Mac an t-sagairt, Leòdhas, £25.00 - An Comunn Gàidhealach (Men), and £20.00 - Gilbert McPhail, 3 Alasdair Martin Christopher Currie, Ile, £20.00 - Donald Thomson 2nd Prize and £25.00 - An Comunn Gàidhealach (Men), 3 Marcas Mac an Tuairneir, Inbhir Nis, £20.00 - An Comunn Gàidhealach (Men); Solo Singing Ladies Learners: 1 Eileen Duncan, Tunga, Marget Campbell Trophy, 2

THURSDAY
Rural Choirs: 1 Còisir Sgìr 'A' Bhac, Còisir Ghàidhlig nan Loch, Aline MacKenzie Memorial Trophy, John Young Memorial Baton, Calum Robertson Memorial Trophy, Evelyn Huckbody Memorial Trophy and £100 - Royal Mail, 2 Còisir Sgìr 'A' Bhac, Hamish Graham (Strath) Trophy, 3 Còisir Ghàidhlig Ile, Evelyn Huckbody Memorial Trophy; Còisir Ghàidhlig An Eilein Mhuilich, John Lockie Trophy; Rural Choirs: 1 Còisir Ghàidhlig Bhrarrigh, Lorn Shield, Mrs C MacDonald Silver Baton and Capt Angus Stewart Trophy, 2 Còisir Sgìr 'A' Bhac, Dalriada Cup and Hamish Graham (Strath) Trophy, 3 Còisir Ghàidhlig Mheallbhaich; Rural Choirs: 1 Còisir Ghàidhlig Ile, Sheriff MacMaster Campbell Memorial Quaich, Selma Shield, Grace Robertson Memorial Baton and £150.00 - Royal Mail, 2 Còisir Ghàidhlig An Eilein Mhuilich, 3 Bùrach; Mary Lamont Gold Medal Traditional Final (Ladies): 1 Claire Nicamhlaigh, Nis, Mary Lamont Gold Medal (Ladies), Islander Shield (Ladies) and Islander Shield (Ladies), 2 Saffron Hanvidge, Inbhir Nis, £50.00 - Wright Johnston & MacKenzie (Ladies), 3 Isabelle Bain, Am Bac, £20.00 - Anna and Seonaidh MacPhee (Ladies); Mary Lamont Gold Medal Traditional Final (Men): 1 Torquil MacLeod, Steòrnabhagh, Mary Lamont Gold Medal (Men), Islander Shield (Men) and £200.00 - Wright Johnston & MacKenzie (Men), 2 Dòmhnall Iain MacRàth, Siabost, £50.00 - Wright Johnston & MacKenzie (Men), 3 Eoghan MacLleathain Stiùbhart, Inverness, £20.00 - Anna and Seonaidh MacPhee (Men); Solo Singing Ladies Fluent: 1 Moray Murray, £100.00 - Mòd Ionadach Mhuile, 2= Saffron Hanvidge, Inbhir Nis, £100.00 - Royal Mail, Rotary Club of

Blaigowrie Trophy, Hamish Graham (Strath) Trophy and Sandy Heron Cup, 2 Còisir Ghàidhlig Thunga, 3 Còisir Ghàidhlig nan Loch, Angus MacFavish Memorial Trophy; Solo Singing Fluent: 1 D-I Brown, Glasgow, Oban Times Gold Medal, 2 Linn Phipps, An Rubha, 3 Carol Maclean, Tobar Mhoire; Solo singing: 1 Donna Dugdale, Tobar Mhoire, Lochewe Branch Cup, 2 F. Ann MacLean, Lios Mòr, 3 Mikie MacEanruig, Mid Kei; Puirt-a-beut: 1 Anne Bennett, Dùn Dè, Duncan Johnston Memorial Trophy, 2= Saffron Hanvidge, Inbhir Nis and Donna Dugdale, Tobar Mhoire, 3 Sandy NicDhòmhlaill Jones, Ubhish a Deas; Recitation: 1 Margaret Macdonald Bell, Pàislig, Ali Abbasi Memorial Cup, 2 Pierre Fuentes, Dùn Eideann; Solo Instrumental: 1 Ingried Boussaroque, Barraigh, Largs Branch Trophy and £30.00 - An Comunn Gàidhealach; Walking: 1 Mnthan Lacasdail, Harris Tweed Authority Trophy and £100.00 - An Comunn Gàidhealach, 2 Comhlan Luadh Bhaideanach, £30.00 - An Comunn Gàidhealach, 3 Luaidh le mire, £20.00 - An Comunn Gàidhealach.

FRIDAY
Open: 1 Còisir Ghàidhlig Inbhir Nis, Greenock Gaelic Choir Cup and £200.00 - An Comunn Gàidhealach, 2 Dingwall Gaelic Choir, 3 Glasgow Islay Gaelic Choir; Area Choirs: 1 Dingwall Gaelic Choir, Lovat & Tullibardine Trophy, 2 Còisir Ghàidhlig Inbhir Nis, 3 Glasgow Gaelic Musical Association; Open Men: 1 Dingwall Gaelic Choir, Mull & Iona Shield, Hector Russell Dirk, Glen Ballachulish Trophy, £200.00 - An Comunn Gàidhealach and £30.00 - Martin MacKay Memorial Prize, 2 Coilich a' Chinn a Tuath, 3 Glasgow Gaelic Musical Association; Dingwall Gaelic Choir and Coilich a' Chinn a Tuath, Cor Meibion Bro Glyndwr Trophy; Quartet: Na Boireannaich Eile, £30.00 - An Comunn Gàidhealach, Ian Crighton Memorial Trophy and Marshall Stormonth Memorial Trophy; 2 Na h-Iolairan Mara, 3 Sgrìomain A' Dith; Na Boireannaich Eile, Stornoway Gaelic Choir Cup.



On the final day at the Royal National Mòd 2016, the massed choirs sang at the the Nicolson Institute before making their way home on a CalMac ferry where the singing continued.

Jenna Yule, Bun-sgoil Chondobhrait, Silver Badge, 3= Beth MacDonald, Bun-sgoil Lacasdail and Tormod MacLeòid, Sgoil nan Loch, Bronze Badge; Poetry Recitation Age 8 Fluent: 1 Màiri MacLennan, Bun-sgoil Ghàidhlig Inbhir Nis, Gold Badge, 2 Jenny MacLeod, Sgoil an Taobh Siar, Silver Badge, 3 Isla Duke, Bun-sgoil Chondobhrait, Bronze Badge; Poetry Recitation Ages 11-12 Fluent: 1 Kitty Anne Maciver, Sgoil a' Bhac, Gold Badge, 2 Finlay MacLennan, Bun-sgoil Ghàidhlig Inbhir Nis, Silver Badge, 3 Eve Byrne, Bun-sgoil Chondobhrait, Bronze Badge; Conversation Ages 9-10 Fluent: 1 Daniel J MacLeod, Sgoil a' Bhac, Gold Badge and Ewen Dingwall Memorial Trophy, 2 Korin Weir-Stewart, Sgoil Ghàidhlig Ghlaschu, Silver Badge, 3= Anndra Uisdean Cuimeanach, Bun-Spoil Ghèarrloch and Alec Dòmhnallach, Bun Sgoil Ghàidhlig Ghlaschu, Gold Badge; Presenting a Psalm Under 13: 1 Ruth M Mackay, Sgoil MhicNeacail, Gold Badge, 2 Ruairidh Gray, Sgoil Lionacleit, Silver Badge, 3 Marion MacCorquodale, Sgoil Lionacleit, Bronze Badge; Traditional Singing Boys Under 13 Fluent: 1 Finlay MacLennan, Bun-sgoil Ghàidhlig Inbhir Nis, Gold Badge, 2 Seumas Caimbeul, Bun-sgoil Mhoire, Silver Badge, 3 John Angus Morrison, Sgoil MhicNeacail, Bronze Badge; Traditional Singing Girls 10 years and under. Fluent: 1 Ellie-Ceit Johnson, Sgoil Sir E Scott, Gold Badge, 2 Miss Arabella Manchester, Sgoil Bhaile a' Mhanaich, Silver Badge, 3 Seona Brown, Sgoil Ghàidhlig Ghlaschu, Bronze Badge; Traditional Singing Boys Ages 16-18 Fluent: 1 Micheal Callan, The High School of Glasgow, Neil MacLaine Cameron Memorial Trophy and Gold Badge, 2 Duncan MacLeod, Acadamaidh Rìoghail Bhaile Dhuthaich,

Badge, 2 Emily Macdonald, Bun-sgoil Shléite, Silver Badge, 3 Caitlin Yule, Bun-sgoil Chondobhrait, Bronze Badge; Solo Singing Girls Age 12 Fluent: 1 Alice Nic a' Mhaoilein, Còisir Òg an Rubha, Kenneth Brown Memorial Prize and Gold Badge, 2 Rhianna Porch Boyle, Sgoil Ghàidhlig Ghlaschu, Silver Badge, 3 Erin Nic'Illoisa, Bun-sgoil Stafainn, Bronze Badge; Solo Singing Age 7 Fluent: 1 Ruairidh Somerville, Bun-sgoil Ghàidhlig Inbhir Nis, Gold Badge, 2 Maeve McKenzie, Bun-sgoil Chondobhrait, Silver Badge, 3 Tormod MacLeòid, Sgoil nan Loch, Bronze Badge; Solo Singing Ages 5-6 Fluent: 1 Hannah Jane MacLeod, Bun-sgoil Chondobhrait, Gold Badge, 2 Flora Scott, Sgoil Sir E Scott, Silver Badge, 3= Seumas Stiùbhart, Bun-sgoil Taobh na Pàirce and Seonaidh Forrest, Bun-sgoil Shléite, Bronze Badge; Presenting a Psalm Under 13: 1 Erin Nic'Illoisa, Clann Thron-dairnis, Jonathan MacDonald Kilmuir Trophy and Gold Badge, 2 Ross MacLeòid, Clann Thron-dairnis, Silver Badge, 3 Megan Niclomainn, Clann Thron-dairnis, Bronze Badge; Solo Singing Girls Under 13 Fluent: 1 Finlay MacLennan, Bun-sgoil Ghàidhlig Inbhir Nis, Gold Badge and Meryl Mae Stewart Memorial Trophy, 2 Claire MacLeod, Sgoil Sir E Scott, Silver Badge, 3 Emily Robertson, Còisir Òg an Rubha, Gold Badge, 2 Erin Nic'Illoisa, Bun-sgoil Stafainn, Bronze Badge; Presenting a Psalm Under 13: 1 Erin Nic'Illoisa, Clann Thron-dairnis, Jonathan MacDonald Kilmuir Trophy and Gold Badge, 2 Ross MacLeòid, Clann Thron-dairnis, Silver Badge, 3 Megan Niclomainn, Clann Thron-dairnis, Bronze Badge; Solo Singing Girls Under 13 Fluent: 1 Finlay MacLennan, Bun-sgoil Ghàidhlig Inbhir Nis, Gold Badge and Meryl Mae Stewart Memorial Trophy, 2 Claire MacLeod, Sgoil Sir E Scott, Silver Badge, 3 Emily Robertson, Còisir Òg an Rubha, Gold Badge, 2 Erin Nic'Illoisa, Bun-sgoil Stafainn, Bronze Badge; Presenting a Psalm Under 13: 1 Erin Nic'Illoisa, Clann Thron-dairnis, Jonathan MacDonald Kilmuir Trophy and Gold Badge, 2 Ross MacLeòid, Clann Thron-dairnis, Silver Badge, 3 Megan Niclomainn, Clann Thron-dairnis, Bronze Badge; Solo Singing Girls Under 13 Fluent: 1 Finlay MacLennan, Bun-sgoil Ghàidhlig Inbhir Nis, Gold Badge and Meryl Mae Stewart Memorial Trophy, 2 Claire MacLeod, Sgoil Sir E Scott, Silver Badge, 3 Emily Robertson, Còisir Òg an Rubha, Gold Badge, 2 Erin Nic'Illoisa, Bun-sgoil Stafainn, Bronze Badge; Presenting a Psalm Under 13: 1 Erin Nic'Illoisa, Clann Thron-dairnis, Jonathan MacDonald Kilmuir Trophy and Gold Badge, 2 Ross MacLeòid, Clann Thron-dairnis, Silver Badge, 3 Megan Niclomainn, Clann Thron-dairnis, Bronze Badge; Solo Singing Girls Under 13 Fluent: 1 Finlay MacLennan, Bun-sgoil Ghàidhlig Inbhir Nis, Gold Badge and Meryl Mae Stewart Memorial Trophy, 2 Claire MacLeod, Sgoil Sir E Scott, Silver Badge, 3 Emily Robertson, Còisir Òg an Rubha, Gold Badge, 2 Erin Nic'Illoisa, Bun-sgoil Stafainn, Bronze Badge; Presenting a Psalm Under 13: 1 Erin Nic'Illoisa, Clann Thron-dairnis, Jonathan MacDonald Kilmuir Trophy and Gold Badge, 2 Ross MacLeòid, Clann Thron-dairnis, Silver Badge, 3 Megan Niclomainn, Clann Thron-dairnis, Bronze Badge; Solo Singing Girls Under 13 Fluent: 1 Finlay MacLennan, Bun-sgoil Ghàidhlig Inbhir Nis, Gold Badge and Meryl Mae Stewart Memorial Trophy, 2 Claire MacLeod, Sgoil Sir E Scott, Silver Badge, 3 Emily Robertson, Còisir Òg an Rubha, Gold Badge, 2 Erin Nic'Illoisa, Bun-sgoil Stafainn, Bronze Badge; Presenting a Psalm Under 13: 1 Erin Nic'Illoisa, Clann Thron-dairnis, Jonathan MacDonald Kilmuir Trophy and Gold Badge, 2 Ross MacLeòid, Clann Thron-dairnis, Silver Badge, 3 Megan Niclomainn, Clann Thron-dairnis, Bronze Badge; Solo Singing Girls Under 13 Fluent: 1 Finlay MacLennan, Bun-sgoil Ghàidhlig Inbhir Nis, Gold Badge and Meryl Mae Stewart Memorial Trophy, 2 Claire MacLeod, Sgoil Sir E Scott, Silver Badge, 3 Emily Robertson, Còisir Òg an Rubha, Gold Badge, 2 Erin Nic'Illoisa, Bun-sgoil Stafainn, Bronze Badge; Presenting a Psalm Under 13: 1 Erin Nic'Illoisa, Clann Thron-dairnis, Jonathan MacDonald Kilmuir Trophy and Gold Badge, 2 Ross MacLeòid, Clann Thron-dairnis, Silver Badge, 3 Megan Niclomainn, Clann Thron-dairnis, Bronze Badge; Solo Singing Girls Under 13 Fluent: 1 Finlay MacLennan, Bun-sgoil Ghàidhlig Inbhir Nis, Gold Badge and Meryl Mae Stewart Memorial Trophy, 2 Claire MacLeod, Sgoil Sir E Scott, Silver Badge, 3 Emily Robertson, Còisir Òg an Rubha, Gold Badge, 2 Erin Nic'Illoisa, Bun-sgoil Stafainn, Bronze Badge; Presenting a Psalm Under 13: 1 Erin Nic'Illoisa, Clann Thron-dairnis, Jonathan MacDonald Kilmuir Trophy and Gold Badge, 2 Ross MacLeòid, Clann Thron-dairnis, Silver Badge, 3 Megan Niclomainn, Clann Thron-dairnis, Bronze Badge; Solo Singing Girls Under 13 Fluent: 1 Finlay MacLennan, Bun-sgoil Ghàidhlig Inbhir Nis, Gold Badge and Meryl Mae Stewart Memorial Trophy, 2 Claire MacLeod, Sgoil Sir E Scott, Silver Badge, 3 Emily Robertson, Còisir Òg an Rubha, Gold Badge, 2 Erin Nic'Illoisa, Bun-sgoil Stafainn, Bronze Badge; Presenting a Psalm Under 13: 1 Erin Nic'Illoisa, Clann Thron-dairnis, Jonathan MacDonald Kilmuir Trophy and Gold Badge, 2 Ross MacLeòid, Clann Thron-dairnis, Silver Badge, 3 Megan Niclomainn, Clann Thron-dairnis, Bronze Badge; Solo Singing Girls Under 13 Fluent: 1 Finlay MacLennan, Bun-sgoil Ghàidhlig Inbhir Nis, Gold Badge and Meryl Mae Stewart Memorial Trophy, 2 Claire MacLeod, Sgoil Sir E Scott, Silver Badge, 3 Emily Robertson, Còisir Òg an Rubha, Gold Badge, 2 Erin Nic'Illoisa, Bun-sgoil Stafainn, Bronze Badge; Presenting a Psalm Under 13: 1 Erin Nic'Illoisa, Clann Thron-dairnis, Jonathan MacDonald Kilmuir Trophy and Gold Badge, 2 Ross MacLeòid, Clann Thron-dairnis, Silver Badge, 3 Megan Niclomainn, Clann Thron-dairnis, Bronze Badge; Solo Singing Girls Under 13 Fluent: 1 Finlay MacLennan, Bun-sgoil Ghàidhlig Inbhir Nis, Gold Badge and Meryl Mae Stewart Memorial Trophy, 2 Claire MacLeod, Sgoil Sir E Scott, Silver Badge, 3 Emily Robertson, Còisir Òg an Rubha, Gold Badge, 2 Erin Nic'Illoisa, Bun-sgoil Stafainn, Bronze Badge; Presenting a Psalm Under 13: 1 Erin Nic'Illoisa, Clann Thron-dairnis, Jonathan MacDonald Kilmuir Trophy and Gold Badge, 2 Ross MacLeòid, Clann Thron-dairnis, Silver Badge, 3 Megan Niclomainn, Clann Thron-dairnis, Bronze Badge; Solo Singing Girls Under 13 Fluent: 1 Finlay MacLennan, Bun-sgoil Ghàidhlig Inbhir Nis, Gold Badge and Meryl Mae Stewart Memorial Trophy, 2 Claire MacLeod, Sgoil Sir E Scott, Silver Badge, 3 Emily Robertson, Còisir Òg an Rubha, Gold Badge, 2 Erin Nic'Illoisa, Bun-sgoil Stafainn, Bronze Badge; Presenting a Psalm Under 13: 1 Erin Nic'Illoisa, Clann Thron-dairnis, Jonathan MacDonald Kilmuir Trophy and Gold Badge, 2 Ross MacLeòid, Clann Thron-dairnis, Silver Badge, 3 Megan Niclomainn, Clann Thron-dairnis, Bronze Badge; Solo Singing Girls Under 13 Fluent: 1 Finlay MacLennan, Bun-sgoil Ghàidhlig Inbhir Nis, Gold Badge and Meryl Mae Stewart Memorial Trophy, 2 Claire MacLeod, Sgoil Sir E Scott, Silver Badge, 3 Emily Robertson, Còisir Òg an Rubha, Gold Badge, 2 Erin Nic'Illoisa, Bun-sgoil Stafainn, Bronze Badge; Presenting a Psalm Under 13: 1 Erin Nic'Illoisa, Clann Thron-dairnis, Jonathan MacDonald Kilmuir Trophy and Gold Badge, 2 Ross MacLeòid, Clann Thron-dairnis, Silver Badge, 3 Megan Niclomainn, Clann Thron-dairnis, Bronze Badge; Solo Singing Girls Under 13 Fluent: 1 Finlay MacLennan, Bun-sgoil Ghàidhlig Inbhir Nis, Gold Badge and Meryl Mae Stewart Memorial Trophy, 2 Claire MacLeod, Sgoil Sir E Scott, Silver Badge, 3 Emily Robertson, Còisir Òg an Rubha, Gold Badge, 2 Erin Nic'Illoisa, Bun-sgoil Stafainn, Bronze Badge; Presenting a Psalm Under 13: 1 Erin Nic'Illoisa, Clann Thron-dairnis, Jonathan MacDonald Kilmuir Trophy and Gold Badge, 2 Ross MacLeòid, Clann Thron-dairnis, Silver Badge, 3 Megan Niclomainn, Clann Thron-dairnis, Bronze Badge; Solo Singing Girls Under 13 Fluent: 1 Finlay MacLennan, Bun-sgoil Ghàidhlig Inbhir Nis, Gold Badge and Meryl Mae Stewart Memorial Trophy, 2 Claire MacLeod, Sgoil Sir E Scott, Silver Badge, 3 Emily Robertson, Còisir Òg an Rubha, Gold Badge, 2 Erin Nic'Illoisa, Bun-sgoil Stafainn, Bronze Badge; Presenting a Psalm Under 13: 1 Erin Nic'Illoisa, Clann Thron-dairnis, Jonathan MacDonald Kilmuir Trophy and Gold Badge, 2 Ross MacLeòid, Clann Thron-dairnis, Silver Badge, 3 Megan Niclomainn, Clann Thron-dairnis, Bronze Badge; Solo Singing Girls Under 13 Fluent: 1 Finlay MacLennan, Bun-sgoil Ghàidhlig Inbhir Nis, Gold Badge and Meryl Mae Stewart Memorial Trophy, 2 Claire MacLeod, Sgoil Sir E Scott, Silver Badge, 3 Emily Robertson, Còisir Òg an Rubha, Gold Badge, 2 Erin Nic'Illoisa, Bun-sgoil Stafainn, Bronze Badge; Presenting a Psalm Under 13: 1 Erin Nic'Illoisa, Clann Thron-dairnis, Jonathan MacDonald Kilmuir Trophy and Gold Badge, 2 Ross MacLeòid, Clann Thron-dairnis, Silver Badge, 3 Megan Niclomainn, Clann Thron-dairnis, Bronze Badge; Solo Singing Girls Under 13 Fluent: 1 Finlay MacLennan, Bun-sgoil Ghàidhlig Inbhir Nis, Gold Badge and Meryl Mae Stewart Memorial Trophy, 2 Claire MacLeod, Sgoil Sir E Scott, Silver Badge, 3 Emily Robertson, Còisir Òg an Rubha, Gold Badge, 2 Erin Nic'Illoisa, Bun-sgoil Stafainn, Bronze Badge; Presenting a Psalm Under 13: 1 Erin Nic'Illoisa, Clann Thron-dairnis, Jonathan MacDonald Kilmuir Trophy and Gold Badge, 2 Ross MacLeòid, Clann Thron-dairnis, Silver Badge, 3 Megan Niclomainn, Clann Thron-dairnis, Bronze Badge; Solo Singing Girls Under 13 Fluent: 1 Finlay MacLennan, Bun-sgoil Ghàidhlig Inbhir Nis, Gold Badge and Meryl Mae Stewart Memorial Trophy, 2 Claire MacLeod, Sgoil Sir E Scott, Silver Badge, 3 Emily Robertson, Còisir Òg an Rubha, Gold Badge, 2 Erin Nic'Illoisa, Bun-sgoil Stafainn, Bronze Badge; Presenting a Psalm Under 13: 1 Erin Nic'Illoisa, Clann Thron-dairnis, Jonathan MacDonald Kilmuir Trophy and Gold Badge, 2 Ross MacLeòid, Clann Thron-dairnis, Silver Badge, 3 Megan Niclomainn, Clann Thron-dairnis, Bronze Badge; Solo Singing Girls Under 13 Fluent: 1 Finlay MacLennan, Bun-sgoil Ghàidhlig Inbhir Nis, Gold Badge and Meryl Mae Stewart Memorial Trophy, 2 Claire MacLeod, Sgoil Sir E Scott, Silver Badge, 3 Emily Robertson, Còisir Òg an Rubha, Gold Badge, 2 Erin Nic'Illoisa, Bun-sgoil Stafainn, Bronze Badge; Presenting a Psalm Under 13: 1 Erin Nic'Illoisa, Clann Thron-dairnis, Jonathan MacDonald Kilmuir Trophy and Gold Badge, 2 Ross MacLeòid, Clann Thron-dairnis, Silver Badge, 3 Megan Niclomainn, Clann Thron-dairnis, Bronze Badge; Solo Singing Girls Under 13 Fluent: 1 Finlay MacLennan, Bun-sgoil Ghàidhlig Inbhir Nis, Gold Badge and Meryl Mae Stewart Memorial Trophy, 2 Claire MacLeod, Sgoil Sir E Scott, Silver Badge, 3 Emily Robertson, Còisir Òg an Rubha, Gold Badge, 2 Erin Nic'Illoisa, Bun-sgoil Stafainn, Bronze Badge; Presenting a Psalm Under 13: 1 Erin Nic'Illoisa, Clann Thron-dairnis, Jonathan MacDonald Kilmuir Trophy and Gold Badge, 2 Ross MacLeòid, Clann Thron-dairnis, Silver Badge, 3 Megan Niclomainn, Clann Thron-dairnis, Bronze Badge; Solo Singing Girls Under 13 Fluent: 1 Finlay MacLennan, Bun-sgoil Ghàidhlig Inbhir Nis, Gold Badge and Meryl Mae Stewart Memorial Trophy, 2 Claire MacLeod, Sgoil Sir E Scott, Silver Badge, 3 Emily Robertson, Còisir Òg an Rubha, Gold Badge, 2 Erin Nic'Illoisa, Bun-sgoil Stafainn, Bronze Badge; Presenting a Psalm Under 13: 1 Erin Nic'Illoisa, Clann Thron-dairnis, Jonathan MacDonald Kilmuir Trophy and Gold Badge, 2 Ross MacLeòid, Clann Thron-dairnis, Silver Badge, 3 Megan Niclomainn, Clann Thron-dairnis, Bronze Badge; Solo Singing Girls Under 13 Fluent: 1 Finlay MacLennan, Bun-sgoil Ghàidhlig Inbhir Nis, Gold Badge and Meryl Mae Stewart Memorial Trophy, 2 Claire MacLeod, Sgoil Sir E Scott, Silver Badge, 3 Emily Robertson, Còisir Òg an Rubha, Gold Badge, 2 Erin Nic'Illoisa, Bun-sgoil Stafainn, Bronze Badge; Presenting a Psalm Under 13: 1 Erin Nic'Illoisa, Clann Thron-dairnis, Jonathan MacDonald Kilmuir Trophy and Gold Badge, 2 Ross MacLeòid, Clann Thron-dairnis, Silver Badge, 3 Megan Niclomainn, Clann Thron-dairnis, Bronze Badge; Solo Singing Girls Under 13 Fluent: 1 Finlay MacLennan, Bun-sgoil Ghàidhlig Inbhir Nis, Gold Badge and Meryl Mae Stewart Memorial Trophy, 2 Claire MacLeod, Sgoil Sir E Scott, Silver Badge, 3 Emily Robertson, Còisir Òg an Rubha, Gold Badge, 2 Erin Nic'Illoisa, Bun-sgoil Stafainn, Bronze Badge; Presenting a Psalm Under 13: 1 Erin Nic'Illoisa, Clann Thron-dairnis, Jonathan MacDonald Kilmuir Trophy and Gold Badge, 2 Ross MacLeòid, Clann Thron-dairnis, Silver Badge, 3 Megan Niclomainn, Clann Thron-dairnis, Bronze Badge; Solo Singing Girls Under 13 Fluent: 1 Finlay MacLennan, Bun-sgoil Ghàidhlig Inbhir Nis, Gold Badge and Meryl Mae Stewart Memorial Trophy, 2 Claire MacLeod, Sgoil Sir E Scott, Silver Badge, 3 Emily Robertson, Còisir Òg an Rubha, Gold Badge, 2 Erin Nic'Illoisa, Bun-sgoil Stafainn, Bronze Badge; Presenting a Psalm Under 13: 1 Erin Nic'Illoisa, Clann Thron-dairnis, Jonathan MacDonald Kilmuir Trophy and Gold Badge, 2 Ross MacLeòid, Clann Thron-dairnis, Silver Badge, 3 Megan Niclomainn, Clann Thron-dairnis, Bronze Badge; Solo Singing Girls Under 13 Fluent: 1 Finlay MacLennan, Bun-sgoil Ghàidhlig Inbhir Nis, Gold Badge and Meryl Mae Stewart Memorial Trophy, 2 Claire MacLeod, Sgoil Sir E Scott, Silver Badge, 3 Emily Robertson, Còisir Òg an Rubha, Gold Badge, 2 Erin Nic'Illoisa, Bun-sgoil Stafainn, Bronze Badge; Presenting a Psalm Under 13: 1 Erin Nic'Illoisa, Clann Thron-dairnis, Jonathan MacDonald Kilmuir Trophy and Gold Badge, 2 Ross MacLeòid, Clann Thron-dairnis, Silver Badge, 3 Megan Niclomainn, Clann Thron-dairnis, Bronze Badge; Solo Singing Girls Under 13 Fluent: 1 Finlay MacLennan, Bun-sgoil Ghàidhlig Inbhir Nis, Gold Badge and Meryl Mae Stewart Memorial Trophy, 2 Claire MacLeod, Sgoil Sir E Scott, Silver Badge, 3 Emily Robertson, Còisir Òg an Rubha, Gold Badge, 2 Erin Nic'Illoisa, Bun-sgoil Stafainn, Bronze Badge; Presenting a Psalm Under 13: 1 Erin Nic'Illoisa, Clann Thron-dairnis, Jonathan MacDonald Kilmuir Trophy and Gold Badge, 2 Ross MacLeòid, Clann Thron-dairnis, Silver Badge, 3 Megan Niclomainn, Clann Thron-dairnis, Bronze Badge; Solo Singing Girls Under 13 Fluent: 1 Finlay MacLennan, Bun-sgoil Ghàidhlig Inbhir Nis, Gold Badge and Meryl Mae Stewart Memorial Trophy, 2 Claire MacLeod, Sgoil Sir E Scott, Silver Badge, 3 Emily Robertson, Còisir Òg an Rubha, Gold Badge, 2 Erin Nic'Illoisa, Bun-sgoil Stafainn, Bronze Badge; Presenting a Psalm Under 13: 1 Erin Nic'Illoisa, Clann Thron-dairnis, Jonathan MacDonald Kilmuir Trophy and Gold Badge, 2 Ross MacLeòid, Clann Thron-dairnis, Silver Badge, 3 Megan Niclomainn, Clann Thron-dairnis, Bronze Badge; Solo Singing Girls Under 13 Fluent: 1 Finlay MacLennan, Bun-sgoil Ghàidhlig Inbhir Nis, Gold Badge and Meryl Mae Stewart Memorial Trophy, 2 Claire MacLeod, Sgoil Sir E Scott, Silver Badge, 3 Emily Robertson, Còisir Òg an Rubha, Gold Badge, 2 Erin Nic'Illoisa, Bun-sgoil Stafainn, Bronze Badge; Presenting a Psalm Under 13: 1 Erin Nic'Illoisa, Clann Thron-dairnis, Jonathan MacDonald Kilmuir Trophy and Gold Badge, 2 Ross MacLeòid, Clann Thron-dairnis, Silver Badge, 3 Megan Niclomainn, Clann Thron-dairnis, Bronze Badge; Solo Singing

SCOTTISH
CHILDREN'S
LOTTERY

**PLAY
ONLINE
NOW**

£25,000
JACKPOT
TO BE WON!

FIRST DRAW MONDAY
31ST OCTOBER

— PLUS —

£25,000
IN RAFFLE
PRIZES



It's new, it's Scottish and it helps children. So why not give the Scottish Children's Lottery a go? There's a draw every Monday and it's just £1 to play!

gambleaware.co.uk
GAMBLE RESPONSIBLY

scottishchildrenslottery.com

Please play responsibly. 16+. T&Cs apply. GB Residents only. Guaranteed total raffle prize(s) £25k on 31st October (fully paid by STV ELM Ltd.). Free raffle entry for each lottery draw line purchased, lottery jackpot winner excluded. 30p from every ticket goes to good causes benefiting children in Scotland. STV ELM Ltd. operates 4 society lotteries in rotation.

Arena

> cinema, radio and what's on listings > leisure ideas > local events

In next week's
The Oban Times
 & WEST HIGHLAND TIMES

IS YOUR
UNIQUE
CODE A WINNER?

5 x £50
cash prizes
to be won!

Simply buy a copy of The Oban Times, November 3 edition. Each copy will carry a unique code. We'll print five winning codes in The Oban Times on November 10. If you have a matching code then you win £50. **It's that simple!**

Terms and conditions apply.



Five-star performances as dancers head for Australia

FIVE Ballet West students have been selected to compete among the top 100 dancers in the world.

They will compete in the 2016 Royal Academy of Dance's (RAD) annual Genée International Ballet Competition, which will take place in Sydney, Australia, in December.

The five competitors are Karen Ferry, 18, from Edinburgh; Rebecca Strain, 19, from Ontario, Canada; Emma Thomas, 18, from Reading, Berkshire; Oscar Ward, 18, from Nottingham; and Evangelyn Wong, 18, from Singapore.

Gillian Barton, principal of Ballet West, said: 'Ballet West is proud to be represented by such a strong contingent in this year's very prestigious Genée competition.'

'Once again Ballet West has an exceptional number of students qualified to take part in the competition through achieving distinction in their Advanced 2 RAD exams. I wish them every success.'



Evangelyn Sheat Yee Wong: A third-year student at Ballet West. She trained on the Singapore Dance Theatre scholarship programme and this year she is a Sonata Dancewear sponsorship recipient.



Emma Thomas: a third-year Ballet West student. She competed in the Phyllis Beddells Bursary 2015, was runner-up at RAD senior awards day, and achieved a distinction in every RAD exam.



Rebecca Strain: a second-year student at Ballet West. She trained at Oakville School of Classical Ballet in Canada and Sarasota Ballet's Margaret Barbieri Conservatory.



Oscar Ward: a third-year Ballet West student. He trained at Leonard School of Dance and the Royal Ballet School Associates.



Karen Ferry: a third-year student at Ballet West, trained at Morningside Dance Academy and with Scottish Ballet Associates.

COMMUNITY NOTICEBOARD

Like
 like us on
facebook
www.facebook.com/obantimes

FORT WILLIAM ACCORDION & FIDDLE CLUB
Musical Evening
 on Tuesday, 1 November, 2016 at 7.30 pm
 GUEST ARTISTS:
 Leonard Brown
 Railway Club Inverlochly
 All Welcome
 Admission £5.00 Tea & Raffle Extra IN THE EVENT OF A LAST MINUTE CANCELLATION BY ANY GUEST ARTIST THE COMMITTEE WILL FIND AN ALTERNATIVE ARTIST

HOLLY TEA
 Glencruittan Parish Church Hall
Saturday 5th November
At 2.00pm
 In aid of Multiple Sclerosis Therapy Centre, Oban
 Donations at the door
 Tea / Coffee - Hot Mince Pies - Shortbread
 Also Home Baking stall, Bric-a-brac, books and lots more
 Please give us your support today

OBAN U3A
Tuesday 1st November
at 10.30am
 Studio Theatre and cafe area, Corran Halls, Oban
 Monthly meeting with speaker Pamela MacLeod
 Community Health and Social Care.
 Book and pay for Christmas lunch

Roses of Picardy
 WW1 Local stories and songs
 St Conan's Kirk Lochawe
 Wed 9th November 7.30pm
 Tickets on door £6 Friends £5 Refreshments

To advertise in the Community Noticeboard section please call 01631 568000

BBC ALBA

A' cur 's a' Buain

Listings for Thursday 27 October - Thursday 3 November 2016

DIARDAOIN 27 DÀMHAIR
 THURSDAY 27 OCTOBER
 17.00 **Prògraman na Cloinne** - Children's Programming
 17.55 **Dè a-nis?** (rpt)
 19.00 **Bailtean Alba** - Scotland's towns (rpt)
 19.25 **Earrann Eachdraidh** - History Shorts (rpt)
 19.35 **Speaking our Language** (rpt)
 19.55 **Binneas: Na Trads** - Malinky (rpt)
 20.00 **An Là** - News
 20.30 **ÙR|NEW: Ò Mo Dhùthaich**

DIARDAOIN 28 DÀMHAIR
 FRIDAY 28 OCTOBER
 17.00 **Prògraman na Cloinne** - Children's Programming
 18.35 **Machair** (rpt)
 19.00 **An Là** - News
 19.25 **BEO|LIVE: Glasgow v Treviso**
 21.30 **Seirm** - featuring Kris Kristofferson and Lúnasa (rpt)
 22.30 **Mòd 2016: Mòd nan Coisirean** - Mod Choirs

DIARDAOIN 29 DÀMHAIR
 SATURDAY 29 OCTOBER
 16.00 **Prògraman na Cloinne** - Children's Programming
 17.05 **BEO|LIVE: Raith Rovers v Queen of the South**
 19.20 **Binneas: Duncan Chisholm** (rpt)
 19.30 **Machair** (rpt)
 19.55 **Fraochy Bay** (rpt)
 20.00 **An Dùthaich Diomhair** - Scotland's hidden History - Episode 2 (rpt)
 20.25 **Alba: 1987** - the news making the headlines (rpt)
 20.55 **Na Worlds 2016** - World Pipe Band Championships 2016
 21.55 **Bailtean Alba** - Scotland's towns (rpt)
 22.55 **Philomena Begley** - celebrating 50 years of music (rpt)
 24.00 **Machairazzi** - the 20th anniversary of Machair (rpt)

DIARDAOIN 30 DÀMHAIR
 SUNDAY 30 OCTOBER
 16.00 **Prògraman na Cloinne** - Children's Programming
 16.55 **Dè a-nis?** (rpt)
 18.30 **Seachd Là** - News Review
 19.30 **Slighe Anndra** - the Church of Scotland throughout Europe (rpt)
 19.55 **Horo Gheallaidh** - Celtic Music (rpt)
 20.00 **Eòrpa** - Current Affairs (rpt)
 20.30 **Ò Mo Dhùthaich** - From Uist with Love - Episode 6 (rpt)
 20.55 **Fraochy Bay** (rpt)
 21.00 **Dà Là san Dàmhair** - comedy (rpt)
 22.00 **Bailtean Alba** - Scotland's towns (rpt)
 22.30 **Hozier** - Singer-songwriter Andrew Hozier-Byrne (rpt)
 23.50 **Cuirim a' Ceilic** - Moving Hearts (rpt)

DILUAIN 31 DÀMHAIR
 MONDAY 31 OCTOBER
 17.00 **Prògraman na Cloinne** - Children's programming
 19.10 **Muir is Tir** - nature and wildlife (rpt)
 19.35 **Speaking our Language** (rpt)
 20.00 **An Là** - News
 20.30 **ÙR|NEW: Coisir Shoisgeulach** - the first Gaelic Gospel Choir
 21.30 **ÙR|NEW: Trusadh: Feadaireachd** - a look at the world of whistling
 22.00 **Ceòl bho Perthshire Amber** (rpt)
 22.30 **Iseabail** - a tribute to Ishbel MacAskill (rpt)
 23.30 **An Dà Shealladh** - ghosts and second sight

DIMÀIRT 1 SAMHAIN
 TUESDAY 1 NOVEMBER
 17.00 **Prògraman na Cloinne** - Children's programming

18.30 ÙR|NEW: De a-nis?
 19.00 **Bailtean Alba** - Scotland's towns (rpt)
 19.25 **Earrann Eachdraidh** - History Shorts (rpt)
 19.30 **Speaking our Language** (rpt)
 19.55 **Binneas: Na Trads** - Dosca (rpt)
 20.00 **An Là** - News
 20.30 **Alba: 1988** - the stories making the news (rpt)
 21.00 **Gilleann Grinn** - the effect of WW1 on Uist (rpt)
 22.00 **Trusadh: Feadaireachd** - Whistling (rpt)
 23.00 **An Dùthaich Diomhair** - Scotland's hidden history (rpt)
 23.25 **Fraochy Bay** (rpt)
 23.30 **Slighe Anndra** - the Church of Scotland in Europe (rpt)
 23.55 **Horo Gheallaidh** - Celtic music (rpt)

DICIADAIN 2 SAMHAIN
 WEDNESDAY 2 NOVEMBER
 17.00 **Prògraman na Cloinne** - Children's programming
 19.00 **Muir is Tir** - Natural History (rpt)
 19.25 **Speaking our Language** (rpt)
 19.50 **Binneas: Na Trads** - Duncan Chisholm (rpt)
 20.00 **An Là** - News
 20.30 **ÙR|NEW: Eòrpa** - news from around Europe
 21.00 **A' Ghàidhealtachd** - Scotland's wild heart - the Highlands
 22.00 **Fonn Fonn Fonn** - music quiz (rpt)
 22.30 **Ceòl bho Perthshire Amber** - music (rpt)
 23.00 **Machairazzi** - 20 years of Machair (rpt)

DIARDAOIN 3 SAMHAIN
 THURSDAY 3 NOVEMBER
 17.00 **Prògraman na Cloinne** - Children's Programming
 17.55 **Dè a-nis?** (rpt)
 19.00 **Bailtean Alba** - Scotland's towns (rpt)
 19.25 **Speaking our Language** (rpt)
 19.50 **Binneas: Na Trads** - Duncan Chisholm (rpt)
 20.00 **An Là** - News
 20.30 **ÙR|NEW: Ò Mo Dhùthaich** / From Uist with Love - Episode 7
 20.55 **Horo Gheallaidh** - Celtic Music shorts (rpt)
 21.00 **Big John: Sgeulachd John Hartson** - a battle with cancer (rpt)
 22.00 **Mànan bho Feis na Mara** - music from Mallaig festival (rpt)
 22.30 **Leabhraichean-latha a' Chogadh Mhòir** - Great War Diaries (rpt)
 23.30 **Ceilidh @ Blas 2012** - Festival highlights (rpt)

bbc.co.uk/alba | bbc.co.uk/iplayer

The BBC ALBA air a ruith le MG ALBA ann an co-bhuinn ris a' BhBC. | BBC ALBA is run by MG ALBA in partnership with the BBC.

SCOTS
 Heritage Magazine SPONSORS

THE OBAN TIMES
 GENERAL KNOWLEDGE
 CROSSWORD

AUTUMN EDITION
OUT NOW

www.scotsheritagemagazine.com

Crossword

Across

- Amusement (13)
- One who believes it impossible to know anything about God (8)
- Fashion by interlooping wool (4)
- Say again (7)
- Natural milk dispenser (5)
- Prepared (5)
- Question asked (7)
- Carve in stone (4)
- Home (8)
- One who organises affairs of business (13)

Down

- As a bug in a rug (4)
- Begin (3,3)
- Rule for internal affairs (7)
- Female kin (5)
- Preserved (6)
- Design (8)
- Later than afternoon (8)
- Friendly understanding between nations (7)
- Autumn flower (6)
- Transfer from small to large computer (6)
- Go off script (2-3)
- Secluded corner (4)

LAST WEEK'S SOLUTION

1	S	A	I	D	5	S	I	T	U	A	6	T	E	D
2	E	R	R	A	C	N	I	R						
3	T	R	O	U	B	L	E	10	A	M	B	I		
4	A	N	S	B	O	P	P							
5	S	A	Y	S	O	12	A	N	N	U	A	L		
6	I	E	M	O	B	S	14	R	G		N	15	W	
7	D	E	A											
8	E	A												
9	A	N	I	M	A	L	17	T	R	I	L	L		
10	S	A	O	E	I	D	K							
11	T	I	G	H	T	25	D	E	V	O	L	V	E	
12	A	E	I	G	E	E	P							
13	R	A	R	E	F	I	E	D	22	T	R	O	T	



community-owned and run
Tel: 01631 562905 www.obanphoenix.com

Friday 28 October - Thursday 3 November

DOCTOR STRANGE | 12A | 135 MIN

Fri: 19:00, Sat: 14:30, 19:30, Sun: 13:00, 18:00, Mon, Tue: 19:00, Wed: 15:30, Thu: 19:00
3D: Fri: 16:30, Sat: 12:00, 17:00, Sun: 15:30, Mon, Tue, Thu: 16:30

Parent and Baby Screening: Tue, 10:30

When famous neurosurgeon Stephen Strange (Benedict Cumberbatch) suffers career-ending injuries in a devastating car crash, he seeks help in the furthest reaches of the world! Hoping to find cures for his injuries, Strange instead uncovers the hidden world of magic and alternate dimensions.

KIDS CLUB: THE NIGHTMARE BEFORE CHRISTMAS | PG | 73 MIN

Sat: 11:00
Children's Classic: Jack Skellington, king of Halloween Town, discovers Christmas Town, but doesn't quite understand the concept.

LITTLE MEN | PG | 105 MIN

Fri: 18:15, Sat: 17:15, Sun: 17:00, Thu: 18:15
A new pair of best friends have their bond tested by their parents' battle over a dress shop lease.

SILVER SCREEN - DEEPWATER HORIZON | 12A | 127 MIN

Silver Screening - 'Last Chance to See' - Concessions (age 60+) entry just £3! Tea and cake £1.50
Sun: 14:30
On April 20th, 2010, one of the world's largest man-made disasters occurred on the Deepwater Horizon in the Gulf of Mexico. Directed by Peter Berg (Lone Survivor), this story honours the brave men and women whose heroism would save many on board, and change everyone's lives forever.

STORKS | U | 109 MIN

Fri: 16:15, Sat: 15:15, Sun: 12:30, Mon, Tue, Wed, Thu: 16:15
Storks deliver babies...or at least they used to. Now they deliver packages for global internet giant Cornerstone.com. Junior, the company's top delivery stork, is about to be promoted when he accidentally activates the Baby Making Machine, producing an adorable and wholly unauthorized baby girl. Desperate to deliver this bundle of trouble before the boss gets wise, Junior and his friend Tulip, the only human on Stork Mountain, race to make their first-ever baby drop - in a wild and revealing journey that could make more than one family whole and restore the storks' true mission in the world.

THE GIRL ON THE TRAIN | 15 | 132 MIN

Fri: 20:15, Sat: 19:15, Sun: 19:00, Mon, Tue, Wed: 20:45
In the thriller, Rachel (Blunt), who is devastated by her recent divorce, spends her daily commute fantasizing about the seemingly perfect couple who live in a house that her train passes every day, until one morning she sees something shocking happen there and becomes entangled in the mystery that unfolds.

THE GIRL WITH ALL THE GIFTS | 15 | 131 MIN

Sat: 21:45, Mon, Tue, Wed: 20:45, Thu: 20:15
A scientist and a teacher living in a dystopian future embark on a journey of survival with a special young girl named Melanie.

Free film fest is just the ticket for youngsters

THE world's biggest youth film festival returns to the Highlands and Islands this autumn, with more than 150 films screened across the UK.

Young people across Scotland can access free film screenings and workshops as part of this year's 'biggest ever' Into Film Festival, from November 9-25.

The festival, hosted by education organisation Into Film, immerses young people in the world of film-watching and -making, often for the first time, and offers educational resources to accompany the films. For the first time, young people will also be offered cinema vouchers to allow them to return to see a film of their choice.

In Scotland, a diverse programme of titles for young people from five to 19 will be screened in venues that from Orkney and Shetland to Campbeltown. The festival launches in Scotland on November 9 with a screening of the Roald Dahl film *Fantastic Mr Fox* at the Hippodrome cinema in Bo'ness, near Falkirk, in celebration of the centenary of the birth of the author.

Oban's Phoenix Cinema is hosting nine free

screenings, including *The Iron Giant* (November 9), *The Martian* (November 10), *Zootropolis* (November 11), *Finding Dory* and *Independence Day: Resurgence* (November 15), *ET: The Extra-terrestrial* (November 16), *Dr Strange* (November 22), *Star Trek Beyond* (November 23), and the 2016 film *The Jungle Book* (November 24).

There are also showings of *The Lego Movie* at Campbeltown Picture House, Scotland's oldest purpose-built cinema, and of *Jellicoe*, *Zarafa* and *James and the Giant Peach* at the Aros Centre on the Isle of Skye. The Eden Court Theatre in Inverness is also screening world cinema, including *Mustang* (Turkish), *Zarafa* and *La Famille Belier* (both in French).

The Into Film Festival will enable 450,000 young people aged five to 19, from all backgrounds and corners of the UK, to learn through and about film, interact with film-makers and explore film-making.

The festival aims to foster a love of cinema, and 100,000 young people participating in events will take home a free cinema voucher that allows them to return and see a film of their choice.



Vouchers for Vue, Showcase, Picturehouse and Odeon cinemas will be handed to young people at the events, allowing them to continue to enjoy the cinema experience after the festival.

This month Into Film also launches its online resources for teachers, Scotland on Film. Scotland on Film is an engaging, curriculum-linked teaching resource for educators working with seven- to 18-year-olds, comprising downloadable teachers' notes and PowerPoint presentations with embedded film clips. The resource is designed

to celebrate Scotland and the rich contribution it has made to film, as well as support teachers in engaging with film as a core learning tool.

The film industry has also applauded the festival, with Carey Mulligan, Eddie Redmayne, Michael Sheen and Sir Ian McKellen all lending their support as ambassadors of the festival.

Actor Eddie Redmayne of *The Theory of Everything* and *Les Misérables*, said: 'I saw first-hand the impact that all aspects film can have on young people - the power to inspire, connect

and expand our understanding of ourselves and the world around us. Often with film we love watching it because it's immersive and it's entertaining... but if you look a bit harder and you ask the questions after, it can be so inspiring.'

For information and to book events, visit www.intofilm.org/festival.

What's on at **The Nevis Centre**

Superbowl
open everyday from
12 noon until 10pm

SPECTRUM
Spectrum soft play area
Suitable for children of all ages. Baby area 0-2 years, toddler area 2-5 years and older children can be let loose in all the other areas.

The Nevis Centre An Aird, Fort William
Tel: 01397 700707 www.neviscentre.co.uk

COMMUNITY NOTICEBOARD

SPOOKY WOODS
AN EVENING OF FUN ACTIVITIES JUST FOR CHILDREN
Saturday 29th October
Sutherland's Grove from 6:00PM
£3.50 per child / Adults Free
food and hot drinks are available
Halloween Storytelling, Children's Activities, Mask-Making, Spooky Trail
A Barcaldine Community Association Event

Oban Accordion & Fiddle Club
Thursday 3rd November 2016
7.30pm
Royal Hotel
Guest Artist:
Alan Crookston Duo
Admission £4
All welcome!

MacPhail's MUSIC "Make your way to Stornoway."

The Mod is over for another year and with medals won or narrowly missed, celebrations had and the excitement at an end, all involved will be suffering that familiar post-extravaganza melancholy, deflation, exhaustion and great relief that follows such storms of happy activity.

This was the first Stornoway Mod I have missed for many years but reports from various sources in attendance were of a memorable week. Stornoway is a location that always ignites some debate as to its suitability to host the Mod. Many cite travel logistics and cost, shortage of accommodation and lack of venues as negative points against this Island location. For me however, while valid, these issues are outweighed by many positive and unique attributes that Stornoway offers.

In general I feel that the greater the balance of impact that a Mod has on its host town the better. If you were in Stornoway during Mod week you would be in absolutely no doubt that something significant was happening. This is in contrast to larger urban locations where you could arrive for the Mod and until you were actually at an event, be given no sign that there was a Mod being held at all.

The level of local interest in and support for the event is also very strong in Stornoway - almost certainly greater than in any other location. This is important and adds greatly to the atmosphere and positivity of the event.

The Mod is a celebration of Gaelic Culture and it is fitting that it continues to take place periodically in the Western Isles, whose population holds the greatest concentration of Gaelic speakers still in existence. The economic benefits that the Mod brings should be enjoyed predominantly by the geographic areas whose culture the event is supporting. This is certainly the case in Stornoway.

There is merit and many positive arguments for having the Mod in non-Highland/Island locations and the success of the events in places like Falkirk, Paisley and Perth show this can be done successfully. This is excellent for spreading the message of the Mod to new areas and the logistics and costs for most competitors are relatively low. However, frequency of Mods in such locations should be limited, as indeed they are.

Highland population centres, Oban, Fort William and Inverness are perfect host towns and cover nearly all desired bases. One of the greatest strengths of the Mod though, is its nomadic existence, so it could never be confined, as some suggest it should be, to these three Mod-friendly municipalities. I am greatly looking forward to Fort William 2017, as being a resident here, logistics will be dangerously easy! Just to immerse myself fully in the Mod experience next year I might even join a choir!

I think An Comunn Gaidhealach has done a fine job in choosing the locations for their iconic annual event recently and I would certainly encourage them to continue to have the Mod make its way to Stornoway.

THE DRAMMERY
Specialty Wines and Spirits

Located in Taynuilt Hotel and restaurant, the Drammery is a great value stop for some classic and more some more unusual Single Malt Whisky's, fine wines and craft beers. We also stock Harris Tweed and a range of Cookbooks.

www.thedrammery.co.uk 01866 822437

Party Nights 'Gule' just love!

COLUMBA Only £34.95pp
Motown Tribute Saturday 10th December Only £29.95pp
Mistletoe Madness Disco Friday 16th December Only £29.95pp

... book your place now before it's too late!

All party nights include a welcome drink on arrival, a 4 course dinner & live entertainment. Bookings are non-refundable & non-transferable. Please ensure arrival at 7pm for 7.30pm dinner service.

Christmas Lunch Menu 1ST DECEMBER - 24TH DECEMBER Only £17.95 per person	Christmas Dinner Menu 1ST DECEMBER - 24TH DECEMBER Only £24.95 per person
Christmas Day Menu 25TH DECEMBER Only £34.95 per person	Santa's Helpers Menu Children 11 - 16 years £17.95 Children under 10 years £12.95

YOU CAN BOOK NOW... IT'S EASY, JUST CALL 01631 562183

The Columba Hotel, Oban, Argyll PA34 5QD
www.columbahoteloban.co.uk or email: columba@sgehotels.com
www.facebook.com/sgehotels @SGEHotels

malt OF THE month SPONSORED BY **Ben Nevis Distillery** (Fort William) Ltd.

Talisker 45.8% vol Approximately £33

Interesting developments at the Royal National Mod mean the monicker of the Whisky Olympics may be morphing into the Gin Jolly. Shocking I know, but I certainly saw many people drinking a fair amount of Harris gin, and fewer people drinking whisky while in Stornoway last week. Women in particular are not considering whisky as a drink. One woman I met said she adds cola to single malts 'to make it taste good'. I know many of you will be faint on hearing of this terrible behaviour. You may even be thinking of starting a change.org petition to open a distillery on Lewis, or Harris.

A whisky tour is certainly something that is missing on the island. Now I'm hoping that we can all keep calm here and put in down to people being caught up in the whole Mod madness. Upon my return to Taynuilt, I was fairly relieved when I received a text saying 'gin or a dram?' Sense at last. A dram of course. I was then presented with a Talisker. A wonderfully light peated sippable whisky from the Isle of Skye. Thank goodness we are back to normality.

Louise Glen

OBAN Community Radio - your local radio station
Tune in to 103.3 or listen live at www.obanfm.com

For requests, competitions or questions please email: studio@obanfm.org.uk or call us on 01631 570057

MONDAY: 0800 AM on FM, 0810 Breakfast Show, 0900 Monday Morning With Andy and Stephen, 1100 Molly Black, 1300 CLYDE 2, 1700 Drivetime With Marcus, 1900 Rosie's Highland Fling, 2000 John McLuckie's Show, 2100 David Cullen
TUESDAY: 0800 AM on FM, 0810 Breakfast Show, 1000 Ken Hunter, 1200 Memories are Made of This with Ken Hunter, 1500 Lesley Blair-Simmonds, 1700 Drivetime with Jim Lynch, 1900 Sounds Scottish with Archie Cameron, 2000 Highest Praise with Stuart, 2100 Elaine Lamb, 2300 Northern Soul with Gordon Covey
WEDNESDAY: 0800 AM on FM, 0810 Breakfast Show, 0900 Sound Scottish (repeat), 1000 Comfort Zone with Doug Carmichael, 1300 CLYDE 2, 1500 Elaine Lamb, 1700 Drivetime with Campbell, 1900 Country Meets Rock with Len & Ken, 2100 Gordon's Grooves
THURSDAY: 0800 Morning show, 1100 Molly's Mix with Molly Black, 1300 CLYDE 2, 1500 Gordon Covey, 1700 Drivetime with Stephen, 1900 Christine's Collection, 2100 Ann's Ceilidh, 2200 Margo Till Midnight
FRIDAY: 0800 Jean Ainsley Breakfast Show, 1000 Teeny and Tiny Show, 1300 -1500 Weekend Warmup with Ian Blair-Simmonds, 1700 Drive Show with Jim Lynch, 1845 Sports View, 1900 Country Meets Country with Jackie Craig, 2000 Friday Night with Innes, 2100 TFI Friday with Jim Lavin
SATURDAY: 0800 Breakfast Show, 1000 Saturday Morning Live with Linda Crosher, 1330 CLYDE 2, 1800 Sports View with the Dream Team, 1900 Marcus, 2000 Dave Lewis
SUNDAY: 0900 Sunday Morning with Breege, 1100 - 1400 Sunday Brunch, 1630 Archie Darling, 1800 Ken's Friends with Ken Hunter, 1900 New Country Show with David Entwistle, 2100 Drum & Bass with Graham Scott

Clas Còmhradh Gàidhlig

The spoken word in everyday situations. For intermediate learners.

Starting Wednesday 2nd November (8 weeks)

Fàilte!
7pm to 8.30pm
Bun-sgoil Gàidhlig Loch Abar, Ardgour Road, Caol
Cost - £24 or £12 (GM parents or HC Staff). Payable on first night.

For further information please contact Margaret Mulholland at 01463 703690 or margaret.mulholland@highland.gov.uk

The Highland Council Comhairle na Gàidhealtachd

KENNETH FERGUSON YOUR LOCAL SOLAR PV INSTALLER
ELECTRICAL CONTRACTOR LTD

- SOLAR PV (GENERATE YOUR OWN ELECTRICITY)
- INSPECTION & TESTING
- REWIRING & MAINTENANCE
- ALL TYPES OF ELECTRIC HEATING
- ENERGY EFFICIENT MEASUREMENTS
- NEW BUILD INSTALLATIONS
- DOMESTIC, COMMERCIAL & INDUSTRIAL
- AIR SOURCE HEAT PUMPS

Morar House, Connel, Argyll PA37 1PA
Tel: 01631 710862 Mobile: 07917 167477 Web: fergusonselectrical.co.uk

One million Scottish homes could save £300million by switching supplier

BIG ENERGY SAVING WEEK...

Big Energy Saving Week calls on households to take control of energy spend

SCOTTISH households missed out on £300million of savings last year because they didn't change their energy supplier.

Figures from OFGEM show that savings of around £300 this year are achievable just by switching, but a new Ipsos MORI survey from the Energy Saving Trust has found more than one million homes are on 'energy autopilot'. Nearly 60 per cent of those non-switchers believe they're on the cheapest energy tariff available, which is unlikely. And that's despite only 30 per cent of all bill payers believing energy suppliers actively encourage customer loyalty.

By contrast, we are more than twice as likely to change home insurer than we are energy provider – with 24 per cent of households having switched at least four times in the past 10 years.

The figures have been revealed ahead of Big Energy Saving Week, a UK-wide campaign between the Energy Saving Trust, Citizens Advice, Citizens Advice Scotland and the Department for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy (BEIS). Running from October 31 to 6 November 6, events will be held throughout the UK to offer advice on reducing energy costs and help people keep their homes warm ahead of winter.

An online price comparison tool from Citizens Advice can help bill payers find

Citizens Advice price comparison tool simplifies saving

- CHECK
- SWITCH
- SAVE

IS THIS SOMEONE YOU KNOW?

DO YOU KNOW A HOMEOWNER OR A TENANT OF A PRIVATE SECTOR LANDLORD WHO:

- needs help to heat their home?
- or is looking to improve their home insulation?
- or has a young family?
- or is aged over 60?

HELP THEM SAVE MONEY AND HAVE A WARMER HOME
They could get help* with:

- loft insulation
- cavity wall insulation
- solid wall insulation
- a free check to help maximise their income
- a new or improved heating system
- draught-proofing and other energy saving measures
- money saving behaviour change advice.

ASK THEM TO CALL HOME ENERGY SCOTLAND FREE** ON 0808 808 2282 FOR CLEAR, IMPARTIAL ADVICE.

HOMEENERGYSCOTLAND.ORG
0808 808 2282
FUNDED BY THE SCOTTISH GOVERNMENT

delivered for Scotland by **energy saving trust**

Scottish Government

*Subject to meeting qualifying criteria and property survey. **Free from landlines and most mobile networks.

0% INTEREST

MAKE THE HOME ENERGY IMPROVEMENTS YOU NEED WITH AN INTEREST-FREE LOAN FROM THE SCOTTISH GOVERNMENT*

GET HEATING ADVICE AND FINANCE TO IMPROVE YOUR HOME

HOMEENERGYSCOTLAND.ORG
0808 808 2282
FUNDED BY THE SCOTTISH GOVERNMENT

Scottish Government

* Loans are administered by the Energy Saving Trust. Successful loans are subject to administrative fee. Certain measures require a certified installer.

HEEPS of funds available for home energy improvements

APPLY for an interest-free loan with 25 per cent cashback for installing a variety of measures such as solid wall insulation, double-glazing or a new boiler.

Are you an owner-occupier or private sector landlord in Scotland looking to improve your property? Home Energy Scotland can help.

Through the HEEPS loan scheme – with 25 per cent cashback you could get up to £15,000 in loan funding per property, and landlords with multiple properties are eligible for up to £100,000.

The repayment period varies based on the amount you intend to borrow but those taking out higher value loans will be able to pay back over 10 years.

The Scottish Government is offering a 25 per cent grant for energy efficiency improvements in the form of cashback if you take advantage of their interest-free loan to help spread the payments. This is a limited time offer – contact Home Energy Scotland free on 0808 0808 2282 to take action.

More details

- Applicants are eligible to receive a grant of 25 per cent of their quoted costs, up to a maximum of £3,750.
- Applicants must be able to complete works and claim funding by March 10, 2017, to benefit from this offer.
- Applicants can receive a loan of up to 75 per cent of the cost of eligible works.
- The maximum loan value is £15,000.
- Applicants are also entitled to claim up to £150 towards the cost of the Green Deal Advice Report that is required before a loan can be approved.

If you are installing external wall insulation and apply directly to your local authority for a building warrant, you can also claim back this cost. Payment in these circumstances will only be made based on the actual cost paid to the local authority for lodging the warrant and you must be able to supply a copy of the bill, receipt or invoice issued by the local authority.

This offer will also be available to private sector landlords for a maximum of three properties. If applying for work at more than three properties loan funding, the interest-free loan will still be available for 100 per cent of the eligible costs, up to a maximum of £15,000 per property.

Argyll Woodfuels
01631 563271

- Briquettes by the pallet
- Logs by the dumpy bag
- Pellets in 10kg bags
- Delivered or collected
- Heavy duty wood sheds- by Oban

argyllwoodfuels.com
01631 563271

West Highland Gas Ltd.
Put some **CALOR** in your life

LPG gas, cookers and heaters
Deliveries direct to your door

ORDER NOW - CALL 01631 566370

Outlets in Oban, Lochgilphead, Campbeltown
Isle of Mull, Dunoon, Fort William

www.argyllresources.co.uk
Email: info@argyllresources.co.uk
Torran Gorm Industrial Estate, Oban, Argyll, PA34 4PL

a cheaper supplier. Completely impartial, and including quotes from all energy suppliers, it offers a quick and easy way to see if you can unlock a better deal.

Philip Sellwood, CEO of the Energy Saving Trust, said: 'Many bill payers in Scotland are missing out on substantial annual savings because they assume they are on the best tariff without actually checking. Prices fluctuate every year, so by not switching and being on energy autopilot, consumers may be sleepwalking towards having less money.'

Minister for Consumers Margot James said: 'Millions of people have already switched and saved this year, but we know that some people can find it difficult to find the best deal. Big Energy Saving Week will help people up and down the country find out how they could save on their energy bills. Many could save around £300, as we create a country that works for everyone.'

Anne Lavery, acting chief executive of Citizens Advice Scotland, said: 'Switching gas and electricity can help people cut their bills.'

'Checking their current tariff and comparing prices regularly means people can spot the best new deals and switch to a supplier that gives them the best value for money.'

'Scottish Citizens Advice bureaux will be hosting events in local communities throughout Big Energy Saving Week at which people can learn how to save energy, insulate their homes and compare prices to minimise their bills. Those who can't make an event or access the online tool can still get advice about saving money on their energy bills by contacting their local Citizens Advice Bureau for help.'

Big Energy Saving Week provides face-to-face advice at hundreds of events being held across Britain. To find an event near you, log on to bigenergysavingweek.org.uk. Advice is also available over the telephone through Home Energy Scotland on 0808 808 2282.

To see how much you could save on your energy bill, the Citizens Advice price comparison tool can be found at energycmpare.citizensadvice.org.uk.
mailto:<https://energycmpare.citizensadvice.org.uk/>

Further advice:

For more advice on how to save energy, and to find out if there is any financial support to help you, contact one of these services:

Phone Home Energy Scotland on 0808 808 2282, or go to www.homeenergyscotland.org.



About the Energy Saving Trust in Scotland

TheEnergySavingTrustisoneofScotland's and the UK's leading impartial organisations helping people save energy and reduce carbon emissions. It provides expert insight, knowledge and advice about energy saving, supports people to take action and helps local authorities and communities to save energy. The Energy Saving Trust is organised as a social enterprise with charitable status. The Energy Saving Trust's work in Scotland is funded by the Scottish Government.

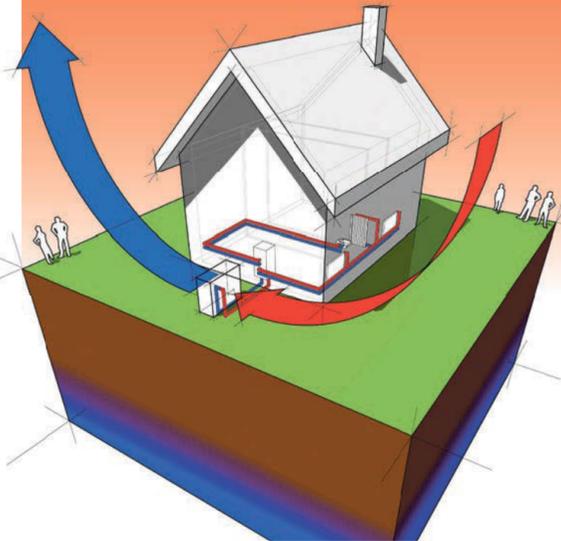
Home Energy Scotland, from the Scottish Government, is the only source of clear and impartial advice on making homes easier to heat. Home Energy Scotland is funded by the Scottish Government and delivered by the Energy Saving Trust.

Call Home Energy Scotland for free impartial advice on 0808 808 2282, or visit www.energysavingtrust.org.uk/scotland.

About Citizens Advice Scotland

The Citizens Advice service in Scotland comprises a network of 61 local Citizens Advice Bureaux, all of which are independent charities, and a Citizens Advice consumer service. Together we help people resolve their money, legal and other problems by providing free, confidential information and advice, and by using our evidence base to influence public policy in the interests of our clients.

There are a range of alternative energy solutions on the market today, from solar PV to air source heat pumps. The advertisers within this special will help you decide on the best course of action to ensure you save money.



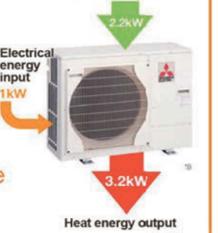
THINKING OF NEW HEATING?



Cut Your Energy Bills With Air Source

Mitsubishi Electric's award-winning MCS approved Ecodan air source heat pumps use advanced inverter-driven technology. Operation is similar to that of a domestic fridge - transferring heat from one place to another. Ecodan air source heat pumps upgrade warmth from the outside air and transfer it inside the home to heat radiators or underfloor systems and also provide hot water, even in temperatures as low as -20°C.

Low temperature renewable heat energy taken from environment



MacLeod Construction Ltd are approved installers of Air Source Ecodan systems.

Give us a call to find out more or visit our website for our range of services.

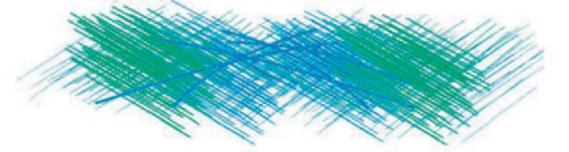
Tel: 01546 602989

f: [MacleodConstructionLimited](https://www.facebook.com/MacleodConstructionLimited)

www.MacleodConstruction.co.uk

MACLEOD
PLUMBING & ELECTRICAL

ADRIAN LAYCOCK Ltd
CONSULTING ENGINEERS



www.adrianlaycock.com

Hydropower Projects
Planning, Design and Construction
Dams, Lakes, Rivers, Flood Control

2 Malin House, European Science Park, Dunbeg,
Oban, PA37 1SZ
tel: 07787523755
email: enquiries@adrianlaycock.com

ALIENERGY
Argyll, Lomond & the Islands Energy Agency

BCA insulation

Argyll & Bute COUNCIL

Home Energy Efficiency Programme for Scotland: Area Based Scheme (HEEPS:ABS)

Are you a private homeowner or private tenant ?? Council Tax Band A-D??

*Visit ALIenergy website or call to check selected postcodes **Band D must also have a household income below £20,000 and a poor energy efficiency rating

If yes to the above you could be eligible for funded insulation measures including loft insulation, cavity wall insulation, internal and external wall insulation and underfloor insulation.

Don't miss out on this opportunity to benefit from funded insulation measures! Come along to our HEEPSABS DROP IN INFORMATION EVENTS to find out more.

ALIenergy, based in Oban, are delivering the HEEPSABS programme in your area on behalf of Argyll and Bute Council. Scottish Government funding has been awarded to improve the energy efficiency of properties that are deemed to be in fuel poverty. Funding is limited and we advise that you register for the scheme as soon as possible.

Tiree
An Talla, Community Centre
Monday 31st October-4pm to 8pm

Oban
Gallery Room, Church Centre, Glenclruitten Road,
Oban
Thursday 3rd November-4pm to 8pm
Tuesday 15th and Thursday 17th
November-10am to 2pm

Coll
An Cridhe, The Community Centre shared space
Monday 7th November-4pm to 8pm

To register call ALIenergy:
01631 565 183
Or contact Home Energy Scotland:
0808 808 2282
Email: heepsabs@alienergy.org.uk
Website: www.alienergy.org.uk

Backwoodsman

adventorial

WOODWARM stoves are renowned for their simplicity of operation and reliability in use. We send a great many off to remote areas as they rarely cause any issues once installed. The Woodwarm Phoenix Fireblaze 6kW is one of our best selling models at Backwoodsman. It has a particularly generous-sized door-glass and the clean, contemporary

lines of this stove ensure there are no extraneous details to distract from an excellent view of the fire. All Woodwarm stoves have a doubled-glazed system which we have found to be unbeatable for retaining clean glass. The simple to operate air-controls are well engineered giving particularly good control of the stove. The integral multi-fuel grate means the Fireblaze is suited to both wood and smokeless fuels and it is easy to switch from one to the other. The stove is also available with boiler options, meaning it can be connected up to a domestic hot water system or even heat a couple of radiators. The Phoenix Fireblaze 6kW is available in standard (as shown) or tall with an integral log store. The Phoenix range is also available in various size options: 4kW, 5kW and 10kW with a variety of colour options and we currently have the stove in stock and available to view in our showroom. For further details please call us on 01631 720539.



Backwoodsman

Backwoodsman is a specialist supplier of wood-burning and multifuel stoves. We are situated on the edge of Barcaldine Forest 11 miles north of Oban. The business is family run with over 30 years experience in providing the highest quality service possible to Argyll, Lochaber and the West Highlands & Islands

STOVES

We are agents and stockists for several manufacturers including Woodwarm, Charmwood & Morsø. The range covers everything from traditional and contemporary models to full central-heating options

CHIMNEYS

Backwoodsman holds large stocks of chimneys and flue material. We are experienced in chimney design and can provide CAD drawings for complete systems on request to both trade & retail customers

SERVICES

Our services are provided to household customers throughout the local area as well as trades, architects, developers and local authorities. We are able to offer a high level of technical advice and support.

SHOWROOM

We have a showroom (by appointment) at our premises in Barcaldine, 11 miles north of Oban where you are assured of a warm welcome. Please call before visiting to ensure there will be someone available to see you.



www.backwoodsman-stoves.co.uk
Barcaldine by OBAN Argyll PA37 1SG Tel. 01631 720539

CITY PLUMBING SUPPLIES
part of the Travis Perkins Group

- SOLAR THERMAL SOLAR PV
- GROUND SOURCE HEAT PUMPS
- AIR TO WATER HEAT PUMPS
- AIR TO AIR HEAT PUMPS
- BIOMASS MVHR

7e Glengallan Road
Oban | PA34 4HG
Tel: 01631 567640
Fax: 01631 569808

facebook.com/cityplumbingsupplies
twitter.com/cityplumbingsupplies



RECRUITMENT IN ASSOCIATION WITH HIJOBS

Visit hijobs.net FIND A JOB SIGN UP FOR JOB ALERTS GET CAREER ADVICE ADVERTISE A JOB



Registered Scottish Charity number SC009152

TECHNICAL SERVICES OFFICER

2 POSTS (ONE BASED IN KINTYRE ONE BASED IN MID-ARGYLL)

Salary Scale: Grade 6
£29,840 - £37,300

Fyne Homes Ltd is a charitable, community based Registered Social Landlord owning and managing 1500 homes in Bute, Cowal, Mid-Argyll and Kintyre. Fyne Homes is also a registered Property Factor providing factoring services to around 400 homes and has active development and capital investment programmes.

We are currently recruiting for 2 Technical Services Officers to join our team. One will be based at our Campbeltown office and cover the Kintyre area, the other will be based at Lochgilphead and will cover the Mid - Argyll area. Reporting to the Technical Services Manager, you will provide an effective and efficient property management service as part of a team within Fyne Homes and work closely with the contractors delivering services under our Framework Agreements. Key tasks include day to day management of reactive, cyclical and capital investment programmes.

It is desirable that applicants either hold or are studying towards a relevant professional qualification or can demonstrate equivalent working knowledge and experience in the property maintenance/building sector. The hours of work are 35 hours per week.

In return for the above we offer an attractive salary and conditions. Application packs can be obtained from

Fyne Homes Ltd
81 Victoria Street, Rothesay
Isle of Bute, PA20 0AP
Tel: 0345 607 7117
e-mail: postmaster@fynehomes.co.uk
or visit our website - www.fynehomes.org.uk to download a pack.

NO AGENCIES PLEASE

Closing Date: Noon on Thursday 10th November 2016
Interview Date: 22 November 2016

Fyne Homes believes in promoting equality and diversity



a Carr Gomm project

Carr Gomm is a national charity providing quality care and support across Scotland since 1997.

Community Project Worker - North/Mid Argyll - 18.75 Hours per week

Salary: £16,145 - £18,239 pro rata per annum

Community Contacts offers a helping hand with Self Directed Support (SDS) in Argyll through offering fact-based information, advice and support with people and their families and carers when they require social care. Funded by the Scottish Government, the Community Contacts team also raises awareness of SDS within our neighbourhoods by listening and talking with community groups and by putting people in touch with others experiencing the SDS process. Working with mutual support volunteers, the project additionally helps people to access 'Click Go' our web based resource which enables people to manage their support at the touch of a button.

The Community Project Worker will contribute to this project by working with individuals, families and a community area in North/Mid Argyll to develop awareness of SDS, to turn individual aspirations into plans, to support individuals to connect with community activities as well as supporting volunteers.

We offer competitive terms and conditions including: pension, enhanced annual leave, training and career advancement opportunities.

Please quote job reference number 632 when applying for this vacancy

Closing Date: Noon, Friday 28th October 2016

For more information & to apply
Application packs are available on our website: www.carrgomm.org/work-for-us
Alternatively, please contact our Recruitment Team:
• Email: recruitment@carrgomm.org
Phone: 0131 659 4781



Managing Director

Oban or Helensburgh
35 hours per week
Salary : £48,749 to £57,532
Relocation package available if required

Argyll Homes for All is seeking to recruit a highly motivated individual to lead Argyll Community Housing Association's subsidiary maintenance company. Preferably educated to degree level and with a minimum of three years' experience in a senior management position, candidates should be experienced in the delivery of "concept to completion" contracts and maintenance programmes as well as having knowledge and understanding of multi-tenure housing maintenance.

The successful applicant will be responsible for leading and growing the business and delivering a customer focused service to ACHA; its tenants and our other customers.

A large focus of the role is to ensure that AHFA fulfils its legal obligations, particularly in regard to health and safety, and maintaining compliance with all relevant legislation. The postholder requires in depth knowledge of construction health & safety legislation as essential. A full UK driving licence and access to a vehicle for business use is required.

In exchange, AHFA provides a generous package including 33 days annual leave, Health Cash Plan, Group Life Assurance, Auto-enrolment Pension Scheme, Flexible Working and Sick Pay Scheme.

This post will be subject to a Basic Disclosure Scotland check.

Closing Date: Friday 4th November

Interviews will be held in Inveraray on Tuesday 15th November 2016

For further information about this post or for an informal chat please contact either Alastair MacGregor, Group Chief Executive on 01546 605922, email alastair.macgregor@acha.co.uk
OR John Forbes, current MD of AHFA, on 01546 605899, email john.forbes@ahfa.co.uk

To apply visit our website at www.acha.co.uk/recruitment
If you are unable to access the recruitment website, please contact: Tel 01546 605817 or email recruitment@acha.co.uk



We are currently recruiting for the following position at Highland Lime, Fort William:

QUARRY SUPERVISOR

Reporting to the Quarry Manager you will be responsible under Section 8 of the Quarries Regulations 1999 for the safe and efficient management of our Highland Lime Quarry, Fort William.

You will need to demonstrate a strong commitment to Health, Safety and Environmental management and possess the necessary competence and leadership skills to promote a positive team based culture. Previous experience in a similar role is essential. The ideal candidate will have a sound working knowledge of quarry operations, as well as general maintenance activities. A flexible approach to work and good communication skills are also essential for this role and you would ideally hold or be working towards a SHE NVQ Level 3.

You must also hold a current UK driving licence and would ideally be available to commence employment at the earliest opportunity.

To apply please visit www.leiths-group.co.uk to download an application form.

Closing date for applications is Monday 7 November 2016

Leiths (Scotland) Ltd are an equal opportunities employer



Driver

Oban £competitive + benefits Permanent Full time 44.5 per week

Be the best on the road
The most important things are safety, customer satisfaction and the happiness of the team.

Be the face of one of the UK's largest suppliers of building materials
Work to the highest industry standards
Enhance our reputation for incredibly professional service

At Travis Perkins we pride ourselves on being a great place to work. We're a top employer that looks after our people and empowers them to look after our business and our loyal customer base.

Joining our family as a Driver, you'll carry out multi-drop deliveries from our branch direct to our local customers. It'll be down to you to make sure the vehicle is loaded properly and in line with road and transport legislation. And then when you get to your destination, you'll be the ultimate professional: polite, helpful and the face of Travis Perkins.

You join us you'll need to be:
An experienced Driver with a Class 2 licence
Able to provide CPC training records
Used to working with minimum supervision
Blessed with top-notch people skills

In return, you'll have every opportunity to drive your career forward within a large and expanding business with deep local roots and strong family values.

Apply to: lain.hunter@travisperkins.co.uk or telephone: 01631 564224



Incorporating Argyllshire Advertiser

Trainee Reporter

Here at Wyvex Media, publisher of The Oban Times, the west Highland's best-selling weekly newspaper, we pride ourselves on producing quality grassroots journalism.

Our weekly paid-for newspaper, the Campbeltown Courier has an opportunity for a bright, passionate and hungry young trainee reporter to join our busy team.

Based at our Campbeltown office, the person we are looking for will ideally have passed their NCTJ Prelims, including shorthand, be multi-media literate, and unafraid of hard work.

They will be bursting with ideas on where to look for stories, understand the importance of fostering great contacts and knowing their patch, and be capable of working on their own initiative as well as part of a team.

They should also hold a full driving licence.

As well as writing for the newspaper, they will be expected to take occasional pictures on the job, as well as contribute to our social media channels.

In return for all this we offer a competitive salary, great experience and training, as well as private health care and an enhanced pension.

Please apply by email, sending your CV, plus a covering letter and some examples of your work to: Alison Arden - ali@wyvexmedia.co.uk

WYVEX MEDIA   



Work with us and make a difference

Do you want to be part of an exciting team, providing high quality support to people with learning disabilities?

Do you want to go home each day feeling that you have made a positive difference to an individual? If the answer is yes, we want to hear from you.

Interested? For further information visit our website: www.affinitytrust.org
Or contact the Oban office on: 01631 571 311
email: AdminOban@affinitytrust.org

Argyll & Bute Support Workers

£8.25 per hour
Full Time / Part Time / Bank

Affinity Trust is an equal opportunities employer. This position is subject to an enhanced PVG Check

RECRUITMENT RECRUITMENT RECRUITMENT

HIJOBS HIJOBS HIJOBS

MATHESONS FURNISHINGS SALESPERSON

For our Oban showroom. Sales and administration of household furnishings and floorcoverings.

For an application form please contact:
Mathesons Furnishings
Tweedmill, Soroba Road, Oban
Tel: 01631 565195
Email: info@mathesons.co.uk

Live-in Carer Required

Hebridean Island

Scots gent seeks live-in carer for elderly mother, mid Dec start preferred. Position 'all found' and access to car. Would suit retired nurse or professional with domestic skills and experience in personal care and manual handling. Unique location offers nature lover/recluse new challenges.

Working on CRB approved self employment, Telephone 07796 285723.



Where every child matters

Reflexions Response service offers short term activity based, therapeutic placements for young people. We are currently looking to recruit for the following positions for our expanding service in the Oban area:

Residential Care Worker

Salaries range from £20,256 to £21,088 (depending on qualifications and experience) with opportunity for overtime shifts, plus benefits

Senior Residential Care Worker

Successful applicants must hold their NVQ/QCF level 3 Children and young people.

Salaries range from £21,192 to £26,496 with opportunity for overtime shifts, plus benefits

This service is primarily outdoor based and whilst outdoor qualifications are not essential, there must be the desire to work outdoors and gain outdoor qualifications.

We will also welcome sessional applicants and individuals with managerial experience

Successful candidates must hold a full UK manual driving licence and will be required to complete an enhanced PVG check and an Enhanced Disclosure & Barring check.

For further details on the above position please contact Tim Vollum Tel: 07775763394

For an application form please contact:
Miss Lencie Abbott, New Reflexions, Black Birches, Hadnall, Nr.Shrewsbury, Shropshire, England SY4 3DH - Tel: 01939 210040 or email lencie.abbott@newreflexions.co.uk

RECRUITMENT RECRUITMENT RECRUITMENT RECRUITMENT

HIJOBS HIJOBS HIJOBS HIJOBS



NOVEMBER ISSUE OUT NOW

DAZZLING DUMFRIES

WIN £1000 OF INTERIOR DESIGN VOUCHERS

10 OF THE BEST VILLAINOUS CADS AND WOMANISERS

WHICH FLY DID RIVER AWE SALMON FIND IRRESISTIBLE?

Mr Tunnock to the rescue Saving the Scottish wildcat

BROADCASTER STEPHEN JARDINE ON THE JOY OF BEING A DOONHAMER

www.scottishfield.co.uk

RECRUITMENT RECRUITMENT RECRUITMENT

HIJOBS HIJOBS HIJOBS

Modern Apprentice - Business and Administration SVQ Level 3 (temporary for 2 years)

£6,715.63 Lochgilphead Ref: CXF00227
☎ 01546 604334

Closing date: 11 November 2016.
To apply visit our website



www.argyll-bute.gov.uk/jobs

West Coast **MOTORING TIMES**

✔ DRIVETIMES ✔ SAILING TIMES ✔ GARAGES ✔ CAR DEALERSHIPS ✔ MOTORING NEWS

JAGUAR XKR FOR SALE



Excellent Con 5l, Automatic petrol Engine Only 30,540 mls, Speed pack body kit with 20" Kasuga, Alloys Ivory lthr interior. Heated & Cooled front seats With Sat Nav & Parking Aids
Just £34,450 or next best offer

Contact 07768 647180

04 MAZDA TRIBUTE GSI 4WD



With towbar. Petrol, manual, 87250 miles. MOT June 2017. New front brake pads/ discs. FSH. Slight scrape on LHS.
£1,300

Contact 01880820372

VAUXHALL COMBO VAN



Reg Jan 2010, MoT Jan 2017 41,000 mls, Gd Cond
£3000 +vat

01631 564022 / 07710 060021

BMW X3 2.0 D SE 4X4



55plate, fsh, lady owner, ac, em, ew, esp, abs, Exc Con, 85000mls Mot Oct 2017
£5,500 ono

Tel Fiona 07747750627/01301702288

RENAULT MEGANE 57 RANGE 1.9 DCI



6 Speed Estate. 4 Gd tyers, new brakes/belts, CD, 130,000 mls SH, V Gd Con for year.
£1,250 ono

07554 571 070

SAAB 9.3 2008



Airflow, TiD, MoT Aug 2017, Silver, FSH, Great Performance, Good Con.
£1,600 ono

07526 564994

VOLKSWAGEN POLO 1.2S



Silver, 77,500 miles, MOT Aug 2017
£1,250 ono

01586 810391/07977327751

IFOR WILLIAMS TA510 LIVESTOCK TRAILER



10ft. c/w, sheep decks & internal partition. Kept inside - very tidy trailer. Appin area.
£1,400 No vat

Tel: 07786835886

PEUGEOT 107 AUTOMATIC (TRONIC)



2010. MOT October 2017. 39,000 mls. Road tax £20 per yr. Amazing mpg. Exc Con
£2,200

Tel 01770 600047

MINI COOPER D 1.6L DIESEL (CHILLI PACK)



Reg Oct 2010. No Road tax fee. FSH, 12 mths MOT. Mileage 84,600
£4,500

TEL 01546 603528

VW POLO 1.2 SE PETROL

60 plate, 48,000 miles, 5 door hatchback, Serviced, MOT till Sept17

£4,800ono

Tel: 01586 552459

HONDA CIVIC ESI-CTDI

Lovely car to drive, top of the range, 57 plate, MOT until End September 2017

£1950 ono

Tel Angela 01681 700517

WANTED

All 4 x 4s, old or new Toyota Hilux, land cruiser, all pickups single or double cabs, any condition, runner or not, high miles no problem.

Tel 07703490572
ask for Robert

WANTED

All types of 4 x 4 vehicles, Landrovers, Toyotas, Nissan, any 4x 4 considered, also non-runners, failures, single or double cab.

Tel: 01250884 306
or mobile 07885203 020

Car, Bike, Home and Van Insurance with Adrian Flux

40 YEARS OF EXCELLENCE

Great Insurance deals for your Car, Bike, Home and Van

Adrian Flux Insurance Services offer a range of policies which reflect the low risk nature of highland life. We can offer you great insurance deals on your car, bike, home and van. Call us today for a free no obligation quote.

0800 032 5231
adrianflux.co.uk

Authorised and regulated by the Financial Conduct Authority

Call **01631 568000** to sell your car in our Drivetimes section

like us on facebook
www.facebook.com/obantimes

WANTED 4X4s FOR CASH

All 4x4 Vehicles, all makes and models wanted. Guaranteed best price, no hassle, free collection anywhere. Land Rover Defender, Discovery, Freelander Range Rover, Vauxhall Brava, Toyota Hilux, Land Cruiser, Mitsubishi, Shogun, L200, Pajero, Nissan Navara, Terrano, Patrol, X Trail, Isuzu Trooper, Rodeo. + All other 4x4 Vehicles, 4X4 Pickups, etc. Single Vehicles or fleet purchases. Any age nearly new or old, any conditions from perfect to written off, non runners, rotten, no MOT, high mileage, blown engine, overheating etc. Cash in hand, no hassle, best cash price guaranteed.

Call today on **07789855381**

Oban Times DRIVE TIMES
Oban Times DRIVE TIMES
Oban Times DRIVE TIMES

NEW CAR INDEX

VAUXHALL
S & S Services
Old Bridge Road, Heathfield, Ayr
Tel. 01292 880080
01292 880440

SUZUKI
Gordon Motors
UK Dealer Of The Year 2014
Comrie Rd, Crieff, Perthshire PH7 4BQ
Tel. 01764 652125
Delivery throughout the West
www.suzuki.co.uk/gordonmotors

GREAT WALL
S & S Services
Old Bridge Road, Heathfield, Ayr
Tel. 01292 880080
01292 880440

SUBARU
S & S Services
Old Bridge Road, Heathfield, Ayr
Tel. 01292 880080
01292 880440

W.D. Semple
www.wdsemple.com
Inveraray Shore Street
Tel. 01499 302150
Lochgilphhead Highbank Park
Tel. 01546 606767
01546 606272

TO PROMOTE YOUR NEW CAR DEALERSHIP PLEASE CALL: 01631 568000

WD Semple Scotland's most established Renault dealer

These are just a small selection of cars currently in our showrooms

USED CARS

16 Dacia Duster Laureate, DCI, 4x4 Grey, 2750 Miles£14,295
16 Renault Clio Dyn Nav TCE, 5Dr, H/B, White, Delivery Mileage.....£12,500
65 Dacia Sandero Laureate DCI, 4x2 Black, 300 Miles£12,995
65/16 Dacia Sandero Laureate, DCI, 5Dr, Black, 2,200 Miles.....£9,995
15 Ford Ka Zetec, 1.3, 3 Dr, 6,000 Miles Red£6,200
64 Dacia Duster Access 1.6, 4WD, White, 8,500 Miles£9,250
64 Honda Jazz, ES+ I-Vtec, 1.4, 5Dr, Brown 29,500 Miles£8,250
14 Renault Scenic DYN, 1.5 DCI, T/T, Black, 16,500 Miles£12,650
14 Dacia Duster Laureate, DCI, 4x2, Silver, 6500 Miles£10,750

14 Dacia Stepway AMB TCE, Black, 15,400 Miles.....£6,750
62/13 Renault Megane DYN, 1.6, Coupe, Silver, 18,000 Miles.....£9,450
13 Jaguar XF Luxury, 2.2 Diesel, Auto, Blue, 15,000 Miles.....£19,500
11 Renault Megan Coupe, GT-Line TCE, Blue, 25,000 Miles.....£7,450
10 Toyota Aygo, 1lt, 5 Dr H/B, Blue, 38,500 Miles£3,950
10 VW Polo SE 60, 1.2 5 Dr H/B Grey.....£3,495
09 Ford Focus Zetec 100 1.6, 5Dr, Black, 84,000 Miles£4,250

COMMERCIALS

65 Renault Traffic SL27 Business+ DCI Silver, 10 Miles£13,750+VAT

New and Pre-Reg Renaults and Dacias ready for immediate delivery



NOW AVAILABLE The New Dacia Range from **£5,995***

WHAT CAR?



Dacia Sandero = from **£5,995***



Dacia Sandero Stepway = from **£8,395***



Dacia Duster = from **£9,495***



Logan MCV Estate = from **£6,995**

Sandero shown is a Laureate 1.2 16V 75 from £7,995. sandero Stepway shown is a Laureate TCE 90 from £9,795. Duster shown is a Laureate dCi 110 4x2 from £12,995. Metallic paint optional on Sandero/Duster at £470.

VISIT OUR WEBSITE TO VIEW A MORE COMPREHENSIVE RANGE OF VEHICLES ON OFFER

Any of our pre registered or used stock can now be viewed in or around Campbeltown Call for an appointment to view.

Approved Renault Dealer
www.wdsemple.com
Inveraray - Shore Street.
Tel: 01499 302150 Fax: 01499 302281
Lochgilphhead - Highbank Park.
Tel: 01546 606767 Fax: 01546 606272
Car & Van Hire from both branches.



FIND US

54% of people travel 10 miles or less to buy a second-hand car

Regional press is the relevant choice for motors advertising.

Regional Press

West Coast **MOTORING TIMES**

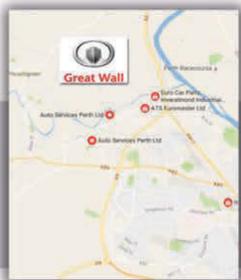
✔ DRIVETIMES ✔ SAILING TIMES ✔ GARAGES ✔ CAR DEALERSHIPS ✔ MOTORING NEWS

GREAT WALL  **GREAT VALUE**  **GREAT WARRANTY**

- Great Wall 4x4
- 6yr Warranty
- Towbar & Load Liner
- Air Con & Bluetooth



ONLY
£13,995 PLUS VAT & RFL



Auto Services Perth Ltd
97 Crieff Road, Perth, PH1 2QB Telephone 01738 210000
www.autoservicesperthltd.co.uk Mon-Fri 9am-5.30pm | Sat 9am - 12:00 noon | Sun CLOSED



PUBLIC NOTICES

To find out more about living and working in Argyll & Bute visit us @ www.argyll-bute.gov.uk
Comhairle Earra-Ghàidheal agus Bhòid

Argyll & Bute COUNCIL

PLANNING
These applications listed below together with other related documents may be inspected between 09:00-12:30 - 13:30-16:00 hrs Monday to Friday at 1A Manse Brae Lochgilphead PA31 8RD, at the alternative locations detailed below during their normal opening times or by logging on to the Council's website at www.argyll-bute.gov.uk.

TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING DEVELOPMENT MANAGEMENT PROCEDURE (SCOTLAND) REGULATIONS 2013 REGULATION 20(1) ADVERT STATEMENT
TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING (SCOTLAND) ACT 1997 (AS AMENDED), RELATED PLANNING (LISTED BUILDINGS AND CONSERVATION AREAS) (SCOTLAND) ACT 1997

Ref. No.	Proposal	Site Address	Location of Plans
16/02775/PP	Erection of dwellinghouse and formation of vehicular access	Land South of 15 Aray Gardens Oban Argyll and Bute PA34 4JX	Oban Area Office
16/02674/PP	Removal of condition 3 relative to planning permission 16/00333/PP (Erection of single storey extension and increase in roof height (amendments to planning permission 14/01931/PP - Demolition of existing boat house and erection of replacement boat house)	Killimore Kilfinichen Tiroran Isle of Mull Argyll and Bute PA69 6ER	Sub Post Office Bunnassan Isle of Mull
16/02666/PP	Variation of condition 1 of planning permission 11/01336/PP (Change of use of vacant store to form ancillary accommodation to main dwellinghouse) - in relation to occupancy restriction	Burnbank Cottage Breadalbane Street Tobermory Isle of Mull Argyll PA75 6PD	Tobermory Area Office
16/02734/LIB	Installation of replacement shopfront including re-painting, relocation of ATM, erection of single storey extension to side to infill goods area, installation of external plant to rear flat roof and replacement of slate roof and flat roof finishes	33 Main Street Tobermory Isle of Mull Argyll and Bute PA75 6NU	Tobermory Area Office
16/02695/PP	Erection of 6.4 metres high telecommunications pole (overall structure height 7.6 metres high) and associated works	Land North East of Quinish House Quinish Dervaig Isle of Mull Argyll and Bute PA75 6QL	Sub Post Office Dervaig
16/02425/PP	Installation of a 12m high steel monopole with 2 x 0.3m diameter dishes attached	Land South East of Pavilion Garmory Road Craignure Isle of Mull Argyll and Bute	Sub Post Office Craignure
16/01957/PP	Erection of telecommunications equipment compound with 15 metre high lattice tower and associated works	Land North Of Kilbride Farm Balvicar Isle Of Seil Oban Argyll and Bute PA34 4RD	Sub Post Office Balvicar
16/02595/PP	Formation of play park	Cruachan Power Station Lochawe Dalmally Argyll and Bute PA33 1AN	Sub Post Office Dalmally
16/02642/PP	Partial change of use from croft to caravan park including erection of office/reception, toilet/shower facilities and 6 ecopods and installation of sewage treatment plant and infiltration area to replace existing septic tank	Highfield 3 Kiel Crofts Benderloch Oban Argyll and Bute PA37 1QS	Sub Post Office Connel
16/02773/PP	Erection of dwellinghouse	Plot 2 Land South of Drimmin Kilchrean Taynuilt Argyll and Bute PA35 1HF	Sub Post Office Taynuilt
16/02732/PP	Erection of replacement sunroom extension	Trailie Breadalbane Street Tobermory Isle of Mull Argyll and Bute PA75 6PE	Tobermory Area Office

Written comments can be made to the above address or submitted online <http://www.argyll-bute.gov.uk/planning-and-environment/find-and-comment-planning-applications> within 21 days of this advert. Please quote the reference number in any correspondence. 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. A weekly list of all applications can be viewed at all Area Offices, Council Libraries and on the Councils website.

Cruach Brenfield Wind Farm

Upcoming community consultation day

Ardrihaig Public Hall: Wednesday 9th November, 13:00 - 18:30

Project update
EDF Energy Renewables (EDF ER) has undertaken further visual and environmental assessments on its Cruach Brenfield wind farm, near Ardrishaig in Mid-Argyll. The latest proposal consists of a maximum of 12 turbines, with total capacity of up to 42MW, a reduction from the 18 turbine proposal originally submitted to the Scottish Government. Having taken on board the feedback from the local community and statutory consultees, EDF ER would like to present updates on the landscape and visual impact of the project. There will be an opportunity at the event to look at visualisations of the project from a number of different viewpoints using 3-D imaging software.

Community consultation event
We are always keen to get feedback so please do visit us at the upcoming consultation day - we would like to invite anyone who might have an interest in the plans to come along. If this date is not suitable for you, please feel free to get in touch via the website or Freephone number below and we would be happy to discuss the project with you. We would welcome comments on the proposal any time before 30th November 2016.

Please note that that comments made to EDF-ER are not representations to the Planning Authority. There will be an opportunity to make representations directly to Argyll and Bute Council when a formal planning application is submitted.

For further information on the proposal, please do not hesitate to get in touch on 0800 056 6650 or visit the project website at www.edf-er.com

EDF ENERGY RENEWABLES

To find out more about living and working in Argyll & Bute visit us @ www.argyll-bute.gov.uk
Comhairle Earra-Ghàidheal agus Bhòid

Argyll & Bute COUNCIL

DEVELOPMENT AND INFRASTRUCTURE
ARGYLL AND BUTE COUNCIL (OFF-STREET PARKING PLACES AND CHARGES) (ISLE OF MULL) ORDER 2016

Argyll and Bute Council proposes to make an Order to introduce parking charges all year round in the Iona Ferry off street car parks in Fionnphort, Isle of Mull. Currently, seasonal parking charges apply between 1st April and 31st October.

The order that covers Craignure Toilet Car Park will be revoked and this car park will be included within the proposed order so that all charging car parks in Mull are contained within one traffic order.

Full details of the proposal together with Plans, and a Statement of Reasons for proposing to make this Traffic Regulation Order, are available for inspection during normal office hours inclusive at the offices of:

- Post Office, The Ferry Shop, Fionnphort, Isle of Mull;
- Argyll and Bute Council Offices, Breadalbane Street, Tobermory, Isle of Mull
- Argyll and Bute Council Offices, Kilmory, Lochgilphead.

Any person wishing to object to the proposals should send details of the grounds for objection in writing to the Head of Governance and Law, Argyll and Bute Council, Kilmory, Lochgilphead, Argyll, PA31 8RT, by 18th November 2016.

Jim Smith, Head of Roads & Amenities Services, 1A Manse Brae
LOCHGILPHEAD, PA31 8RD

Oban Times Oban Times PUBLIC NOTICES PUBLIC NOTICES

Goods Vehicle Operator's Licence
David Melville trading as Argyll Renewable Energy Limited of The Old Saw Mill, Loch Dochart, Crianlarich, FF20 8QS is applying for a licence to use The Old Saw Mill, Loch Dochart, Crianlarich, FK20 8QS as an operating centre for 1 goods vehicle and 1 trailer. Owners and occupiers of land (including buildings) near the operating centre(s) 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.

PROPOSED ASSIGNATION OF A CROFT
Donald Galbraith, is applying to the Crofting Commission for consent to assign the tenancy of the croft at Bracarina, Glenelg to Alistair Neil MacKay of Lochmhor, Bracara, Morar. If you consider you have a relevant interest in this application, you may submit comments in writing to the Crofting Commission, Great Glen House, Leachkin Road, Inverness IV3 8NW or email info@crofting.scotland.gov.uk within 28 days from the date of publication of the advert. Please note that any comments you provide are part of an open process and will be made available to interested parties. Your comments would also be released under a Freedom of Information enquiry.

West Coast PROPERTY GUIDE

LETTINGS COMMERCIAL PROPERTY SALE PROPERTY REVIEWS PROPERTY NEWS LOCAL ESTATE AGENTS

Don't be scared this Halloween!
We've seen it all...



As chartered surveyors and estate agents, Bell Ingram know that property comes in all shapes and sizes. Our extensive experience enables us to give you expert advice. Contact us today to see how we can help.

Bell Ingram
Boswell House
Argyll Square
Oban PA34 4BD
01631 566122
william.banham@bellingham.co.uk
bellingham.co.uk

John Clegg & Co
CHARTERED SURVEYORS & FORESTRY AGENTS



CARSAIG ESTATE, Tayvallich, Argyll
125.44 Hectares / 309.96 Acres
Lots from £5,000 to £225,000.
Offers over £275,000 for the whole.

FREEHOLD FOR SALE IN 4 LOTS OR AS A WHOLE
A compact, easily managed sporting and amenity estate, located in spectacular scenery on the West Coast of Scotland.

2 Rutland Square, Edinburgh, EH1 2AS
Telephone: 0131 229 8800 www.johnclegg.co.uk



Many UK landlords still not disclosing rental income

Landlords in the UK have made 13,000 disclosures through the taxman's let property campaign that was launched in 2013 to encourage those owing tax to get their affairs in order.

Indeed, many are thought to be small scale, amateur landlords renting out a property as a retirement nest egg, or accidental landlords letting out a former home they have been unwilling or unable to sell.

But HMRC is still urging others to come forward and says that the campaign is an opportunity for landlords who owe tax through letting out residential property in the UK or abroad to take advantage of the best possible terms.

'If you're a landlord and you've undisclosed income you must tell HMRC about any unpaid tax now. You'll then have 90 days to calculate and pay what you owe,' said an HMRC spokesman.

'If you make a full and voluntary disclosure of all unpaid liabilities in these circumstances you can usually

expect a lower penalty than HMRC would otherwise seek if they raised an enquiry or compliance check without the disclosure,' the spokesman added.

'Regardless of whether the errors were due to misunderstanding the rules or deliberately avoiding paying the right amount it is better to come to HMRC and admit any inaccuracies rather than wait until HMRC uncovers those errors,' the spokesman pointed out.

He added that any amount due would depend on why a person failed to disclose their income. For example, some who have deliberately kept information from HMRC will pay a higher penalty than if they have simply made a mistake.

The law allows HMRC to go back up to 20 years, and in serious cases HMRC may carry out a criminal investigation.

Our expert team at West can help you sort through these and other confusing issues that landlords face, so don't hesitate to call on us.



www.west-property.co.uk



01631 569 466 (Oban)

01397 747 123 (Fort William)

Properties for sale / to let

LET PROPERTIES NEEDED - LANDLORDS GET IN TOUCH WITH OUR EXPERT TEAM TODAY - NOW FULLY MANAGING OVER 150 RENTALS IN ARGYLL & LOCHABER

Strongarbh Park, Tobermory

- Detached House
- 3 / 4 Bedrooms
- Elevated situation
- Views over Tobermory & Sound of Mull
- Private Garden
- Holiday Rental Potential
- EPC Rating - D67

OIRO £250,000

A 3 / 4 bedroom one and a half storey detached house occupying an elevated situation within a quiet residential area in upper Tobermory enjoying views over the town and towards the Sound of Mull. This well presented property offers spacious rooms in a practical layout.

Creagard, Tobermory, Isle Of Mull

- Detached House
- 5 Bedrooms / 3 Bathrooms
- Lovely residential area in Tobermory
- Wood burning stove
- EPC Rating - E41

OIRO £244,000

Creagard - A generously proportioned one and a half storey house situated in a popular residential area above the town of Tobermory. The property comprises a spacious hall, dining room, conservatory, large lounge with wood burning stove, generous family kitchen, family bathroom and two double bedrooms (one en-suite). Upstairs are three bedrooms, a family bathroom and WC.

Ashcroft, Dalmainly

- Spacious detached house
- 6 Bedrooms / 4 Bathrooms
- Stunning Mountain Views
- Excellent B&B potential
- £45k below Home Report Valuation
- EPC Rating - C70

OIRO £235,000

Ashcroft, Dalmainly Built in 2002 this deceptively spacious one and a half storey house occupies an elevated position with stunning panoramic mountain views. In addition to six spacious bedrooms, 2 en-suite shower rooms (including en-suite from master bedroom upstairs), two family bathrooms, this property offers generous reception rooms and kitchen diner.

Penmore, Dervaig

- Detached 1 1/2 storey Cottage
- 4 Bedrooms / 2 Bathrooms
- Quiet, secluded location with large garden
- Close to beaches
- Good sized family home
- EPC Rating - D63

OIRO £250,000

Cnoc Deaghainn - Built in 2004 by the current owners this one and a half storey detached cottage is situated in a secluded glen close to the village of Dervaig on the stunning west coast of Mull. On the ground floor there is a bright and cosy lounge/kitchen complete with wood burning stove (with back boiler).

Rockfield Road, Tobermory

- Ground floor flat
- 3 bedrooms
- On street parking
- Private front and back garden
- Electric heating
- EPC Rating - E40
- Landlord Registration: 222536/130/17461

£500 PCM

3 bedroom, unfurnished, ground floor flat located within easy reach of Tobermory town centre. The property has been decorated in neutral colours throughout and comprises of a lounge, kitchen/diner, 3 double bedrooms and a family bathroom with a shower over the bath.

Breadalbane Lane, Oban

- 1 Bedroom Unfurnished
- Rent excludes Utilities (Electric Storage Heating)
- Deposit (1m Rent) and References Required
- Landlord Reg: 143971/130/10230
- EPC Rating - E54
- AVAILABLE OCTOBER

£480 PCM

One bedroom ground floor flat, newly refurbished, unfurnished flat with modern decor, located in Oban town centre. The accommodation comprises of a large open plan kitchen and sitting room with bay window, 1 double bedroom, separate WC and shower rooms.

Catalina Avenue, Oban

- 2 Bedroom Semi Detached
- Small Private Garden
- 2 double bedrooms
- Parking facilities
- Landlord Registration: 4782/14/130/12331
- EPC Rating - B82
- AVAILABLE JANUARY 2017

£600 PCM

Modern 2 Double Bedroomed Semi-Detached in popular residential area. This property comprises of a spacious lounge, kitchen and WC downstairs and two double rooms plus bathroom upstairs. It will be available part furnished with larger furniture and white goods left.

Bellvue Apartments, Oban

- One Bedroom flat
- Unfurnished with white goods provided
- Council Tax TBC
- EPC Rating - D56
- Landlord Registration: 143971/130/10230
- 143974/130/10390

£350 PCM

One bedroom unfurnished flat with modern decor, located in Oban town centre. The accommodation comprises of 1 double bedroom, separate WC and shower rooms, open plan lounge & kitchen. Bed for sale on separate arrangement.

PUBLIC NOTICES

www.highland.gov.uk

The Highland Council
Comhairle na Gàidhealtachd

TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING (SCOTLAND) ACT 1997
PLANNING (LISTED BUILDING AND CONSERVATION AREAS) (SCOTLAND) ACT 1997

The applications listed below, along with plans and other documents submitted with them, may be examined online at <http://wam.highland.gov.uk> or electronically at your nearest Service Point. You can find your nearest Service Point via the following link https://www.highland.gov.uk/directory/16/a_to_z

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
16/04538/FUL	Ballachulish Hotel, Ballachulish		Installation of a biomass heating cabin and flue
16/04628/FUL	Land 1465M NE of Aspen View, 9 Bohuntin, Roy Bridge		Installation of telecommunications mast and ancillary apparatus, equipment cabinets and fenced compound
16/04638/FUL	Land 760M NW of Achriachach Cottage East, Achreoch, Glen Nevis, Fort William		Telecommunications apparatus; ancillary equipment cabinets.
16/04659/FUL	Land 300M North of Rose Cottage, Glenuig, Lochailort		Erection of house, formation of vehicular access, installation of septic tank and partial soakaway with outfall to watercourse
16/04697/FUL	Land 960M North of Roughburn, Tulloch, Roy Bridge		Construction of a new forest road and access and associated car parking. Closure of the existing forest access and reinstatement of the existing forest road and access.

Time period for comments is 14 days
ePlanning Centre, The Highland Council, Glenurquhart Road, INVERNESS IV3 5NX
Email: eplanning@highland.gov.uk

MARINE (SCOTLAND) ACT 2010
INSTALLATION TWO PRIVATE MOORINGS, EILEAN BALNAGOWAN, LOCH LINNHE, ARGYLL

Notice is hereby given that Mrs L M Kinnear (per Bell Ingram) has applied to the Scottish ministers of the Scottish Government, under Part 4 of the MARINE (SCOTLAND) ACT 2010, in respect of the installation of two private moorings at:

Location	Latitude Co-ordinates	Longitude Co-ordinates
Eilean Balnagowan, Loch Linnhe, Argyll	56° 37.981' N 56° 37.962' N	005° 20.184' W 005° 29.192' W

(WGS84)

Plans showing the positions of the works may be inspected at Port Appin Post Office, Port Appin, Argyll. Objections relating to safety of navigation or environmental issues in respect of the application should be made in writing to:
Licensing Operations Team, Marine Scotland, Marine Laboratory, 375 Victoria Road, Aberdeen, AB11 9DB within 28 days of the date of this notice or by email to: MS.MarineLicensing@gov.scot, quoting reference: MCMS No. 06105
Mrs L M Kinnear (per Bell Ingram)

CROFTING COMMISSION NA COIMISEAN NA CROITEARACHD
DECROFTING DIRECTIONS ISSUED

R M Meiklejohn
3B Uragai, Colonsay
70570
0.190 ha - Amenity Ground
Condition - With fencing conditions. Full details at www.crofting.scotland.gov.uk

First Registration of a Croft

Joan MacGillivray has registered her croft, 56, 58 & 59 Banavie, Kilmallie on the Crofting Register held by the Registers of Scotland.

Any person who wishes to challenge the registration may apply to the Scottish Land Court by June 9, 2017

Details of the registration can be found at www.crofts.ros.gov.uk/register/home. The croft registration number is C3084

Oban Times PUBLIC NOTICES

Amended Registration of a Croft

Mrs Anne Catherine McLaren has amended the registered boundaries of the croft known as 19 & 20 North Ballachulish on the Crofting Register held by the registers of Scotland. Any person who wishes to challenge the registration may apply to the Scottish Land Court by 30th July 2017. Details of the registration can be found at www.crofts.ros.gov.uk/register/home. The croft registration number is C2678

FIRST REGISTRATION OF A CROFT

Mr Ewen John MacPherson has registered his croft Glenegedale Moor, Kildalton & Oa, Islay on the Crofting Register held by the Registers of Scotland. Any person who wishes to challenge the registration may apply to the Scottish Land Court by the 13th July 2017. Details of the registration can be found at www.crofts.ros.gov.uk/register/home. The croft registration number is C3197.

STEWART BALFOUR & SUTHERLAND
SOLICITORS & ESTATE AGENTS

FORMER KRISPRINT OFFICE AND WORKSHOP
CAMPBELTOWN
OFFERS IN THE REGION OF £40,000

Having had to move their expanding business to a larger premises the former Krisprint Office & Workshop is now being offered to the market for sale. The property has an excellent trading situation being only a few moments walking distance from the centre of the town. Measuring approximately 92 sqm the premises could certainly be used for a wide variety of commercial uses, provided the necessary local authority consents are obtained. Divided into two main areas, the reception/ office area has two wall mounted electric heaters, several power points and a telephone point. The main workshop is huge and extremely bright having a three large north west facing windows overlooking the rear courtyard which has a large portacabin belonging exclusively to the property. An excellent opportunity to acquire a substantial building with diverse possibilities.

The Property Shop, 24/26 Longrow South, Campbeltown
Tel: 01586 553737 www.sbsproperty.co.uk Email: sales@sbsproperty.co.uk
Also at Colchester Square, Lochgilphead Tel: 01546 602903

Stay connected

To Argyll and the West Highlands with the new Oban Times digital edition

Visit our page: obantimes.co.uk/stayconnected

Save £25* by going digital

Not all features available in all areas. *Prices compared to a one year print subscription.

FARMING NEWS

Sponsored by NFU Mutual
Oban, call Euan Warnock
and Donna MacDougall
on 01631 567 036 for
your insurance needs.
Agent of The National Farmers Union
Mutual Insurance Society Limited.



TO ADVERTISE IN OUR FARMING SECTION PLEASE CALL OUR SALES TEAM ON 01631 568000

Crofting law is now in urgent need of reform

MSP Donald Cameron says that at present the law serves lawyers – not the crofters

THERE can be no doubt that the crofting world is not a happy place at the moment.

Much of this is down to the ongoing saga surrounding the Crofting Commission, which Brian Inkster described on these pages recently. I don't intend to go over that ground again, except to observe that this dispute also raises wider points of general importance for crofting.

First, there are serious questions about the operation and governance of the Crofting Commission. This isn't just about the rules – it's about confidence in the system. At a recent meeting of crofters in Lochaber organised by the NFUS, I took a straw poll of those present as to whether they thought the commission was fit for purpose.

The answer was a resounding 'no'. Some of that feeling might just be the usual resistance towards government intervention, and there's no doubt we require an official body of some sort to organise crofting. Nevertheless, I would support a thorough review of the commission and its workings.

There are other fundamental problems with crofting regulation. As someone who practised in the area for 11 years as an advocate, I can state my view quite simply: crofting law works for lawyers but not for crofters.

Too often, the law doesn't reflect what is happening on a day-to-day basis. The current dispute contains one striking example. How do grazing committees deal with large sums of money which are paid following a development on common grazing land?



Donald Cameron: crofting has problems but it's not all doom and gloom.

The legal position is quite plain: any sums due are payable to common graziers as individuals because they are the ones who hold the grazing right. The grazing committee is simply the channel through which those funds are administered.

But, in practice, many grazing committees will hold sizeable funds and want to use them for the benefit of the local community. What happens when these two positions collide: where a common grazier seeks his or her share of the funds in the face of a grazing committee wanting to use the funds communally? And what's the timeframe for any disbursement of funds? They're thorny issues which are crying

out to be resolved – and I am glad to hear there is now an attempt to draw up guidelines on the matter for grazing committees.

That aside, the law itself is becoming ever more complicated after endless amendments of the 1993 Act: in one recent court case even the eminent Scottish Land Court referred to 'strange' and 'problematic' definitions in the legislation. If that's the expert court speaking – then heaven help the rest of us.

Crofting legislation was originally meant to give viable agricultural units security of tenure at fair rents. But too often that law doesn't reflect modern crofting which, against a

backdrop of steady decline in livestock farming in the Highlands and Islands, is much more complex, diverse and business-orientated than the system for which the legislation was created.

In short, we need a comprehensive rewrite of the law – or indeed a new law. Crofting law has to be simpler, more accessible and more reflective of crofting today, which for me should be about encouraging economic revival in our remote rural areas, so we can retain our talented young people in the community, so we can attract investment and so we can encourage rural business – business which is often agricultural but can involve other forms of enterprise too.

Much important work has already been done on crofting law reform and by the crofting law 'Sump'. But there is deep frustration that the Scottish Government has not responded with more urgency to the Sump's final report.

One glimmer of hope is the Scottish Parliament's Rural Economy Committee which will be taking evidence on crofting over the next six months to identify some of the key issues that are causing such disquiet.

Once it has identified the key problems, the committee will be looking at ways to encourage the Scottish Government to move crofting reform up their political agenda.

So it's not all doom and gloom. Once the current storm clouds have passed, I am convinced there is a bright future for the sector.

But let's ensure the law serves crofting, and not the other way round.

Commission appoints interim chief executive

THE Crofting Commission has announced the appointment of Bill Barron as its interim chief executive.

Bill Barron joined the commission on an interim basis on Monday and will lead the organisation until a permanent appointment is made. Mr Barron takes on the role following the departure of its previous chief executive, Catriona Maclean, to take up a position with the Scottish Government.

Mr Barron will be moving from his position as head of the Scottish Government's Housing Support and

Homelessness Unit. Bill has worked within the Scottish Government for more than 18 years and has a wealth of experience in change management and delivery, policy development and finance.

Mr Barron said: 'I am looking forward to working with everyone at the Crofting Commission and our partners, to ensure that the commission remains focused on giving a good service to crofters, promoting and protecting the interests of crofting, and providing effective regulation.'



Bill Barron.

Farmers urge safety for bonfire night celebrations

SCOTLAND'S farmers and crofters are calling on the Scottish public to have a happy – but lantern-free and considerate – bonfire night this November 5.

The National Farmers' Union of Scotland (NFUS) is urging 'dangerous' sky lanterns, sometimes called Chinese lanterns, to be banned for both personal use and as part of any display. It also urges those setting off fireworks to give some consideration to any livestock that may be in fields or sheds nearby.

NFUS argues the lanterns, which are constructed from paper with a wire or wooden frame and contain a lighted candle, are a fire risk and a danger to animals, and pose a fire hazard to stacks of hay

and straw, woodland and farm buildings. If they land within crops grown to feed livestock, the frames risk being ingested, causing harm to animals.

The union said it understands that eight Scottish local authorities have already banned the release of lanterns and/or helium balloons. It will be writing to all those that haven't put a ban in place, including Argyll and Bute, to urge them to consider doing so. The union is encouraging members to write to their local council supporting a ban.

NFUS's animal health and welfare policy manager, Penny Johnston said: 'Across the UK, there have been many reports now of fires started by lanterns.'

Around the markets

DALMALLY – Friday 21st October 2016

United Auctions had a record catalogued entry of 1641 Suckled Calves at their recent Show & Sale at Dalmally Auction Mart. Calves in general were 12 kilo's lighter on the year and Bullocks levelled out at £638.40 per head or 239.28 pence kilo and Heifer averaged £566.19 per head or 222.06 pence per kilo. Last year's sale averages were £677.49 per head or 243.6 pence per kilo for the Bullocks and Heifers averaged £593.32 per head or 225.59 pence per kilo. The show of calves was judged by Andrew Jolly, Clyne Farm, Newmachair and his awards are as follows.

Autumn Bullock Calf: 1st & 2nd = Mr. P Kennedy, Lephinkill, 3rd = Mr. P Kennedy, Dunnans.

Autumn Heifer Calf: 1st = Mr. P Kennedy, Dunnans.

Spring Born Bullock Calf: 1st = Mr. M Hall, Tombuie, 2nd & 3rd = Mr. P Kennedy, Lephinkill

Spring Born Heifer Calf: 1st & 2nd = Mr. P Kennedy, Lephinkill, 3rd = M/s MacNaughton, Ardachuple

Champion Calf: Mr. M Hall Reserve Champion Calf: Mr. P Kennedy, Lephinkill.

PRINCIPAL LOTS & PRICES

TOP PRICES PER HEAD BULLOCKS

AAx: £900 – Bragleenbeg : £870(2) – Bragleenmore : £860 – Musdale.

BSx: £800(2) – Tiretigan. CHARx: £965(2) – Dunans : £950 – Barnakill : £880(2) – Couston

Farm : £870(4) – Barnakill : £860(3) – Arleod, Coll : £860(4) – Bragleenbeg : £850 – Bragleenmore.

LIMx: £1300, £1110 – Lephinkill : £1070 – 9 Killeonan : £940 – Tombuie : £890 & £880(2) – Barguillan : £870 – Tom Na Coille.

SALx: £750(2) & £735(8) – Kiloran Farmers.

SH £700 – Innishewan Farms. LUING £690 – Drimmin Estate.

HIGH £750 – Innishewan Farms. SIMx: £870 – Barnakill : £820 – Keilator : £820 – Barguillan.

HEIFERS CHARx: £930 – Barnakill : £860 – Arleod, Coll : £850 & £825 – Bragleenbeg : £815(5) – Dunans : £810 – Bragleenbeg : £800 – Dunans.

LIMx: £870 – Dunans : £820 – Polliwilline(7) & Tombuie.

SIMx: £900 & £750(2) – Keilator.

SHx: £750 – Camquhart.

TOP PRICES PER KILO BULLOCKS

AAx: 242p – Ardnacross, Mull. BSx: 253p(7), 247p(2) & 245p(2) – Kiloran Farmers, Colonsay : 233p(2) – Stronmagachan.

BRBx: 262p, 254p & 246p – Hynish, Tiree : 234p – Tom Na Coille.

CHARx: 310p(10) – Ederline Estate : 307p(7) – Couston Farm : 304p – Bragleenmore : 300p(2)

– Tiraghoil, Mull : 282p(10) – Ederline Estate : 278p – Couston Farm : 272p(2) – Ballygown : 269p(4) – Barnakill : 268p(10) – Dunans : 268p(3)

– Tiraghoil : 266p(9) – Ederline Estate : 264p(2) – Myretonhill : 261p(6) – Lephinkill : 261p(3) & 260p(8) – Musdale : 260p – Arleod, Coll : 259p – Tullochmhor & Tiraghoil(2) : 258p(5) – Myretonhill : 256p – Bragleenmore : 255p(2) – Tullochmhor : 253p(4) – Laggan Farms : 252p – Couston Farm & Tullochmhor : 251p(3) – Ballygown : 251p(2) – Barachander Farm.

GALx: 211p(2) – Drumachar Farm.

HERx: 228p(2) – Barachander.

HIGH 167p – Innishewan Farms.

LIMx: 295p(2) – Craig Farm : 288p(6) – Lochuisge & Fuinary : 286p & 285p(3) – Glenshellach : 285p – Dall Farm : 284p – Tiraghoil : 284p(5) – Glenshellach : 280p – Dall Farm, Glenshellach(2), Craigmore : 278p(8) – Ardentraive : 277p(2) – Muckairn : 274p(2) – Boreland Farms : 273p(2) – Feringa Farming : 272p – Ballygown : 271p(3) – Brechoille : 269p – Feringa Farming(14) & Boreland Farms(2) : 266p – Achallader(5) & Ederline Estate : 265p – Brechoille(2) & Antuim, Mull : 264p – Cuihuaine : 263p – Craig Farm : 262p(3) – Glenshellach : 262p(5) – Brechoille : 261p – Lephinkill & Duncroisk(2) : 260p – 6 Bracora(3) & Muckairn(3) : 258p – 6 Bracora (2) & Kilmalieu(2) : 257p(2) – Brechoille : 256p – Antuim, Boreland Farms(2), Glen-

shellach(4) & Lochuisge(2) : 255p – Keill(3) & Garvie(6) : 254p – Duncroisk(4), Boreland Farms(3), Tiraghoil(2) & Dall Farm : 253p – Uillmar, Scoor Farm, Glenshellach, Antuim(7) & Feringa Farming(4) : 252p – Caolis, Coll, Achallader, Ledcharrie(5), Kilmalieu(3), Lochuisge, Brechoille & Lephinkill.

LUING 247p(3), 244p(3) & 240p – Scallasaig Farm.

SALx: 253p(3), 247p, 245p(8) & 244p(2) – Kiloran Farmers.

SHx: 237p – No 7 Croft Calgary, Mull.

SIMx: 285p(9) – Keilator : 285p – Duncroisk : 276p & 275p(6) – Keilator : 272p – Ballygown : 268p(5) – Duallin : 268p – Duncroisk : 266p(4) – Craig Farm : 264p(2) – Ballymeanach, Mull : 263p(3) – Duallin : 262p(10) – Keilator : 261p(2) – Pitcastle Estate : 261p(5) – Barachander : 260p(2) – Benmore : 258p(6) – Barguillan : 256p(3) – Keilator : 254p(4) – Tiraghoil : 252p – Balindore : 251p – Brechoille(6), Barachander, Pitcastle Estate(6) : 250p – Ardnacross, Tiraghoil & Duallin.

BG 249p(2) – Rhemore.

HEIFERS BSx: 246p(2) – Stronmagachan.

CHARx: 271p – Barachander : 269p – Barnakill : 260p(9) – Ederline Estate : 253p(12) – Dunans : 249p(7) – Ederline Estate : 247p(4) – Lephinkill : 246p(7) – Barnakill.

LIMx: 274p – Glenshellach : 249p(3) – Lochuisge : 245p – Achallader : 243p – Boreland Farms & Craigmore : 242p – Duncroisk : 241p(5) – Dall Farm.

SALx: 228p – Balantyre Farm

SHx: 235p(2) – Drumachar.

SIMx: 328p – Keilator : 298p – Pitcastle Estate : 287p(2) – Barachander : 272p(8) – Old Manse farm : 270p(3) – Keilator : 270p – Tigh Na H-Aibhne : 262p(5) – Keilator : 261p, 259p(2) & 257p(4) – Pitcastle Estate : 256p(3) – Keilator : 248p – Dalrannoch : 245p(2) – Pitcastle Estate.

OBAN – Tuesday 18th October 2016.

Caledonian Marts Ltd sold 2542 Store Lambs & Feeding Sheep.

Short keep lambs easy to sell, and were keenly bid for whilst long keep lambs were harder to sell but still keenly bid for.

Leading Prices:- Lambs Suff:- £68 Tyree £58 Dalvore £58 Tyree £55 Upper Lergie £54 Dalvore £54 Ashfield £53 Kilbride.

BF:- £42 Burnbank £40 Strongorm £36 Achacone £35 Glenoe Farms.

Chev:- £55 Shenavallie £52 Tiraghoil £50 Strongorm £48 The Homesteads.

Text:- £62 Seaview £51 Acharn £51 Upper Lergie. Belt:- £56 Shenavallie. Mule:- £56 Killiechronan Est £52 Drumvore £46 Upper Lergie. Ewes Cross:- £51 Frackersaig £50 Seaview £47 Balure £46

Iochdar, Suff:- £70 Achamonie £55 Lettermore £52 Achamonie.

BF:- £42 Iochdar £42 Carnasurie £40 Slaterich £38 Newcrofts £36 Ardachy £35 Turnault.

Chev:- £55 Balnagown £48 Torloisk £45 Shenavallie £45 Achamonie £45 Lettermore.

Text:- £75 Tyree £60 Iochdar £50 Achnacone £46 Achnacone.

BFL:- £46 Achurana. Zwar:- £40 Ardiana.

Ewe Lambs BF:- £42 Glencruitten. Chev:- £32 Dunach Est.

Text:- £42 Ballimore. Gimmers Suff:- £45 Balure. BF:- £46 Ensay £40 Creag-a-Mhadaidh.

Chev:- £62 Ensay. Tups Suff:- £100 Balure.

ISLAY – Wednesday 19th October 2016

United Auctions held their second annual autumn sale of all classes calves & store cattle at Islay Auction Mart.

287 head was sold. Bullocks sold to average £703 per head or 222.45 pence per kilo against

£672.50 or 227 pence per kilo at the corresponding sale last year whilst the Heifers averaged

£586.13 per head or 214.87 pence per kilo against £573.28 or 210.05 pence per kilo last year.

Bullocks from Ardnave Farm sold 294 pence per kilo while Corry led the price per head at £1015. Heifers sold to 265 pence per kilo from Kilmenny Farm and 108 Frederick Crescent led this section per head at £985.

PRINCIPAL LOTS & PRICES

TOP PRICES PER HEAD BULLOCKS

AAx: 240p(6) – Ardnave. BAx: 254p, 242p(4), 233p(2) & 230p(3) – Ardnave.

CHARx: 268p(13) – Mansefield : 264p(2) & 254p – Ardnave : 252p – Kinnabus : 251p(5) – Kilmenny : 248p(3) – Ardnave : 244p(7) – Kilmenny.

LIMx: 294p, 267p, 264p(2), 256p(3), 255p(2), 254p(4) – Ardnave : 236p(5) – Mansefield : 232p(4) – Balaclava. HEIFERS BAx: 233p & 229p(3) – Ardnave. CHARx: 265p(7), 246p(5) & 240p(8) – Kilmenny : 240p(14) – Mansefield. LIMx: 240p – Mansefield & Ardnave(2) : 231p(2) – Ardnave.

TUNSTALL TRACTORS LTD

Teagle 8100 straw chopper
£11,800

Tel: 07747 600410

TEXEL & BLUEFACED LEICESTER SHEARLING TUPS FOR SALE

Telephone: 01583 421208

Like us on facebook

www.facebook.com/obantimes

Stay connected

To Argyll and the West Highlands with the new Oban Times digital edition

Visit our page: obantimes.co.uk/stayconnected

Save £25* by going digital

Not all features available in all areas. *Prices compared to a one year print subscription.

LOCAL SERVICES

CHIMNEY SERVICES

ARGYLL & ISLES CHIMNEY SERVICES
07834 640989
www.argyllchimneyservices.co.uk

When Was The Last Time You Had Your Chimney Cleaned?

- AWARD WINNING POWER SWEEPING SYSTEM
- OPEN FIRES • WOOD BURNING STOVES
- OIL & GAS FLUES
- AGA & RAYBURN
- BIOMAS FLUES
- CCTV CHIMNEY INSPECTION

FULLY QUALIFIED & INSURED

Covering Oban, Lochgilhead, Inveraray, Tarbert and Kintyre, sweeping through Argyll

GAS SUPPLIERS

West Highland Gas Ltd. Put some CALOR in your life

LPG gas, cookers and heaters Deliveries direct to your door

ORDER NOW - CALL 01631 566370
www.argyllresources.co.uk
info@argyllresources.co.uk
Torrans Gorm Industrial Estate, Oban, Argyll, PA34 4PL

HEATING ENGINEER

Highland Rose Plumbing and Heating Ltd
REGISTERED IN SCOTLAND NO: 544015

CERTIFIED HEATING ENGINEERS

OIL NATURAL GAS LPG
Boiler Servicing - Breakdowns - Repairs

General Plumbing & Renewable Services

M: 078605 21215 Tel: 01967 421287
email: roseheating11@gmail.com

Serving Morvern, Ardnamurchan & Surrounding Areas

COLLECTION & ASSEMBLY

No time? No tools? Or no idea?
No bother...
NOW IN ARGYLL

FLATPACKGENIE
STORE COLLECTION & ASSEMBLY SERVICE
www.flatpackgenie.co.uk 01631 562869

MOBILITY

Tower Mobility

we supply a wide range of mobility products from walking sticks to scooters

Mathesons, Tweedmill, Soroba Road, Oban.
Tel: 01631 565195 www.towermobility.co.uk

REMOVALS & STORAGE

MACQUEEN BROS LTD

Removals/Storage & Self Storage
Full range of packing materials
We store boats, caravans, trailers etc
Glengallan Road, Oban, Argyll PA34 4HG
Tel: (01631) 564848
www.macqueenbros.com

OBAN BLINDS

Oban-Blinds

Vertical Blinds • Roller Blinds
Blackout Blinds • Venetian Blinds
Free Measuring and Estimating Service

Vast range of Domestic and Commercial blinds
Telephone: Donald Cameron 07979 826614
Email: oban.blinds@hotmail.co.uk

WINDOW BLINDS

Chris Craft window blinds

- FREE MEASURING
- FREE ESTIMATES
- FREE FITTING
- MADE IN SCOTLAND
- MADE TO MEASURE

OBAN 01852 300174 FORT WILLIAM 0800 371250
www.chriscraft.co.uk

TRADE SUPPLIES

TRADE DEALS OCT & NOV 2016

Ask in branch for more details...
Sinclair Dr, Oban PA34 4DR
T: 01631 562208
North Rd, Fort William PH33 6TQ
T: 01397 700744

JEWSON

ROOFING CONTRACTORS

JOHN MCGUINNESS ROOFING CONTRACTORS LTD
SLATING - TILING - SINGLE PLY - 3 LAYER HP FELT - LIQUID COATING

Tel: 01700 841 347 Mob: 07984 435 216
Email: info@jmcguinnessroofing.co.uk

WOOD BURNING STOVES

Country Kiln

Affordable Wood Burning Stoves and Multi Fuel Stoves

Just give us a call:
01560 483 966
Monday - Friday 9am - 5pm Saturday 10am - 1pm
sales@woodburningstoveslimited.com

UPHOLSTERY & SOFT FURNISHINGS

A loose cover STORY
Upholstery & Soft Furnishings

- Curtains
- Roman Blinds
- Box Cushions
- Loose Covers
- Headboards
- Upholstery

Upholstery and Soft Furnishings
All hand made to suit your individual requirements
t: 07527444578 e: info@aloosecoverstory.co.uk

Oban Times TRADE CLASSIFIED

AERIAL PHOTOGRAPHY

SELLING YOUR HOUSE?
Add this extension to your sales portfolio

Want to give it the edge?, make it stand out from the rest?

Aerial Photography by **ARGYLL UAVS Ltd**
CAA Approved Fully Insured
01631 567170 07938132017

WEST COAST CLASSIFIEDS www.westcoastclassifieds.co.uk

BUY LOCAL **SELL LOCAL** **TRADE LOCAL** **SWAP LOCAL**

FREE LISTINGS FOR ITEMS UNDER £100

Advertise your unwanted items in The Oban Times, Campbeltown Courier or Argyllshire Advertiser and your ad will also appear online at www.westcoastclassifieds.co.uk. Simply use the coupon on this page or visit the website and input your details there.

BICYCLES

ADULT KENTEX CLASSIC TRICYCLE in good condition £160 ono Telephone 01324 715 118 or 01631 710 650.

GENTS TREK MOUNTAIN BIKE Frame 19.5ins, 49.5cm, excellent condition, regularly serviced £99.99 Telephone 01397 702028.

BUILDING / DIY

2 STEP UP platforms £30 Telephone 01631 563330.

2 STEP UP platform £20 Telephone 01631 563330.

ACRYLIC EGGSHELL dark green 15 x 5 litre Telephone 01631 563330.

BUTIMAX CLEAR SATIN joinery finish 1x10 litre £60 Telephone 01631 563330.

BUTIMAX GREEN 1 x 6 litre £50 Telephone 01631 563330.

BUTIMAX NO 2 dark brown, 1 x 2.5litre £25 Telephone 01631 563330.

BUTIMAX NO 3 Java teak, 1 x 10litre £90 Telephone 01631 563330.

BUTIMAX NO 3 Nut Brown, 1 x 2.5 litre £25 Telephone 01631 563330.

GLASS PAINT 1 x 5l dark red £15 Telephone 01631 563330.

GLOSS PAINT 1 x 5l, dark green £15 Telephone 01631 563330.

GLOSS PAINT 1 x 5l mag-nolia £15 Telephone 01631 563330.

PAIR STEPS 9 treads £20 Telephone 01631 563330.

PROFESSIONAL WALL-PAPER Steamer £75 Telephone 01631 563330.

WATER BASED undercoat white, £18 x 5 litre Telephone 01631 563330.

WATER BASED GLOSS white, £18 x 5 litre Telephone 01631 563330.

CAR ACCESSORIES

ATERA ROOF BARS to fit Astra 5 door hatchbacks 98 - 09. Free to anyone who wants them FREE Telephone 01866 822757.

CARS AND CAR PARTS UNDER £250

LANDROVER FREELANDER 3DR, 2.0L diesel, W reg, for spares or repair, no MOT £200 Telephone 01583 421436.

CLOTHES, SHOES AND ACCESSORIES

HAND KNITTED Harris wool socks, £5 per pair inc postage. Mrs MacKay, 17 Achmore, Isle of Lewis, HS29DU

HIGH VIS JACKET and waistcoat £15 Telephone 01631 563330.

KILT JACKET green tweed, Islay Woollen Mill, beautiful quality and excellent condition, size 40R £49.99 Telephone 07798 904310.

WHITE BIB AND BRACE overalls £10 Telephone 01631 563330.

WHITE BOILER SUIT 48" chest £15 Telephone 01631 563330.

DOMESTIC APPLIANCES

BOSCH MAXX WASHING MACHINE Bosch maxx washing machine in full working order £50 Telephone 07899 915430.

FRIDGE/ FREEZER FOR SALE Black upright BUSH fridge freezer. 3 drawer freezer section. For pick up only £80 Telephone 07468 461994.

VACUUM CLEANER Hoover Alyx 1800watt cyclonic bagless cylinder vacuum little used VGC £30 Telephone 01631 720395.

DOMESTIC PETS

2 SPRINGER SPANIEL PUPPIES male, ten weeks old, from health checked parents, KC registered, microchipped, vet checked. Argyllshire area, ready now £550 each Telephone 01546 603650.

COLLIE BITCH young collie bitch, started working Telephone 07825 038955.

LHASA APSO PUPPIES beautiful Lhasa Apso Puppies ready now. Have had their first vaccination, micro chipped and wormed. 2 girls and 2 boys. For more information £500 to £550 each Telephone 07837 239459.

SIBERIAN HUSKY Pure breed 10 months bitch, fully vaccinated and micro-chipped, genuine reason for reluctant sale, experienced dog owner preferred £500ono Telephone 01688 302356.

FIREARMS

LANBER 12G O/U Lanber 12g game gun, multichoke, chokes, key and bag included. Also Baikal fixed choke (3/4 and full) £150, FAC required £300 Telephone 07402 302408.

FURNITURE

BRAND NEW DOUBLE DIVAN Bed complete with memory foam/orthopaedic sprung mattress, still in packaging. Can deliver, cost £450 will sell, £180 Telephone 07555 644702.

2 SEATER SOFA cream leather, modern, good condition, Benderloch £99 Telephone 07596 586334.

2 WHITE WARDROBES 2 matching white wardrobes,

each wardrobe measurements Height 181.5cm Width 46cm Depth 53.5cm, round light wood handles, £20 Telephone 07749 839086.

ANTIQUE VINTAGE OAK Sideboard, very good condition £99.99 Telephone 01631 720452.

CHEST OF DRAWERS Wooden chest of drawers (4 drawers) Height 81cm Depth 43cm Width 43cm Good condition Collection only £20 Telephone 07749 839086.

LEATHER SUITE three piece leather suite in excellent condition rust colour £175 Telephone 01631 720452.

WOODEN TV STAND Wooden TV stand with shelf for DVD player etc & drawer for storage. Height 48cm Depth 41cm Length 76cm Good condition £20 Telephone 07749 839086.

GARDEN

TOP SOIL loaded into your trailer or tipper lorry FREE Telephone 01631 564848 Call Office Hours.

HEATING, FIRES AND FIREPLACES

DIMPLEX STORAGE HEATER Dimplex storage heater in vgc, hardly used, cost over £300 new £99 Telephone 07899 915430.

WALL FIRE with white pebbles and remote control, 520w x 660w. 4 years old excellent condition. Same as Argos page 896 £40 ono Telephone 01631 563272.

HOBBIES AND CRAFTS

PEARLISED PAPER & CARD White, Blue and Pink

colours in stock available in A3/A4/A5 sizes, from 13p per sheet. Contact Krisp Print Telephone 01586 554975.

HOME FURNISHINGS

2 WOODEN BOOKCASES 2 matching wooden bookcases. Each bookcase Height 89cm Depth 29cm Width 77cm, good condition £25 Telephone 07749 839086.

ARMCHAIR comfortable armchair in very good condition, tan/ beige upholstery £25 Telephone 07749 839086.

BUCKET CHAIR Bucket/ tub style chair with beige suede-like fabric covering, good condition, 76cm at highest point, collection only £20 Telephone 07749 839086.

ERCOL 3 TIER TROLLEY Ercol 3 tier trolley in Golden Dawn finish. Excellent condition, height 77cm length 71cm width 46cm. Collection only £50 Telephone 07749 839086.

MAIL ORDER

SCOTTISH FIELD CALENDARS, featuring spectacular photography of some of our most scenic lochs, rivers, beaches and mountains. Places include: Stirling, Fort William, Glencoe, Aberdeen, Isle of Skye, Edinburgh, Glasgow, Loch Lomond, Kelso, Aviemore, Forfar, Rum and Eigg, Shetland, Grentrool and Dryburgh. Always a popular gift for family and friends at home or abroad. Order on-line at www.scottishcalendars.co.uk

OBAN TIMES WEST HIGHLAND CALENDAR, fabulous views of the West Highlands portrayed in this handy and conveniently sized calendar.

Places include: Inveraray, Appin, Oban, Seil, Isle of Mull, Campbeltown, Tarbert, Machrihanish, Fort William. Ideal for home offices or as a gift. Order on-line at www.scottishcalendars.co.uk

PET ACCESSORIES

DOG CAGE Large, suitable for Labrador size dog VGC £25 Telephone 01855 831383.

POWER TOOLS

MAKITA 8391D 18V CORDLESS COMB Includes drill, case, charger and two batteries £50ono Telephone 07872 329379.

PRINTING AND STATIONERY

PAPER & CARD A4/A3 size, sold in reams or by the box, ideal for copiers, lasers and fax machines. Contact Krisp Print Telephone 01586 554975.

RAFFLE TICKETS For your prize draw, numbered and perforated to your requirements. From Krisp Print Telephone 01586 554975.

WANTED

HOUSEHOLD ITEMS looking for household items. Electric cooker, microwave, Hoover, dining table, wardrobe etc. Reasonably priced. Campbeltown area, jprouse96@gmail.com Telephone 07926 384677.

Oban Times TRADE CLASSIFIED
Oban Times TRADE CLASSIFIED
Oban Times TRADE CLASSIFIED

Clear Out For Winter!

UNDER £100 NOW FREE

Sell your unwanted home items under £100 for FREE in our west coast classifieds

It couldn't be easier!

Call 01631 568000 or visit www.westcoastclassifieds.co.uk to place your ad.

BUY LOCAL **SELL LOCAL** **TRADE LOCAL** **SWAP LOCAL**

Oban Times TRADE CLASSIFIED
Oban Times TRADE CLASSIFIED
Oban Times TRADE CLASSIFIED

BIRTHS

COUTTS - Giles and Eilidh (MacMillan) are delighted to announce the arrival of Kian Boyd on October 17, 2016. A brother to Cameron, grandson to Anne and Ian, Braeside and Lorna and the late Ian, Elgin.

HAMILTON - To Stewart and Lindsaygail, a son Harrison James on October 20, 2016, in London. A grandchild for John and Cecilia Broadfoot and Ian and Jeannette Hamilton. Bringing much joy.

MACCALLUM - Stuart and Alison are delighted to announce the birth of their beautiful daughter, Rhona Lucie MacCallum, born October 11, 2016 at Edinburgh Royal Infirmary. First grandchild for Bill and Mary, Lochgilphead and Tobermory, and fifth grandchild for Norman and Pat, Jordanhill, Glasgow.

MCNEILL - On September 16, 2016, to Holly, granddaughter of Jeanette and the late Bill Crerar and Finlay, grandson of the late Dr Bill and Elayne Adamson, a son, Hector William Gunn.

RUBY WEDDING

CAMERON - **MACCORMICK** - At Oban Parish Church by the late Rev Harry G Miller on October 29, 1976, John to Linda. Present address: 1 Knockvologan, Fionnphort, Isle of Mull.

DEATHS

BLACK - Peacefully at Lorn and Islands Hospital, Oban on October 21, 2016, Kirsty MacLean, dear wife of Jim, sister, sister-in-law and aunt. Funeral will take place from St John's Cathedral, Oban on Wednesday November 2, at 1.00 pm thereafter to Pennyfuir cemetery. No flowers please. Retiring collection/donations if desired for Multiple Sclerosis Society Scotland & Alzheimer Scotland.

FINLAYSON - Suddenly, but peacefully at the Queen Elizabeth University Hospital, Glasgow on October 22, 2016, Norman (Norrie) Finlayson, aged 70. Loving and much loved partner of Ellen and a dear brother, brother-in-law, uncle, grand-uncle and friend to many. Funeral service will take place at Oban Parish Church, on Friday November 4, 2016, at 1pm. Family flowers only please.

JARMAN - Gabrielle (Gaye), peacefully in Chichester, aged 101 on October 24, 2016. Formerly of Gabrielle Hairstylist, 85 George Street, Oban.

MACKINTOSH - Peacefully, on Saturday October 22, 2016, at Lorn and Islands Hospital, Oban, in her 96th year, Margaret Jean, beloved wife of the

late James, devoted mother to Catriona, James, Iain, Flora and Donald, a much loved grandmother and great-grandmother. Will be sadly missed.

PARK - Annette Dorothy (née Barrow), of Strontian, died peacefully October 20, 2016, aged 87. Widow of Alexander, and much loved sister and aunt. Funeral at Strontian Parish Church, 1pm Thursday November 3. Family flowers only please. Donations, if desired, to Dal Mhor House Residents Club, Strontian, or The Pines Medical Centre, Acharacle.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

BLACK - The family of the late James Black would like to thank all relatives, friends and neighbours for the many kind expressions of sympathy received following their recent sad loss. Grateful thanks to the staff of Ardenlea Care Home, Dunoon for their kindness, care and compassion shown both to James and Charlotte, and also the nursing staff at Cowal Community Hospital Palliative Care Ward for their consideration shown to all of our family during James's time in their care. Special thanks to Rev Hilda Smith for a most comforting and personal service; to Donald MacDonald Funeral Directors for their guidance and efficient services; and to Rosslea Hall Hotel, Rhu for excellent purvey. Finally, our thanks to all who attended at crematorium to pay their respects. The retiral collection raised over £200 for Dementia Scotland.

CAMPBELL - Auctioneer (Fort William). Isabel, Ewen, Linda, Elaine, Alice, Archie and Donald wish to thank everyone for the wonderful expressions of sympathy and kindness extended to them following the sad loss of Ewen, a much loved husband, father, papa and brother. The cards, beautiful flowers, visits, phone calls and home baking received was overwhelming. Sincere thanks to Dr. John Wallace who went the extra mile to make it possible for Ewen to spend as much time as possible at home. Special thanks to the Rev. Dr. David Kirk for a lovely appropriate service and whose visits and prayers helped us in our darkest days. To the Rev. Dr. Richard Corbett and Dr. John Wallace for comforting prayers. Our grateful thanks to the hundreds of people who paid their last respects and generously donated £2,415 which will be given to Macmillan Nurses, Craig Nevis Surgery and the Surgical Ward - Belford Hospital whose staff tenderly cared for Ewen. Finally, our thanks to John McLellan & Co Funeral Directors for their professionalism and especially Scott Greenlees for his support and kindness.

GRANT - Moira and Aonghas would like to thank everyone who phoned, sent cards and mass cards. Friends and neighbours for their beautiful flowers, gifts and showered us with kindness at the passing of Angus Rory, a beloved son, brother and uncle. James MacKintosh for the eulogy, his friends in Shooglenity for the music and song, Eilidh and Ross for playing his tune and his niece Eva for the song. A special thanks to his sisters Deirdre and Fiona who nursed him to the end, his friends in Edinburgh who visited and cared for him, to Fr Roddy for his help and understanding and Mike McFall, Funeral Directors. The sum of £2,000 was raised for Throat Cancer Research.

MACCALLUM - Ann and Elizabeth (Bette) wish to thank family and friends for their support at Alasdair's Memorial Service on October 12. Alison for her selection of music, Rev Robert for a lovely service and Mairead and Vera for excellent refreshments in the hall. Donations raised £260 for Erskine.

MACDONALD - The family of the late Mary (May) wish to thank most sincerely all family, friends and neighbours for the kind expressions of sympathy through cards, phone calls and flowers received at this sad time. To the staff at Carr Gomm while Mary was in her own home and to staff in Ward I during her time there, and the staff at Eader Glinn where she was being cared for over the last three months. Many thanks to the Rev Dugald Cameron for a memorable service and Ian MacInnes of D&A Munn for his help and efficient funeral arrangements. Thanks also to Royal Hotel for catering. Almar, Morvern Hill, Oban.

OMAN - The family of the late Margaret Oman would like to sincerely thank everyone who sent expressions of sympathy following their recent sad loss. We will always be grateful that Mum managed to stay in Carradale for as long as she was able, so huge thanks are due to relations, friends and neighbours who looked out for her when she was at home and in Abbeyfield. We also extend our grateful thanks to the committee and staff at Abbeyfield House and to all the staff at Carradale Surgery and the district nurses. Our thanks also go to all the staff and friends of Auchinlee, who provided Mum with a lovely home environment during her last years. Thanks also to all at Campbeltown Medical Practice and Hospital, especially over the past couple of years. We are very grateful to Matthew Ramsay for his comforting words on the day and to David McEwan for his wonderful organ playing and especially for his selection of Gaelic airs. We also extend

our thanks to Kenneth and Rhys Blair plus their hard-working team for their support and very efficient services. The purvey provided by the Glen was excellent and met with universal approval. Lastly, our grateful thanks to everyone who came to the funeral service. A sum of £718.80 was raised for Alzheimer Scotland at the retiring collection.

MEMORIAMS

BROWN - Treasured memories of a much loved husband, father, father-in-law and grandfather. James, who passed away November 1, 2006. Deep in our hearts you will always stay. Loved and remembered every day.

- Mary and family, Invercoe, Glencoe

BUNTING - In loving memory of my dear mother Jessie, died December 11, 1980, my father in law Willie, died February 10, 2003 and my brother Arthur who died October 30, 2001. Miss you always.

- Alasdair and family.

CRAWFORD - In loving memory of Eddie on the 1st Anniversary, October 30 2015.

A dear dad and gg. Sadly and badly missed by us all.

MACDONALD - Margaret (Maggie May). In loving memory of my dear partner, sister, auntie and friend, who died October 20, 2015. Love you forever, miss you every day. Treasured memories.

- Tubby and all the family.

MACLACHLAN - Loving memories of a dear dad and grandpa Ian, who died October 29, 1990. Always in our hearts. Never forgotten.

- Christine and family, Blairgowrie and Muir-of-Ord.

MORRISON - Fond memories of Ian (Heiker), who died October 29, 2009. A dearly loved husband, dad and granpa. Sadly missed. Love always.

- Petra, Duncan and family

SMITH - Loving thoughts of my husband David, died November 1, 2005. A memory is a keepsake of time that lives forever in the heart.

- Floey

MEMORIALS

OBAN MEMORIALS
A & D MacLean
Master Sculptors
Glenalma, Soroba Road, Oban
Design and prices on request
LETTERING AND RENOVATING
DONE IN MOST CEMETERIES
TEL: 01631563123 / 07765815982

Oban Times
BIRTHS, MARRIAGES, DEATHS

Moderator Designate for Church of Scotland General Assembly 2017-18 announced as Rev Derek Browning

A MINISTER who played a key role in establishing the Church of Scotland's biggest annual open-air festival has been named as the next Moderator of the General Assembly.

The Rev Dr Derek Browning, who says the 5,000 people who attend the Heart and Soul festival in Edinburgh's Princes Street Gardens each May receive a fantastic glimpse into the work carried out by the church, will take over the role in May 2017.

The 54-year-old, who has served Morningside Parish Church in Edinburgh since 2001, said: 'Being nominated as moderator is the greatest honour the Church of Scotland can bestow. It is a huge privilege.'

Dr Browning, who graduated with the degree of Doctor of Ministry at Princeton Theological Seminary in the United States in 1997, will succeed the Right Rev Dr Russell Barr as the Church of Scotland's ambassador at home and abroad.

He read history at Corpus Christi College in Oxford, and opted to train for the ministry ahead of pursuing other graduate career options such as working for the BBC in London and the oil giant Shell.

Dr Browning, who is also a graduate of St Mary's College in St Andrews, was ordained at Cupar Old Parish Church in Fife in 1987.

'I was in my early 20s when I felt a call not only to be a Christian, but to become a minister,' he said.

'For some people this is a

gradual realisation, but for me it was a sudden awakening that I couldn't put off until I had dealt with the questions it posed, and explored the possibility.'

'My ministry afterwards has stuck with those two themes: dealing with questions and exploring possibilities.'

Dr Browning said the church is evolving. 'Structures and organisations around us continue to change, but the big questions about who we are, why we are here and what must we do and be are the ones people continue to ask,' he added.

'These are challenging times for people of faith and for the church.'

'An American colleague said recently, "The church isn't dying, it's re-forming".'

'Re-forming is a costly and unsettling process but a fit-for-purpose 21st-century church must have the resilience and the flexibility to be unshamed of its faith in Jesus Christ, and practical in its living out of that faith.'

Dr Browning, who enjoys cooking, the performing arts, cinema and theatre in his spare time, has served in the church in several capacities in St Andrews and Edinburgh presbyteries and also at a national level.

He is currently the convener of the General Assembly's business committee, which also has responsibility for the Heart and Soul event.

Dr Browning, who has contributed to BBC Radio Two's 'Pause for Thought' programme, said: 'The theme for Heart and Soul 2017 is

Word of Life and this rich

and layered theme speaks to me about many things but inclusion is one of those words of life. The issue of social inclusion is a key one in society and the church.'

Dr Browning, a former pupil of North Berwick High School, said he believes social inclusion is clearly a 'gospel issue' and hopes to use his time as moderator to highlight ongoing work carried out by churches that support people on the margins of society.

'People find themselves excluded for all sorts of reasons and the church must play a role in bridging the gaps between individuals, communities and nations,' he added.

'The church has much to offer and has much to learn. Jesus was often found not only at the heart and centre of things but also on the fringes and the margins and that is where the church must be.'

Dr Browning said the church must recognise that society is changing and must respond accordingly.

'The challenge facing the church is bound to go to where there is vulnerability and need and offering welcome, hope and acceptance.'

'I believe in a ministry of presence and chaplaincies in hospitals and the armed forces, universities and schools, workplace chaplaincies and chaplaincies to groups on the fringes of society, taking the work of the church outwards to where people are.'

The Oban Times
& West Highland Times
THE REGIONAL
NEWSPAPER FOR THE
WEST HIGHLANDS,
ISLANDS AND ARGYLL

The Oban Times is the best-selling weekly newspaper in the Highlands and is distributed via 1742 newsagents every week

Lochavullin Industrial Estate,
Crannog Lane, Oban,
PA34 4HB
Tel: 01631 568000
Fax: 01631 568001
www.obantimes.co.uk

Editorial

- Chief reporter**
Louise Glen
lglen@obantimes.co.uk
- Senior reporter**
Sandy Neil
sneil@obantimes.co.uk
- Senior reporter**
Monica Gibson
mgbison@obantimes.co.uk
- Trainee reporter**
David McPhee
dmcphree@obantimes.co.uk
- Trainee reporter**
Ellie Forbes
eforbes@obantimes.co.uk
- Trainee reporter**
Katie Carabine
reporter@obantimes.co.uk

Newsdesk
Oban 01631 568060
Fort William 01397 703003
editor@obantimes.co.uk

Advertising

- Director of Advertising**
Nicky Murphy
nmurphy@obantimes.co.uk
- Advertising supervisor**
Nadine Ross
nross@obantimes.co.uk
- Advertising executive**
Rhona McKillop
adverts@obantimes.co.uk
- Advertising executive**
Stephanie Dunstaffnage
sdunstaffnage@obantimes.co.uk
- Advertising executive**
Julie Baird
jbaird@obantimes.co.uk

Branch Offices

- Fort William**
Tel 01397 703003
- Lochgilphead**
Tel 01546 602345
- Campbeltown**
Tel 01586 554646

like us on
facebook
www.facebook.com/
obantimes

Thought for the week
KNOWN BY GOD
'This is what the Lord says - your Redeemer, who formed you in the womb.' Isaiah 45:24

WE ARE influenced by many different people. What parents say can carry great weight because we want to please them. Friends, neighbours, colleagues at work, our peer group, can also make a difference to what we do. Advertisers, fashion designers, politicians can all affect the choices we make. There are so many voices that can influence us.

God's appeal is that we should learn to listen to him above all others. He is the Lord who rules over heaven and earth, including our lives. He is the Redeemer who rescues us from sin and gives us a new future. We owe him everything, therefore it is only right that we should listen to him.

Rev George G Cringles, Minister of Coll with Connel Parish Church of Scotland

WEDDING



CAMERON - MACINNES
Ewan and Rhona Cameron have pleasure in announcing the marriage of their daughter Laura Anne to Mr Paul MacInnes, eldest son of Kenneth and Kathleen MacInnes on September 24, 2016 at Duncansburgh MacIntosh Church, Fort William. Photograph by Anthony MacMillan Photography, Fort William

GRADUATION



HUNTINGTON - BROOKS
The marriage took place on October 14, 2016 in London, between Louise Mary Huntington and Mr Nick Brooks. Louise is the daughter of Mrs Pippa MacLean and the late Mr Peter Huntington of Tainuitt.

ONLY £32.50

Call **01631 568000**

Celebrate your Graduation

Only £32.50

Caitlin Elizabeth Ann Anderson
Graduated from the University of Highlands and Islands with a Bachelor of Arts in Business and Management. Daughter of Lisa Anderson and Phillip Hunter. Caitlin is a former pupil of Oban High School.

CHARITY DONATIONS

WE ARE MACMILLAN. CANCER SUPPORT

Working towards a time when every person in Scotland has equal and ready access to the best information, treatment and care for cancer

Fundraising Office
Macmillan Cancer Support
PO Box 24040 Edinburgh EH9 1DZ
Tel 0300 100 0200
In memory of Dawn Joyce

Oban Hospice

CARING FOR THE FUTURE
Donations always gratefully accepted

Please contact
Jack Tollan
Birch Hill
Achnacreebeag
North Connel, PA37 1RE

CANCER RESEARCH UK Scotland

Fighting Cancer on all fronts...
CRC Scotland spends more on research than any other organisation

Commitment of over **£15 million each year**

Cancer Research UK
Angel Building
407 St John Street
London EC1V 4AD

MARIE CURIE CANCER CARE

Oban & Lorn Fundraising Branch

Donations always gratefully accepted

Please contact
Marie Curie Care
Mannin, 2/5 Lismore House
Station Road, Oban
01631 571009

CONDITIONS OF ACCEPTANCE FOR ADVERTISEMENTS

YOUR attention is drawn to the following terms and conditions which relate to the placing of advertisements in all publications owned by Wywex Media Limited.

Parties to this agreement are the Publisher, Wywex Media Limited on the one part and the Advertiser on the other part. The Publisher publishes newspapers, magazines, books and provides advertising space therein or provides for the delivery of advertising materials to the public within these publications.

1. Advertising copy shall be legal, decent, honest and truthful and comply with the British Code of Advertising Practice and all other codes.

2. The Publisher does not guarantee the insertion of any particular advertisement.

3. The Publisher reserves the right to cancel or alter the advertisement by giving reasonable notice.

4. An order for an advertisement shall be deemed to be made on acceptance of the advertiser's order by the Publisher whether placed by telephone, mail, fax or in person.

5. Cancellation of display advertising must be received by the Publisher before the publishing deadline, failing which, the publisher reserves the right to invoice the customer in full for the whole cost of the advertisement.

6. The parties submit to the jurisdiction of the Scottish Courts and Scots Law. In the event of any dispute or action by the Publisher to recover payment from an advertiser, it is agreed that matters will be settled in the Oban, Argyll Sheriff Court or such other Court as the Publisher may choose.

7. The Publisher shall not be liable for any loss or damage occasioned by any total or partial failure (however caused) of publication or distribution of any newspaper or edition in which any advertisement is scheduled to appear. In the event of any error, misprint or omission in the printing of an advertisement or part of an advertisement, the Publisher will either re-insert the advertisement or relevant part of the advertisement, as the case may be, or make reasonable refund or adjustment to the cost. No re-insertion, refund or adjustment will be made where the error, misprint or omission does not materially detract from the advertisement.

8. Errors must be notified to the Publisher in writing within fourteen days of publication. In no circumstances shall the total liability of the Publisher for any error, misprint or omission exceed the amount of a full refund of any price paid to the Publisher for the particular advertisement in connection with which liability arose or the cost of a further or corrective advertisement of a type and standard reasonably comparable to that in connection with which liability arose.

9. The Advertiser/Advertising Agency agrees to indemnify the Publisher in respect of all costs, damages or other charges falling upon the publication as the result of legal actions or threatened legal actions arising from the publication of the advertisement in any one or more of a series of advertisements published in accordance with copy instructions supplied to the publication in pursuance of the Advertiser/Advertising Agency order.

10. Adverts under the value of £75 must be paid on acceptance of order by the Publisher. All advertising on a credit basis must be agreed with the Publisher in advance.

11. Payment of any invoice raised by the Publisher will be due 15 days from the date of invoice or as otherwise directed on the invoice. In the event of non-payment the Publisher may charge late payment interest at a rate of 2% and this is chargeable on a daily basis from the due date until the bill is paid. In addition the Publisher may charge a late payment levy of £10 as an administration fee. In the event of late payment the Publisher reserves the right to disallow any discounts given and to raise an additional invoice for the discount which will be treated as though it has been raised with the original invoice.

12. A request to insert an advertisement assumes acceptance of our conditions.

Published by Wywex Media Limited, PO. Box 1, Oban, PA34 4HB, Tel: (01631) 568000
www.obantimes.co.uk and registered as a newspaper at the Post Office. http://termsandconditions.wywexmedia.co.uk

Villa have no answer to slick Saints

Petershall Villa	0
Oban Saints	8
West of Scotland Cup - 2nd Round	

FOUR goals in each half saw Saints ease comfortably into round three of the West of Scotland Amateur Cup at St Ambrose High School, Coatbridge, last Saturday morning.

The 11am kick off, a result of pitch availability issues, should have suited hosts Petershall Villa of the Strathclyde Saturday Morning Amateur Football League but it was the early risers from Argyll who prevailed.

The 'Villains' from Airdrie held out bravely for 26 minutes but once Saints made the breakthrough the result was never in any doubt.

Manager Alex Craik's selection options, already restricted by holidays, injuries and work commitments, were dealt a further blow when illness and injury respectively forced Jamie Graham and Dougal Graham to withdraw from the travelling party shortly before the minibus left at 7am.

With no time to call up any reinforcements, the bus departed with 12 players plus the gaffer who would join Fraser MacFarlane on the bench.

The starting 11 saw three changes from the last outing against Ferguslie Star with Da-

vid McArthur and Dene Cassells dropping out of the back four to be replaced by Matthew Kelly and Craig Campbell who lined up alongside skipper Marc MacCallum and Scott Maitland. Up front Brian Mackay made his first start of the season in place of the unavailable Dean Smith where he joined Paul Carmichael and Craig MacEwan. The midfield had a more settled look with Myles McAuley, Paul Kerr and Willie Gemmell starting their sixth consecutive match together in the Saints engine room.

Saints kicked off attacking the school end and quickly announced their attacking intent with Paul Kerr firing in a second minute, 22-yard drive which Villa keeper Scott Black fumbled onto his right hand post before recovering in time to smother the rebound at the feet of Brian Mackay.

The hosts looked content to defend in depth and hit on the break launching their first counter attack in the fifth minute with a ball in behind the minibus left at 7am.

With no time to call up any reinforcements, the bus departed with 12 players plus the gaffer who would join Fraser MacFarlane on the bench.

The starting 11 saw three changes from the last outing against Ferguslie Star with Da-

vid McArthur and Dene Cassells dropping out of the back four to be replaced by Matthew Kelly and Craig Campbell who lined up alongside skipper Marc MacCallum and Scott Maitland. Up front Brian Mackay made his first start of the season in place of the unavailable Dean Smith where he joined Paul Carmichael and Craig MacEwan. The midfield had a more settled look with Myles McAuley, Paul Kerr and Willie Gemmell starting their sixth consecutive match together in the Saints engine room.

Saints kicked off attacking the school end and quickly announced their attacking intent with Paul Kerr firing in a second minute, 22-yard drive which Villa keeper Scott Black fumbled onto his right hand post before recovering in time to smother the rebound at the feet of Brian Mackay.

The hosts looked content to defend in depth and hit on the break launching their first counter attack in the fifth minute with a ball in behind the minibus left at 7am.

With no time to call up any reinforcements, the bus departed with 12 players plus the gaffer who would join Fraser MacFarlane on the bench.

The starting 11 saw three changes from the last outing against Ferguslie Star with Da-

The starting 11 saw three changes from the last outing against Ferguslie Star with Da-



Willie Gemmell, on the ground, opens the scoring with an overhead bicycle kick last Saturday. Photos and match report Derek Black

far up field and beating Craig Campbell for pace. Nicholson's cross into the box was cut out by Marc MacCallum who had a heart-in-mouth moment as his header crashed off his own crossbar and dropped into the grateful arms of Thomas McCulloch.

The Saints number one immediately launched an attack on the right with Matthew Kelly and Paul Carmichael combining for Paul to pick out Craig MacEwan at the back post who made no mistake from the corner of the six-yard box.

Saints made it three in the 34th minute with MacEwan this time the provider cutting in from the left to find the head of Brian Mackay on the six-yard line who accepted with pleasure the chance to open his goal scoring account for the season.

A John Cochrane foul on Matthew Kelly just inside the Saints half gave the Oban side the platform to spring another attack on the right with Willie Gemmell threading a perfectly weighted pass to Matthew Kelly who raced to the by-line and sent a cross to the back post where Paul Carmichael climbed above the Villa defence to head Saints into a four-goal half time lead.

Villa made a change for the start of the second half with

David Rooney replacing Scott Black between the posts. The replacement keeper was under immediate pressure from a Fraser MacFarlane corner kick and was happy to see Daniel Rankin beat Craig Campbell in the air to head away the danger.

Rooney's hopes of keeping a clean sheet were dashed seven minutes into the second half when Craig MacEwan timed his run to beat Villa's offside trap and meet a terrific pass through the inside left channel from Willie Gemmell. Craig gathered the ball on his left foot just inside the Villa box and calmly passed the ball right foisted into the bottom corner past the keeper's left hand.

MacEwan completed his hat-trick nine minutes later after good running from Fraser MacFarlane had opened up space on the left of the Villa box for Brian Mackay. Brian hit the by-line and cut the ball back for Craig who beat John Cochrane and Mark Russell at the near post to knock the ball past David Rooney.

Fraser MacFarlane was denied in the 65th minute by a fine Rooney save after another Matthew Kelly overlap on the right. The Villa substitute keeper threw himself to his left to finger tip MacFarlane's effort round the post for a corner. MacFarlane took the

corner kick himself and placed the ball onto the head of Paul Carmichael who timed his leap at the back post to perfection to notch his second and Saints seventh goal of the contest.

Full credit must go to Villa who never once let their heads drop and kept plugging away in search of a consolation goal. Villa had only once previously failed to score this season and Saints had Thomas McCulloch to thank for two excellent saves to keep their clean sheet intact.

Once again Saints ended a better spell for the hosts with a sucker punch. A sweeping move in the 72nd minute was rounded off with a deserved goal for Fraser MacFarlane who worked a one-two with Craig MacEwan and cut in from the left past Evan Jones to steer the ball into the bottom corner past David Rooney's left hand. Before the re-start, Saints made their second and final substitution with Alex Craik coming on to replace Brian Mackay. Alex took up his accustomed place at the back with Craig Campbell moving forward into midfield.

Skipper Marc MacCallum fancied his chances of making a rare appearance on the score sheet but was high and wide with a speculative long-range effort in the 79th minute.

Martin Chisolm returned

Football

the compliment three minutes later after MacCallum had been penalised on the edge of his own box sending his free kick well off target. Willie Gemmell made an attempt for goal of the season, in fact goal of any season, when he returned a David Rooney kick from hand on the volley from inside the centre circle, only to see his audacious effort veer off target.

With the clock ticking down towards the final whistle, Saints had one final chance to add to the scoring when Craig Campbell made a good run from midfield to join the attack and was inches away from connecting with a good Fraser MacFarlane cross from the left.

Referee Stephen Fox, whose task was made easy by both sets of players, brought a sporting contest to a close with Saints going into the hat for the third round draw. Manager Alex Craik can feel well-pleased with an excellent all round performance and, in particular, a much-needed clean sheet ahead of this Saturday's home league clash with reigning SAFL Premier Division Champions East Kilbride. This game will take place at Glencruitten with a 2pm kick-off. Referee in charge is Jimmy Litster.



Paul Carmichael outjumps the Petershall defence to head the ball home for his second goal of the game.

BJJ
OBAN BJJ will be taking a team to Motherwell in November to compete in the winter Scotia Cup.

Training is going well with the beginners class proving an invaluable session, even for the experienced students.

All classes continue as normal with a no gi session in Atlantis Leisure every Thursday at 7.30pm. For more information

get in touch via email. For club info contact Coogie on coogiepots@gmail.com

Kyokushinkai Karate

CLUB coach Iain Rodger and Craig MacLachlan from Oban flew out to Japan last week as part of the British team taking part in the bare knuckle full contact Karate World Championships which take place this weekend in Shizuoka, Japan.



BJJ coach Coogie Potter puts members through their paces.

MARTIAL ARTS

WITH IAIN RODGER

Craig has been training extremely hard for this and the club wishes both team members the very best. The weigh-in for the event was last Friday followed by two days of fighting.

The last week before the competition, is more about keeping fitness levels up and avoiding contact to minimise the risk of injury before the event. Craig is currently in the best shape of his life. The draw paired Craig with an opponent from Iran.

Meanwhile club training goes on as normal with Paul Mackay training hard towards his Black Belt test in December. The test is not for the faint hearted as it takes approximately five hours of extremely hard work to complete, culminating in 20 two-minute fights against fresh opponents.

Drew MacKinnon from the club is on the same path with his test next June. Both students show a lot of dedication to the club and help to teach when required.

Iain Rodger has organised a junior tournament at Mid Argyll Sports Centre, Lochgilphead, on Sunday November 27.

Anyone interested in learning this traditional style of karate should contact Iain Rodger on 07584 166542 or iain@ikku.co.uk

Shukokai Karate

ARGYLL Martial Arts clubs continue as normal with club coaches Kenny and Flora working hard to steer the students towards their next goal. Club members will take part

in the junior tournament in Lochgilphead on November 27.

Anyone thinking of taking up this martial art should contact Kenny Gray on: kenni.gray@btinternet.com

Kickboxing

Senshi Do Kick Boxing Fighter Profile
Name: Connor MacLean
Age: 8
DOB: 6/10/08
Work/School: Primary School
Years Training: Two
Belt: 3rd Kyu Brown
Favourite technique: Any jumping kick
Favourite Combination: Left turning hook kick followed by spinning hook kick
Best Tournament result: Silver medal

Ambitions:
To be a professional footballer
Anything you want to say: I like kickboxing and feel I've achieved a reasonable level of technique quite quickly and aim to do well at class and in tournaments.

Training continues as usual, Wednesdays at 6:30pm for juniors and 7:30pm for seniors, Sundays at 11am for juniors, noon for seniors and women

only sessions at 2pm. Club coach Wullie Rodger is recovering well from an operation on his spine and is contactable via email.

Wullie added he would like to wish Craig MacLachlan and his brother Iain well for the world tournament in Japan this weekend.

For more information contact Wullie on shihanwill@gmail.com.



Connor MacLean lands a spinning hook kick to the pad.

SPOT THE SHINTY BALL

THIS WEEK'S JACKPOT £3850

LAST WEEK'S SHINTY BALL WAS HERE...



This week's nearest the ball winners, who each receive £25 are:

G Wright
Shuna Terrace
Oban

M MacKinnon
Torloisk
Isle of Mull

We have removed the shinty ball from the photograph opposite. Now look carefully at the position of the players and use your skill and judgement to place a cross at the exact point where you think the centre of the ball was. You may have a maximum of 20 attempts on this coupon at a cost of £1. If you wish to have more attempts, you must enter on separate coupons.

Easy to enter
Cut out your completed coupon and put your entry plus £1 per 20 attempts into a sealed envelope and post it to "Spot the Shinty Ball" Competition, The Oban Times, PO Box 1, Oban, Argyll PA34 4HB by 12noon Tuesday. No refunds will be given for entries received after the deadline. You may hand it into The Oban Times Head Office, Lochavullin, Oban by the same time. Otherwise all entries must be posted.

Competition rules
No responsibility will be accepted for entries which are delayed, mislaid or lost, and proof of posting cannot be accepted as proof of delivery.
The Company's decision is final on all matters relating to the

The game starts with a jackpot of £500 and will increase by £50 per week until it is won outright. To win the jackpot, the centre of your cross must be in the exact centre of the ball. If the crosses overlap the entry will be void. If no correct entry is received, two 'near miss' prizes of £25 will be awarded. When the jackpot is won, no other prizes will be awarded that week.

competition and no correspondence will be entered into. The final decision rests with the Company. In the event of more than one correct entry, the jackpot will be shared equally between all winning entries. Any decision regarding the awarding of a prize is entirely at the discretion of the Company. The Company reserves the right to declare the competition null and void at any time, subject to its discretion and to make full refund of the price of the coupon to any person who has entered the competition at that time. Employees of Wyvex Media, their immediate relatives and any person otherwise connected with the competition are ineligible to enter.

Please remember to enclose £1 for 20 crosses. The maximum number of attempts on this coupon is 20, but you may enter on separate coupons as many times as you wish. No photocopies allowed. You agree to abide by the rules. How to enter: Mark your crosses using a ballpoint pen. Twenty crosses may be put on this coupon for £1. Send to 'Spot the Shinty Ball' Competition, The Oban Times, P.O. Box 1, Oban PA34 4HB



Please tape your £1 coin here

Name
Address
Tel No.

SHINTY

Best for all shinty news, results and fixtures

Marine Harvest Media Award winners 2016



The victorious Scotland team. Photos: Neil Paterson

Scotland the brave

Scotland (0-14) 14
Ireland (0-5) 5

Scotland out-scored Ireland to win 14-5 and lift the Marine Harvest Quaich following their shinty/hurling international at Bught Park, Inverness, on Saturday October 22.

The Scots recorded a 24-14 home win last year whilst they succeeded 23-14 in the Highland Capital in 2014. These encounters conjured up ten goals between them, but there was to be a goal drought in this latest meeting.

This year saw a return to a one-off contest, in preference to the two-test affair, with the Marine Harvest Quaich at stake.

It was a crisp but still afternoon in Inverness and the game clearly caught the imagination as a sizeable crowd filled the main stand and the touchline in front for the 2pm throw-up which was broadcast live on BBC2 Scotland.

Scotland head coach Ronald Ross selected a squad which was a mixture of experience and freshness. He highlighted dead-ball expert Kevin Bartlett, who had scored more points for his country than anyone else, as being a key player and that was to prove to be the case. There were new caps for Lorne Dickie, Greg Matheson, Andy MacKintosh and Thomas Borthwick and the latter two were given starts.

Ireland head coach Jeffrey Lynskey was forced to make late changes to his squad. Tipperary hurlers John McGrath and Noel McGrath were needed back home for Gaelic football commitments, whilst Mayo's Cathal Freeman was another absentee.

There were call-ups for Cian Dillon, who was part of the Clare squad which lifted the 2013 All Ireland title, and

David Reidy, a highly-rated youngster who joined the Clare senior panel in 2014. Tipperary's Michael Breen added quality, whilst Shane Dooley, so often the hammer of the Scots in the past, also returned to the international scene.

The players were led onto the field by the Royal British Legion Inverness Pipe Band before being introduced to Camanachd Association president Jim Barr, GAA's Pat Daley, Inverness Provost Helen Carmichael and Steve Bracken from long-time sponsors Marine Harvest.

Ireland played towards the town end in the first half but there wasn't even a minute on the clock when Scotland captain John Barr was brought down as he surged forward from midfield. Kevin Bartlett sent the resultant free ball between the posts to give Scotland a 2-0 lead.

A trip on Paul Divilly moments later gave the Irish a chance from wide on the left, but Shane Dooley lifted the ball wide of target.

Steven MacDonald took position in front of the main stand to send a long side-line ball from the middle of the pitch just the wrong side of the post.

Ireland had pushed Cha Dwyer forward and he took a Shane Nolan pass before sending a high shot for goal just the wrong side of Stuart MacDonald's post with the keeper flying to his left to cover his goal.

The Irish were settling into the game and Cha Dwyer played a great side-line cut from wide on the left and, with the ball dropping in on goal, keeper MacDonald was forced to tip the ball over the bar to make it 2-1.

A push in the back on Glen MacKintosh gave Kevin Bartlett another chance and,

with jostling in the goalmouth, Bartlett had to retake the dead ball but his strike on goal was parried by keeper Eoin Reilly.

Cha Dwyer took a chance to square the match when the ball broke to him on 17 minutes and the Irish start to the match was better than in recent years.

Keith MacRae broke down the Scotland left and was fouled by both James Toher and then Damian Healy, the latter after the whistle had gone, and Kevin Bartlett punished the Irish with a perfect hit between the posts to put Scotland 4-2 in front.

A nice passing move down the Scotland right saw Daniel Cameron latch onto a long goal-hit from Stuart MacDonald. Cameron sent a sublime pass down the wing to Kevin Bartlett whose first touch wrong-footed the defender. Bartlett cut in on goal but was brought down by James Toher. Keith MacRae crashed the loose ball high into the net on his back-hand but the whistle had gone before he hit the ball. Ireland's Brian Murphy stretched to get the merest of touches on Kevin Bartlett's free, so the ball between the posts only earned Scotland a single point.

Kevin Bartlett was in the thick of the action and won the ball in midfield and played it into the goal area.

Brian Murphy tried to clear the danger but Roddy MacDonald nipped in to steal possession and, from a tight angle on the right, his shot at goal went just over the bar and the Scots notched what was to be their only point from open play.

A great run on the left from Shane Nolan, with Steven MacDonald in hot pursuit, was unceremoniously halted when Stuart MacDonald came off his line to block Nolan's path. Scotland struggled to get the

ball away and Shane Dooley battled for possession and he did well to get the ball between the posts from wide on the left to make it 6-3 with 26 minutes played.

Scotland immediately replaced forward Keith MacRae with Liam MacDonald.

A trip by Paul Divilly on John Barr gave Kevin Bartlett another chance and he didn't disappoint as he demonstrated his golfing prowess with a textbook swing which made it 8-3.

The robust Fraser Heath was involved in several strong challenges and when Michael Breen kicked out at him in one tussle in front of the stand, Steven MacDonald's ball into the goalmouth was eventually cleared out of play by Patrick Kelly. It looked too tight an angle for Kevin Bartlett to add to the Scots' tally but the Lovat man, who confirmed earlier in the week that he will return to former club Caberfeidh for next season, sent a precise strike between the posts to make it 10-3 with four first half minutes remaining.

There were late chances at both ends. A Damian Healy shove on Thomas Borthwick resulted in another dead-ball opportunity but this time Kevin Bartlett pulled the ball wide from the middle of the park.

Danny Cullen then sent a strike off target as the Irish continued to squander the opportunities which came their way.

The first half was closer than the 10-3 scoreline suggested but Scotland, and Kevin Bartlett in particular, were efficient and took their chances when it counted.

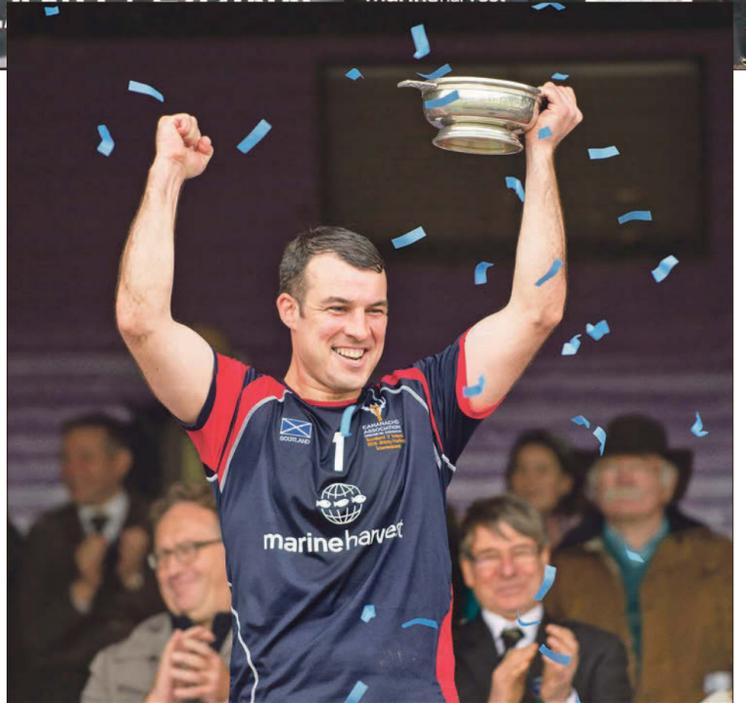
Both teams tried to impose themselves following the restart and John Barr and Patrick Kelly were spoken to by referee Innes Wood after a midfield clash.

Ireland pressed and Stuart MacDonald made a brilliant save, diving to his right and stretching his caman to keep out a Micky Boyle shot. Although the David Reidy forced the re-bound home, the strike was correctly ruled out for offside.

Both teams passed up dead-ball chances before Kevin Bartlett was fouled by Patrick Kelly. Bartlett steered the ball between the posts to make it 12-3 and, with 10 second half minutes played, the Scots were pulling away.

Play immediately switched to the other end and Stuart MacDonald did well to deal with a high ball into the 'D' from Micky Boyle.

Referee Innes Wood had a word with Fraser Heath for a bone-crunching challenge which halted James Toher's run down the left flank.



Scotland captain John Barr celebrates the win over Ireland.

When a Steven MacDonald kick was penalised on the Scots' left, Cha Dwyer went for goal. His effort was brilliantly blocked by Lee Bain but Micky Burke sent the ball over the bar to reduce the deficit to 12-4. It was Ireland's first score of the second half with 55 minutes gone.

Roddy MacDonald was penalised for swinging his club towards Daniel Cullen but David Reidy missed the chance to cut the Scotland lead.

After such a frenetic start to the second half, it was no surprise the pace of the game dropped.

Stuart MacDonald dived to his right and used his caman to keep out a Cha Dwyer shot. Dwyer sent the resultant 65-yard attempt wide of target.

Mark MacDonald took over from Lee Bain in the Scotland defence and Lorne Dickie was given a debut shortly after.

Cha Dwyer sent a shot from the left wide of goal as the Irish frustration showed.

Kevin Bartlett had passed up a couple of chances before he added to Scotland's tally with a side-line cut just inside the post to make it 14-4 with 13 minutes remaining.

Scotland gave Greg Matheson a debut and he gave the Scottish attack a different dimension.

Irish keeper Eoin Reilly got one of the biggest cheers of the day when he took down a Keith MacRae ball from the left and soloed away from his goal. With Glen MacKintosh in chase, Reilly ran into the Scotland half before his high ball into the home defence was cleared to safety by Fraser Heath.

Conor Cormack came on for Fraser Heath just before James Toher dropped a 65 wide of the posts with seven minutes remaining.

Ireland needed points but the goal threats came at the other end. Roddy MacDonald played in Greg Matheson on the right of the 'D' but keeper Eoin

Reilly saved the Lovat man's low shot.

Reilly then saved from Kevin Bartlett as he sprinted into the 'D' and he then denied Greg Matheson who was quickly onto the rebound.

The Irish keeper was again called into action as he stretched to get his stick to a Kevin Bartlett free from the left and he cleared the danger ahead of Greg Matheson who was looking to pounce on any scraps. Reilly then volleyed away a high ball into his goal area, playing the captain's role to the full.

There was a late Irish point when Micky Boyle took a pass from Cha Dwyer and sent the ball between the posts but, despite Ireland's good start to the game, it was too little too late.

Greg Matheson sent a late side-line ball from in front of the main stand into the D and, with the offside flagged raised, referee Innes Wood brought proceedings to a close.

The game never hit the heights of previous encounters and it was poorer for the lack of goals. However, there was plenty of effort and endeavour from both sides.

There was a battle of minds on the touchline as well as on the field. Both managers had previous experience in the shinty/hurling arena with Ross taking charge of teams at Scotland U17 and U21 and Jeff Lynskey at Ireland U21 level. The Scotland head coach's switches, whether tactical or just in personnel, all had positive outcomes and this helped give his side the edge as they recorded a third successive home win in this contest.

There should be little doubt Ireland will come back stronger when they host the 2017 clash.

Marine Harvest Business Support Manager Steve Bracken presented the Marine Harvest Quaich to Scotland captain John Barr.

Innes Wood, in his second

compromise rules encounter, again showed himself to be man for their cross-code encounters.

Scotland head coach Ronald Ross was a satisfied man and, after the final whistle, said, 'This is the only outlet these guys have to play at international level and the boys have trained hard for the last couple of months which culminated in today's hard-fought victory.'

'Last year we had a bit more time on the ball and we got the ball down and passed it. This year, the Irish closed us down a lot so it was more physical and we didn't have the space to get into our passing ways but we gave it 100 per cent. I thought Finlay MacRae and Rory Kennedy at the back were outstanding.'

'We had no failures and our keeper Stuart MacDonald pulled off a couple of fantastic saves so, all in all, it was a great team performance.'

Scotland squad: Stuart MacDonald (Lovat); Steven MacDonald (Newtonmore); Finlay MacRae (Kinlochshiel); Andy MacKintosh (Newtonmore); Rory Kennedy (Newtonmore); Lee Bain (Kingussie); Daniel Cameron (Oban Camanachd); John Barr (Glenurquhart); Fraser Heath (Glenurquhart); Kevin Bartlett (Lovat); Roddy MacDonald (Kyles Athletic); Thomas Borthwick (Kingussie); Glen MacKintosh (Newtonmore); Keith MacRae (Kinlochshiel); subs Liam MacDonald (Kilmallie); Conor Cormack (Kinlochshiel); Lorne Dickie (Oban Camanachd); Mark MacDonald (Kinlochshiel); Greg Matheson (Lovat); John MacRae (Kinlochshiel)

Match referee - Innes Wood

Scotland U21 (2-11) 17

Ireland U21 (4-18) 30

Ireland U21 fought off a spirited second half comeback from their Scottish counterparts to win the Marine Harvest shinty/hurling international at Bught Park, Inverness, on Saturday October 22.

Scotland U21 boss Allan MacRae made a number of changes to the squad which



Scotland's Daniel Cameron is closely marked by Ireland's Gerry Keegan.

**Camanachd Cup
Macaulay Cup
MacTavish Cup
Celtic Society Cup**

**Sutherland Cup
Balliemore Cup
Strathdearn Cup
Bullough Cup**



lost last year. Indeed only six players from that pool survived and new cap John Gillies was forced to call-off on the morning of the match with a virus. Inveraray keeper Scott MacLachlan was given a debut in goal.

Ireland U21 squad manager William Maher from Tipperary had to make changes to his original squad. Waterford's Austin Gleeson, Wexford's Conor McDonald, Carlow's James Doyle and Meath's Sean Quigley were replaced by Tipperary's Andrew Coffey, Wexford's Simon Donohoe and Carlow's Dion Wall.

Ireland took a grip of this match from the outset thanks to an early two-point effort from Philip Lucid who was to go on to be an influential figure in this encounter.

The Scots launched an immediate response with Danny Kelly notching a two-pointer to draw the sides level.

Philip Lucid put the Irish back in front. He saw his initial shot deflected past the post but he lifted and volleyed the resultant 65-yard attempt between the posts to make it 3-2.

Scotland battled back and a last-gasp intervention from Ireland's Gerald Walsh thwarted a goal attempt from Danny Kelly.

It was Ireland who would be first to find the back of the net moments later. Tom Fox lofted the ball forward into the centre of the Scots' defence and Jack Sheridan played a quick one-two with Jack Goulding before soloing forward from the left to score.

Worse was to follow for the Scots as a superb run from Tom Fox saw him get away from Barry MacDonald and the Tipperary youngster smashed the ball high to the keeper's left to make it 9-2.

Philip Lucid added another point before a two-pointer from Scotland's Craig Morrison made it 10-4.

Daniel Staunton chipped in with another Irish point and when Philip Lucid sent forward a long free from midfield, Jack Sheridan turned away from Ewan Campbell. But Scott MacLachlan made a brilliant save, turning Lucid's point-blank shot over the bar at the expense of just a single point which made it 12-4.

Two more points from Craig Morrison made it 12-6 but a superb shuffle from Daniel Staunton made just enough space to send the ball over the bar for another Irish point.

Arran MacPhee twice went close to reducing the deficit. First, MacPhee cut in from the right and saw his initial shot saved.

MacPhee collected the rebound and this time, shooting from the left, his attempt went past the post.

The Scotland pressure eventually paid off. Savio Genini surged in from the right and as Ireland struggled to get the ball away, Genini stretched low to push the ball to Will Cowie who tucked a low shot into the net at the back post for a debut goal which made it 13-9.

The goal was a boost for the Scots and Danny Kelly sent a free wide just moments later.

It was Ireland's half though and great inter-play between Andrew Coffey and Daniel Staunton saw Coffey get away from Rory MacKeachan and the Tipperary player ran in to score, high to the keeper's right, to make it 16-9 at the interval.

A side-line cut from Philip Lucid added the first two points of the second half as the Irish extended their lead.

And when Daniel Staunton played in Jack Sheridan, Scott MacLachlan saved well, turning the ball round the post. Philip Lucid made no mistake with the resultant 65 effort to make it 19-9.

Scotland needed to score next if they were going to have any chance and when John McNulty won possession, Gerald Walsh missed his ball forward and Charlie MacDonald showed great composure to take a touch past diving keeper Enda

Rowland before flicking the ball low into the net.

The fight-back was on and McNulty was involved again just after. He was fouled and Craig Morrison sent the ball between the posts to make it 19-14.

Nick Dalgety added another point when he found space on the right and another Craig Morrison two-pointer made it 19-17 but that was as close as Scotland would get.

Craig Morrison sent a free wide of the post with 15 minutes remaining and the Irish powered through the closing stages to clinch a convincing win.

The next Irish goal came into the fortunate category as Daniel Staunton held off Michael MacKenzie to get a touch on a high ball down the middle and the home support watched as the ball rolled agonisingly into the net to make it 23-17.

Staunton then took down a ball from Philip Lucid before adding another point.

The Irish power-play continued and Lucid added a two-pointer and a single before Edna Rowland saved from Nick Dalgety at the other end.

Another point from dead-ball expert Philip Lucid made it 28-17. But Scotland never gave up and a wonderful Blair Morrison run was cheered by the home support, but the Irish defence scrambled the ball away as Morrison neared the goal.

When Danny Kelly fouled Philip Lucid, the Irish number nine picked himself up to hit a two-pointer over the bar for his thirteenth point of the afternoon which made it 30-17.

Ireland had another scoring opportunity seconds from the end but Barry MacDonald did brilliantly as he bravely charged down Philip Lucid's two point attempt.

Ireland's skill and strength gave them a deserved win against a younger Scottish side and they retained the U21 trophy which was presented to their captain, Keith Carmody from Kerry, by Steve Bracken from sponsors Marine Harvest.

Scotland U21 squad: Scott MacLachlan (Inveraray), Rory MacKeachan (Kingussie), Ewan Campbell (Beaulie), Michael MacKenzie (Lovat) (captain), Euan Lloyd (Glenurquhart), Blair Morrison (Caberfeidh), Calum Grant (Kingussie), John Gillies (Skye Camanachd), Innes Blackhall (Kilmallie), Danny Kelly (Lovat), Barry MacDonald (Lochaber), Will Cowie (Skye Camanachd), Oliver MacRae (Kinlochshiel), Savio Genini (Kingussie), Arran MacPhee (Fort William), Daniel MacVicar (Oban Camanachd), Charlie MacDonald (Inverness), John McNulty (Glasgow Mid Argyll), Craig Morrison (Caberfeidh), Nick Dalgety (Lochcarron)

Match Referee - Sean Cleere, Kilkenny

**Scotland Women (0-2) 2
Dublin Women (3-3) 12**

After three successive wins against Irish opposition, Stuart Reid's Scotland women's squad faced their toughest test yet as they went down 12-2 to the Dublin Women in their Marine Harvest shinty/camogie challenge on Bught Park's outside pitch on Saturday October 22.

A good crowd gathered for this 10.30am start on a cold, misty but dry morning in the Highland Capital.

It was clear from the outset Dublin were going to be tough opposition and early strikes over the bar from wing forwards Miriam Twomey and Alison Twomey had them 2-0 ahead with the latter's effort going in off the post.

Scotland, captained by Lochaber's Kathleen Cameron, showed they were up for the challenge though when Janette MacGregor capitalised on a two-point opportunity to set the ball between the posts to square the contest.

An Irish goal was to give the visitors the advantage at the break after Orla Beagan breached the Scots' rear-guard to score, making it 5-2 at the turn-around.

Scotland started the second half well but Dublin were always dangerous on the break and

Marine Harvest shinty awards 2016



Coach of the Year: Newtonmore's PJ Mackintosh accepts the award from Steve Bracken, Marine Harvest's Support Manager.



Player of the Year Finlay Calder, Kinlochshiel, accepts his award from Steve Bracken.



Club of the Year went to Newtonmore. Norman MacArthur and Rob Ritchie accepted the award.



Premiership Coach of the Year was Iain Hay, Oban Camanachd. His award was collected by Davie Hamilton.



South Division One Coach of the Year was Kenny Wotherspoon, Oban Celtic.



Neil Carmichael, Oban Celtic, was South Division One's Player of the Year.



South Division Two Player of the Year was Hal Brown, Kilmory. His award was collected by Ross Brown.



The Donella Crawford Award went to Iain Macdonald, Bute. His father, Ted Macdonald, left, accepted the award on his behalf from Charles Young.



The Media Award went to The Oban Times. Steve Bracken presents the award to Lesley McKerracher and Alasdair Bruce.

an Orla Beagan shot was well-saved with her stick by Scots' keeper Elizabeth MacGregor, high to her right.

The home side continued to press and a Janette MacGregor free went wide of the post.

The game's defining moment came when play-maker Orla Beagan sent a superb high ball into the Scotland goal area. Elizabeth MacGregor darted off her line to palm the ball away but Grainne Free was quickly in on the rebound and she lifted the ball high into the net to extend the visitors' advantage.

It became clear it wasn't going to be Scotland's day when Sarah O'Donovan hit a shot from the right which bobbed into the net.

A late Orla Beagan point rounded off the 12-2 win but the Scots will take a lot from the experience of playing a higher level of opposition than in recent years.

Dublin captain Sarah O'Donovan, an All-Star nominee in 2015, was presented with the winner's trophy by Marine Harvest's Steve Bracken, with Women's Camanachd Association president Lisa MacColl also in attendance, at half-time at the U21 international.

Scotland Women squad: Elizabeth MacGregor (Badenoch and Strathspey), Jeanette McGregor (Badenoch and Strathspey), Rachel McCafferty (Glasgow Mid Argyll), Laura McCafferty (Glasgow Mid Argyll), Christy Docherty (Glasgow Mid Argyll), Mairi Duncan (Lochaber), Alana McGarrie (Glasgow Mid Argyll), Christina MacDonald (Skye Camanachd), Kathryn Moultrie (Aberdour), Lorna MacRae (Skye Camanachd), Kirsty Deans (Badenoch and Strathspey), Roma Fraser (Badenoch and Strathspey), Niamh Donnelly (Aberdour), Rona Stewart (Badenoch and Strathspey), Katy Smith (Aberdour), Laura Gallacher (Lovat), Kathleen Cameron (Lochaber) (captain), Emma Gordon (Skye Camanachd), Caitlin MacLean (Skye Camanachd), Taryn Neilson (Aberdour)

Match referee - Neil Ferguson.

Full list of award winners

THE 2016 Marine Harvest Shinty Award winners were announced at a ceremony and dinner hosted by sponsors Marine Harvest at the Drumossie Hotel, Inverness, on Friday October 21. Marine Harvest's Business Support Manager Steve Bracken made the following presentations:

Overall awards

Coach of the Year: PJ MacKintosh, Newtonmore
Player of the Year: Finlay MacRae, Kinlochshiel
Club of the Year: Newtonmore

League coach awards

Premiership Coach of the Year: Iain Hay, Oban Camanachd
National Division Coach of the Year: Mark MacPherson, Kilmallie
South Division 1 Coach of the Year: Kenny Wotherspoon, Oban Celtic
North Division 1 Coach of the Year: Cammy MacDonald, Newtonmore
South Division 2 Coach of the Year: Ewan Menzies, Tayforth
North Division 2 Coach of the Year: Jamie Beaton, Aberdeen University

League player awards

Premiership Player of the Year: Steven MacDonald, Newtonmore
National Division Player of the Year: Jack MacDonald, Beaulie
South Division 1 Player of the Year: Neil Carmichael, Oban Celtic
North Division 1 Player of the Year: Iain Robinson, Newtonmore
South Division 2 Player of the Year: Hal Jones, Kilmory
North Division 2 Player of the Year: Rob Urquhart, Aberdeen University

Women's Camanachd Association awards

Development Coach of the Year: Lyndsay Bradley, Ardnamurchan
South Division 2 Coach of the Year: Elaine Wink, Fort William
North Division 2 Coach of the Year: Charlie Mainland, Lovat
National Division 1 Coach of the Year: Michael Delaney, Lochaber
Development League Player of the Year: Katherine Dibble, Skye Camanachd
South Division 2 Player of the Year: Eilidh Ross, Ardnamurchan

North Division 2 Player of the Year:

Carolann Innes, Inverness
National Division 1 Player of the Year: Rhianna Kirk, Skye Camanachd
Volunteer of the Year: Lyndsay Bradley, Ardnamurchan

Youth awards

Youth Coach of the Year: David Pringle, Skye Camanachd
Under 14 Player of the Year: Lachie Shaw, Fort William
Under 17 Player of the Year: John Gillies, Skye Camanachd
Under 21 Player of the Year: Oliver MacRae, Kinlochshiel.
Donella Crawford Award for Youth and Schools: Ian McDonald, Bute

Referee awards

Johnny 'Ach' MacRae Quaich for Referee of the Year: John Angus Gillies, Portree
Emerging Referee of the Year: Ross Brown, East Kilbride

Volunteer award

William Paterson Salver, Volunteer of the Year: Albert and Alison Loades, Kinlochshiel

Fair-play awards

Fair Play Award - one team club: Lewis Camanachd
Fair Play Award - two team club: Kyles Athletic

Media award:

The Oban Times

There was a special award for Seamus Curtis from Westmeath GAA who has made a massive contribution to the shinty/hurling cross-codes game by organising the Ireland side of the Scotland U17 squad's annual Shinty / Hurling trip for the last 16 years. The award was made by Garry Reid, who organised the very first Scotland U17 trip 20 years ago and who took a number of squads to Ireland thereafter.



Fixtures

Marine Harvest Premiership

Newtonmore v Skye
Deek Cameron - Ipm
Kyles Athletic v Kingussie
David Mitchell

Marine Harvest South Division One

Taynult v Inveraray
Neil Ferguson

Marine Harvest North Division Two

Kilmallie v Boleskine
Brian MacKay

Youth fixture

Marine Harvest London Shield semi-final
Beaulie v Oban Camanachd at An Aird, Fort William

Results

Shinty/hurling senior international
Scotland 14-5 Ireland
Referee: Innes Wood

Shinty/hurling under-21 international
Scotland 17-30 Ireland
Referee: Sean Cleere

Shinty/camogie
Scotland Women 2-12 Dublin
Referee: Neil Ferguson



Green Machine lose at Garnock

Garnock 19
Oban Lorne 6
BT West Division 1

OBAN Lorne travelled to Garnock following back-to-back victories over Helensburgh and Carrick.

The Oban side were without David McCabe following his double yellow card. Also missing was Cameron Smith who injured

his knee against Carrick. The forward pack welcomed back 'Frenchie' Antoine Parmisau, with the backs re-shuffling to accommodate McCabe's absence. Alessandro Franzo started at outside centre with a versatile Richard McKay inside him and the back three was made up of Aleksejs Maslakovicis, Iwan Roberts and Calum MacLachlan.

Oban have never won at Lochshore, so the visitors knew it would be an uphill task.

The squad were in confident mood following their two victories and they were hoping to continue this winning form into this game.

The match saw a solid Oban scrum dismantle the Garnock eight on numerous occasions. Amazingly though, only one



Struan Smith leads this chase for the ball during Saturday's match against Garnock. Photos: Stephen Lawson

penalty from the scrum was awarded to Oban in the match. The referee was not allowing the dominant pack to play to their strengths.

Nevertheless, this was a solid first half display which saw both defences on top with Oban leading 6-3 at half time.

Coach Corrie Louw felt Oban needed to lift the heads and energy levels.

Strong runs from Calum MacLachlan and full back turned winger, turned flanker, turned inside centre Richard MacKay were a real feature of the first half, a solid boot off the tee from stand off Finlay Carmichael the

catalyst for the lead.

The second half was a different story though. Garnock started fast and their willingness to ship the ball wide was awarded with an unconverted try in the corner making the score 8-6.

Further pressure from Garnock on the Oban line saw an all too familiar side in the left boot of their stand off Rory Walker converting a drop goal to take the score to 11-6.

Oban conceded a penalty after the home side had set up a driving maul, the score now 14-6.

The last scoring play of the day was from another maul on the Oban five-metre line which saw

Rugby

the Garnock tighthead cross the line after poor communication and defence let the home team in to make the score 19-6.

Oban went in search of a losing bonus point and looked to get close to doing so when substitute Craig Wright sent Iwan Roberts through a gap, the pass adjudged to be forward and the game was brought to an end.

This Saturday Oban Lorne hope to get back to winning ways as they entertain Allan Glens at Glencruitten. Kick off 3pm.



Oban Lorne's Calum MacLachlan takes on the Garnock defence. Photos: Stephen Lawson.

Isle of Mull win battle of North Argyll

Argyll and Bute 8
Isle of Mull 33
BT West Division 4

ISLE of Mull Rugby club secured victory over local rivals Argyll and Bute RFC away from home in an entertaining spectacle for the Oban crowd.

Autumn sunshine and Glencruitten's superb playing surface was the setting for this local derby. The two sides had met only a fortnight before at Garmony and the islanders were feeling quietly confident after their 48-0 victory.

Mull had sailed over with a strong 18-man squad, but were missing former captain Alex Craig, who broke a leg and dislocated an ankle in the previous match.

The Muileachs kicked off and were met with immediate heavy pressure from the home team.

Eager to avenge the outcome of their last encounter, Argyll pressed hard and won and scored a penalty.

This early assault also saw the home team winning a try, and a slightly shell-shocked Mull found themselves 8-0 down after 13 minutes. The boys in black and white managed to ride the storm however. Duart's Stuart Wilson managed a breakaway try after a Sean Black kick, Andrew MacLeannan converting to make it 8-7.

It was MacLeannan himself to score the next try at 32 minutes. A great pick up from Sean Black was fed to captain Craig O'Donnell, who offloaded for the try. Argyll were beginning to become dominant in the scrums but Mull were starting to display the fast open play they have strived for all season.

Just before half time, on-form

Tony Haunschmidt demonstrated his trade mark 'tackle and rip', setting a move up for Sean Black to get on the score sheet.

It was then Haunschmidt's turn to score as the second half got under way; barreling through the Argyll men to get behind the line. He would later win man of the match.

Argyll then had several chances to score, with the ball actually going over the line twice, but Mull's valiant defence prevented any tries.

Mull's forwards were now beginning to hold their own against the heavier Argyll pack.

The final try was an outstanding run up the majority of the field by skipper Craig O'Donnell.

The final whistle saw both teams exhausted, after an extremely hard-fought match with many of the onlookers commenting on how entertaining it had been.

Rugby

Mull stalwart James Greig said: 'I thought Argyll were honest and committed throughout and both sides tested the excellent referee.'

'Good luck to Argyll next week against Lanark. We now have to focus on our home game against Shawlands.'

An elated coach Fergus Whyte added: 'I'm delighted with the performance today. It is possibly the best team effort I've witnessed since I've been coaching the Mull side. The outstanding performances by Sean Black and Tony Haunschmidt were the icing on the cake.'

Mull now lie one point away from second place in the league, and face Shawlands at home this Saturday. Kick-off is 2.30 pm at Garmony.



Tony Haunschmidt breaks through the Argyll defence.

John McPhee in hospital after crash in Australia



John McPhee.

CONNEL'S John McPhee was taken to hospital after suffering an early-race accident which caused a red flag stoppage in the Moto3 World Championship race at Phillip Island in Australia and will prevent him from taking part in next weekend's Malaysia GP in Sepang.

The Oban racer avoided serious injury in the high-impact crash, but was left with a broken thumb and severe bruising.

The Racing Steps Foundation-backed rider qualified in seventh position for the weekend's race following a penalty

during the previous day's session and was targeting a podium finish after encouraging performances around the Melbourne-based circuit on which he scored pole position for last season's race.

In bright, dry conditions, McPhee made a good start to quickly tussle for the leading positions and did well to avoid being caught up in an opening lap multiple-bike melee.

Having battled for the early lead and setting his quickest lap of the race while well-placed in second position on lap five, McPhee's race ended premature-

ly a lap later having exited the left handed, Turn 11 blind section of Lukey Heights. The Peugeot MC Saxoprint rider lost grip from the front end of his machine, losing control of the bike and slid across the track directly into the path of unsighted riders Enea Bastianini and Andrea Migno directly behind.

Unconscious

With nowhere to go, the pair collided, with Migno riding over the top of McPhee leaving him to skate across the remainder of track and on to the grass verge in an unconscious state.

The race was immediately red flagged with McPhee attended to before being taken to the circuit medical centre with an initially suspected broken thumb. He was later transferred to St Kilda Alfred Hospital in Melbourne for further checks.

Early indications that McPhee would fly back to the UK proved unfounded as hospital staff discovered that as well as a broken thumb and concussion, McPhee had sustained an accumulation of air between one of his lungs and the chest wall. The condition prevents McPhee from flying for

Moto3

between two and three weeks. He will therefore miss next weekend's Moto3 World Championship round in Malaysia and almost certainly the season finale at Valencia over the course of the November 11-13 weekend.

When the race re-started, championship winner Brad Binder scored victory ahead of Leopard Racing/KTM rider Andrea Locatelli. Estrella Galicia 0,0 rider Aron Canet took third

Results from Dalmally Golf Club Golf

DALMALLY Golf Club Gents section concluded the season with some significant competitions.

The Club Championship finals day saw Shaun Squire claim his first scratch championship in style, finishing well ahead of the field with a highly respectable three round total of 223.

It was a similar scenario in the handicap championship with Steven Turner pulling himself well clear with net scores of 64, 62 and 66.

Club newcomer Graham Melvin capped a solid first season with victory in the Gold Medal Final with a superb scratch round of 68. Gary Wilson took the Silver Medal but needed count back to thwart William Dougal, both players carding a net 66.

Dougal, however, could rightfully claim the unofficial accolade of player of the year with victories in the McLure Cup and Nine Hole League, topping the club's order of merit and scoring a hole in one in the August medal qualifier.

Scottish AFL results and fixtures Football

LAST Saturday's results: West of Scotland Cup, second round - Petershall Villa 0, Oban Saints 8; Fordbank Star 3, Campbeltown Pupils 2; Lochgilhead Red Star 7, Inverclyde 0; Tarbert 0, Dailly 2; Westerlands 'B' 2, Dunoon 3.

This Saturday's fixtures: Premier Division - Drumchapel Colts v Campbeltown Pupils; Oban Saints v East Kilbride; Premier Division One - Dunoon v East Kilbride RR; Premier Division 2A - Lochgilhead Red Star no game; Premier Division 2B - Tarbert v Claremont.

Oban Saints' youth results and fixtures Youth football

THREE of the age groups 13s, 14s and 15s had no fixtures last weekend because of school holidays. However, the Under 16s took on the Under 17s at Oban Community pitch with referee David Dunlop in charge. The Under 17s won an entertaining game 2-0 thanks to two goals from Lewis Buchanan.

Credit goes to the Under 16s who never gave up and made their older colleagues fight all the way for the win.

This weekend's fixtures: Dumbarton Riverside v Under 13s; Under 14s v Giffnock Reds; Drumchapel United v Under 15s; Under 16s no game; Under 17s v Broomhill, postponed.

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

SPONSORS OF THE OBAN TIMES WEATHER AND TIDES

NORTH WEST MARINE
DIVING & MARINE SPECIALISTS

7 E Glengallan Road, Oban, Argyll, PA34 4HG
T: 01631 565740 F: 01631 565780 M: 07836 366419
Em: enquiries@northwestmarine.co.uk Web: www.northwestmarine.co.uk

Chain, shackles, buoys all available to purchase in Oban

WEATHER

Thursday	Light rain Winds moderate west south westerly Temperatures 10°C to 13°C.
Friday	Cloudy with light rain showers Winds light west south westerly Temperatures 11°C to 12°C.
Weekend Outlook	Cloudy on Saturday Light rain showers on Sunday Winds moderate southerly Temperatures 10°C to 12°C.

Stop Press: New pontoons at Ulva and visitor moorings installed at Lochaline by North West Marine Ltd

TIDAL INFORMATION
Tide tables for Oban during the week from **Thursday October 27, 2016** are listed below with differences for major ports listed on the right. All times are GMT (add one hour) BST)

Date	am				pm				
Thu	03.51	3.3	09.38	1.3	15.50	3.6	22.29	1.3	Ardrishaig -5.35 Mallaig +0.25
Fri	04.16	3.5	10.21	1.1	16.20	3.8	23.01	1.2	Campbeltown -5.30 Portree +0.55
Sat	04.46	3.7	10.58	1.0	16.52	3.9	23.30	1.1	Crinan -0.47 Tobermory +0.16
Sun	05.18	3.9	11.33	1.0	17.24	4.0	23.59	1.1	Islay Port Ellen 2.00 Dover +5.30
Mon	05.49	4.0	12.06	1.0	17.55	4.1	**	**	Lochboisdale +0.30
Tues	06.30	1.1	06.19	4.1	12.39	1.1	18.26	4.0	Ferry Crossings/Sea States
Wed	01.02	1.1	06.50	4.0	13.12	1.2	18.57	3.9	Oban to Barra/South Uist Moderate
Tidal Constants: (Add or deduct from High Water at Oban)									

The Oban Times & WEST HIGHLAND TIMES

THE NORTHERN EDITION OF THE OBAN TIMES

Established 1861 No 8326

Thursday 27 October, 2016

www.obantimes.co.uk

85 pence

now incorporating
**LOCHABER
NEWS**



Royal National Mòd
Photos, results and all the stories from
this year's Mòd held in Stornoway
8 page special inside



DON'T FORGET to put your clocks back
1 hour this weekend

Nevis Centre closure fears as vote is taken on funding cuts

ELLIE FORBES
eforbes@obantimes.co.uk

FORT WILLIAM'S Nevis Centre could close if a proposal to cut its funding by £30,000 next year is approved.

The Highland Council's education, children and adult services committee was due to consider a proposed cut in funding of 19 per cent for the 2017-2018 financial year when it met yesterday, Wednesday October 26.

The centre, operated by Linnhe Leisure, currently receives £165,803 but that will be cut to £134,715 if plans go ahead.

Sheana Fraser chairwomen of the board at Linnhe Leisure said: 'If the proposed cuts go through it will be extremely tight for us financially. We will continue to look at cost-saving measures but there will be implications with regards to opening hours and higher charges. We will find it difficult to find capital revenue, which will make it difficult to finance repairs and refurbishments. If we can't run with the budget then there will be no alternative but to close.'

Ms Fraser said the implications would be huge if the centre was to close. 'It's the only indoor facility in Fort William apart from

the pool,' she said. 'We have more than 20 employees, making us one of the major employers in the area.'

Ms Fraser also pointed out the 2017 Royal National Mòd is set to be hosted at the Nevis Centre.

She added the difference in funding cuts seemed unfair.

'Eden Court, Inverness, should have had at least the same cut as everyone else because places like us are having to sustain a much bigger reduction. That just doesn't seem fair. Just because people chose to live here [Lochaber] why should they be denied access to cultural entertainment, sports and leisure,' she said.

Caol and Mallaig councillor Ben Thompson said: 'I don't think there will be any councillors happy with this, particularly when it's compared to Eden Court which takes up over a quarter of grant funding.'

'Eden Court will see a £5,000 cut from £506,954 this year to £501,954 in 2017/18.'

Mr Thompson said: 'Rather than everyone getting the same cut, some are getting nothing or very little. We are all aware of tough times for the council and I think people would have thought, "I don't really like it but I understand it", if we had

seen the process under which the cuts have been made. It's doubly frustrating when you're on the losing end.'

Fort William councillor Andrew Baxter said: 'I am disappointed to see such a large cut in funding to the Nevis Centre and am worried about the future viability of the complex.'

'The board of management has done so much over the last few years to stabilise its financial situation. The centre is vital for Fort William and Lochaber and this short-sighted cut, when the Eden Court Theatre sees its funding cut by just £5,000, is unjust.'

Education, children and adult services committee chairman Drew Miller said the funding commitment for Eden Court was different to that of the Nevis Centre.

A Highland Council spokesperson said: 'The reduction in this budget means the council will no longer be able to fund the range of organisations it currently supports. The council will seek to support activities that enhance community life. This will include swimming pools and sports centres, particularly where there is no alternative local provision.'



Countdown to Royal Mòd Lochaber 2017

The countdown to the 2017 Royal National Mòd in Lochaber has begun after organisers of this year's event in the Western Isles officially handed over the organisers' scroll. Over the next year, events and fundraisers will take place in Lochaber before the curtain rises on the 2017 festival which will bring more than 3,000 people to the area and potentially inject more than £3 million into the local economy. Left to right: John MacLeod, An Comunn president; Thomas MacLennan, chairman of Lochaber Mod Committee; Jackie Cotter, conductor of Lothian Gaelic Choir and Norman MacDonald, chairman of the Western Isles Mod Committee.

TIMESLINE

Sparks fly over bonfire motion

AN MSP has responded to a 'killjoy' motion to ban small fireworks displays.

Kate Forbes affirmed her faith in the people of the Highlands to enjoy Bonfire night in a responsible manner after a motion was tabled at the Scottish Parliament entitled 'restrict fireworks to community events' by David Stewart.

Miss Forbes who represents Skye, Lochaber and Badenoch highlighted that, whilst community events should be encouraged, in the remote Highlands there will be many smaller family-run events across the region.

She added: 'As the weather grows colder, it's a unique opportunity to bring family and friends together outside and enjoy an evening together.'

Fort shinty club's annual meeting

FORT William Youth Shinty Club will hold its annual general meeting next month.

The meeting will be held on Monday November 28 at 7pm in the shinty clubhouse. Anyone interested is welcome to attend.



BEST WESTERN THE IMPERIAL HOTEL

Christmas Party Nights
'Yule' just love...

Mistletoe Madness
Christmas Disco
Sat 10th Dec

Rock with Rudolph Disco
Sat 17th Dec
Only £29.95pp

Festive Dining from 1st - 24th December
Lunch from Only £17.95pp
Dinner from Only £24.95pp

...Book your place now before its too late!

Christmas Day Dinner
Only £34.95pp
Sitting times 12 noon, 3pm & 6pm.

Call our Little Elves now on
01397 70 20 40
BEST WESTERN
Imperial Hotel,
Fort William PH33 6DW

Crucial smelter talks under way

ELLIE FORBES
eforbes@obantimes.co.uk

THE OPERATOR of Lochaber's aluminium smelter has confirmed it is in talks with a preferred bidder for 'a potential sale of the entire operation'. The *Oban Times* understands that an announcement is expected in the next 48 hours.

The Rio Tinto plant, which employs around 150 people, has been under strategic review since January.

A Rio Tinto statement said: 'Following a thorough review of all options, on Friday [October 21] we advised our employees that we have concluded that divestment provides the best potential for a long-term and sustainable future for the operations,

its employees and the development of economic activities around Fort William.'

But Highlands and Islands Labour MSP Rhoda Grant is concerned over the 'lack of detail' around the sale. Mrs Grant, who has spoken to the firm since the announcement, said: 'I am concerned about the lack of transparency, especially as there are so many skilled jobs reliant on Rio Tinto remaining in Lochaber. It has been many months since the firm started this process and, although I have had a number of meetings with the local management and found them very approachable, the amount of information on the table is now scant.'

'Staff need more information as this has been hanging over them for too long.'

Fort William councillor Brian Murphy,

who worked at the plant for 21 years, said: 'We need to keep this issue high on the list of priorities for the area's future.'

'The continuation of the plant is vital to the local and national economy.'

Kate Forbes, MSP for Skye, Lochaber and Badenoch, welcomed the announcement commenting: 'Since Rio Tinto announced its strategic review, my priority as local MSP has been to see an outcome achieved for the Lochaber assets which continues to secure hundreds of jobs for the local community, now and in the future. I welcome that Rio Tinto is communicating with its Lochaber workforce and it is important that we all respect the commercial process that is currently under way.'



Highbridge Kennels & Cattery provides luxury heated accommodation in a purpose built kennel and cattery, set in a beautiful rural location just 8 miles from Fort William.

Sally who runs the kennels and cattery is trained and experienced in the care of animals and you can be assured of the best care and personal attention for your pet.

We have an acre totally safe and secure paddock with it's own paddling pool for the dogs to play in.

We accept dogs and cats for long or short term boarding and the quality of accommodation and high level of care makes it a particularly desirable location for longer stays.

www.highbridgekennels.com

Highbridge, Spean Bridge, Inverness-Shire PH34 4EX Tel: 01397 712567 Email: highbridgekennelsenquiries@gmail.com



We also offer doggie day care

CHRISTMAS AT THE WEST HIGHLAND HOTEL

Get into the festive spirit in style!

Christmas Party Nights:

Saturday 10th December
Glass of fizz on arrival, 3-course meal
Entertainment from Manran
Dinner and Band: £40 Band only £15

Friday 16th December
Glass of fizz on arrival, 3-course meal
Entertainment from Hò-rò
£29.95

Christmas Lunch / Dinner
Monday 12th - Thursday 22nd December
The Terrace Restaurant
Glass of fizz on arrival
2 courses £25.95 3 courses £29.95
Plus complimentary tea/coffee and sweet treat

WINTER PAMPER PACKAGES

Luxurious Afternoon Tea
Just £35 per person, includes glass of Prosecco, afternoon tea and 30 minute holistic therapy or beauty treatment.
Our pamper packages make fantastic Christmas gifts.

WEST HIGHLAND HOTEL

Discover so much more...
West Highland Hotel, Mallaig, Inverness-shire
T: 01687 462210 www.westhighlandhotel.co.uk

FW

TIMESLINE

First meeting of new SWI session

ARISAIG'S branch of the Scottish Women's Institute held its first meeting of the 2016-17 session last week.

Eleven members enjoyed a talk by Carol Summers of Befrienders Highland.

Competition results: Halloween themed decorated biscuit - 1 Vera MacDonald; 2 Margaret MacEachen; 3 Anne Cameron. Item from childhood - 1 Ann Lamont; 2 Yvonne MacDonald; 3 Margaret MacEachen.

Advice on sight and hearing loss

REPRESENTATIVES from Lochaber Sensory Care for Sight and Hearing Support will be at Mallaig Medical Centre on Tuesday November 1 to offer advice to anyone with hearing or sight loss.

They will be present from 12.30pm to 1.30pm and no appointments are necessary.

Lochaber Sensory Care staff and volunteers also help with the supply of NHS hearing aid batteries, the provision of retubing and hearing aid maintenance.

Island spotlight on heart disease

A SPECIALIST cardiac nurse appears in an NHS Highland-produced YouTube video aimed at helping people on Skye beat heart disease.

In the video, charge nurse Charlie Bloe of the coronary care unit at Raigmore Hospital, explains the key to a successful outcome for patients with a heart attack is early recognition and prompt specialist intervention.

Skye residents are invited to attend drop-in events on Wednesday November 2 in the Aros Centre, Portree, to pick up crucial - possibly lifesaving information and find out how emergencies such as heart attacks are managed across Skye, Lochalsh and South West Ross.

The drop-in events are from 4 to 5.30pm and from 5.30pm to 7pm.

For more information contact sue.menzies@nhs.net or call 01349 869225.

Newsdesk
01397 703003

Fort William welcomes the world's heroes and villains

ELLIE FORBES

eforbes@obantimes.co.uk

THE WORLD'S best-loved super heroes and villains gathered at the Nevis Centre, Fort William, on Saturday.

The Fort Con event, the first of its kind in the area, was a showcase for comic book memorabilia, art work, action figures, vintage games and more.

Actors Norman Lovett, Simon Fisher-Becker, Ian McNeice, John Altman, William Hope and actress Virginia Hey travelled to Fort William for the event and answered questions and posed for 'selfies'.

Robbie Jordan, 40, was one of the people who helped organise the event.

'This is the first time some-

thing like this has been held in the area,' he said. 'The closest event to this would have been Glasgow.

'We have been encouraged by what we have seen today.'

Robbie said Ben Belton, the 'main man' behind the event, had worked 'incredibly hard 15 hour days' to make the event the success it was.

'People seem to have got in the spirit of this which is fantastic because we didn't know what was ahead of us when we sat down in March to discuss this.

'But everyone's, especially Ben's, tiredness hard work has paid off. We are all thrilled with the way it has turned out. We sold 1,200 tickets and we couldn't be happier with all the TV and film stars that came too.

'We hope we can make this an annual event.'



Youngsters dressed up as The Joker and Batman for the comic-con event.



Left: Thor poses with his fellow Avengers, the Hulk and Iron Man.

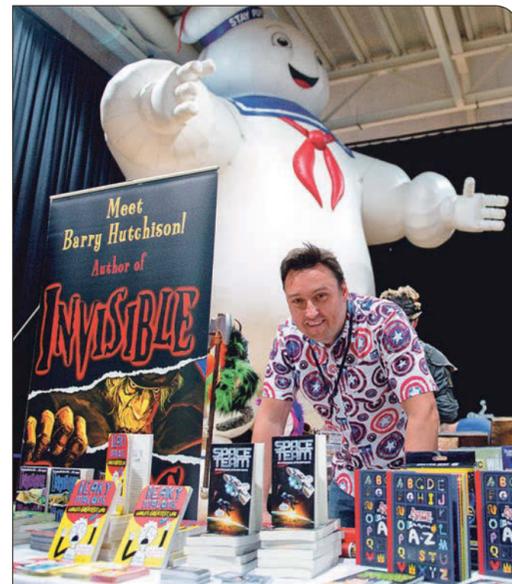


The Flash comes to Fort Con.



Above: The 35-foot Marshmallow man impressed everyone at the event.

Left: An unlikely duo, Deathstroke with Wally.



Fort William author Barry Hutchison at his stall in the Nevis Centre.



This couple aren't afraid of no ghosts.



We are all thrilled with the way it has turned out

Robbie Jordan
One of the Fort Con organisers



Competition prizewinners with judge Donald S Murray.

A Write Highland Hoolie in Mallaig

AUTHORS and visitors from the islands, Edinburgh, Glasgow, Cumbria, Perthshire and Denmark came together for Mallaig's first book festival.

They got together, against a glorious Hebridean backdrop, for partying and fascinating talks.

The festival, A Write Highland Hoolie, kicked off on Friday with the skirl of the pipes launching Angus MacDonald's new novel, *Ardnish was Home*.

Jess Smith, Jim Crumley, John Love and Debi Gliori proved their versatility, joining musicians Elsa Jean McTaggart and Gary Lister, as did various members of the audience.

Bookbug put in appearances to the

delight of the younger festival-goers and Debi's Hebridean Alphabet proved as popular with the older generation as the youngsters. There was a children's writing workshop, Mallaig High School showed their Herring film and Donald S Murray judged a creative writing competition.

The West Highland hotel was packed and organisers said 'the food was exceptional'. The team behind the event, Sine Davis, Ann Martin, Deirdre Roberts and Polly Pullar, thanked the event's generous sponsors and agreed their first 'hoolie' went better than they could ever have expected, largely due to the venue, the great hotel staff and of course the assembled party.



Bookbug delights youngsters at the event.

HIRE and SUPPLIES

Great DISCOUNTS on Makita power tools

For all your hire and supply needs

Mill Lane, Oban PA34 4HA Tel: 01631 566306
online @ www.hireandsupplies.com

FLOORSHOP

DEALS DEALS DEALS

- LUXURIOUS FLOORING IN STOCK
- FREE MEASURING SERVICE
- BEDS

HAVE IT FITTED BY OUR PROFESSIONAL TEAM OR TAKE IT AWAY
CALL IN AND BROWSE OUR NEW CARPETS AND VINYL

WE WON'T BE BEATEN ON PRICE

Telephone: 01631 563316 • Unit 12, Mill Lane, Oban, Argyll PA34 4HA

The Oban Times & WEST HIGHLAND TIMES

Don't miss our bumper Christmas

32 page Christmas special coming soon

Your essential guide to festive shopping, dining and entertainment

to discuss advertising requirements for your business please call us on 01631 568000

Work starts on Fort William retail park

WORK has finally begun on the new retail park in Fort William.

It had originally been hoped the development on North Road, which is to include M&S Food, Home Bargains and Aldi stores, would be completed before the end of 2016.

However, the project ground to a halt when fibre optic cables were discovered underneath part of the site.

According to site developer Morbaine, a proposed roundabout had to be moved around 10 metres to allow BT necessary access to the cables and as a result a full new application had to be submitted to the Highland Council.

Morbaine Director, Alex Brodie, said: 'We are delighted our contractors have finally been able to start work on the site of what will become the North Road Retail Park just outside Fort William.'

The preparatory works going on just now will clear away debris and level the site in preparation for the buildings being constructed at the beginning of 2017. The programme of work under way now will also include the roads which will provide access to the retail park and that will begin once the final approval documentation has arrived from Transport Scotland which we expect imminently.'

Mr Brodie added: 'Yet again I would like to thank local people, councillors and others for their steadfast support and we look forward to welcoming them to their new retail park in the summer of 2017.'

Thefts at garage and ski centre

POLICE are investigating a theft at Ben Nevis Service Station on North Road, Fort William.

Police would like to speak with anyone who may have seen someone acting suspiciously at the time of the incident in the early hours of Thursday October 20.

POLICE in Fort William are carrying out enquiries following reports of a break in at Glencoe Ski Centre.

Police are appealing for information after someone entered the property, owned by Glencoe Ski Centre, between Thursday October 20 and Friday October 21.

Parking tickets go live after warning period is extended

PARKING tickets in Fort William went live this week after being delayed.

Parking enforcement officers have been patrolling Fort William since Monday October 3 issuing warning notices to those parked illegally.

Due to the high number of people receiving warnings in the first three weeks of the scheme, the Highland Council postponed fiscal penalties.

Parking fines were set to go live last Monday (October 17), but didn't do so until Monday of this week. The decision to hold off came as a result of 600 parking warning

being issued to drivers in the first two weeks of the programme. And a further 100 people were snared just last week, between Monday October 17 and Monday October 24. Shane Manning, principal traffic officer at the council said: 'With the large number of warning notices issued in the first couple of weeks, it was felt that a few more days would be beneficial for people to get used to the new arrangements.'

Fort William councillor Allan Henderson hopes the scheme, which cost £350,000 a year to run, will encourage people to 'park properly'. 'The number of warning notices

still being issued is not ideal, our warning period has been very effective in getting the message out to drivers but the time has come to start issuing live penalty charge notices. We can only hope that the prospect of a £60 penalty charge will have the desired effect for people to park properly.'

'Legal parking ensures that loading, disabled and permit bays are available for the people that they are designed for and is especially beneficial to businesses by stopping service vehicles from experiencing excessive delays and adding to congestion looking for available loading bays.'

CHAMBER OF COMMERCE DELIGHTED NICOLA STURGEON ATTRACTED TO EVENT

First Minister returns for memorial lecture

ELLIE FORBES
eforb@obantimes.co.uk

FIRST Minister Nicola Sturgeon will return to Fort William next month to deliver this year's Charles Kennedy memorial lecture, The Oban Times can reveal.

It will be the second time the first minister has visited the 'outdoor capital of the UK' this year, this time in connection with the Lochaber Chamber of Commerce's Ideas Week.

The lecture, which is sponsored by the HW Energy, will be hosted at Lochaber High School on November 18 at 5.30pm.

Mrs Sturgeon's lecture will focus on 'business and connectivity, which comes in many forms - our roads, rail, sea and digital communications.'

Destination manager for the Lochaber Chamber of Commerce Chris O'Brien said: 'We want to talk about joining Lochaber to Scotland, and the rest of the world, about our young people creating new opportunities, and attracting a new generation to Lochaber.'

Mr O'Brien who joined the chamber in June said Mrs Sturgeon visit was a huge achievement: 'I really wanted someone who was going to be inspirational to deliver the lecture, someone who can raise the profile of Lochaber, and someone who knew Charles Kennedy and had a relationship with him.'

The first minister's lecture is set to last until 7.15pm, with questions being taken from the



Nicola Sturgeon in Fort William earlier this year with members of the town team and MSP Kate Forbes.

floor during that time. Once Mrs Sturgeon has departed, people will be heading to the Moorings Hotel in Banavie, for the chamber dinner, where the winner of Dragon's Glen will be announced.

An after dinner speech will be given by entrepreneur Fraser Doherty, owner of Super Jam, which he started as a boy in his granny's kitchen.

Lochaber Ideas Week will celebrate business, education and community through talks, workshops, competitions, discussion and networking opportunities. Organisers have said the week long event is a 'catalyst to stimulate fresh initiatives and ventures, creating new connections and points of collaboration designed to enhance the area we live in.'

“
I really wanted someone who can raise the profile of Lochaber
”

Chris O'Brien

WIN THE CHANCE TO JOIN SANTA ON HIS SLEIGH



Santa needs help! Can you write a poem?

The Rotary Club of Lochaber, in partnership with *The Oban Times* and with support from Ferguson Transport and Shipping, has plans well in hand for an even bigger Christmas Festival this year at the Nevis Centre in Fort William on Saturday November 26.

Santa has arranged for his annual Santa's Grotto and more than 80 stalls packed with festive crafts and food products to be ready on the day. Along with his sleigh, and Rudolph and his reindeer, Santa will be arriving at Cameron Square at 10.30am and leaving at 11am to make his way to the festival.

This is a busy time for Santa and he is looking for two local youngsters aged between five and 10 years to help him, riding with him in his sleigh from Cameron Square and along the Parade Green over to the Nevis Centre, and to wave to the crowds who have gathered to watch the reindeer parade.

If you would like to help Santa and ride in his sleigh, all you have to do is write a poem describing the excitement in your home when Santa arrives with your presents on Christmas morning. Your poem should have at least four lines of rhyming verse and the first line could be: - When Santa arrived on Christmas Day...

Once you have composed your poem, fill in the coupon below with your details and post the coupon and your poem to: Santa Poem Competition, The Editor, The Oban Times, 22 High Street, Fort William, PH33 6AT, to arrive no later than November 11.

All the entries, including the winning two, will be displayed in the foyer of the Nevis Centre on the day of the festival and The Rotary Club of Lochaber hopes to include them all in a fundraising charity book in the lead up to Christmas 2017.

Santa Poem Competition

Name.....
Age.....
Address.....
School.....
Class.....



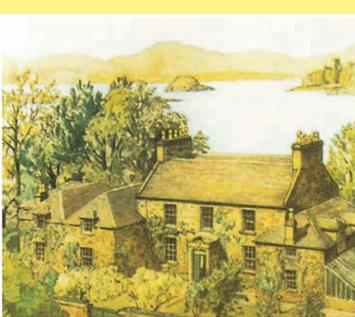
IT'S TIME

TO BOOK YOUR AD IN THE 2017 LOCHABER INDEX



If you wish to advertise your business within the Lochaber 2017 Index please call Fiona 01631 568018

Manor House Hotel & Restaurant



Now is the time to book your special **Christmastime Party**

Overlooking the Harbour
Gallanach Road • Oban
01631 562087
www.manorhouseoban.com

CLARINS

BIG Beauty GIFT

Choose 3 free treats worth £41*



Yours when you buy two or more recommended Clarins products, one to be skin care.

Available from Thursday 27 October - Saturday 12 November 2016.

GORDONS CHEMISTS
16 George Street, Oban
Tel: 01631 562063

*Based on average retail value of standard size products. A choice of 3 different products per customer while stocks last, choice subject to availability. Not to be used in conjunction with any other Clarins offer. Gift not available online.



“The friendly staff did a great job very quickly ...”

“...and took all the old windows away leaving no mess.”

- Alistair Gillies, Gorthleck



Cairngorm Group

tougher, warmer, smarter

1 Longman Drive, Inverness IV1 1SU Tel: 01463 238000

Tyock Industrial Estate, Elgin IV30 1XY Tel: 01343 545315

6-8 High Street, Thurso KW14 8AG Tel: 01847 894956

info@cairngormgroup.co.uk | www.cairngormgroup.co.uk



like us on facebook
www.facebook.com/obantimes

FW



WHAT'S ON

THE SWI Lochaber Federation's Autumn Rally will be held on Saturday November 5 in the Salvation Army Hall, Fort William, at 2pm. Cara MacKay from Lochaber Environmental Group will be the speaker. Everyone welcome.

A MEETING of the SWI Fort William Institute will be held on Monday November 7 at Montrose Centre, Inverlochy. The event starts at 7.15pm, with Nicola McCallum demonstrating chalk painting.

THE NOVEMBER meeting of Lochaber Local History Society will welcome back James Lee who will talk about his times as the manager of the Kingshouse Hotel on Rannoch Moor where many a traveller rested, including Sean Connery and the Monty Python team. Everyone is welcome to the attend the event on Thursday November 3 at 8pm in the Ben Nevis Hotel.

A BUTTONS and Bows fundraising concert will be held this Saturday, October 29, at Kilmallie Community Centre. The night kicks off at 7.30pm, with tea and coffee available. Contact Bobby on 01397 700268 for tickets or more information.

RE-ACT LOCHABER is holding a World Food Night fundraiser on November 17, at 7pm in Sugar and Spice, High Street, Fort William. Everyone is welcome to go along and sample delicious food from around the world and enjoy live music while raising much needed funds to make up clothing/toy/toiletry packs for refugee children. Tickets £20, bring your own bottle. Help from anyone able to cook a dish, play music or assist on the night would be appreciated. For tickets and further information contact reactlochaber@yahoo.com or check out their Facebook page.

LOCHABER Camanachd Club fireworks display will be on November 5 from 6.30 to 7pm. Entry is £1, with free sparklers for children. There will also be a baking stall, soup, hotdogs and hot and cold refreshments.

LOCHABER Camanachd Club's dinner dance will be on Saturday November 19 in the West End Hotel, Fort William, 6.30pm for 7pm. Music will be provided by Rouges Gallery. Tickets should be bought in advance from Aeleen on 07760 155313 or Michael on 07765 234910.

'MEMORIES of the Ceilidh Train', an event commemorating the centenary of the West Highland Line, will be held on Friday November 4 in the Railway Club, Inverlochy, at 7.30pm. Contact Mary Bruce for more information on 01397 704158.

Lochaber turns over a new leaf

ELLIE FORBES
fort@obantimes.co.uk

SUMMER may be over, but Lochaber is fully embracing the new season as the inaugural Glencoe Autumn Festival gets under way.

A 'celebration of the season' kicked off with a bang last Friday, October 21, with a sold-out family disco at Caolasnaon Caravan Park with DJ David Ogg.

The festival will be running until Sunday October 30 with something for everyone on offer.

Katie Daynes, one of the event co-ordinators for Discover Glencoe, said: 'We had been talking about the idea of the festival for ages. Autumn is a

beautiful time of the year and there is so much to offer with the weather being fantastic and no midges to worry about. We wanted to celebrate the season, so it all stemmed from there.'

From tubing and segwaying, to art exhibitions, OctoberFest and whisky tasting, the festival has had support from Lochaber business and projects.

Ms Daynes continued: 'We wanted to get everyone involved so lots of business have been doing things throughout the week and we got the community to join in too.'

'Tomorrow Kinlochleven High School is putting on a haunted house experience to tie in with Hallowe'en. The money they raise will be going to its Kino-

chlovin project, so people are joining in for their own fundraisers, which is great. Ms Daynes added: 'We really feel there is something for the community and for visitors - something for everyone to enjoy.'

People will be able to enjoy '60s, '70s and '80s music tomorrow night at the Rough Edges' rock and roll event in Ballachulish village hall, from 7pm.

The official closing event of the festival will be a family ceilidh on Saturday at the Leven Centre.

Visit www.discoverglencoe.scot/autumn-festival/ to find out more.

Next year's Glencoe and Loch Leven Autumn Festival will be held from October 20 to 29.



Clockwise from top left: Fraser Roy, left, Louis Hensman-Martin, Zander Roy and Jasmine Roy enjoy tubing at Glencoe Mountain Resort; Segway was just one of many activities available at Glencoe Activities throughout the festival; a guided walk and tour of Glencoe Mountain Ski Area was hosted by owner Andy Meldrum; Clachaig Inn hosted OctoberFest during the festival. Pictured are Clachaig staff Rhomi Malcolm and Justin Viray.

Photographs: Abridgeside Photography.

William's friends step out on six-mile fundraiser

WILLIAM the dog looks well on his way to getting a new hip, writes Ellie Forbes.

Last week *The Oban Times* reported that the Invernevis care home dog was in desperate need of two new hips and that staff and friends were fundraising to give the pooch a new lease of life.

On Friday, friends of William took part in William's Walk, where they walked six miles up the Caledonian canal and back again with other dogs owners and their pets.

Anastasia McFauld of Invernevis said: 'The walk went very well and everyone enjoyed it and it stayed dry which was a plus.'

'Refreshments were kindly provided near the half way point by Jean Lawton and all the dogs were very well behaved.'

William's closest friend and carer Lucille Brooks said: 'William only managed a little bit of the walk. The full thing would have been too much for him.'

'It was a shame because he saw all the other dogs staying and wanted to play too.'

In the afternoon Invernevis held a tea party where residents, family and children took part in fundraising for William.



Walkers get ready for their six-mile journey along the canal with their dogs.

Lucille said: 'We got badges made up with William's Walk on them to give out to the children and we had music. All the residents loved it.'

'We wanted to make sure we included the residents because William is their dog, so this was something for them to get involved in.'

Fundraising for the operations is 'going well' according to Lucille who thinks they should have enough for one hip operation at the moment.

To further boost funds there will be race night and ceilidh in the Volunteer Arms tomorrow (Friday).

Readers wanting to donate

money to ensure William is able to have the hip operation should visit www.crowdfunder.co.uk/williams-operation or hand in their donations to the care home.

Do you have a story to share? Call our reporters on the newsdesk 01397 703003

Volunteers raise hundreds by standing up to cancer

FORT William has been standing up to cancer.

Last Friday volunteers from the town's Cancer Research shop donned orange wigs and tutus and headed out into town to raise money for the charity as part of the Stand Up to Cancer event.

Shop manager Sharon Smith told *The Oban Times*: 'Last year we raised more than £1,000 and we are hoping to raise lots of money this year.'

Outside the high street shop volunteers and customers helped with a bake sale and tombola.

Volunteer Heather Dawson was tied to a lamppost in the High Street during the day, where she collected money in the bucket to raise money for her husband Brian.

Sharon was also tied up raising money for her cousin who has a brain tumour.

In the afternoon volunteers walked the length of the street giving out balloons and badges to passers-by who dropped money into their buckets.

Sharon, who has been in the shop for 16 years, said: 'I am running Eddie's half marathon on November 6 to help raise money too. Last year I had to



sit down for cancer because I had an infection in my leg and couldn't walk so I did a sponsored silence instead.'

The Fort William shop raised £607.41 from the day's events.

Above and left: Volunteers and dog Pappie at Fort William's Cancer Research shop help raise money with a bake sale and tombola outside the shop.

Halloween treat? The trick is to go to Aldi.

Funszie Apples
See in store for great price

Haribo Super Mini Mix
£1.79
370g

Halloween MAGIC

Funszie Easy Peelers
See in store for great price

Bubbly Minis
Choose from Milk or White.
89p
150g

Halloween treat? Monster Pumpkin
The trick is to go to Aldi.
£2.49
each

Everyday Amazing.

Speed Networking Event

ARGYLL ENTERPRISE WEEK
31 Oct - 04 Nov 2016

To take place at The Argyllshire Gathering Halls on the last day of Argyll Enterprise Week
- Friday 4th November.
1.30pm - 5pm

Excellent opportunity to meet, greet and do more business on your doorstep

If you wish to book your table please contact Nicky Murphy at the Oban Times on 01631 568000 or email nmurphy@obantimes.co.uk or you can register directly on the event booking website at www.eventbrite.co.uk (search under Argyll Enterprise Week)

FW

Western Isles

Call made for Gaelic to be given preservation

THE president of An Comunn Gaidhealach has called for 'further preservation' of the Gaelic language in the Western Isles.

Speaking at the Royal National Mòd 2016 official opening event, president John MacLeod said: 'I firmly believe that the Western Isles should be specifically supported as a language preservation and development area.'

While he believes the language will continue to survive in other areas of Scotland, he noted: 'If the special environment that still exists in the Western Isles is lost, the very heart of the language will be lost.'

Mr MacLeod called for consideration to be given to seeking a UNESCO World Heritage designation for the 'distinctive language and culture of the Western Isles'.

He said: 'Since 2008, nearly 400 cultural tradi-

tions throughout the world have been listed by UNESCO as meriting support to maintain their unique "intangible cultural heritage", ranging from oral traditions to performing arts, traditional dances and craftsmanship.

'I believe that the distinctive "seann nòs" of our Gaelic heritage in Scotland, and in particular the Western Isles, deserves to be recognised alongside these other cultural traditions.'

The convener of Comhairle nan Eilean Siar, Norman A MacDonald, welcomed anything that would help to preserve the language, saying: 'We would, of course, be fully supportive of An Comunn's calls for Gaelic and the traditional cultural heritage to be given UNESCO World Heritage status.'

'We look forward to assisting An Comunn with their efforts.'

Stornoway

Airport records highest number of passengers

A RECORD amount of travellers have used Highland and Islands Airport Ltd (HIAL) this year with more than 900,000 people choosing to fly with the airport operator.

During the first half of the financial year, from April to September, 908,116 passengers used the airports.

That figure is up by 111,750 on last year, when 769,366 travelled using HIAL.

At Stornoway additional demand over the holiday period boosted passenger numbers travelling to and from Glasgow resulting in a growth in demand.

Strong support from the public also meant that figures grew at Tiree and Barra.

HIAL chair Dr Mike Cantlay said that passenger numbers during the summer had been robust.

Inverness Airport, where HIAL is headquartered, has reported 'outstanding' performances on its new airline services connecting the Highland capital to London and Amsterdam.

Passenger numbers at the Inverness airport were up 21 per cent over the six months.

Inverness currently has flights to Heathrow and Amsterdam, both of which deliver connections for passengers from the USA and Europe.

A new connection to Geneva Airport is scheduled to begin in December with easyJet.

Dr Cantlay continued saying: 'The new Inverness routes were helping attract thousands of extra visitors to the North and were also allowing business to develop stronger links and get closer to new markets.'

Mallaig

'ONE man's trash is another man's treasure' ... a pop-up swap shop aimed to help with fundraising for the refurbishment of the Mallaig pool and leisure is to be held next month.

Hosted by Arisaig Hotel, the event will allow people to clear out their wardrobes and swap their items for someone else's.

People bring along at least one item of clothing, shoes

or jewellery - and then rustle through the other goods on offer, taking home something you fancy.

Donations from the night will go directly to the Mallaig pool and leisure, and all left over clothes will be to Blythswood charity shop in Caol.

Go along on Thursday November 17 at 7.30pm to enjoy a night of shopping and cocktails.

Caol



Donnie Corbett, chairman of the Caol Regeneration Project, says the fencing around the new library building makes it look like a 'prison'.

Resident slams library's 'bars'

AN ANGRY Lochaber resident has claimed 'bars' surrounding a new community library have made it look 'awful'.

Donnie Corbett, chairman of the Caol Regeneration Company, told *The Oban Times* that the village's new library looks something more akin to 'a prison'.

The library, which is part of the recently opened Caol campus, has floor to ceiling glass windows, which have

now been 'covered up' by bars surrounding the outside of the building.

Mr Corbett said: 'The bars are totally out of place all together - it just looks like a prison. Even users of the library have complained about it.'

He continued saying: 'I can't get an explanation why the council would have spent money on these bars, because they don't fit in with anything else around them - it's just all wrong.'

'There is glass from floor to ceiling in the library and then they go and cover it up with these bars.'

'It's just not inviting for people coming into the library or the youth centre because it looks awful. You wouldn't even see this sort of thing in an army barracks.'

The Highland Council has said that the central street area 'has ornamental fencing at each end to keep this area secure during

school times for pupils, with staff going between the new school joint campus and the new Caol Community Centre to visit facilities such as Caol Library and Room 12 International'.

The council spokesperson added that there was a matching gate in this area to allow access to the community centre near the Caol Library and to also close off the area after hours to 'deter any loitering in the recessed area'.

Fort William



Youngsters take part in the HLH leadership programme at Sabhal Mòr Ostaig College on the Isle of Skye.

Students lead the way with project

PUPILS from Lochaber High School are taking part in the High Life Highland (HLH) leadership programme.

The programme, which currently has 1,400 people from across the Highlands, puts young leaders through the paces, and this year Mairi Duncan, Katie MacRae and Rachel Fraser from LHS took part.

Due to the sparse and scattered communities the Gaelic medium leadership programmes are delivered on a residential basis at Sabhal Mòr Ostaig College on the Isle of Skye, using translated material provided by Sports Leader UK.

HLH said: 'The residential programme allows for total immersion in the language, supporting an ethos of peer learning.'

Lead by a SportsScotland Funded Development Officer, the programmes give people age 12-25 the chance to progress through volunteering awards.

Councillor Hamish Fraser, chairman of the council's Gaelic Implementation group said: 'This was

an excellent event which provided young Gaelic speakers in the Highlands the opportunity to gain valuable skills and experiences; while combining their linguistic, sporting and social skills.'

'These events are important in our efforts to support the increase in numbers of Gaelic speakers as per our Gaelic language plan.'

■ THE second season of Fort William's Obscura Mondo Cinema is getting under way.

Twelve new films are set to hit the screen at the Lime Tree gallery which seats up to sixty people and 'has proved to be a great hit with locals and visitors alike.'

Anna Clark who runs the Gallery at the Lime Tree said: 'The aim of the club is to show films from around the world that are different and give an insight into how people live in different places.'

David Wilson the owner of the Lime Tree Gallery said: 'It's over 10 years since the town lost its commercial cinema. We wanted to do something that kept the society of 'going out to see a film' alive and at the same time show films that most folk will not have heard of, but are of excellent award winning quality and give some insight into the rest of the world'

The club, which is open to all, is free to join and has more than 150 members. It meets every Thursday at 7pm in the Lime Tree.

Skye

Restaurant is dubbed one of the best in the country

AN ISLE Of Skye restaurant has been rated one of the best in the UK.

This year, the Three Chimneys restaurant in Colbost, Isle of Skye, has been named the fifth best rated restaurant in the UK.

The awards honour travellers' favourite fine dining establishments worldwide.

Award are given based on reviews and opinions on TripAdvisor and winners are determined by taking into account the quantity and quality of reviews for the restaurants over a 12-month period.

Owners Eddie and Shirley Spear celebrated owning the restaurant for 32 years earlier this month. Shirley said: 'I've been a girl and a granny here. All of us are absolutely delighted about this fantastic recognition, especially after a busy summer where everyone works flat out.'



The Three Chimneys restaurant at Colbost.

'Fantastic food and great service are at our core, but in a very remote Highland location, it can be hard to compete on the same level as some of the others on the list; restaurants from north-

east England and the centre of Birmingham. We are far away from most things, and infrastructure and connectivity are problems we face.'

'The majority of the time we get lovely feedback, and all feedback is so important to us.'

MORVERN lines

A land of many castles

MORVERN and the surrounding territories is certainly a land of castles.

In the parish there is Kinlochaline, Glensanda, Ardtornish, Caisteal nan Con, the vitrified fort of Rahoy and any number of smaller duns. The mighty Mingary and Tioram castles lie to the north, with Duart, Lochbuie and Aros over on Mull.

On the other side of Loch Linnhe, Shuna, Stalker, Achaduinn, Coeffin, Dunstaffnage, Dunollie and Kerrera guard Morvern's southern and eastern approaches.

Kinlochaline Castle, as the name implies, stands at the head of Loch Aline and is in the news just now because an application has been lodged with the Highland Council Planning Department to alter two window openings and install a wooden balcony on the south wall.

The castle was built in the 15th century and is of a type known as a 'tower-house'. Castles of this style and date were square or oblong without projecting parts, containing usually three apartments, one on top of another with stone barrel-vaulted basement rooms for storing food and housing animals. They were lit by narrow slits, not for defence, but for ventilation. Larger windows in the upper levels were built well above ground level to deter uninvited callers in the night.

Sometime during the 16th century the castle was remodelled but abandoned in 1690 by the MacLeans in favour of the Campbells.

It lay roofless until the 1880s when part of it was occupied by an old woman called Mary Cameron who had gone to live there following the loss of her nearby thatched cottage by a winter storm.

She kept cows and hens in the castle and entertained many visitors, including an *Oban Times* correspondent who called in September 1883, and wrote that she had an aversion to go to live in Lochaline village, "as a more miserable place does not exist". Mary was still in the castle two years later when a reporter from the *Highland Magazine* announced, 'Her sleeping apartment is unmercifully exposed to the elements...As a rule she passes the time knitting.'

In the 1890s the castle was repaired and reroofed by Thomas Valentine Smith of Ardtornish, then attractively restored in 2000. It is now an eye-catching private-dwelling enhancing the ancient wooded landscape around the River Aline where it tumbles into the sea-loch.



Kinlochaline Castle c1865 before restoration. Photograph: Iain Thornber.

According to local folklore Kinlochaline Castle was built by a female member of the MacInnes family. Her name has come down through the centuries as Lady Dubh Chall (Gaelic, the lady of the black hood) along with the legend that she paid her architect and his labourers with a quantity of butter equal to its size. There is no documentary evidence to support the MacInnes connection, although the castle was known until fairly recently among locals, as 'Casteal an Ime', (Gaelic, the Butter Castle). Myths are the darlings of guide-books writers but in reality it was most likely built by one of the MacLeans of Duart who later styled himself MacLean of Kinlochaline. The MacInneses were never a major clan and, like the MacLeans, were servants to the MacDonalds, Lords of the Isles, who lived in nearby Ardtornish castle and controlled the whole of the Western seaboard.

One of the chief-less and landless MacInnes family, most of whom now live in America, has recently calculated that it would have taken more than 600 tons of butter to fill the castle.

The notion that so much butter was gathered and converted into money to pay a bill is absurd but it is worth noting that butter and cheese, instead of cash, were often accepted as rent in Morvern and elsewhere in the Highlands and Islands at the time. So perhaps that is where the butter story originated.

An interesting feature still to be seen above the fireplace in the N wall of the main first-floor apartment, is a sandstone plaque showing the nude figure of a kneeling female.

In her right hand she holds a round object, probably a plate, while she presses a flask to her body under her left arm; at the top left corner there is a bee-hive shaped object - perhaps a whisky jug. The scene is thought by some travel writers to represent Lady Dubh Chall dispensing hospitality although why she is naked is not explained.

The plaque may be a 'Sheila-na-gig', the equivalent of a page from a medieval *Playboy* magazine brought from Ireland when the castle was permanently occupied. Over the entrance door in the south wall, is another small carved stone plaque with a cable moulded border with a stag pursued by a hound, with a fish below.

Kinlochaline Castle is 'B' Listed - the second highest category given by Historic Environment Scotland for a building of special architectural or historic interest. For this reason the Architectural Heritage Society of Scotland has lodged an objection to the application. They say putting large windows relatively low down in the structure would be inappropriate. Their main concern, however, is the introduction of the wooden balcony with French windows protruding from the sheer vertical walls of the keep which, when viewed from the side and face-on, would be uncharacteristic of tower houses.

Iain Thornber
iain.thornber@btinternet.com

Not sure what to do for your Office/Business Christmas Night Out?

Join us for
Blasta's Festive
Fizz & Feast

Friday 2nd to
Tuesday 20th
December 2016
from 5pm each night

£23.50
Per Person
3 courses with
a glass of
Prosecco

B LASTA
RESTAURANT

The Royal Hotel, Argyll Square
Oban Scotland PA34 4BE

t: 01631 563 021 f:01631 562 811

e: salesroyaloban@strathmorehotels.com
www.strathmorehotels.com

Bookings preferred but not essential

FW

Viewpoint

PO Box 1, Oban, Argyll PA34 4HB
email: editor@obantimes.co.ukThe Oban Times
& WEST HIGHLAND TIMES

THE news that Rio Tinto is in what would appear to be meaningful talks with a 'preferred bidder for the potential sale of the entire operation' is, finally, possibly, a positive development in the long-running saga. Yet we sympathise with the views expressed in *The Oban Times* today by Highlands and Islands MSP Rhoda Grant over the way the staff have been treated at the company's Lochaber aluminium smelter. Frankly, it

has been a shoddy exercise in industrial relations and people who work at the plant are understandably upset at the way the negotiations have transpired.

Ms Grant and Councillor Brian Murphy are quite correct to be critical of Rio Tinto.

However, as MSP Kate Forbes has said, the announcement provides some hope that the operation may continue and that the jobs there be saved.



Days gone by – Prudential in 1991

This great photograph was sent to us by Hugh Clark, who now lives in Menstrie in Clackmannanshire. Hugh said it pictures staff from the Prudential offices in Oban and Fort William and that it was taken at the chairlift area at Ben Nevis 25 years ago.

Glasgow Letter

ROBERT ROBERTSON
robert.d.robertson@hotmail.co.uk

A fantastic Mòd comes to an end

There was a good atmosphere in a busy Stornoway over Mòd week.

Many of the revellers who filled the streets were familiar faces from Glasgow – including choirs from Glasgow who were in very good voice.

Such was the bustling nature of the island that it led one waitress to remark that she was delighted they had managed eventually to tow away the Transocean Winner (the rig that ran aground) because the Mòd was coming and there would simply be no room for it.

I had a very sensible Mòd, partly because I was adjudicating this year, and was in my bed before midnight every night. As I boasted about my early evenings and new-found restraint to a friend, he suggested that, during Mòd week, rather than being proud of that fact, I should actually be ashamed.

As we say goodbye to the Stornoway Mòd, we look ahead to Lochaber next year, Dunoon the following year, and (of course) 2019, when, for the first time in 29 years, the festival comes to Glasgow.

Don't be depressed by the post-Mòd blues?

If you are unfortunate enough to be in the midst of the dreaded post-Mòd blues, this coming weekend in Glasgow will sort you right out.

Friday night will go down in history as the first Eriskay annual gathering

Social media

THERE was a healthy response to our story that a suggestion has been put forward about possibly building a skatepark near the Corran Halls, with almost everyone in favour.

Wilma Wardrop praised: 'Good idea and it's about time. We should be encouraging the young people to be active and outdoors. A skate park would be a great addition to the town all ages could use it with bikes, skates and scooters.'



The Glasgow Islay Gaelic Choir (who came third in the Lovat and Tullibardine) nervously await results on Friday.

takes place in the Glasgow University Union. Tickets sold out extremely quickly some time ago.

Eriskay Lilt are playing for the dance and then will perform the following night in the Park Bar, starting at 8pm on account of the amount of Eriskay people expected to be in attendance.

Other events this weekend include the Glasgow Uist and Barra Association ceilidh dance on Friday night and the Glasgow Skye Association's Marag supper on Saturday – both in the Crawford Hall, Beith Street.

What's on

Friday October 28: Glasgow Uist and Barra Association ceilidh dance in the Crawford Hall, Beith Street.

Friday October 28: The first Eriskay annual gathering in the Glasgow University Union.

Saturday October 29: Glasgow Skye Association Marag supper in the Crawford Hall, Beith Street at 7.30pm.

Wednesday November 2: An Lochran Gaelic music session in the Lismore.

Thursday November 3: Glasgow Lewis and Harris Association Annual Dinner, Pond Hotel, 7.15pm for 7.30pm.

Philip Picken suggested: 'Since the council allowed the old Argyll Hotel to be knocked down on the provision of a new one being built. Why not use this eyesore of a site rather than a perfectly good communal area!'

Margaret Mclellan posted: 'Would that also cater for the teenagers I saw yesterday on bicycles, on and off the coping stones on the new bit at Stafford Street.'

Diarmid Macmillan cheered: 'Great

Friday November 4: Glasgow Lewis and Harris Association annual gathering concert, Glasgow University Union, 7.30pm.

Friday November 4: Glasgow Lewis and Harris Association annual dance, Glasgow University Union, 10.30pm-2am.

Thursday November 17: The Tìree Association annual gathering concert in the Partick Burgh Hall.

Friday November 18: The Tìree Association annual gathering dance in Glasgow University Union.

Saturday November 19: Gunna Sound in the Park Bar afternoon and evening.

Saturday November 19: Tide Lines in the art school, Glasgow, with support, at 7pm.

Pub scene

Park Bar

Friday October 28: Heron Valley.
Saturday October 29: Eriskay Lilt.
Sunday October 30: Dùn Mòr.

Islay Inn

Friday October 28: Crooked Reel.
Saturday October 29: The Raggaels.
Sunday October 30: Trail West.

Wednesday November 2: quiz night.



idea it's about time the kids had somewhere to go. But would it not be best on the grass beside new play-park.'

Sandra Rydings agreed: 'Great news. Hope this proposal becomes a reality sooner rather than later.'

Jack Low cautioned: 'skatepark next to a main road think health and safety will have something to say about that.'

Melanie Weetman offered: 'Beside Atlantis would be better.'

Let's have 'keep Oban beautiful' campaign

Sir,
I was interested to read David McCann's letter (*The Oban Times*, October 6) concerning the lack of a view at the viewpoint on Pulpit Hill.

I would be the last person to advocate the cutting down of trees, but it would be foolish to pretend that there are not occasions or locations where some careful tree removal might be advantageous.

One of the two seated viewpoints on Jacob's Ladder has a lovely view down over the bay and the Railway Pier, but the other looks into a solid bank of trees.

I'm certainly against the random felling or chopping of trees which has been and is going on all over Oban, often to allow individual residents a better view or to allow more sunshine to reach their gardens, though at the expense of many others who might enjoy the wooded greenery of the town.

I think we should be proud of Oban's wooded aspect and do everything in our power to keep it that way.

I agree with Mr McCann's point that the facilities for residents and visitors on Pulpit Hill could be better; I might add that the same applies to many parts of Oban.

With such a wonderful situation, a true gateway to the Isles, Oban attracts many visitors who appreciate the beautiful scenery of the area, but despite recent improvements along the seaford, other parts of the town are unkempt and uninviting.

Apart from the gradual loss of tree cover, there are obvious problems with litter, dog dirt, graffiti, scruffy buildings and dirty alleyways. Even our iconic visitor attraction, McCaig's Tower, lacks proper attention, and what could be a wonderful garden within this amazing structure suffers from only an annual shaping of shrubs into balls and cubes and an occasional cutting of the grass. For the rest of the season visitors have to put up with weeds, brambles and rubbish.

The positive side of all this is that it could so easily be improved. There are many concerned residents who give up their time to collect rubbish and cut back brambles, but we all need to get behind them.

Maybe the time has come for a 'Keep Oban beautiful' campaign. I would be delighted to hear from anyone who feels the same way as I do.

Maurice Wilkins,
Laurel Road, Oban.

Extra funding for care home is unjustified

Sir,
Paying £500,000 extra each year to keep open the surplus residential care beds at Struan Lodge in Dunoon can't be justified.

It is all our older people and carers in Oban and elsewhere – who get reduced or are denied support – who pay the price. Other towns can only look on enviously at the new day care

Beachd Ailein

ALLAN CAMPBELL
ailean@obantimes.co.uk

CHRÌOCHNAICH MÒD NÀISEANTA RÌOGHAIL 2016 ann an Steòrnabhagh air latha brèagha foghair le còisirean a' seinn taobh a-muigh Sgoil Mhic Neacail. Abair ceòl eireachdail agus mac-talla nan togalaichean breagha ùr aig an sgoil a' cur loinn ris.

Taing a-rithist dha na h-uile a thug Mòd cho soirbheachail agus tlachdmhor dhuinn, agus taing dha muinntir Leòdhais a dhearbha a-rithist gum bheil aogheachd chàirdeil nan gnè mar a bha e riamh.

Bho thòisich cruinneachadh nan còisirean air Disathairne crìochnachaidd a' Mhòid Nàiseanta tha cuid a dh'òrain air tighinn gu bhith nan samhla air an tachartas, agus 's e Sine Bhàn fear dhiubh sin.

B' e athair Raiheart MhicCaluim, à Baile Chille Chiarain, a dheasaich an rian a bhios aig na còisirean air an òran agus tha e na thlachd shònraichte dha Raiheart an stiùireadh leis. Chuir Coinneach MacThòmais, fear eile de cheatharnaich Earra Ghàidheil agus nan còisirean, crìoch air an t-seinn le òran eile a tha taghta aig cruinneachadh nan còisirean,

Cearcall a' Chuain! 'S neònach mura

facilities for older people proposed for Dunoon.

The chairman of the Integrated Joint Board (IJB), Councillor Kieron Green, gave us a grand speech about taking the difficult decisions and fairness at the last council meeting. He can't take the easiest and fairest decision on Struan Lodge.

The IJB has lacked leadership, vision and clarity of process since the retirement of Councillor Maurice Corry as chairman. The present incumbent should consider his position before real harm is done.

Councillor James Robb,
Argyll and Bute Council.

Skatepark proposal – two sides to the coin

Sir,
Beware of creating a skate board facility in Oban in response to a demand (imaginary) by local youth.

It is not so many years since one was built adjacent to Oban Lorne RFC's clubhouse. In no time it fell into disuse and stood for many a day as a rotting eyesore until it was finally pulled down and removed.

W Raymond Shaw,
4 Bellwood Street, Glasgow.

Sir,
I would love a skate park. My brother and I have been hooked on skating since I went on holiday to the skate park in Inverness. We have some small jumps but it's just not enough.

Liam Byers,
by email.

Teacher Angus was an inspirational figure

Sir,
It was with very great sadness that I read of the passing of Angus Nicol in your issue of October 6, 2016.

I first knew Angus as my Gaelic teacher at the City Lit when I was in London from 1984-86. He was an excellent teacher and his classes were always well supported.

I remember studying a Gaelic account of the life of Alastair MacColla with him, demonstrating his interest in the history of Argyll.

More recently, I met him at the Mods in Oban and Dunoon, a kenspeckle figure in his red tartan trews.

He was a fine teacher and a very fine gentleman, and I will miss him sorely.

Soraidh leibh Aonghais, agus sith Dhe maille ribh.

Richard Deveria,
by email.

First Minister should respect referendum

Sir,
It is hard to believe that it is only two years ago that the Scottish people voted decisively to stay part of the UK. What happened to 'respect the wishes

biodh cuid air an slighe dhachaigh a' beachdachadh air dìleab Mòd 2016, agus chan eil teagamh nach robh mòran a' fàgail Steòrnabhagh ag aontachadh leis a' bhritheamh ciùil Isobel Mieras a thuir gun robh na farpaisich uile air buannachadh.

Mar a thuir mi fhìn gu h-àrd saoilidh mi gun do bhuannaich a' choimhearsnachd gu làir, agus rè ùine bidh e intinnnach cluinntinn ìre an leasachaidh eaconamach a thug am Mòd thuca.

Nuair a tha mi fhìn aig Mòd feumaidh mi aideachadh gum bi mi a' call sealladh mionaideach air naidheachdan an t-saoghail agus tha urachadh agam ri dhèanamh nuair a thilleas mi dhachaigh.

'S ann an uairsin a bha mi a' leughadh aithris gum bheil dearbhadh ann gum bheil toradh na reifreinn air Brexit air gràin-chinnidh a dhùsgadh às ùr feadh na dùthcha.

Nach bochd sin, agus nach bochd an teisteanas e air dùthaich a bhrosnaich a daoine gus an saoghal a shiubhal is a beartas a chreachadh. Chan e adhbhar moite sam bith a th' anns an eachdraidh air mar a dhèilig Albannaich, agus Gàidheil nam measg, ri tùsanaich ann an dùthchannan eile

of the Scottish people', as we are now being dragged back to more division and a second round of constitutional bickering?

The focus of the SNP government is entirely on independence and not the wellbeing of Scotland or its services.

Over the nine years of SNP government things have deteriorated and services worsened. The school attainment gap has widened, our police are in crisis, children have been forced to wait years for mental health treatment and our roads are crumbling.

Meanwhile, the First Minister had her civil servants dusting off her indyref rule book and have been working all hours to deliver the draft referendum bill.

The Royal College of Nursing has warned that nurses are facing the perfect storm over staffing levels as they struggle under enormous pressure to provide frontline services along with GPs, doctors, dentists and other NHS staff.

There has not been a mental health strategy since the end of 2015, but the SNP managed to turn around a referendum bill in weeks. It is now crystal clear that the SNP's priority is not education, health, working for the poor or even the protection of the benefits of our EU membership.

It is only independence. It is essential that First Minister Nicola Sturgeon starts to focus on her day job of governing and turn her attention to Scotland and its crisis-laden services.

Ursula Craig,
Cove.

Mixed messages over leaving the EU

Sir,
It was intriguing to note the First Minister, Nicola Sturgeon, state that she believes a deal could be reached which would allow Scotland, after Brexit, to retain membership of the single market, only to be immediately ridiculed by the Conservative Secretary of State for Scotland, David Mundell MP.

Interestingly, on the very same day it was heralded that the UK was looking at potentially continuing to pay billions of pounds into the EU budget after Brexit to maintain cherished access to the single market for the City of London and other key sectors.

The Prime Minister, Theresa May, also assured Japanese carmaker Nissan that trading conditions for its Sunderland manufacturing plant would not change after Brexit, suggesting that the government could pick favoured sectors to shield from the impact of leaving the European Union.

It is indeed interesting to note the UK government is happy to do deals for specific sectors and parts of the UK, but seems more than a little averse to recognising that Scotland voted overwhelmingly to remain in the EU.

Alex Orr
Leamington Terrace, Edinburgh.

Ailean Caimbeul

agus tha fhios gum bheil spiorad ceartais a' comhairleachadh gum bheil coigrich an seo airdh air an aon seòrsa fàilte is a dh'iarradh sinne an dùthaich eile.

'S e masladh a th' ann gum bheil luchd-cleachdaidh is taice na Gàidhlig fhathast a' fulang droch bheil agus càineadh air an cànan nan dùthaich fhèin, agus bha e math gun do bhruidhinn John Swinney an aghaidh leithid sin ann an òraid cuimhneachaidh Aonghais MhicLeòid Diciadain seo chaidh.

Fad nam bliadhnaichean a thug mise ann an obair-leasachaidh na Gàidhlig b' e aonta eadar phartaichean phoilitigeach, a thaobh luach a' chàinain, an gluasad a bu chudromaiche agus dh'iarrainn sin fhaicinn ga ùrachadh!

JOHN SWINNEY'S recognition of Gaelic as a uniquely valuable part of Scotland's national heritage was good to hear last week. However, reaffirmation of cross-party commitment to the language would be particularly welcome now.

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

Press policy

WE AT The Oban Times endeavour to ensure that all our reports are fair and accurate and comply with the Editors' Code of Practice set by the Independent Press Standards Organisation (IPSO). We realise, however, that mistakes happen from time to time.

If you think we have made a significant mistake and you wish to discuss this with us, please let us know as soon as possible by any of the three methods: emailing editor@obantimes.co.uk; telephoning the editor on 01631 568046; writing to the Editor at The Oban Times,

Crannog Lane, Lochavullin estate, Oban, PA34 4HB.

We will attempt to resolve your issue in a timely, reasonable and amicable manner. However, if you are unsatisfied with our response, you can contact IPSO, which will investigate the matter. You can

either telephone IPSO on 0300 123 2220 or email inquiries@ipso.co.uk. IPSO is an independent body which deals with complaints from the public about the editorial content of newspapers and magazines.

We will abide by the decision of IPSO.

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.

Fort fail to hold onto lead as they lose to Deveronvale

Fort William	1
Deveronvale	2
Highland League	

'FOR THE umpteenth time this season the Fort scored first in a game only to come away empty handed.'

Those were the words of the team's spokesman following another frustrating defeat against Deveronvale.

The Fort should have opened the scoring in the first minute when Danny Hight was brilliantly set up by Glenn Fell, but he couldn't get his shot on target.

In what was a scrappy first half for both sides, chances were few and far between until the Fort took the lead in the 35th minute.

Great play down the right from Glenn Fell saw him pick out Andreas Broomfield, whose goal-bound effort was blocked before it eventually fell at the feet of Colin Maclean who coolly passed the ball into the net.

Level

However, just 90 seconds into the second half, the visitors were level through a Liam Forbes near-post header.

It took two excellent saves from Fort keeper David Harrison to deny Nathan Ross on

Football

both occasions to ensure that the scores remained level.

But the visitors were not to be denied and they scored the winner in the 85th minute, and it came from Nathan Ross.

He picked up the ball 30 yards out and then proceeded to run at the heart of the home defence, before slotting the ball under Harrison from 12 yards and make the final score Fort William 1, Deveronvale 2.

Next up is another home game for the Fort when Huntly visit Claggan Park this Saturday.



Fort William goalscorer Colin Maclean is wrestled by two Deveronvale defenders. Photo: Abridgesidephotography



Some members of Kilmallie shinty team pictured with the silverware collected over the season on display at their annual awards dinner held in Caol Community Centre last Saturday evening. Photos: Anthony MacMillan



Lochaber High School, who won the 2016 Wade Cup earlier this month, receive the trophy from Tommy Wade from Kingussie, who donated the trophy in 1974. The cup was presented to Lochaber captain Callum MacDougall.

Netball club hold training event

FORT William netball club recently hosted a training event with two top Scottish champions.

Janie Elliot and Anne McKelvie were from East Kilbride netball club, who are the current Scottish cup winners and have been for three consecutive years.

Janie has 60 caps for Scotland and was Netball Scotland's senior coach of the year in 2014.

The event was attended by juniors from Lochaber High School netball club, primary school netball coaches, seniors from Fort William netball club and juniors from Fyrish Flyers netball club. The club would also like to thank Drew Purdon

Netball

from Clan Jamfrie in Fort William High Street for his kind donation of quichs which were presented to the East Kilbride coaches.

Fort William netball club training is on a Tuesday night at Lochaber High School from 7-8pm. Juniors train at the high school from 3.45-5pm on a Tuesday.

Newcomers welcome and no experience is necessary. Join their Facebook page, Fort William netball club, for more information.

Call for counter proposals or amendments

Shinty

THE deadline for submission of proposed amendments to the memorandum, the articles of association and the rules of play for consideration at the 2016 Camanachd Association AGM has now passed.

Two proposed resolutions for consideration by members have been submitted.

Member clubs and associations are now invited to submit counter proposals or proposed amendments to these resolutions.

Any such submission should be received by the Camanachd Association before 5pm tomorrow (Friday October 28).

Any counter proposals, amendments or additional ordinary resolutions, plus the nominations received for the appointment of board director will be circulated to member clubs and associations along with formal notice of the annual general meeting on November 10.

The 2016 Camanachd Association annual general meeting will be held at 7.30pm on Friday November 25 in the West End Hotel, Fort William.

For further information regarding the annual general meeting, please contact the Camanachd Association on 01463 715931 or email astie.cameron@shinty.com.

Bella wins Ballachulish shinty lottery

Lotto

THE Ballachulish Shinty Lottery numbers this week were 11, 15, 18.

Bella MacIntyre in Onich had the correct numbers and won the £1,200 on offer.

Next week's draw will revert to £200.

Fort William Golf Club lotto numbers for the draw on Thursday October 20 were 8, 10 and 16.

There was no winner and £500 available for draw on Thursday October 27.

Number for the Caol Regeneration Lotto on Thursday October 20 were 9, 11, 18. There were no winners and a jackpot of £600 for October 27.



Fort William netball club welcome newcomers. Photo: Abridgeside Photography

SPONSORS OF THE OBAN TIMES WEATHER AND TIDES

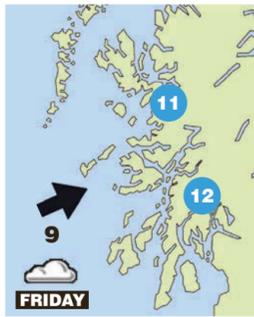
NORTH WEST MARINE
DIVING & MARINE SPECIALISTS

7 E Glengallan Road, Oban, Argyll, PA34 4HG
T: 01631 565740 F: 01631 565780 M: 07836 366419
Em: enquiries@northwestmarine.co.uk Web: www.northwestmarine.co.uk

Chain, shackles, buoys all available to purchase in Oban

WEATHER

Thursday	Light rain Winds moderate west south westerly Temperatures 10°C to 13°C.
Friday	Cloudy with light rain showers Winds light west south westerly Temperatures 11°C to 12°C.
Weekend Outlook	Cloudy on Saturday Light rain showers on Sunday Winds moderate southerly Temperatures 10°C to 12°C.



Stop Press: New pontoons at Ulva and visitor moorings installed at Lochaline by North West Marine Ltd

TIDAL INFORMATION

Tide tables for Oban during the week from Thursday October 27, 2016 are listed below with differences for major ports listed on the right. All times are GMT (add one hour) BST)

Date	am				pm			
Thur	03.51	3.3	09.38	1.3	15.50	3.6	22.29	1.3
Fri	04.16	3.5	10.21	1.1	16.20	3.8	23.01	1.2
Sat	04.46	3.7	10.58	1.0	16.52	3.9	23.30	1.1
Sun	05.18	3.9	11.33	1.0	17.24	4.0	23.59	1.1
Mon	05.49	4.0	12.06	1.0	17.55	4.1	** ** *	**
Tues	06.30	1.1	06.19	4.1	12.39	1.1	18.26	4.0
Wed	01.02	1.1	06.50	4.0	13.12	1.2	18.57	3.9

Tidal Constants: (Add or deduct from High Water at Oban)

Ardrishaig	-5.35	Mallaig	+0.25
Campbeltown	-5.30	Portree	+0.55
Crinan	-0.47	Tobermory	+0.16
Islay Port Ellen	2.00	Dover	+5.30
Lochboisdale	+0.30		

Ferry Crossings/Sea States

Oban to Barra/South Uist	Moderate
Oban to Coll/Tiree	Moderate
Kennacraig to Islay	Moderate