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'Amazing' family sign up to help youngster

by Kathie Griffiths
kgriffiths@obantimes.co.uk



When a charity offered to fund British Sign Language lessons to help deaf Oban tot Ashton Matthews, his whole family signed up to the idea.

At 72, Ashton's great-granny Linda Swann is the oldest family member to join in the weekly classes, along with the little boy's mum and dad Jemma Campbell and Andy Matthews, both sets of grandparents, a great-aunt and great-cousins.

And the sign language bug has spread even further as the three-year-old's nursery pals at Stramash and Soroba Young Families are also learning it at snack and story times.

Bosses at Oban Fire Station, where Ashton's firefighter mum is based, came to the rescue to offer a space big enough for the whole family to meet up with their tutor, who travels from Glasgow each week to teach them new signs.

Funding for 20 hours of tutoring came from the National Deaf Children's Society (NDCS) and has made 'a world of difference' says Jemma, who gave birth to Ashton 14 weeks prematurely. He weighed just 2lbs 7oz. Obanites rallied round to crowdfund £5,000 to help Ashton's family stay close

to him during his first few months of life in hospital.

It was after a hearing test just before he was discharged that doctors diagnosed him profoundly deaf in both ears.

Implant

After 18 months of wearing hearing aids and no improvement, he had a cochlear implant fitted in November

2017 and one month later had it switched on. Now he is picking up sounds and is speaking, but because he only has the hearing of an 18-month-old his speech is delayed.

The family are using sign language to bridge the gap while they help him link sounds to what is happening around him.

'He's such a social wee boy, his speech is really coming on well.'

Left: Ashton and his mum Jemma give signing the thumbs up.

'Signing helps us bridge that gap. It's also a back-up for him. If something happens to his cochlear nerve, he will have this as a second language,' said Jemma, who has also set up a WhatsApp group to pass on to others what she learns at the signing classes.

'I think our family is amazing.'

'He's such a social wee boy, his speech is really coming on well,' added Jemma, who lives in Pulpit Drive and is planning a thank you fundraiser for the charity.

'I think if we'd lived in Glasgow we would have just been given the help we needed without the charity having to fund it.'

'Our hope is that any money we raise will go to the charity to help other families like us living out of the central belt,' she said.

The family is now deciding which primary school Ashton will go to and have been promised by Argyll and Bute Council that his primary one teacher will be well versed in BSL by the time he starts.

Snagged rope could have sunk fishing boat

A snagged mooring rope could have caused a fishing boat to sink in Oban Bay.

It is believed a rope got caught on the bottom of the harbour wall and held the boat down so that when the tide came in on April 18, it swamped the 10m long TT272 Flying Fish vessel from Tarbert.

The boat had to be lifted and pumped out the next day and has now been towed to another part of the bay to dry out.

Investigations were carried out by the Maritime and Coastguard Agency, the Scottish Environment Protection Agency and Oban harbour officials.

The Maritime and Coastguard Agency initiated the emergency response, calling for support from the lifeboat and Coastguard, and oil booms were deployed to absorb as much of the oil spill as possible but some seeped out beyond the floating barrier.

Maritime and Coastguard Agency workers were at the scene to monitor the incident throughout, said Oban

Continued on page 3

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OT

Justice for Elsie a step closer thanks to sibling strength



Anne Cleave has made Mull her home over the last 20 years. Inset: Anne's sister Elsie Frost.

by Fiona Scott
fscott@obantimes.co.uk



A Mull resident has won an appeal to open a new inquest into her sister's murder more than 50 years after the tragic crime took place.

Anne Cleave, who has lived on the island since 1996, and her younger brother Colin, have been campaigning to have the case reviewed since their father died in 2003.

Last Tuesday, April 16, the High Court in the Royal Courts of Justice granted the appeal. This means the old inquest in 1966, which named the wrong man, will be quashed.

Elsie Frost was stabbed in the back and head as she walked through a railway tunnel off a canal towpath in Wakefield in October 1965.

She was 14 years old.

Despite a massive man-hunt and national coverage, there have been no successful convictions of anyone responsible for her death.

In January 1966, deputy coroner Philip Gill, presid-

ing over the original inquest into Elsie's death, decided Ian Bernard Spencer, who was 33 at the time, was the guilty man.

Anne takes up the story: 'Back then the coroner was allowed to name a suspect in a crime if he thought there was prima facie (based on the first impression; accepted as correct until proved otherwise) evidence.

'So at the original inquest the coroner named Ian Bernard Spencer as my sister's killer.

'Spencer was sent to trial in March 1966 and the case was thrown out due to lack of evidence. However, Ian Bernard had to live with that hanging over him for the rest of his life. He died last year.

'After he was released, the case went into limbo. Nothing happened for years and years and years. I think this was one of the worst parts of the whole thing.'

The Frost family were convinced at the time that Spencer had nothing to do with Elsie's death.

The siblings' mother, Edith, died in 1988 and

their father, Arthur, in 2003. It was only then, when Anne and Colin were clearing out their father's belongings, that they noticed he had got rid of a huge amount of family documentation, including Elsie's birth and death certificates and family photographs.

'We were quite distraught,' recalled Anne.

'Clearly dad had just wanted to clear everything away, but it had just hung around in the back of his mind, in his heart and at the bottom of his stomach for all those years from 1965 to 2003.'

It was then that Anne and Colin decided they would try and get things going again.

'Now that dad was gone, it wasn't going to cause him any more pain and we felt it was our duty to our parents and our sister to try and find out what had really happened,' said Anne.

'Mum and dad would have wanted to do something. They just wouldn't have known what to do.

'They also deserve a tribute. Despite their deep and

Continued on page 8

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Up tempo ceilidh band b

'We can't wait to see them perform at Oban Live this year.'



Scottish Sea Farms
Unsigned Oban Live 2019
local category winners –
The Argyll Ceilidh Trail.

POLICE FILES

A biker, aged 50, was stopped by police for allegedly speeding on the A85 near Tyndrum at 4pm on Sunday April 14.

The man was charged and a report will be submitted to the Procurator Fiscal.

Police are investigating after a window of an Oban house was smashed by a stone at 5.05am on Wednesday April 17. No-one inside the house was injured.

Heating oil was stolen from a tank in the garden of a house at Clachan Seil sometime between Saturday April 6 and Saturday April 20.

A black, long-wheel base Land Rover Defender, registration number H20 PDS, was stolen from The Puffin Dive Centre, Gallanach Road, Oban, sometime between 10pm on Friday April 19 and 7.10am on Saturday April 20.

A 46-year-old man has been charged with driving while under the influence of alcohol.

Police stopped the motorist on Oban's Soroba Road at 1.05am on Sunday April 21. A report has been submitted to the Procurator Fiscal.

About 10.55pm on Thursday April 11, in a bar on Corran Esplanade, Oban, a woman, 23, allegedly assaulted another woman. Shortly after, another woman, 20, allegedly assaulted the first woman. Both offenders were charged and issued with recorded police warnings.

Anyone with information on the above or any crime should phone 101 or anonymously call Crimestoppers on 0800 555111.

Oban homes plan to go to local hearing

by David McPhee
dmcph@obantimes.co.uk



Councillors have agreed to hold a hearing before deciding whether to grant planning permission in principle to a controversial housing development in Oban.

TSL Contractors Limited's plans to build 44-homes in Lonan Drive was discussed at Argyll and Bute Council's planning, protective services and licensing (PPSL) committee on Wednesday April 17.

The proposal received 60 public objections, including one from Oban Community Council.

The plans have been recommended for approval by an Argyll and Bute Council planning officer, subject to a pre-determination discretionary hearing.

In this case, planning permission in principle relates to a proposed residential development with no specific details other than 44 houses.

Planning officer Fiona Scott said: 'Having due regard to the development plan and all

other material considerations, it is recommended planning permission in principle be granted subject to a pre-determination discretionary hearing and the conditions and reasons appended to this report.'

Speaking at the meeting, councillor for Oban South and the Isles, Roddy McCuish said: 'I think it is essential this goes to a hearing,' and asked: 'Will that include a site visit?' 'Yes, that is a normal approach,' a planning officer said.

It was then recommended

that the application went to a hearing, which was unanimously agreed by councillors.

The presence of Japanese knotweed on the site is among the reasons listed for objection.

Other reasons include: ruining green space, traffic congestion, impacting wildlife and protected plants and flooding.

Mrs Scott said in the report environmental impacts could be addressed by specific conditions.

She added: 'There would be benefit in the matter being

addressed by means of a discretionary local hearing which would afford members an opportunity to visit the site, receive further representations and to ask questions prior to the application being determined.'

In relation to the concerns over Japanese knotweed, Ms Scott added: 'The council's biodiversity officer has highlighted the presence of Japanese knotweed on the site and therefore it is proposed to impose a condition seeking a programme of works for its eradication.'

Snagged rope could have sunk fishing boat

Continued from page one.

harbour master Paul Jennings. Mr Jennings added that checks to ensure the incident had been dealt with correctly and efficiently had now been done and the harbour authority and the Maritime and Coastguard Agency were 'happy'.

'Pollution from diesel evaporates quickly, so we don't get a long-term problem,' he said.

Once the Flying Fish has been dried out, it will have to undergo more checks from the Maritime and Coastal Agency to make sure it is seaworthy.

A SEPA spokesperson said: 'SEPA worked with partner

organisations to investigate and the boat has now been removed.

'The fuel involved in the incident was not of sufficient quantity to result in a significant adverse impact on the water environment and booms were deployed to contain the spill at source.

'We would advise members of the public to contact our 24-Hour Pollution Hotline on 0800 80 70 60 to report any potential pollution.'

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Facebook first to promote motorcycle safety

Highlands and Islands Police Division will be hosting a Motorcycle Safety Facebook Chat on Monday April 29 from 6pm to 8pm.

'The Highlands and Islands have some of the finest roads for motorcycling in the country,' said a Highlands and Islands Police Division

spokesperson. 'We want you to enjoy them safely and with that in mind we will be hosting an event on our Facebook page on Monday.'

Consultation on draft Clyde Regional Marine Plan



18th March – 27th May 2019 – Take part now!

The Clyde Marine Planning Partnership is running a pre-consultation on the draft Clyde Regional Marine Plan. This is an important opportunity for coastal communities, individuals, businesses and other organisations to provide feedback and respond to the proposed plan.

The objectives and policies within the plan address a variety of issues across the Region, such as climate change, sea-level rise and marine litter. The Plan also focusses on sustainable development including sea fisheries; aquaculture; sport, recreation and tourism; shipping, ports, harbours and ferries.

The consultation will take place from 18th March until 27th May 2019 and there will be a range of public events where people can learn more about the draft Plan and regional marine planning in the Clyde. See the list of events below to find an event near you; we look forward to seeing you there!

- Arrochar Three Villages Hall 3rd May. Drop-in event with a presentation every hour, 17:00 – 21:00.
- Lochgoilhead Village Hall 4th May. Drop-in event with a presentation every hour, 14:00-18:00
- Dunoon Burgh Hall 7th May. Drop-in event with a presentation every hour, 17:30-21:30
- Bute Museum Rothesay 9th May, 10:30-15:30. Information stall and free entry to the museum!
- Rothesay Library, 9th May, 19:00-21:00. Presentations and Q&A session.
- Lochgilphead Community Education Centre 16th May. Drop-in event with a presentation every hour, 17:00-20:30
- Tarbert and Templar Arts and Leisure Centre 17th May. Drop-in event with a presentation every hour, 17:00-21:00
- Campbeltown, Aqualibrium Leisure Centre 18th May. Information stall between 11:00-16:00
- Campbeltown Town Hall 18th May. Presentation and Q&A, 19:00-21:00

To view the consultation documents and for a full list of events please visit:
www.clydemarineplan.scot.

To get in touch please contact us via: info@clydemarineplan.scot, 0131 314 6782.

laze a trail to Oban Live



Argyll Ceilidh Trail has won a slot at the region's biggest outdoor music festival after taking 49 per cent of the vote in the Scottish Sea Farms Unsigned Oban Live 2019 competition.

Launched in February, the contest offered one slot for a local act and one slot for an act from the rest of Scotland.

Panellists, including BBC Radio Scotland's Vic Galloway, selected a shortlist and it was then down to the public to vote for their favourite. More than 31,000 votes were received.

Argyll Ceilidh Trail competed against 4Below, S-Mac and Crackin' Craic.

DMS won the Scotland-wide category, with 43 per cent of the votes, over Banshee, The Youth & Young, November Lights and Lisa Kowalski.

Daniel Gillespie, Oban Live managing director, said: 'A massive congratulations to DMS and Argyll Ceilidh Trail.

'We can't wait to see them perform at Oban Live this year.

'Two fantastic additions to our 2019 line-up from different and exciting genres of music.

'Thank you to everyone who entered and voted and to our new campaign sponsors Scottish Sea Farms.

'We were really impressed with the standard of musicianship we were presented with.

'It is a real testament to the range of talented musicians we have in Oban and across Scotland.'

The winning bands each receive a slot on the event's 2019 line-up as well as a place on the stage at the Official Oban Live After Party at The View plus £300 towards expenses.

Oban Live takes place on Friday June 7 and Saturday June 8 at Mossfield Stadium.

OT

Soroba to focus on better sports pitch

A better football pitch for Oban youngsters could be completed in Soroba, but only if residents get behind the campaign.

Improving the park and sports pitch and hosting a gala day this summer were discussed at Soroba Community Enterprise's annual general meeting last Tuesday.

Soroba Community Enterprise, which runs Soroba Community Centre, also set up the Oban Viewpoint Group. The group initially hoped to build a new community centre in Soroba for Oban, however, a feasibility study concluded funding for a project of that scale would be difficult to secure. Our focus now is tidying up the play area and to try and make it into a sports field,' chairwoman Marri Malloy said at the AGM.

'If we can get the community park up and running, it might raise our profile and we might get support from the community.

'Considering the amount of

houses we have here, we don't know what we can do to get support.'

Vice chairman Andrew MacDonald said: 'The group that did it [the feasibility study] has advised that because of the uncertainty in the country at the moment, it would be very difficult to get funding.'

Despite the bad news, the group is keen to progress and discuss potential plans with builders. Secretary Nicola Wilson highlighted successful community events that took place throughout the year, including Hallowe'en and Christmas events.

'They look forward to having a Hallowe'en and Christmas party. They are great, but we need more people involved with the group,' said Nicola.

There was also talk of putting on a 'big event' like the old Soroba gala day that used to be held in the summer.

To help with the group and future events, search Soroba Community Centre on Facebook and send a message.

Match streaming kicks off in Oban

by David McPhee
dmcphoe@obantimes.co.uk



People in Oban will be able to watch Oban Saints' cup final match live, thanks to a new community project.

Oban LiveStreams, set up by Calum Fox and GHProductions Argyll, hopes to broadcast Oban's shinty and football matches to those unable to attend games.

The first live match will be the West of Scotland Amateur Cup final between Oban Saints and Bannockburn on Friday May 3 at New Douglas Park.

To watch the game, search Oban LiveStreams on YouTube.

Calum said: 'I put a post on Facebook saying I was looking to stream a couple of games myself. I was asking



Oban LiveStreams was set up by Stuart Abercrombie, Calum Fox and Gary Hamilton. 17_T17_ObanLiveStreams01

about cameras and kit. Gary Hamilton got in touch saying it sounds like a good idea.'

Calum met with GHProductions and they tested the equipment. Posting on their social media page, they said: 'Tested out

the first live stream today out at Ganavan. Delighted to say it worked great.'

To produce weekly broadcasts in all weather though, the team will need a raised platform, a shelter and a power source. Gary

Hamilton of GHProductions said: 'We are all volunteers and want to ensure it stays that way. It is a community project.'

Oban LiveStreams is now on the hunt for businesses which would like to sponsor the stream to help fund its future. One person, who is unable to make it due to health reasons, thanked him for starting the project and said: 'The streams will make my weekends.'

Calum commented on a previous Oban Saints game for Oban FM. He said: 'I have wanted to do it again and thought why not live stream it as well.'

For more information or to help with the project, email ObanLiveStreams@hotmail.com or get in touch with Oban LiveStreams on social media.

Views sought on regional Marine Protected Area management

A new way of marine management will be in the spotlight at drop-in events across Argyll.

Members of the public are being encouraged to attend the meetings to hear about the Argyll Marine Protected Area Management and Monitoring project.

Argyll has been selected alongside the Outer Hebrides to trial regional marine protected area (MPA) management in Scotland as part of the project, funded through the INTERREG VA funding programme.

The events will take place at The Rockfield Centre, Oban, on Tuesday April 30 from 2pm to 8pm; Kintyre Community Education Centre, Campbeltown, on Wednesday May 1 from 2pm-8pm; and at Lochgilphead Community Education Centre on Thursday May 2 from 2pm-8pm.

Amie Williams, Argyll MPA planning and data project officer for Scottish Natural Heritage (SNH), is running the project in Argyll.

She said: 'This is a novel approach to marine management that we hope will be more user-friendly.'

'The development of the

Argyll MPA management plan will be guided by a steering group made up of representatives from various sectors such as tourism, aquaculture and local authorities, who will meet to discuss and direct regional MPA management in Argyll.

'The aim is to deliver resources that will be relevant to different sectors. For example, for the Argyll and Bute Council planners we might deliver information on how to prioritise overlapping designations.

'For the public we can provide more user-friendly information on the special nature of the marine environment of Argyll.

'By developing regional management while recognising the aspirations of maritime stakeholders, we hope to develop a shared vision for MPAs in Argyll.'

Argyll is home to a number

of MPAs, including three Nature Conservation MPAs, three Historic MPAs, which protect wrecks, and six Special Areas of Conservation, as well as numerous Special Protection Areas for birds, and Sites of Special Scientific Interest protecting species and habitats including flame shell beds, common skate, seals, common tern and harbour porpoise.

Until now, management has largely been site and feature specific, with little consideration of issues that could be managed regionally. To start discussions on which features and areas might be more important to stakeholders, SNH has launched an online survey to gather opinions about MPAs in Argyll and steer the project.

To view or take part in the survey, visit www.smartsurvey.co.uk/s/MarPAMM-Argyll



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Assisted travel booking time reduced

ScotRail has reduced the time needed to arrange assisted travel, from at least three hours in advance to two hours.

ScotRail's free assisted travel service is open to anyone needing support when travelling on one of its trains - from wheelchairs and prams to customers with visual impairments or large items of luggage.

Group's bid to improve mental health crisis care

by Kathie Griffiths
kgriffiths@obantimes.co.uk



People urged to share their A&E experience

People who have turned to accident and emergency for care during a mental health crisis are being asked how such experiences could be improved.

Sharing of people's first-hand experience is needed to help Argyll and Bute's Health and Social Care Partnership shape changes to make a difference in times of need.

'If we are going to do anything differently to improve how people can be helped when they go to accident and emergency when they are in crisis, we need to hear

from those who have already experienced it,' said Rachel McLean, a development manager at Acumen Network, a group of people who use mental health support and carers.

'It's such a sensitive issue that it's quite difficult to gather that kind of evidence, but it's quite likely to be the small changes that people would like to see that will make a big difference and we want to know what they are.

'Was there somewhere

separate for you to go? Did you feel safe? Did you get support? What worked well or could have been done better? We will put a report together from what we hear from people and pass it on so that accident and emergency departments can look at making things better.

'It's probably going to be quite easy to implement some things.

'It could be as simple as having a special space for people to talk or to put a person in

a taxi so they can get home,' added Mrs McLean.

Anyone interested in getting involved should email enquiries@acumennetwork.org to organise a conversation either on the phone or face-to-face or call 0141 847 8900.

'It's a conversation. There's no questionnaires to fill in. It'll be like having a good chat. We hope people will be happy to step forward and contribute,' said Rachel, who added: 'A lot of the time people are met by kindness and understanding when they get to A&E, but it doesn't resolve their mental health problems. They are calmed down and then leave and might not go back so there's a loss of information there that would be valuable to us and to others who turn to A&E for help.

'We know A&E staff are not skilled at dealing with mental health issues in the same way they are skilled at treating

physical injuries, but mental health units don't have an A&E for people to walk in off the street. When a mental health crisis hits, people or their families want them to see a doctor to get help as soon as possible.'

The project hopes to produce a report in May. All the information given will be anonymous and people taking part will be sent a copy.

Argyll and Bute's health and social care partnership chief and Oban councillor Kieron Green said: 'It is my hope that as we continue to improve mental health support available in communities fewer people will reach crisis point and require to attend accident and emergency. For those who do though it is important the services and environment best meet their needs. I would therefore encourage people to respond to Acumen's request for information.'

Driver in hospital after Easter crash

A 79-year-old driver is in a stable condition after a crash on the A85 near Tyndrum on Easter Sunday.

It happened just after 8am, two miles west of Tyndrum.

The injured woman, who was driving a Vauxhall Mokka, was taken to the Queen Elizabeth University Hospital in Glasgow.

A police spokesperson said it was believed no other car was involved. The road between Tyndrum and Dalmally was shut until it was safe for vehicles to pass. Enquiries are ongoing.

Entertainment at McCaig's Tower

Oban and Lorn Lions Club will present an evening of entertainment at McCaig's Tower on Thursday May 2 from 7pm - weather permitting.

Oban High School Pipe Band will be there, along with dancers.

GET INVOLVED
email us at editor@obantimes.co.uk

Community council condemns new Mull parking charges

by David McPhee
dmcphree@obantimes.co.uk



Iona Community Council (ICC) has condemned new parking charges on Mull and accused Argyll and Bute Council's leader of 'blindly undermining local businesses and island life'.

The community council said the proposed £9-a-day levy would make the car park at Fionnphort, which is the only connection to Iona, more expensive than some Edinburgh city centre parking.

ICC has challenged Argyll and Bute Council leader Aileen Morton and chief executive Cleland Sneddon to visit the island and justify the year-round fee. ICC wants the council to 'explain its complete failure to consult a single island resident or business'.

A spokesperson for Argyll and Bute Council said it carried out consultation on proposals for Mull in line with national requirements.

Shiona Ruhemann, convenor of ICC, said Iona must be one of the most 'industrious

little places in Scotland', adding: 'Now, without consulting people on this island before charging ahead with their Traffic Regulation Order, Argyll and Bute Council wants to come blundering in with an ill-thought out scheme that undermines those efforts, threatening our local economy for zero benefit. Part of Iona's charm is that visitors aren't permitted to bring cars onto the island, so these parking charges will affect our visitors unfairly, just as they will islanders heading to the mainland for a hospital appointment.'

With other car parks on the island, such as the one at Craignure also changed from free to charged for, Mrs Ruhemann added: 'All we are asking is that we retain the last remaining free longer-term parking that is vital to the flow of island life.'

Business owners on the island also expressed their concerns.

Michael Gordon of Iona Craft Shop said: 'Our centuries-old visitor economy is now being pushed towards the edge by a blinkered coun-

cil that has no sense of where we are and what we need to survive and prosper. These proposals must be scrapped.'

Mhairi Killin, who runs the jewellery business Aosdàna, said: 'We already work hard to overcome the challenges of being an island off an island, challenges that Argyll and Bute Council must surely be aware of given how consistently it fails to deliver its own basic service commitments.'

An Argyll and Bute spokesperson said: 'The council decided unanimously, at its budget meeting last year, to look at parking charges on Mull. We carried out consultation on proposals for Mull in line with national requirements, therefore the suggestion that no consultation has been undertaken is inaccurate. Iona Community Council was free to put forward their views to the consultation along with everyone else. Members of the area committee have agreed to meet with the community council on the island this week to listen to their concerns. Representations are still being considered.'

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OT

Businesses urged to think inclusive access

by Kathie Griffiths
kgriffiths@obantimes.co.uk



Businesses and motorists in Oban are being urged to think before blocking access routes in the town.

As the tourist season starts and the roads and streets become busier, Oban and District Access Panel is sending a message to people to be more mindful when it comes to parking and putting out merchandise displays or A boards.

Panel member Agnes McFadyen is appealing to shopkeepers to keep the streets outside their premises clear.

She said: 'People with disabilities have a lot of money to spend so businesses in the town are missing out if we can't get into them because of merchandise stands and A boards.'

The panel also wants busi-



Oban High School pupils Cameron Allen and George Croft have been check-listing businesses and facilities around the town for the new access guide.

nesses to think about how they can make access easier.

Agnes continued: 'We shouldn't have to press door buzzers to get help to get into

shops, there could be ramps. Heavy doors are a curse. People parking alongside drop kerbs are another curse. Half the people who do that,

do it out of stupidity.'

Mrs McFadyen from Dunbeg said another big problem, particularly for wheelchair users, was that drop kerbs around the town are not connected so people have to go on longer routes to get from A to B, or have to 'bump' themselves off the pavements to go along the road which is 'suicidal'.

She added: 'It's not just people with disabilities who struggle to get around Oban, it's people with prams and pushchairs. We shouldn't have to think all the time about how we are going to get about, and get on and off the pavements.'

'Our panel is just trying to make Oban more accessible to more people. Oban High School is also doing a survey with us so we can update our accessibility guide to the town and get a version online.'

The panel is also auditing all the current planning applications going before the council so it can have an input.

Panel secretary Ken Johnson said: 'The idea is that we can catch things before they happen and ultimately make the whole of Oban much more accessible to everyone. Businesses will find customers who have access issues are incredibly loyal if they can get in and will return time and time again.'

To contact the panel either call Mr Johnson on 01397 703689 or email obandisabilityforum@aol.co.uk

Also, Matheson's in Soroba Road has mobility scooters to lend out in return for a donation.

YOURSTORY
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Councillor voices concern over autism strategy

Concern has been raised about a lack of progress on a strategy for people with autism across Argyll and Bute.

But the chairman of the area's health and social care partnership (HSCP) insists a draft for the programme is almost ready for feedback from the relevant groups.

Councillor Kieron Green was responding to a comment from SNP councillor Anne Horn at a meeting of the full council on April 18.

Councillor Horn, who represents the Kintyre and the Islands ward, said: 'The group has not met for a long time. Members have worked for 10 years to get this strategy in place. There is real concern among the autism community and there is no evidence that the council is being pro-active on this.'

But Councillor Green said: 'Draft strategies for learning disabilities (Keys to Life) and autism have been written, with the autism draft now going to be taken out to consultation with appropriate groups.'

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Source: ABC/Icreg data as at 01/11/2016

Islands communities invited to power up at drop-in events

A power provider is inviting communities in Islay and Jura to hear about its multi-million-pound investment proposals to upgrade the network serving the islands.

As part of Scottish and Southern Electricity Networks' North of Scotland Resilience plan, it has committed to improve the quality of supply to homes and businesses experiencing more than three power cuts per year.

The initial works will see a £1 million refurbishment of the equipment on the existing electricity poles that serve Jura this summer then SSEN is proposing to install an additional wooden pole overhead line circuit between Port Askaig and Port Ellen

to further strengthen the resilience of Islay's electricity network.

Information events in Bowmore and Craighouse are being hosted so communities can meet the project team.

The dates are Tuesday, April 30 and Wednesday May 1 from 1pm to 8pm at Bowmore Village Hall and then Thursday May 2 from 1pm to 8pm at Jura Hall.

Ross Fenton, head of region at SSEN, said: 'We'd encourage community members to come along to the information events, meet our project teams and gain an insight into our proposed works to deliver a more robust electricity network and improve the service we provide to our customers.'

There are currently 500 wooden poles delivering electricity to the homes and businesses of Jura which have been in place for around 60 years. This £1 million investment will refurbish the existing poles and enhance the security of electricity supply across the island.

In Islay, the existing high voltage circuit runs from Lochgilphead to Carsaig Bay near Tayvallich, before crossing under the sound of Jura, down through the island and across the Sound of Islay to the south of Port Askaig, supplying Port Askaig, Bowmore and Port Ellen. This circuit then feeds into the 11 kilovolt (kV) network delivering power to the homes and businesses of Islay.

Adventure weekend makes a splash in Dalavich

Loch Awe Adventure weekend at Dalavich will see 10 St Ayles skiffs from around Scotland compete in a 14-mile race on Sunday April 28 starting at 10.30am. The fun starts tomorrow, April 26, with a free ceilidh at the social club and then a social row on Saturday with a hot buffet and music to follow. Camping is available. Go to Loch Awe Coastal Rowing Adventure on Facebook.





Mull Music Makers will continue without disruption thanks to the success of the crowdfunding campaign.

Photograph: Richard Kellet
Photography

Mull musicians' funding boost

Crowdfunders on Mull have hit their target to keep making music on the island, writes Kathie Griffiths.

Mull Music Makers suffered a major blow when its main funders turned down this year's bid but supporters have rallied round to make sure the project can play on.

With funds running low, the music makers had just weeks to smash the target of £5,000 after unexpectedly being turned down by Creative Scotland's Youth Music Initiative (YMI) for the first time in five years, which was a major blow, said project leader Laura Mandleberg.

The popular project was set up in 2013, bringing tutors to Mull every month to help children learn music through song, movement, performance and violin/fiddle tuition, as well as getting them

ready for performances and competitions. Last year some of the children were given the opportunity to perform a concert on the mainland with Nicola Benedetti.

One of the youngsters who has lessons with the project is nine-year-old Henry, who travels every month from his home on the mainland in Ardfern to join in.

'Mull Music Makers means more to Henry than music lessons; it is a group of friends who play together enjoying each other's company with tutors they know and trust who help them make music through a blend of discipline and fun that makes us all smile,' said his dad Geoffrey Small.

If the goal had not been reached, the project's core funding would have run out this month disrupting more than 40 students' music

education and affecting the summer school, which has run for more than 30 years as part of the Mendelssohn on Mull festival.

Ms Mandleberg said: 'The crowdfunder was very positive and we reached our target of £5,000 so we can keep the music going until the summer now.'

Mull Music Makers has been recommended to reapply for the next round of YMI funding but those funds do not become available until September 2019 which would have left a gap to keep the project going.

In just 28 days from when the crowdfunding appeal began, 68 supporters brought in £5,050.

See Mull Music Makers perform at Dervaig Village Hall on Friday May 3 at 4.30pm as part of a community celebration day.

Around Oban

KAY MCDONALD

editor@obantimes.co.uk



What a weekend we've just had.

The weather was fantastic, the town was chock-a-block and everyone was smiling.

It almost felt like an M&S advert: 'This isn't just any Easter Weekend, this is an Oban Easter Weekend.' With new businesses opening recently and all the painting and decorating, Oban looked amazing. I hope everyone enjoyed it as much as I did.

I'm raring to go for the summer and next up on the agenda is Oban and Lorne Strathspey and Reel Society's 75th anniversary Fiddlers' Rally in the Corran Halls this Saturday, April 27, followed by the Highlands and Islands

WHERE IS THIS?



Music and Dance Festival from Friday May 3 until Sunday May 5, bringing musicians and dancers from all over Scotland and further afield to the town.

If that is not enough to get your toes tapping, a visit to Oban Distillery on Friday May 3 for a tasting evening to raise funds for the Oban/Laurinburg sister city programme will help. Tickets from Pat Steeman at the distillery.

Oban is alive with music at the moment. Everywhere

you turn, one of our fantastic bands is playing or there are buskers on the streets.

On Wednesday May 8, we have an up-and-coming Scottish band called Gnos playing in the View for the first time.

The range and quality of music we are surrounded by is really exciting. I may just be noticing it now because Oban Live is approaching at a rate of knots and I'm getting excited.

Fingers, toes and eyes crossed that the weather continues to be kind to us.

Last week's photograph was of the Highlander in the window of Oban War and Peace Museum.

I haven't managed to pop in yet this year but it's definitely on my list of things to do.

This week's photograph requires a wee walk.

Invitation to celebrate as work starts to breathe new life into Rockfield

Refurbishment of the main building of The Rockfield Centre (TRC) starts next Monday, April 29, undertaken by Argyll firm TSL.

To celebrate this, Oban Communities Trust, which operates the centre, is hosting an informal get-together on May 10 with two open drop-in sessions in the community huts from noon-3pm and 4-7pm. The plans for the main building will be on show and the drop-in format will give everyone an opportunity to view these, meet the team involved and learn about existing clubs and activity.

Representatives from architects Page\Park, contractors TSL and the major funders will be there to answer any queries and share their vision for The Rockfield Centre.

'The vision to create a community cultural hub in the main building is now becoming a reality thanks to the support of our many funders and the wider community,' said Eleanor MacKinnon, project facilitator with Oban Communities Trust (OCT).

'We want to share the good

news with as many people as possible and welcome everyone to come along to celebrate on May 10.'

The year-long programme of works will see a new heating and plumbing system installed as well as major internal refurbishment, including upgrading of the existing windows. The work will be carried out in sympathy with the ethos of a Grade B listed building, retaining the character of the former primary school but presenting a light and airy modern interior for a wide range of uses.

Vision

Douglas Walker of Page\ Park Architects said they were all delighted to see the Rockfield Centre vision come to life: 'We look forward to working alongside Oban Communities Trust, TSL and the wider community to deliver this much-anticipated community cultural hub. This vital work will ensure a landmark community facility for many generations to come.'

OCT project manager Andrew Pinkerton, who has helped deliver a number of

community projects in the west of Scotland, said: 'It's always exciting when a project gets to the stage of work starting on site and it's a real benefit for the community that a local company has won the contract.'

'I am looking forward to working with the design team and TSL to make Rockfield Centre a reality for all those who have worked so hard to get it to this stage.'

Existing activities and space for hire will continue throughout the refurbishment process and new activities will be tested out, enabling everyone to get involved.

Pivotal to these activities has been support from many local trades and businesses and the centre's many volunteers have helped from the start using their wide range of skills to help stabilise the main building, refurbish the huts and help with activities.

OCT chairman Gordon McNab said: 'We are on our way with the next stage in the journey. Come along on May 10 and see the vision starting to take place.'

MarPAMM COMMUNITY EVENTS

Marine Protected Area Management and Monitoring (MarPAMM) is a project that aims to trial the production of Marine Protected Area (MPA) regional management in Argyll.

Come along to one of the three community drop-in events to find out more!

TUESDAY 30TH APRIL

The Rockfield Centre, Oban, 2pm-8pm

WEDNESDAY 1ST MAY

Kintyre Community Education Centre,
Campbeltown, 2pm-8pm

THURSDAY 2ND MAY

Lochgilphead Community Education Centre,
Lochgilphead, 2pm-8pm

For more information contact Amie Williams on

0300 244 9360



OT

Path opens after 10 years' planning

by Kathie Griffiths
kgriffiths@obantimes.co.uk



North Connel and Benderloch are finally connected by a protected pathway after 10 years of talks.

Last week saw the official opening of a new traffic-free link so walkers and cyclists can get between the two communities without having to use a busy trunk road with no pavements.

Funded by the Scottish Government and delivered by Sustrans Scotland, the new link on the National Cycle Network Route 78, which makes up The Caledonia Way, is the first milestone in a

programme of 50 similar UK-wide projects to fill in missing sections.

The 1.5km off-road stretch also means young people from North Connel can have a safer cycle route to school – and not get muddy.

The link opened after more than a decade of community and landowner discussions.

Lochnell pupils joined in a celebration and ribbon cutting last Wednesday at North Ledaig to mark the opening.

Resident Dr Andrew Henderson, who helped organise a petition calling for the extension along the coast of Route 78 in Ledaig, said: 'It will not only benefit the two communities but

also customers on the North Ledaig caravan site. It's a win, win situation.'

The benefits of the new path include being able to cycle safely while chatting with friends, not getting dirty on the way to school and staying clear of bumps and prickly bushes, according to Lochnell pupils.

Finn MacKechnie, nine, said: 'It's better because it's a wider path than we had before and if you fall off you won't end up getting prickled in the bushes. It's not bumpy like before and you can cycle with your friends by your side.'

Rachael Steward, 12, added: 'I like this path much better.' North Connel resident



The official ribbon cutting ceremony for the new Sustrans link.

Shane Rodwell is using the route to get to work in Barcaldine. 'It's taken minutes off my old route,' he said.

Parent Gail Taylor added: 'The children who cycle used to use an old muddy track to cycle to school but they'd be filthy by the time they got to school.'

The link at Ledaig is the first of the projects to reach completion, and is the first step towards Sustrans' goal of doubling the amount of traffic-free sections of the network to 10,000 miles by 2040.

Councillor Elaine Robertson said: 'I have been supporting the cycle path since 2003/4 and am delighted to have been present at this opening. My thanks to the community for their support, to all at Sustrans for their commitment to this project, to Transport Scotland,



Lochnell Primary School pupils get on their bikes to enjoy the new path between North Connel and Benderloch.

Argyll and Bute officers, the volunteers who keep the path in good order and to the landowner for allowing this to happen.'

John Lauder, national director of Sustrans Scotland, said: 'It's fantastic to see this

next traffic-free stretch of the Caledonia Way at Ledaig completed. With this section complete and construction of the next section at Keil Hill under way we will soon have a high quality route between Connel and Ballachulish.'

Justice for Elsie

Continued from page 2.

and enduring grief, they made our lives so much the richer because of their love and fortitude.'

The siblings spent the next few years digging around in archives, writing to anyone they thought could help, including then home secretary Theresa May, and latterly making TV appearances to talk about the case.

In 2015, after pressure from the family and new evidence coming to light, West Yorkshire Police reopened the case under the name Operation Plainlake.

It was then the file of Peter Pickering, known as the 'Beast of Wombwell', was discovered.

The Plainlake team found, hidden away in a string of lock-ups owned by Pickering, a stash of damning evidence in relation to another case as well as evidence demonstrating he was aware of Elsie's case.

A convicted child killer

and rapist, Pickering, 80, had been held in secure psychiatric accommodation for more than 45 years. In March 2018 he was found guilty of the violent rape of an 18-year-old woman in Sheffield in 1972. A week later Pickering died in custody.

In July last year the Frost family lobbied the Attorney General for a new inquest where they could ask that the evidence against Pickering be looked at again.

Their request was granted in December 2018 with the attorney general stating: 'I am satisfied there is new evidence available that was not put before the previous inquest and I believe it is in the interests of justice for the application for a new inquest to be heard by the High Court.'

Now a mother and grandmother, Anne has immersed herself in the community since arriving on Mull. She and her late husband, also called Colin, took over Mull Print from which they pub-



Anne Cleave.

lished Round & About, the island's community newspaper until 2003.

Among her many, varied roles, Anne chairs Mull Historical and Archaeological Society, and Argyll and Bute Museums and Heritage



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Steve's puppets shine a light on Easdale

Youngsters and their families headed over to Easdale on Good Friday to make new mini-mates at a puppet show, writes Kathie Griffiths.

Puppeteer Steve Smart, who grew up in Taynuilt, was on the island to present The Lighthouse Keeper's Tale, made from objects found on a beach.

The enchanting show was part of this year's Puppet Animation Festival, taking more than 150 performances to 80 venues across Scotland and the north of England.

The Lighthouse Keeper's Tale tells the story of Tom who fishes by the jaggedy

rocks and watches out for ships. In the one and only café in the quaint little village where he lives, his friend Belle makes delicious ice cream for her happy customers.

Everything is fine and dandy until one day a wild storm brews up and forces Belle, who has been keeping a secret, to reveal a 'tail' of her own to help save Tom.

Keeping it in the family, Mr Smart's parents Don and Ivy Smart ran their own Black Box marionette theatre company from Taynuilt at one time and used to have the village post office.

Steve went to Taynuilt

Primary School and Oban High School before training at Norwich Puppet Theatre and joining his parents' company in 1982, touring the Highlands and islands from Gigha to Shetland.

In 1985, Steve went his own way to start up his Clyde Built Puppet Theatre, taking the name from the famous Clyde built ships whose motto was 'solid, reliable and never let you down'.

'I thought that was a pretty good reason to come up with our name.

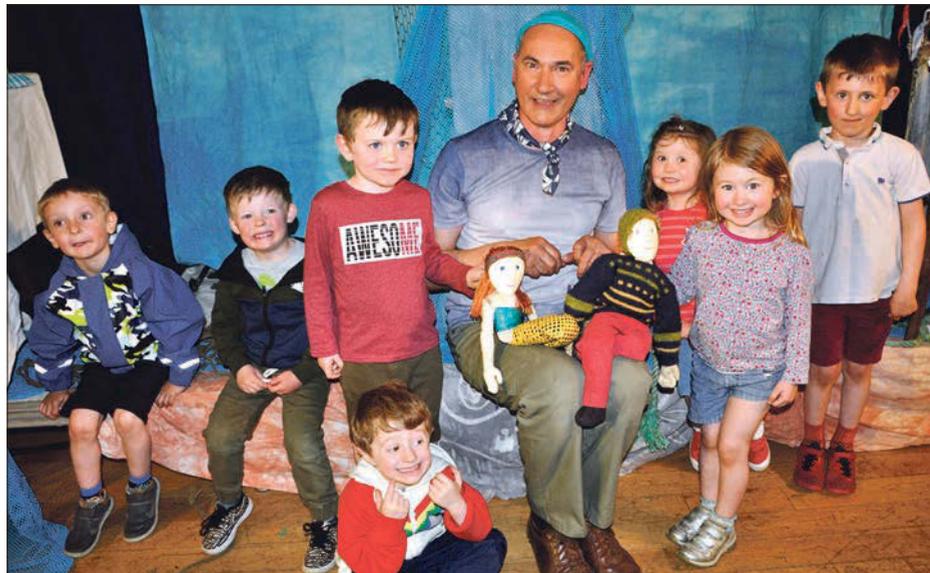
'We've stuck by it, only ever letting a venue down once and that was when a pheasant ran out in front of the van and took out the power steering,' said Steve who is now based in Fife and working with puppeteer Leigh McCalister.

The pair take their shows throughout Scotland and 'down into the depths of England', effectively covering Land's End to John O'Groats. They have also been out to China three times.

'You will always know where I've been because under the lights I always put a bit of black tape so the hall keepers know which ones I need switching off,' said Steve who was visiting Easdale for the third time with his rod puppets.



Steve Smart with Tom the lighthouse keeper.



Above: Youngsters getting hands-on with the puppets after watching The Lighthouse Keeper's Tale.



Left: Steve Smart was on Easdale with his puppet show on Good Friday.

e a step closer

'It's in the front of your mind all the time, every day. Why did my sister, a young girl full of prospects die like this?

her computer. It is a Prunus Autumnalis Subhirtella rosea, the same type the Mayor of Wakefield planted at the crematorium when the family held a memorial service on October 9, 2015 - 50 years to the day since Elsie's murder.

'I call it my Elsie tree,' said Anne. 'It flowers around February 7, Elsie's birthday.'

Anne now hopes the family will get answers and that her beloved sister Elsie can at last rest in peace.

'It's not something you can put to the back of your mind. It's in the front of your mind all the time, every day. Why did my sister, a young girl full of prospects die like this?

'I think that's why I have kept myself so busy over the years. Because if I am busy doing things, it isn't in the front of my mind. It's still there but it isn't pervading everything.

'The new inquest won't be able to name anyone, but it means West Yorkshire Police can reveal publicly the

evidence they found against Pickering being the perpetrator of my sister's murder. And to us, that is the key thing.'

Anne thanks the following for their support and much valued help over the course of the campaign:

'First and foremost Colin Frost, my brother, who is almost 12 years younger than me.

'He lives in Wakefield and has been the front man of Team Frost since we got Elsie's case back in the public arena in 2015.

'My son Martin, who was only nine months old when Elsie was murdered, and my daughter Joanne, who lives on Vancouver Island with her husband and children.

'Then there are my extended family and friends in Yorkshire and on Mull, the Operation Plainlake team at West Yorkshire Police, everyone who supported our appeal on the CrowdJustice website and, last but not least, our fantastic legal team.'

Forum. From 2009 to 2017 she studied with the Open University, gaining a BA (Hons) in literature and an MA with Merit in English.

In her garden at home, Anne has planted a tree, which she can see when sitting at

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OT

One giant step for Robin as Laura dips toe in Argyll water

by Fiona Scott
fscott@obantimes.co.uk



Long-standing podiatrist Robin Saxby is retiring after 20 years in the job, with new girl on the block Laura Welsh stepping in to fill his shoes.

Robin has had chiropody nailed during his time in Argyll, ensuring foot health in the region is in tip top condition and that those passing through his care leave walking tall.

The 56-year-old will now pull on his climbing boots to conquer a mountain or two before finally putting his own feet up. He told the Oban Times: 'It is a bit sad to be leaving but I am doing so now because I'm a keen mountaineer and want to spend more time in the mountains while I am still able.'

Robin plans to hang up his nail clippers in May and is heading off to the Alps for a more heady challenge in the summer.

University graduate Laura,



Outgoing podiatrist Robin Saxby welcomes his successor Laura Welsh.

from Glasgow, starts today (Thursday April 25) and while most of her work will concentrate on podiatry, she will add a bit of polish if her clients so desire.

'I will be offering a deluxe podiatry treatment which includes a gel finish which may appeal to some ladies in the summer,' she explained. My degree covers everything

from corn removal to acupuncture, so I feel comfortable taking over from Robin and continuing his good work.'

A former NHS nurse, Robin conceded podiatry has moved on a few steps since he first started and that the region's feet would be in good hands when he leaves.

'Podiatry/chiropraxy is now

a degree profession which it wasn't when I first came into it,' he explained.

'That being the case, Laura is more advanced in what she can offer than me.'

Because general foot care treatments such as hard skin removal, corn treatments and toenail clipping are no longer available on the NHS, private podiatrists are more in demand. However, Laura will also be working as a professional colleague of NHS Highland should any of her clients require medical attention.

'It would be unethical of me to treat and charge for some treatments that my clients could get for free, so I would advise people in that instance to contact their GP.'

Having started his working life as a nurse in accident and emergency, Robin has thoroughly enjoyed his time working in Argyll and meeting people from different walks of life, while Laura is keen to get started.

MacPhail

ANGUS MACPHAIL

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Witnessing people in an environment in which they are totally at home is a satisfying experience.

Last week I was on a day trip from Holy Loch, Dunoon, on a converted fishing boat, accompanied among others by my friend, 81-year-old Alec Thorburn, an ex-fisherman originally from Fisherrow, Musselburgh. He is the great uncle of Rory Thorburn Grindlay, who plays drums in the band, and when we were offered the opportunity to take the trip, we thought Alec would be the perfect person to join us.

The boat we were on, Splendour, was built in 1959 by Jones's yard of Buckie at around the same time that Alec, aged just 21, had his own first boat, Honestas, built. Seeing Alec looking totally at home in the surroundings, especially when he took the helm, and hearing his stories and recollections of fishing days gone by, were the highlights of an enjoyable day. As well as being a great storyteller, Alec is also a fine singer and he recently recorded backing vocals on our recording of the song below.

As we steamed up the Kyles of Bute, Alec was talking of the huge number of boats, fishermen and families that, in his time, had fished in that area. Changed days when compared with the present time.

Last of the Hunters, Angus MacPhail

*Here's a health to the fishermen who plough the lonely sea
And battle with the ocean where it's in their blood to be.*

Dear the fruitful bounty of the blind and savage foam.

They're the last of the hunters, and they're proudly sailing home.

Away to the fishing ground against a flooding tide

The hunters of the wild, now the last in our time.

Through living gale and storm they sail, the crystal sea

they roam.

They're the heart of every harbour when the boats come sailing home.

Chorus

*Sailing home, sailing home,
The last of the hunters sailing home.*

From the mighty fleets of Yarmouth to the deep-sea ships of Hull,

The famous Fleetwood trawlers all have suffered from the cull;

In Lossiemouth, Lochinver, Fisherrow and Pittenweem

Golden days in memory, but now a fading dream.

Quiet now the harbours where the distant echo rings,

Eriskay and Scalpay where the herring men were kings;

Laden deep for Stornoway, the skipper's chair a throne

Legends of the sea and still their ghosts are sailing home.

A realm of strong intrepid men and heroes of renown

A shadow of the past, traded off and torn down;

The pawns in politicians' games, lives ravaged to the bone

But still they go to sea and still the boats come sailing home.

And in Newlyn, Plymouth, Weymouth, Poole, The Wash and Grimsby town,

North Shields and Eyemouth, Peterhead, the Broch, they'll hold their ground.

Orkney, Shetland and the Hebrides, in Oban and Kintyre

Kilkeel, the Isle of Man and Killybegs, they will not die.

So we'll toast the Mallaig trawlers and the creel men of the West,

Pelagic ships of Whalsay and the seiners of Caithness,

Brixham beamers, Cornish crabbers, and in every pier and cove

We'll give a welcome at the harbour when the boats come sailing home.

Special fiddlers' rally marks society's 75th anniversary

A special Fiddlers' Rally Concert will be held in Oban this Saturday.

The annual event is organised by the Oban and Lorne Strathspey and Reel Society, which celebrates its 75th

anniversary this year. The concert, featuring guest artistes Paul Anderson and Paul MacCallum, will take place in the Corran Halls from 7.30pm.

Tickets cost £10 or £9 for concessions.

The society was founded in 1944 by the late Charlie Hunter and the first concert was held the following year. In 1968, the society decided to hold an annual rally to attract fiddlers from all over Scotland.

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A-Boards still at council depot

This week marks a month since unauthorised advertisement boards were uplifted in Oban, however, a number are still lying in Argyll and Bute Council's yard.

The decision was taken to remove the A-Boards on March 22, however, it was a controversial one, as the council failed to notify business owners beforehand.

The council later apologised and owners were able to

collect their sign, as well as being encouraged to apply for an advertising permit.

When asked about the A-Boards still in the depot, an Argyll and Bute Council spokesperson said: 'Businesses can still collect street signs from the Mill Park depot. Please contact us to let us know you are coming. We have clear guidance for anyone wanting to use A-Boards for advertising.'

Wind farm funding boost

by Kathie Griffiths
kgriffiths@obantimes.co.uk



Defibrillators and new village hall lights are two of five community projects to benefit from Carraig Gheal Wind Farm funding.

As part of the latest funding round, Dalmally is getting £3,000 to install defibrillators at either end of the village and Kimelford and Kilninver Village Hall is receiving £7,000 for new lights.

Kilmore and Kilbride Village Hall will receive a facelift thanks to £7,000 from the fund for new rendering and insulation to two of its external walls.

Kilchrenan, Inverinan and Dalvich Coastal Rowing Club has been awarded £4,090 to paint a second skiff and buy equipment, and Friends of Kilbride will use its £7,000 to remove an invasion of ivy putting its historic MacDougall Memorial Aisle at risk.

Applications for the last funding round were considered at the April meeting of the Carraig Gheal Wind Farm Community Benefit Fund Steering Group. The group is made up of two representatives from each of the five community council areas that benefit from the fund.

The total number of main grants approved since the

fund began is 44, with more than £220,000 being awarded.

The fund also offers grants of up to £500. So far, 48 of these have been given out, totalling £9,250.

The next funding round for larger grants will open on Wednesday May 1 with the closing date Wednesday July 31. The steering group will meet at the beginning of October to decide which applications to approve and how much to award.

To find out how to apply for either of the grants go to the Carraig

Gheal website or email jennifer@greenpowerinternational.com



Kilchrenan Inverinan and Dalvich Coastal Rowing Club are one of the five projects to receive funding from the Carraig Gheal Wind Farm Community Benefit Fund Steering Group.

A85 overnight roadworks at Lochawe

Essential road repairs to the A85 through Lochawe started on Tuesday night.

The overnight improvements will take four nights to complete. Work will be carried out between 7pm and 6am, with work due to be completed by 6am on Monday April 29. No work is planned for Friday or Saturday nights.

The A85 will be closed in both directions during working hours. There will be a signed diversion via the A828 and A82, which is subject to a height restriction of 13'9" (4.2m) at Connel Bridge. Vehicles higher than this are encouraged to plan an alternative route.

Alternatively, vehicles will be escorted through the roadworks at 7.30pm, 8.30pm, 9.30pm, 11pm, 1am, 3am and 5am each night.

Access for local residents and businesses will be maintained and emergency services will be able to pass through the works at all times. The road will be fully open during the day.

Tobermory RNLI volunteer crew help fish farm vessel

Tobermory RNLI's volunteer crew went to the aid of a drifting fish farm vessel and mooring in Tobermory Bay.

The alarm was raised on Wednesday April 17 by Tobermory RNLI's off-duty deputy launching authorities (DLA) Nick Ray, who lives aboard a yacht in the bay. Nick had spotted the

eight-metre fish farm boat drifting across the harbour, still attached to its mooring in Force 5 south-easterly winds. Coxswain David McHaffie consulted the on-duty DLA and the UK Coastguard and Tobermory RNLI's volunteer crew launched their Severn-class lifeboat Elizabeth Fairlie Ramsey at 11.15am and within two

minutes were alongside the fish farm boat which was drifting close to the CalMac pier. Two crew members were put aboard and established no-one was on board. Volunteer crew started the engine, slipped the lines and recovered the boat to the pontoons. Once the vessel had been secured, another fish farm vessel was spotted

entering the bay. On being briefed by the lifeboat crew, the fish farm vessel recovered the mooring. The lifeboat returned to her berth and was made ready for service at 11.45am.

David McHaffie said: 'We have had very strong south-easterly gales of late which may have caused the mooring to fail.'

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OT



The Oban youngsters visited the Empire State Building.

Oban band enjoys big experience in the Big Apple

Oban High School Pipe Band returned from their whistle-stop tour of New York last week with memories to last a lifetime.

As well as wowing the crowds while taking part in the famous Tartan Day Parade down Sixth Avenue, band members visited many of the Big Apple's attractions during the five days they were there.

The group visited the Empire State Building; Top of the Rock (Rochefeller Building); Freedom Tower; Staten Island Ferry to see the Statue of Liberty; Central Park; Times Square; Yankee's Stadium; Tiffany's; Madam Tussaud's; Ripley's and the Believe it Or Not exhibition.

They also sang their hearts out at the famous Ellen's Stardust Diner and played to an international crowd in Bryant Park.



The band at Bryant Park.



Band members all smiles outside Ellen's Stardust diner.



Left to right: Oban High School staff Morven Gage, Peter Bain (head teacher), Nan Johnstone and band leader Pipe Major Angus MacColl at Glasgow airport.





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Nelly back on road watch duty

Road safety scarecrow Nelly is back after a make-over.

Hi-vis Nelly has taken up her post again by the side of the busy A828 close to Lochnell Primary School, Benderloch.

She was the idea of parents and villagers campaigning against speeding traffic.

First Minister Nicola Sturgeon has also been lobbied for action, along with Transport Scotland, BEAR Scotland, the police, Argyll and Bute Council

and Ardchattan Community Council.

Last week school mum Beth Davies returned Nelly to the roadside after a freshen-up following a hard winter.

'We've just heard from BEAR Scotland that they want to meet with us again so we're hoping that's a positive sign,' said Mrs Davies.

Road safety campaigning mum Beth Davies with son Finlay and Nelly the roadwatch scarecrow.



Above: The band marches past Radio City and, left, a visit to the Yankee Stadium was another highlight for the young musicians.

Oban duo fly the flag for Fingal

Two Oban men were proud to be in attendance when the Northern Lighthouse Board (NLB) ensign was handed over to Fingal, The Royal Yacht Britannia's luxury floating hotel, in Leith.

Graham Crerar, chairman of the Northern Lighthouse Board, and Bob Downie, chief executive of The Royal Yacht Britannia, were present recently as the flag was hoisted again after 19 years.

Launched in August 1963, Fingal was the last ship built by the Blythswood Shipbuilding Company, Glasgow.

She was Leith-registered, but spent most of her NLB service working out of Oban for 30 years, followed by her last six years in Stromness, Orkney.

Bought by The Royal Yacht



Bob Downie and Graham Crerar at Fingal Flag Handover on March 22.

Britannia in 2016, Fingal finally berthed at Edinburgh's historic Port of Leith and has been transformed into a boutique hotel.

Mr Crerar said: 'We are delighted Fingal is once again

flying NLB's blue ensign from her stern. While the ship has been transformed to prepare her for the new role, The Royal Yacht Britannia has made a fantastic job of retaining and enhancing

some of her original features and the story of her former life as a lighthouse tender is highlighted throughout the ship. All 23 cabins are named after famous Stevenson lighthouses and reflect Fingal's rich maritime heritage.

'We therefore thought it fitting for this historic ship to once again fly the NLB ensign. We are delighted to be helping make this terrific addition to Leith a success.'

Mr Downie added: 'Growing up in Oban, I was aware of the fantastic job the Northern Lighthouse Board provides to keep mariners safe at sea and Fingal was very much a part of that success story for more than 36 years.'

'It is therefore a privilege for us to fly the Northern Lighthouse Board ensign from such a historic ship.'



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BUSINESS NEWS

'One Council' property approach delivers results

Argyll and Bute Council's 'One Council' approach to property management has raised more than £3 million in its first 11 months of operation.

With more than 1,700 buildings and parcels of land, the council transformed its approach to estate management to help meet the challenge of ongoing cuts in funding.

All council property now comes under one team, tasked with delivering a proactive, commercially astute management service.

A report considered at the meeting of council Thursday April 18 set out key progress achieved to date, including:

Sale of property across Argyll and Bute – for example, the sale of land at Tighnabruich to Fyne Homes to build 15 new homes;

New property options made available for local businesses – for example, through leasing of desk spaces in council-owned offices;

New uses created for property – for example, Tighnabruich Pier is now licensed as a wedding venue;

Reduction in property costs to the council – for example; by relocating more staff teams into council-owned offices;

Reduction in consultancy fees by developing the council's in-house estate agency and valuations service.

The report also sets out plans in place for developing this approach, including progressing additional, under-offer property sales of £2 million and matching council estate use to market demand in tourism, business and other sectors.

Councillor Rory Colville said: 'I welcome the progress being made by the One Council approach. These are extremely difficult times for councils. We must transform how we work to deal with significant cuts in funding. Raising income and developing uses for our estate ultimately will benefit our communities.'

Portal helps firms in Highlands and Islands

An extended online portal that helps small to medium enterprises in the Highlands and Islands find new business opportunities from large contracts was launched earlier this month.

The Open4Business (O4B) portal was originally set up in 2012 by SSE to link supply chain firms with large SSE construction projects.

In just over five years, it led to more than £174 million in contracts to local businesses, contributing directly to the economic well-being and sustainable development of many communities across the region.

'In just over five years, it led to more than £174 million in contracts to local businesses'

In 2018, SSE passed O4B to Highlands and Islands Enterprise (HIE) so it could be extended to include new industries and developers and encourage them to advertise their requirements on the portal.

HIE has now appointed Inverness Chamber of Commerce to promote and manage the portal for the next two years. The two organisations will work together to further develop the platform, to include opportunities in other key sectors.

There will be an emphasis on recruiting new contractors to push their upcoming works through the service, opening up more opportunities for Highlands and Islands businesses.

The increasing energy-related activity across the region – onshore and offshore - creates new opportunities for local supply chain firms. It also allows top tier contractors to get a strong appreciation of what is available locally.

Elaine MacRae, head of energy strategy at HIE, said: 'The Open4Business portal has been fantastic in bringing opportunities direct to local businesses and enabling top tier companies to find out what is available locally. 'We congratulate SSE for creating this tre-



In 2018, SSE passed O4B to Highlands and Islands Enterprise to run it from its An Lòchran campus. Photograph: Tim Winterburn / HIE

mendous asset and are delighted to be working with the Inverness Chamber team to take it to the next stage. In the next two years we can expect the portal to expand its reach in a way that will benefit even more local firms across the region and beyond the energy sector.'

Nolan Miller, SSE strategic supplier manager, said: 'We are very proud of what the Open4Business platform has achieved to date and we are excited to see what the next chapter will bring.'

'In working with HIE and Inverness Chamber of Commerce, we are confident the O4B portal will continue to grow and go from strength to strength, reaching across multiple industry sectors and widening the opportunities for local businesses.'

'SSE will remain a stakeholder in the Open4Business portal and most importantly, we will continue to drive business opportuni-

ties into the portal from our various projects across Scotland.'

Stewart Nicol, chief executive of Inverness Chamber of Commerce, added: 'I'm delighted to be running the Open4Business programme for HIE. Open4Business Highlands and Islands is a great resource for businesses of all sizes, delivering projects across the region.'

'Programmes such as this are really important to Inverness Chamber and other Highland-based Chambers, as we connect, support and represent our memberships and the whole of the SME community across the Highlands and Islands region.'

Businesses not already registered on the portal can do so in around five minutes by visiting www.04b-highlandsandislands.com.

More information is available at <https://www.inverness-chamber.co.uk/events/event/open4business-highlands-and-islands-launch>

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Pierhouse Hotel bought by new company

Scots-born hotelier Gordon Campbell Gray is coming home to launch a new hotel collection ... and the clue is in the name.

His new company, The Wee Hotel Company, plans to develop and invest in special properties around Scotland and will be looking for suitable opportunities.

The Pierhouse Hotel and Seafood Restaurant at Port Appin has just been announced as The Wee Hotel Company's first purchase.

The Pierhouse is tucked away on the shores of Loch Linnhe, with breathtaking views to the islands of Lismore and Mull. The small hotel and renowned Scottish seafood restaurant is one of Argyll's most idyllic and romantic destinations.

Port Appin has just been named as one of the best places in the UK to live, and Gordon could not agree more.

Over the course of this year there will be additional



The Pierhouse Hotel at Port Appin.

investment in facilities while maintaining and enhancing the Pierhouse's reputation for outstanding Scottish seafood and genuine hospitality.

Launching The Wee Hotel Company, Gordon explained his decision to focus on home.

He said: 'I've been lucky enough to live and work in many

countries across the world but I really feel that few can rival the sheer magnificence of Scotland when it comes to scenery, food and drink, and I'm now ready to come home.

'I live in Argyll and realised one day that I always had that going back to school feeling when I was leaving to head off on

more travels, so I finally said to myself - then why am I leaving?'

Gordon is passionate about the environment, encouraging other hoteliers to do more to reduce waste and take better care of the planet. He was named Hotelier of the Year by Hotel & Caterer in 2002, received the Leading Legend award by Leading Hotels of the World at their annual convention in Tokyo in 2010 and also received the Outstanding Contribution to the Hotel Industry award at the Hotel Cateys in London the following year.

Gordon continued: 'For several years I've wanted to come home to Scotland. The Wee Hotel Company is the result of this ambition and the start of an exciting new chapter in my life.'

The Wee Hotel Company will give guests an introduction to Scottish hospitality in stylish, contemporary surroundings. Further acquisitions will be announced in the coming weeks.

SSC launches new flagship feed barge

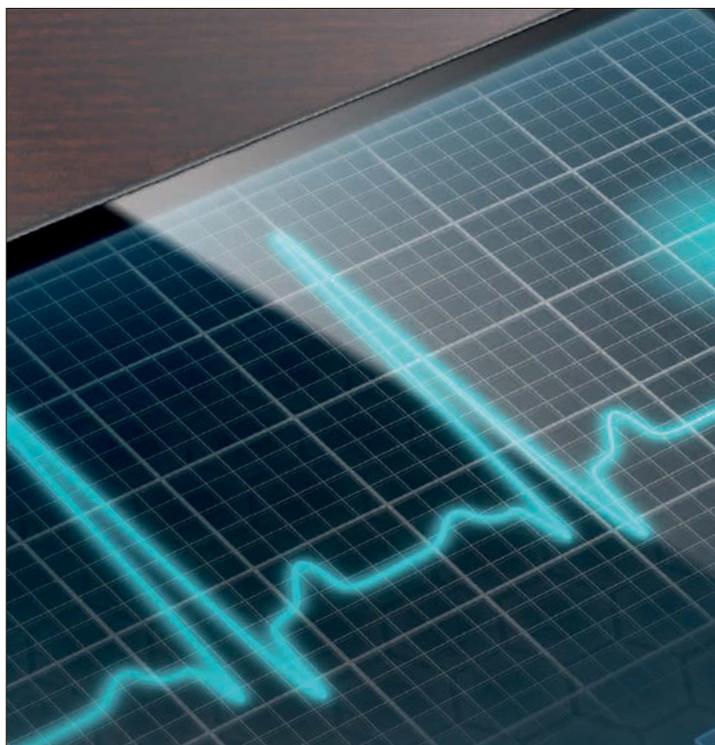
The Scottish Salmon Company (SSC) has launched a new state-of-the-art SeaMate feed barge and office at Portree following an increase in capacity of 2,000 tonnes earlier this year.

SSC is the leading producer of Scottish salmon, employing nearly 600 people across 60 sites on the West Coast and the Hebrides.

The newly finished barge represents a significant investment in the company's operational infrastructure in the area, and has seen the creation of three new jobs, with more to be added this year.

The 400-tonne, 14-metre SeaMate feed barge was built by Gael Force Group in Inverness and is fitted with innovative and highly sophisticated SeaFeed technology, including an eight-line feeding system and barge design offering the highest of safety standards. This new system is a first for SSC and was exclusively designed and manufactured in Scotland by Gael Force.

Craig Anderson, SSC chief executive, said: 'The launch of this barge and office highlights our commitment to the area, supporting Scottish businesses and creating new jobs in rural communities.'



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Stirling conference celebrates value of Scotland's archives

The Why Archives Matter: Heritage Memory and Identity conference last week showed how archives tell the story of Scotland, provide us with a sense of identity and are essential tools in understanding and caring for the country's rich heritage.

The conference in Stirling was organised by the Scottish Council on Archives and supported by the National Records of Scotland, Historic Environment Scotland and the Built Environment Forum Scotland.

Why Archives Matter: Heritage, Memory and Identity was the second in a series of conferences to promote greater awareness of the importance and usefulness of archives to many different sectors, including education, architecture, cultural heritage, archaeology and genealogical research.

John Pelan, director of the Scottish Council of Archives, said: 'Archives are the documented memory of the nation. They tell our stories, enrich our lives, connect us with the past and give us a sense of identity.'

'Why Archives Matter highlighted some of the many ways in which archives underpin every aspect of society.'

Cabinet Secretary for Culture Fiona Hyslop added: 'We can properly understand Scotland as it is today by understanding the stories of those who came before us. Archives help keep those stories alive and give us all a real sense of what it was like to live, learn and work through the generations.'

Paul Lowe, Keeper of the Records of Scotland, said: 'Archives and records are vital and relevant to our lives, health and wellbeing and provide a unique insight into the history of people, past and present. National Records of Scotland preserves the primary records for understanding all aspects of our history.'



Fiona Hyslop MSP.

Rare moorland visi

Morvern lines

IAIN THORNER

ian.thorner@btinternet.com



Of all the wild birds we have in Great Britain, my favourites are the waders.

In winter, Argyll's estuaries, bays and wetlands offer perfect conditions for them to thrive. A wading bird describes a water bird with long legs found trundling along shore lines and ferreting around bogs and ditches in search of food. Waders range in size, shape and colour and usually, but not always, have a long bill.

As with all animals, the physiology of wading birds is integral to their existence. Long legs enable them to forage in deep water, while elongated, agile toes help them to balance in fast currents and unstable mud and peat bogs.

Their bills, too, vary in length and shape, depending on their food preferences, but are often long and slightly curved. And powerful neck muscles allow some species, such as herons, to spear their prey.

The list for the Highlands and islands is long and includes curlew, dunlin, snipe, knot, lapwing, oystercatcher, red and green shank, sanderling and ringed and golden plover to name just a few.

Lapwings, their metallic-green plumage, proud crest and stiff wing beat in flight, are telltale, as is their wheezing 'swanny whistle' call. They were once common in Morvern along the Sound of Mull, Loch Sunart and on the moors of the high glens, but their numbers, like the curlew, have plummeted due to changes in farming practices and land management where the plough and the harrow have been almost completely replaced by the planting spade and the ubiquitous blanket squares of uniform conifer acidifying soils and rivers.

The common snipe, whose scientific name is *Gallinago gallinago* has 13 different names in the Gaelic language; it is usually shy and conceals itself close to ground vegetation and rises into the air only when approached closely. When flushed, it utters a sharp note and disappears in a series of aerial zig-zags to confuse predators.

So long as there is a snipe on a bog, a feather in her tail, or a beak on her, is an old Gaelic saying meaning 'always'.



They forage in soft mud, probing or picking up food by sight and mainly eat insects and earthworms, also some plant material.

The male performs 'winnowing' display during courtship, flying high in circles and then taking shallow dives to produce a 'drumming' sound by vibrating its tail feathers. This sound has been compared over the years by ornithologists worldwide to the bleating of a sheep or goat, which is why in the Highlands it is called in Gaelic 'Meannan-adhair' (small kid of the air) and the 'heather-bleater'. In Finland, it is 'taivaanvuohi' (the sky goat); in France 'Chevre volant' (flying goat) and in Germany, Himmel-Geiss (also sky-goat).

It was Philip Manson-Bahr, a zoologist and surgeon from Trinity College, Cambridge, who unravelled what for many years was the mystery of how snipe make that distinctive sound unlike any other birdsong. He worked out that it was created by placing two tail

feathers at 90 degrees to the direction of flight. He demonstrated this in front of the British Ornithologists' Union by inserting two snipe feathers into a cork which he then whirled around his head on a string.

Common snipe nest in a well-hidden locations, laying four eggs of a dark olive colour, blotched and spotted with rich brown, which are incubated by the female for 18 to 21 days. The freshly hatched young are covered in dark maroon down, variegated with black, white and buff.

Seton Gordon (1886-1977), the world-famous Scottish writer and naturalist, found snipe breeding plentifully at 1,500 feet above sea-level in the Forest of Gaick and near Loch Eunach, among the Cairngorms, at a height of close on 2,000 feet.

Many snipe migrate south to the Mediterranean regions and along the Red Sea. From here they make their way through Persia



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itor to Argyll



Spot the bird? Possibly the first photograph of a live Jack Snipe to be taken in the Highlands but its natural camouflage makes it hard to see. A hint is at the foot of this column.

Photograph: Iain Thornber

by man. It is thought not to nest here although Seton Gordon, writing in his *Hill Birds of Scotland* (1915), mentions an authenticated case of it nesting in Sutherland in 1914.

In 1848, a jack snipe was seen on an island in Loch Scadabhagh, South Uist, in June but no nest was found. Several others were recorded in the autumn migration at Monach Island off the west coast of North Uist in 1887 and of one being shot at Hamara on Skye in 1884.

In the *Fauna of Argyll and the Inner Hebrides* (1892), J A Harvie-Brown and T E Buckley, recorded them as occasional and rare visitors to Iona, Eigg, Barcaldine, Benderloch, Torcastle, Kingairloch and Mull. Numerous in Tiree but local in the situations chosen for their feeding or resting ground. Evidently Tiree was, and I understand still is, a popular haunt of the common snipe, as 641 were killed there in 1890 by two guns in seven days.

Today jack snipe are protected in Scotland but, sadly, not in Ireland yet where they are regularly shot nearly always at the end of a drive by guns who mistake them for what they call 'full snipe' - eg, the common species.

Having shot with the convivial Irish, however, I have a feeling this may be more to do with the after effects of the alfresco lunch rather than a serious attempt to reduce their numbers. Traditionally, jacks are supposed to be the tastiest of the three. I hope it won't be long before all species of snipe and woodcock shooting is banned when we eventually leave the EU.

Earlier this month I was fortunate to see and photograph a jack snipe in Morvern. It rose in front of my vehicle on a rough hill track about 800 feet above sea-level and landed on a stony peat incline covered with dead molinia grass.

Its behaviour was exactly as described in the text books, 'freezing' in one spot allowing me to approach to within three feet before taking off and descending a few yards away. Doubtless it was making its way back to Scandinavia.

A tired little fellow, I hope its stopover in Morvern gave it sufficient strength for the long journey ahead.

Look to three o'clock from the white stone to see the bird.

and India, and are found also in Sri Lanka, Burma, China and Japan. There are three types of snipe in Europe: common, great and jack. The last is the rarest and smallest (seven inches) and the most difficult to spot.

It is soon distinguished in flight because, unlike the other two, it only jukes about for a short time before dropping again quickly and is usually silent on being disturbed. When it does call, the note is muffled and throbbing and sounds like a galloping horse: unlike its relations it has no white on the tail or a pale stripe in the middle of the head. It is the undoubted master of camouflage, always finding the most suitable place to land to match its colour and markings.

The jack snipe breeds in Norway, Sweden, Holland and northern Germany, and comes only as a winter visitor and passage migrant to the British Isles, giving credence to the statement that none of its eggs has ever been taken

DOWN MEMORY LANE

We delve into The Oban Times archives to bring you faces and places from yesteryears



We turn the clock back to February of 1993 this week with a picture showing the ladies of Achnacloch WRI and their guest, John Little, who gave a presentation on photography.



This photograph dates back to January 1993 and shows parents and children from Croileagan, Morar, who are to have their own Gaelic playgroup in Morar Village Hall.



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OT

LETTERS

Write to us: send your letters to editor@obantimes.co.uk
or The Editor, PO Box 1, Oban, Argyll PA34 4HBFamily's tenacity
is an inspiration

This news this week that Anne Cleave and her family have won an appeal to open a new inquest into her sister's murder more than 50 years after the event is a testament to love.

Elsie Frost was just 14 when she was stabbed to death in Wakefield. Despite a lack of evidence, a deputy coroner decided a 33-year-old man was to blame. The case was thrown out, but that man had to live with the stigma for the rest of his life and Elsie's family, who never believed he was guilty, had to live with the fact that Elsie's killer was still out there.

Few of us will ever be able to understand what they must have gone through – the grief, the anger, the frustration, the pain.

But, despite that, the love remained and the strength to continue the fight for justice – to find out what really happened and who did it – despite the apparent lack of will by the authorities.

Anne Cleave sounds like an amazing, strong, determined woman, defined in many ways by her sister's death, but not in a negative way, but channelling her grief and pain, both for her sister and her parents, for good.

We hope the new inquest gives the family the answers they need, and closure.

You've got to hand it to
tot's family and friends

Our front page story is sure to put a smile on everyone's face. Who could not be moved by Ashton Matthews, what a wonderful little boy he is ... and he gets that from his family.

Another family turning what could be seen as a negative into a positive. It's fantastic to hear his family and nursery friends have all decided to learn sign language. Not only will the decision help Ashton, but it will also enrich their lives.

Use delivery companies
which do not charge extra

I was most interested to read about the man having trouble getting deliveries from John Lewis ('Retailer won't deliver to Isle of Oban, The Oban Times, April 11).

I live in Dalavich, on the front near the road, and see John Lewis and Harrods vans go by – yes, Harrods – and if they can come all that way from London, does it not make all those other over-charging companies look rather stupid?

I deal with companies that deliver free only, and believe me, they are out there.

I bought a wooden farm gate and also a side gate on the internet, both delivered free and that was from Devon, so when I see those notes saying if you live in PA postcode area it will cost extra, it makes my blood boil.

Thomas Middleton, Dalavich Village.

School strikers are fighting
for the planet's future

There is not space in a short letter to summarise the mass of evidence that D C Gill has managed to miss (Lochaber Times, Letters, April 11), published in thousands of scientific papers, demonstrating clearly that the steady warming of the Earth over the past 50 years is almost entirely man-made.

The scientific method, and scientists themselves, may not be perfect but it has proven to be the best approach to understanding the world, and burying one's head in the sand is scarcely a credible alternative.

Fortunately, some of our children are better schooled in the scientific basis of climate change than their elders. They understand the links between human activity, greenhouse gases, planetary heating and the potentially devastating consequences for humanity and the natural world that may follow.

They have chosen, entirely of their own volition, to act. The school strikers have actively resisted the involvement of adult organisations with their movement, precisely because they do not wish to be anyone's pawns. They have acted of their own accord, inspired solely by a single Swedish schoolgirl who has done her homework.

D C Gill's views are the past. Some of our children have decided that their future is worth fighting for.

Philip Gillibrand, Kinlocheil.

YOUR PICTURES



We know our readers love to take photographs so we are happy to create this space to showcase these each week. If you have a photograph you would like to see published here, send it to editor@obantimes.co.uk

obantimes.co.uk, post it to The Editor, PO Box 1, Oban, PA34 4HB or hand it in to our offices in Crannog Lane, Lochavullin Industrial Estate, Oban, or in High Street, Fort William.

Change your thinking to
improve the environment

When I read the article titled 'Councillor slams worsening litter' (Lochaber Times, March 28), I started to wonder what drives people to litter.

I believe the reason lies in the universal plague where people don't believe they are enough and as a result don't respect themselves. Because when you like and respect yourself, it shows up in how you treat your environment. When you like yourself, your

life is extraordinary, and you cherish your environment.

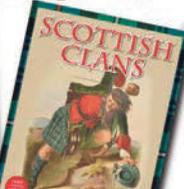
As a therapist, I meet so many people who don't like themselves and, by extension, they create environments and lives they don't like either. People need to learn to like themselves – not because they are perfect, or had perfect parents, or experienced no adversity – but because everyone is enough, everyone is lovable.

We are all born knowing we are lovable and enough, but we unlearn this behaviour as our environment gives us messages and experiences that cause us to take on



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This week's photograph was sent in by John Campbell, who said of this striking image: 'This was taken while I was feeding the swans at Ardchattan, on Loch Etive.'

negative self-belief. The good news is that science shows us we can change. When we change our thinking (rewiring our brain), we change ourselves. Emotional healing and feeling good about ourselves is available to everybody.

I'm talking about a sense of radical self-love. And it's easier to achieve than you think. Try this: take a lipstick or an old eyeliner or a dry-wipe marker and write on the mirrors in your house: 'I am enough.' Say it to yourself in the shower, when you brush your teeth, when you go out in the morning. Keep saying it to yourself because the brain learns by repetition.

Change how you speak to yourself because the brain only responds to two things: the words you say and the pictures you create. Change what you say to yourself with more of 'I am enough', 'I am worthy of love', 'I am lovable'.

Your mind is yours to change. Feeling good about yourself is available to you and living in a beautiful clean environment is a manifestation of this.

Michelle du Preez, Kinlochleven.

McCaig's Tower lights up for MayDay Appeal

This May Oban RNLI crew is asking for your support.

Whether you feel like mustering the energy to lift a lifeboat with your gym partner or fancy a more laid back day of baking there's plenty you can do to help.

The lifesaving charity, which is supported entirely by public donations, is asking people to organise a fundraising event, any time in May, to help fund the iconic yellow kit worn by lifeboat crew volunteers.

During the month we're asking people in our community and across the country to do their bit to help fund our volunteer crews' lifesaving kit.

Around the country many well-known landmarks will be lit up in yellow lights to help spread awareness of the appeal.

Oban, however, has gone one step further with McCaig's Tower and the lights on the esplanade being lit up yellow for the entire month of May.

The RNLI is entirely funded by the generosity of the public, we wouldn't exist without them and 'MayDay' gives people a chance to get creative and have a bit of fun all while helping to save lives.

For example a bake sale that raises £55 would buy a pair of our protective, steel-toed wellies for a crew member. Those boots could take part in hundreds of shouts and play their part in saving lives at sea.

If people want to get involved they can find lots of details on the RNLI Mayday website at rnli.org

For more information or to request a fundraising pack the RNLI would encourage people to call 0300 300 9908 or email fundraising@rnli.org.uk

Iain Fulton, press officer,
Oban Lifeboat Station

Beachd Ailein

ALLAN CAMPBELL

editor@obantimes.co.uk



Aig cruinneachadh de cheannardan Dhùthchannan Aonaichte an t-saoghail anns A' Phòlainn san Dùbhlachd seo chaidh thug Daibhidh Attenborough rabhadh cruaidh mun chunnart anns am bheil an saoghal ri linn blàthachadh na cruinne. Rud nach coisinn modh cha choisinn mì-mhodh their seanfhacal, ach tha mòran fianais ann an eachdraidh gur ann ri linn strì làidir a thachair adhartasan air iomadach suidheachadh.

Mar a bhiodh dùil tha iomairt eadar-nàiseanta a-nise air ghluasad gus greasad a dhèanamh molaidhean chruinneachadh na Pòlainn a chur an gnìomh. Gu h-inntinneach tha XR (Extinction Rebellion) a tha a' stiùireadh na h-iomairt seo air comhairleachadh gun togar an fhianais gun aithne, agus tha seo ag obrachadh ann a bhith a' bacadh còmh-dhail agus luchd-siubhail nam bailtean-mòra sam bheil iad ag iomairt.

An dèidh bheagan làithean san Eilean Sgitheanach, agus le fìor dheagh aimsir, cha robh a dhìth ach gairm cuthaig gus samhradh a dhèanamh dhuinn san earrach! Ach cha robh guth aice fhathast! Le margaideachd air maise na

Gàidhealtachd is nan Eilean a' tàladh sluagh gu sgìrean iomallach tha luchd-turais rim faicinn san Eilean Sgitheanach an ìre mhath fad na bliadhna a-nise.

Tha seo air leth feumail dha eaconamaidh an àite ach tha e a' ciallachadh nach eil àm foise san Eilean mar a bha, agus nuair a tha àireamhan a ruigheachd ìre sruth tha gainne ghoireasan na thrioblaid. Bha e follaiseach air an t-seachdain seo chaidh gun robh an sruth air tòiseachadh agus ann am beachd mhuinntir an àite cha tig lasachadh air an t-suidheachadh gu fìor dheireadh an fhoghair.

Chan ann a h-uile latha bhios mòd aig Mac an Tòisich agus 's iomadh dràibhear ann an sreath slaodach charbadan a bhios a' gearan nach motha na sin a tha a h-uile duine air saor-làithean aig an aon àm! Dhan fheadhainn a th' air ceann an cosnaidh agus a dh'fheumas siubhal air rathaidean a tha cha mhòr air an tachdadh tha an suidheachadh dòrainneach da-rìribh.

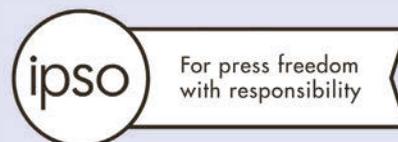
Ged a tha Còd an Rathaid-mhòir a' rabhadh nach còir maill a chur air carbad a tha a' tighinn às do dhèidh chan eil cus mothachaidh air a' mhodh

sin am measg mòr-chuid de dhràibhearan, agus ciamar as fheàrr a ghabhadh an oideachadh gum bheil "passing place" a' ciallachadh goireas airson carbadan a tha a' siubhal leat AGUS nad aghaidh a leigeil seachad!

Nan gabhadh an riaghaltas againn comhairle XR a thaobh grad-atharrachadh air mar a tha sinn a' caitheamh stòras na cruinne agus a' cur ri sgrìos àrainneachd an t-saoghail, theagamh gum feumadh mòran na bu lugha còmh-dhail a bhith air na rathaidean airson na h-amasan leasachaidh a choileanadh. Dùbhlann sònraichte dha na sgìrean iomallach far nach eil cus roghainn, agus fìor dhroch naidheachd dha gnìomhachas turasachd a tha an urra cho mòr ri daoine a bhith a' siubhal thugainn.

Extinction Rebellion's campaign for urgent implementation of initiatives to curb climate change is commendable, but implications for the economies and transport in peripheral areas must be carefully addressed.

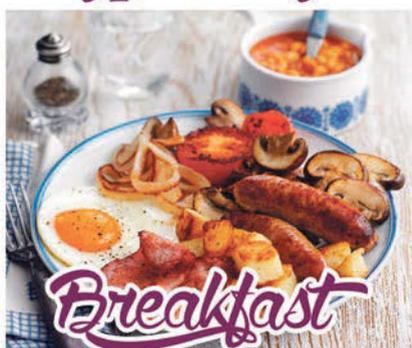
Ailean Caimbeul
(Allan Campbell)
ailean@obantimes.co.uk



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A typical day - At last, an eating plan that fits into your life



Classic big breakfast

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Couscous salad

Fab warm or cold in a packed lunch box, this satisfying salad is simple to make: fry peppers, courgettes, onions and mushrooms using low calorie cooking spray, then add to couscous (cooked as per the packet instructions). Crumble in 45g feta, sprinkle with fresh chopped mint and, if you're eating it cold, dress with fat free vinaigrette.



Chicken Kiev & chips

It's easy to make this tasty, filling classic: Chicken Kiev (2½ Syns). Enjoy with Free chips, green beans, carrots and broccoli. For dessert, make up a sachet of raspberry flavoured sugar-free jelly crystals, sink some fresh/frozen raspberries in before the jelly has set and top with a swirl of fat free natural fromage frais

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3pm, 5pm & 7pm
Tel: Gillian 07796 040 803

OBAN
Glencruitten Church Hall,
Glencruitten Road
Wednesday 9.30am,
11.30am, 5.30pm & 7.30pm
Tel: Gillian 07796 040 803

LOCHGILPHEAD
Lochgilphead
Baptist Church
Union Street/ Argyll Street
Mondays 5.30pm & 7.30pm
Tel: Rhona 07880 878 906

CAMPBELTOWN
Masonic Recreational
Lodge, St John Street
Tuesdays 1pm,
5.30pm & 7.30pm
Tel: Rhona 07880 878 906

Detailed recipes available at:
slimmingworld.co.uk



OT

DISTRICT NEWS

APPIN

The April meeting of Appin SWI doubled up as the organisation's annual general meeting.

This was followed by 'a most enjoyable evening' of keep fit with Sara MacNeill, and ended with a healthy supper.

The awards for members with the highest number of points over the year were, for hand crafts: first, Brenda MacLeod, who received the Mrs MacArthur Memorial Salver; and second, Alison MacCorquodale, who was awarded the Mrs MacArthur Memorial Cup.

Homeskills: first, Myra MacDougall, winning the Appin SWRI Cup; and second Brenda MacLeod, who took home the Brigadier Stewart Memorial Quaich.

Alison MacCorquodale also won the Joan Loro Memorial Trophy, and Catriona MacKenzie won the competition for neatest ankles.

KILCHRENAN

A beginners' karate class will be starting in the Kilchrenan Village Hall this May.

The event is open to all ages and aims to bring primary pupils, mothers, fathers, grandmothers, and grandfathers together.

It will be run on Thursdays, starting May 2, from 5.50pm until 6.30pm, costing £4.50.

OBAN

Every Thursday during school term, a free Bookbug Session will take place in Oban Library on Thursday mornings.

The free story, song, and rhyme sessions is for babies, toddlers, pre-school children and their families. It is on from 9.30am until 11am.

TAYNUILT

Last week was a busy time for the Easter Bunny but The Oban Times was fortunate enough to bump into him/her in Taynuilt on Thursday. The altruistic albino was handing out chocolate eggs to passers-by ably



Representatives from community groups around the town join Oban firefighters in support of Oban Pride 2019.

Taking Pride in the community

Groups from around the town threw their weight behind Oban Pride 2019 at a gathering in Oban Community Fire Station last Wednesday.

Pride chairman Phill Dexter

made a presentation, updating progress of the inaugural Pride event to representatives from various bodies, including Pink Saltire, The Oban Times, Waverley Care, BID4Oban Ltd,

Oban FM and Argyll and Bute Council.

Oban Pride takes place on May 17, 18, 19.

For more information visit the Oban Pride facebook page.

assisted by Taynuilt Primary School duo Maisie and Alasdair, below.



LUSS

Landowner Luss Estates wants to convert a field next to the Loch Lomond Arms Hotel in the centre of Luss into a 240-space car park.

This would include room for 231 cars, 12 of which would be for disabled cars, as well as space for nine camper vans and 10 lockable bicycle points.

The plans are contained in an application to the Loch Lomond and the Trossachs National Park Authority.

Residents in Luss have been campaigning for several years for measures to alleviate the parking situation in the village, where

residential streets are clogged by hundreds of parked cars as visitors flock to the banks of Loch Lomond on sunny summer days.

Argyll and Bute Council already operates a pay-and-display car parking facility in the centre of Luss, with space for 250 cars.

HELENSBURGH

More than 400 people have signed an online petition in just three days to bring the iconic paddle steamer Waverley back to Helensburgh. A demonstration took place at the town's pier on Saturday April 20, after Waverley Excursions Ltd announced that the boat would not

call there during its 2019 season.

Carolann Cameron put the petition online with the message that the vessel must be kept as part of Helensburgh life and memories, and it has already attracted hundreds of supporters.

In an entirely separate venture, Helensburgh Seafront Development Project (HSDP) had organised the get-together at the pier to show the depth of feeling about the condition of the structure.

It was revealed last week that repairs to the pier's timber structure are forecast by Argyll and Bute Council's design services team to cost almost £1 million, and it may not be ready for the Waverley's 2020 timetable.

SEIL



Entertainers on Seil have raised £760 for the island hall's development fund.

Seil Drama Group and singers from Seil Sound joined forces to put on a programme of theatre and music last week.

The drama group presented its award-winning production of (Don't) Throw It Away by John Colston and Caroline Morgan. Their performance of the play picked up two awards at the North Lorn and Lorn drama festivals this year.

Seil Sound was also on song, with tunes from the family album.

Keeping it in the family, the group was joined by guest member Jack Thirlaway, 10, from Wallsend-On-Tyne, who was visiting his granny.

The Oban Times

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DALMALLY

Dalmally Golf Club has an open day this Saturday, April 27, from 11am to 3pm.

Adults, children, beginners or returners, previous members or just the plain curious are all welcome, says club secretary Maud Marshall.

Members of the coaching teams will be on hand to give informal lessons and an introduction to the course.

There will also be fun games to play and light refreshments.

If anyone plans to go along, email dalmallygolfclub@outlook.com

OBAN



Anna shows off her photograph with Bid4Oban's Kay McDonald.

A Park Primary School pupil was celebrating this week after her spectacular photograph of the fireworks display across Oban Bay was chosen as the image for one of Bid4Oban's Love Oban Voucher gift cards.

P7 pupil Anna Forgive's photograph will also be used on the Bid4Oban stand at VisitScotland Expo in Glasgow as well as on its Facebook page.

There are also new cards available with photographs by Oban photographer Steven Lawson.

KILMORE

The March winners of the Kilmore 100 Club were A Dickie and A Maxwell. April winner was R Craig.

There is availability for new members to the 100 Club monthly draw. If anyone is interested, please call David Mudie on 01631 770268.



The Crerar Trust has donated £2,000 to help refurbish Dervaig Community Hall.

Crerar Trust is the real sport, donating £2,000 towards Dervaig Hall restoration

Dervaig Community Hall, in Mull, will benefit from £2,000 thanks to the The Crerar Trust.

The money will be used to help refurbish the internal walls and floor of the main hall.

As part of this, the walls will be coated with fire retardant paint, improving the safety for users for the next five to 10 years.

On Friday May 3, the hall will be hosting a community celebration day from 3-5pm joined by groups from across the island showcasing their work, with a performance from Mull Music Makers at 4.30pm.

Crerar Hotels operates 11 hotels and inns which are based in Scotland, including the Isle of Mull Hotel and Spa.

More than 50 per cent of the group's distributable profits are donated to charities operating within areas where Crerar hotels are based.

The trust has awarded £7.5 million of grants to more than 400 organisations over the last 17 years.

Elaine Wilkinson Crane, chairperson of Dervaig Community Hall, said: 'On behalf of the Dervaig Hall Committee and the wider Dervaig Community, I would like to say a huge thank you to the Crerar Trust for this grant. 'This makes a significant contribution to the overall funding package required to deliver this much-needed refurbishment.'

Paddy Crerar CBE, chairman of The Crerar Trust and chief executive of Crerar Hotels, added: 'We are delighted to have made this award to Dervaig Community Hall and look forward to hearing how this funding helps impact its work. 'Crerar Hotels is committed to giving back to the local community to help it grow and thrive, and provide opportunities that may otherwise seem out of reach. 'For every stay our customers have with us they are supporting others, who really need it. It is great for our folk in the hotels to see their hard work and efforts helping people in their own communities as well as those from throughout the whole of Scotland.'

At random

MARTIN LAING

mlaing@obantimes.co.uk



Looking far better

Isn't the stretch of George Street around the bay starting to look splendid again?

After weeks of builders busily beavering behind barriers (that's quite enough alliteration - Ed) in a number of premises at the heart of the town, an end seems to be in sight.

The scaffolding around The View and the new Fatface and other shop below has gone, the barriers out in front of the Gelatoburger restaurant have been removed and the whole street has been tidied up.

Indeed, Fatface and Gelatoburger are now open and make very welcome additions to the town's retail provision.

Argyll Street, on the other hand, is somewhat different, with a crowd of commercial bins often overflowing and spilled paint and other detritus blighting what is a main thoroughfare in the heart of Oban's tourist area.

And, yes, there is still that often mentioned unsightly discharge flowing across the pavement from the doorway to Spice World.

The 'garden' entrance, for want of a better phrase, to the former Rockport Hotel, now back in operation as The Whisky Vaults, is still a bit of a mess, though the business is at least open again.

If someone could see their way to addressing these issues, the town centre would be much improved for it.

Deserved winner

Competition was fierce for the coveted Oban Live Unsigned but I was delighted that Argyll Ceilidh Trail came out on top.

It is a brilliant opportunity for a little known act to perform at a major festival in front of thousands of music fans.

I was also lucky enough to be a guest last Thursday evening at The View for a preview of the hopeful acts in the local category of the Scottish Sea Farms Unsigned Oban Live Shortlist Night.

It was a great evening of fantastic music hosted by the delightful Pauline Clifford from Oban Live and the ever affable K9 Kev, the rapper who won the inaugural Unsigned gig back in 2017 with Rory O'B.

What do you think?

Write to me at mlaing@obantimes.co.uk or The Oban Times, Crannog Lane, Oban, PA34 4HB, or call 01631 568021.

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CENTRAL SCOTLAND - ARGYLL- HIGHLANDS

OUTDOORS

Call to join spring clean of Scotland

Environmental charity Keep Scotland Beautiful has joined forces with Sustrans Scotland, Jog Scotland and Paths for All to encourage outdoor enthusiasts to take ownership of the paths that help to support their activities.

Throughout April and May, the organisations are encouraging all outdoor users to arrange their own Clean Up events at the areas they use, helping to remove rubbish from walking and cycle paths, and help to preserve the natural environment.

The Active Travel Week is running as part of the charity's annual spring clean initiative. Last year more than 30,000 people participated in the annual spring clean, helping to remove more than 300 tonnes of litter.

Derek Robertson, chief executive of Keep Scotland Beautiful, said: 'Keep Scotland Beautiful is calling for everyone from across Scotland to take part in our annual spring clean. The Active Travel week allows a special focus on people being active and picking up litter as they go, or venturing outdoors to help protect the areas they love and enjoy. We are very proud of everyone's hard work and hope that lots of people will take part – helping to make 2019 the most successful spring clean campaign to date.'

Paths for All, Scotland's national walking charity, wants everyone to get more active through everyday walking. To achieve this, walking routes need to be attractive, accessible, safe and litter free.

Ian Findlay, Paths for All's chief officer, added: 'Welcoming and fit-for-purpose walking environments are essential for local communities to access and enjoy. Together, we can help make our outdoor environments an enjoyable and litter-free place to walk, cycle or jog in.'

To register a spring clean 2019 event, visit: www.keepsotlandbeautiful.org/cleanupsotland and sign up.

Splashing out on Year of Coasts and Waters

An expanded Clydebuilt Festival, a spectacular new event at Scotland's Boat Show and a celebration of Scotland's waters and the journeys over them from the National Theatre of Scotland are just a taste of the events lined up to put Scotland's coasts and waters in the spotlight in 2020.

Launched at VisitScotland Expo – Scotland's premier travel trade show – the Year of Coasts and Waters 2020 will inspire visitors, residents and the tourism and events sector to get aboard.

From water-inspired myths and legends to historic harbours, sweeping coastlines, to the very best in seafood, whisky, wildlife and wellness, Scotland's enviable reputation for unspoiled beaches, rich natural and cultural heritage and thrill-seeking adventure activities will be showcased through a programme of events and activities.

Six initial events – designed to 'wet' the appetite for what's in store – have been announced with more to be revealed later. The six events include:

- Ferry Tales from the National Theatre of Scotland – an imaginative and impactful performance and community project, with the support of Caledonian MacBrayne and its ferries, celebrating the waters surrounding Scotland's waters and the journeys over them made by thousands of residents and visitors.

- Edinburgh International Film Festival presents Scotland's Shores, an exciting programme celebrating through events, film screenings and a special outdoor coastal experience.

- Clydebuilt Festival – 2020 will be the event's fourth year, the event will significantly expand its existing offering across the festival bringing art, music, crafts, boats, dancing, sea shanties and more to the Riverside Plaza. Castle to Crane – a major component of the festival will also be back bigger than ever in



Mermaids and Jacob Cunningham, eight, making a splash ahead of Scotland's Year of Coasts and Waters 2020. Photograph: Stewart Attwood



2020 with opportunities for more participants to get involved.

- The Fife Regatta 2020 – last seen in their home waters off Fairlie in 2013, the regatta will start and finish in Largs, taking in various locations around the Clyde including Holy

Loch Marina, Dunoon, Rothesay, Isle of Bute and Tighnabruaich, Argyll.

- River of Light – Scotland's Boat Show and Kip Marina will make a splash in 2020 with a brand-new event that will see Scotland's biggest boat show's programme extended into the evening on the October 10.

- RSPB Scotland's DolphinFest 2020 – DolphinFest 2020 will help Aberdeen become recognised as a must-visit destination for dolphin watching and will provide pop-up activities across the city that will celebrate Aberdeen's dolphins; from interactive games, to conservation talks and citizen science projects.

The year will also provide the opportunity to promote and celebrate a variety of unique experiences, including The Hebridean Whale Trail, the first of its kind in the UK, set to launch later this year.

Scotland's Year of Coasts and Waters 2020 will begin on January 1, 2020, and run until December 31. For more information, visit visitscotland.com/ycw2020. Join the conversation #YCW2020

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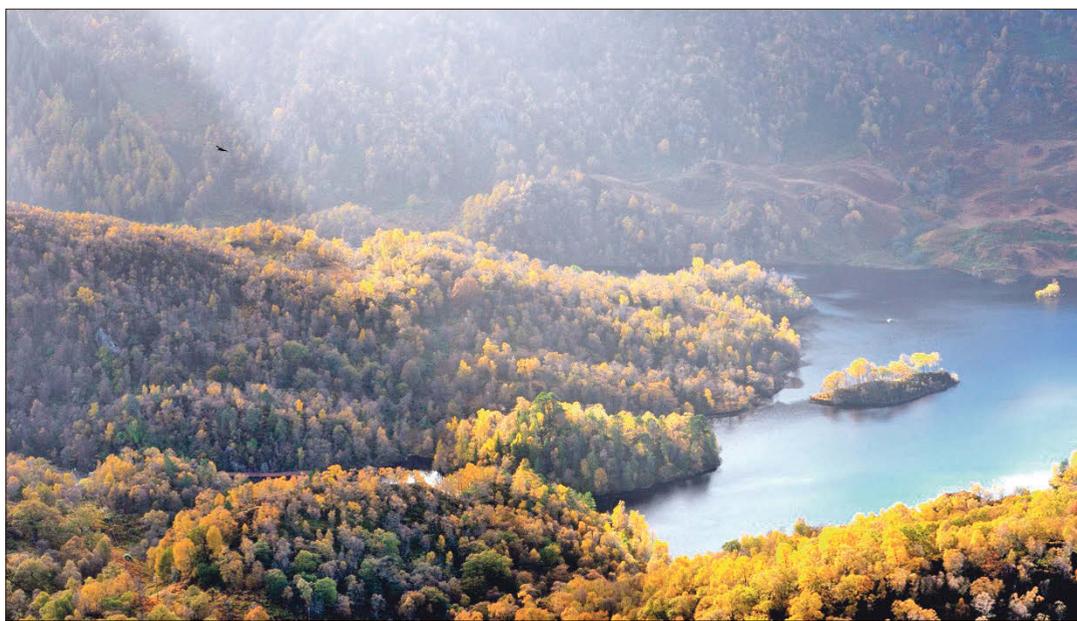
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This week's walks



Loch Katrine from Ben A'an in the Trossachs.

Vital benefits of nature are increasing

The values of Scotland's plants, wildlife, air, water, and land – known as natural capital – are now officially increasing for the first time, and delivering stronger benefits to people and businesses across Scotland than in the previous two decades.

Scotland's Natural Capital Asset Index (NCAI) assesses the quality and quantity of our land-based habitats and their contributions to human wellbeing.

This year's study shows that the quality of all habitat types is improving, including places such as heathlands – our most widespread habitats – and peatlands, which have the greatest potential to contribute to human wellbeing, by storing significant volumes of carbon and helping combat climate change.

Scotland's woodlands are also now expanding annually, with broadleaved woodland habitat 40 per cent larger than in 2000, and woodland bird numbers increas-

ing by 25 per cent over the same period. Welcoming the update, Environment Secretary Roseanna Cunningham said: 'Scotland became the first country in the world to publish a detailed report which monitors annual changes in its natural capital and it is encouraging to see that the contribution nature makes to our society has continued to improve since the index first launched in 2011.'

'Research shows that more than 75 per cent of businesses now recognise the huge importance of Scotland's natural capital to their operations.'

Our natural capital has shown signs of recovery for five consecutive years and is now at its highest level since 2000 after decades of decline between the 1950s and 1990s, due to human activities such as increases in peat drainage and uses of pesticides.

SNH chief executive Francesca Osowska said: 'It's excellent news that our natural capital is now

officially increasing. Natural capital is vitally important for Scotland's economy and our quality of life. It provides us with food, water, natural flood defences and crop pollination.

'At SNH, we are working to protect and enhance our wildlife and habitats, helping to ensure our natural capital continues its recovery of recent years. There remain many challenges, not least from climate change, and we are working to address these, to make Scotland a better place for future generations to live, work, and visit.'

To give a fuller picture of the country's natural capital, plans are under way to include the contribution made by Scotland's marine environment in future years. SNH estimates that marine habitats around Scotland store more than 2,000 million tonnes of carbon, which studies show to be equivalent to around 200 years of our current carbon emissions.

LOCHABER AND LORN RAMBLERS

The walk leader is to be contacted beforehand for meet-up and start times. Car sharing usually possible and people can try before they buy. Further information at www.lochaberandlorn-ramblers.org.uk. Lochaber and Lorn Ramblers Group can be contacted by email on info@lochaberandlorn-ramblers.org.uk

Thursday May 2: Ba Bridge to Bridge of Orchy, Rannoch Moor
Walk along historic military road used until 1934 when the new A82 was opened.

Start at car park at NN 309 495 Cross A82 to find path heading west along north side of Lochan na Stainge until the old military road is met. Turn south and follow road to Inveroran Hotel. Then follow signs on West Highland Way to Bridge of Orchy. Transport required at each end.

Grade: L; distance: 15km; height to climb: 330m; map(s): LR50, EX377; meet at: Glencoe car park NN 098 587 at 0935, for start of walk at 1000. Leader: Denise Jones, 07823 779713.

Saturday May 5: Sgurr Eilde Mor, Kinlochleven

This Mamore, furthest from Kinlochleven is situated in a spectacular position above Coire an Lochain.

Start at the Grey Mare's Tail car park in Kinlochleven NN 187 622. Head passed the waterfall then easterly on track south of Allt a Chumhainn to meet a vehicle track turn north west then almost immediately north east at NN 2082 6348 on to track up passed unnamed lochan.

Turn east at NN 2217 6567 on to path and follow to summit 1010 m. To return take south easterly ridge pick up path to take you back to the east side of the lochan. Cross the lochan outfall at NN 2265 6523 tack faint path leading south east down to Loch Eilde Mor. At track turn west to meet outward route at NN 2088 6345.

Grade: S; distance: 14km; height to climb: 1150m; Maps LR41, EX392. Meet at Fort William WM NN 112 742

at 0900 or Glencoe car park NN 098 587 at 0910, for start of walk at 0930. Leader: Stephen Mardon 07522 956789.

NEVIS HILLWALKING CLUB

Full walk details at www.nevis-hillwalking.club. If anyone would like to go out on the walk please contact club secretary Suzanne Theobald on 01397 701783 or email enquiries@nevis-hillwalking.club.

Sunday April 28: Stob Dubh, Beinn Ceitlein, Glen Etive

This Corbett deserves its name, dark and forbidding, steep-sided with a huge gash on its S flank. The gash is a possible approach but very difficult. Instead, this route traverses the entire massif which forms the hub of a splendid panorama of the Glen Coe and Glen Etive Hills.

Start at the track to Coileitir, NN137468, where off-road parking is available. Follow track E across river then N to Glenceitlin bothy. Climb the SW ridge of Stob Dubh to its summit. Descend ESE to a col and climb NE to the summit of Beinn Ceitlein, 845m. Keeping to the high ground, follow the plateau generally N along the rims of three small corries. The plateau ends at the head of a steep N-facing escarpment. Turn E and follow the ridge down to a narrow col, 449m, and climb to the summit of An Grianan, 494m. Return to the col and head E down slopes to the woodland and locate the path leading to the bridge over the Allt a' Chaorainn just S of the lodge. Pass the lodge on its E side and use its access track to reach the bridge over the River Etive. Transport required, 12 minutes from start.

* Descent may be made from the summit of Beinn Ceitlein. Head SE down slopes, then turn S, cross the burn issuing from Coire Dubh-mor and continue to the watershed at the head of Glen Ceitlein. Follow the Allt Ceitlin down, curving W to reach the path on its N side. Follow the path to Glenceitlin bothy and return to the start by the outward route.

Distance: 11km *12km; height to climb: 1007m *938m. Suggested and coordinated by Toril Frantzen.



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Come and experience our fabulous hotel - non residents welcome



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LEISURE & ENTERTAINMENT

YOUR GUIDE TO WHAT'S ON IN ARGYLL AND LOCHABER

Music's big hitters gather for Gig at the Goil

A scenic Cowal village will showcase the very best musical talent next month, plus top quality food and drink in what is sure to be a fantastic weekend.

More than 60 acts are set to perform across three stages at Drimsynie Estate Holiday Village, Lochgoilhead, for the 2019 Gig in the Goil.

Former Runrig frontman Donnie Munro tops this year's bill, which also includes popular trad outfit Mánran and Trail West – returning by popular demand after closing the festival in 2017.

They will be joined by some of the country's finest acoustic, contemporary,

folk and traditional artists, with the likes of Clann An Drumma, Beinn Lee, Vistas, Shambolics and Rollin Drones taking to the stage.

Festival goers can also savour delicious food and drink options including street food and craft beers. There will be children's entertainment and plenty of family fun, with face painting, stalls and games. In addition, kids aged 10 and under go free.

More than 500 tickets for Gig in the Goil have already been snapped up, with organisers anticipating another sell out weekend.

Ross Coutts, events manager, said: 'Gig in the

Goil is a highlight of the summer for us here at Argyll Holidays, and we're delighted at securing such a strong line-up for 2019.

'Donnie Munro is one of the finest Gaelic singers this country has ever produced. As well as all the Runrig favourites, he has a fantastic back catalogue of material to keep the crowd entertained on the Saturday evening.

'Mánran and Trail West are both award-winning groups with plenty of energy and a huge draw for a village like Lochgoilhead – we're absolutely buzzing to welcome them here.'

Tickets are available at argyllholidays.com



Former Runrig frontman Donnie Munro tops the bill. Photograph: Stephen Lawson.

Knock Newhouse

Lochgair PA31 8RZ

Open 27&28 April, 12 May
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Hew and Bar Service offer their stunning woodland garden, centred on a waterfall, lochan and lily pond. Constant planting since 1960 has produced over 100 species of rhododendron. Also colourful hybrids, fragrant azaleas, camelias, hoheria, eucryphia, and other flowering shrubs. Mature and young trees include acer, oak, alder, eucalyptus and a rare Wollemi pine. £4 Delicious teas. Proceeds to MND Scotland and Christ Church Scottish Episcopal Church. Crarae and Inverary Gardens nearby. Half-a-mile from Lochgair Hotel on the A83. Look out for the yellow signs.

Wonderful wanderings

Kames Bay Garden

Kilmelford PA34 4XA

Open 4&5 May 2-6pm

Stuart and Shelagh Cannon invite you into their natural, almost wild garden, blending into the contours of the coastal landscape. Relax on hidden benches and enjoy magnificent views over Loch Melfort, Shuna, Luig and Scarba. Full of vibrant colours all year, there are more than 100 varieties of azaleas. Also rhododendrons, wild primroses, violets, hydrangeas, fuchsia, roses and agapanthus and with acer, prunus and sorbus. Walking shoes recommended for woodland, pond and hillside walks.

£4. Scrumptious teas and plants for sale. Proceeds to St Columba's, Poltalloch. A816 Oban to Lochgilphead Road. Visit www.scotlandsgardens.org for more info.

M'ALBA

MY ALBA

DIARDAOIN 25 AN GIBLEAN THURSDAY 25 APRIL

17.00 Prògraman Chloinne – Children's programming
19.00 Turas a' Bhradain (rpt)
19.30 Speaking our Language (rpt)
19.55 Earrann Eachdraidh (rpt)
20.00 An Là – News
20.30 North Coast 500 – le Anne London (rpt)
21.00 **UR | NEW:** Opry le Daniel
21.55 Binneas – Na Trads – Stuart Liddell (rpt)
22.00 **UR | NEW:** An Sgrùdaire
22.15 Belladrum 2016: Breabach (rpt)
22.35 **UR | NEW:** Ameireaga air Film
23.20 Dhan Uisge (Sanna) (rpt)
23.30 Fonn Fonn Fonn (rpt)

DIHAOINE 26 AN GIBLEAN FRIDAY 26 APRIL

17.00 Prògraman Chloinne – Children's programming
18.35 Machair (rpt)
19.00 An Là – News
19.25 Fraochy Bay (rpt)
19.30 Bonn Còmhraidh (rpt)
20.00 Òran na Mnà (rpt)
20.30 Fuine (rpt)
21.00 Air an Rathad (rpt)
22.00 Anna Bheag (rpt)
22.50 Dhan Uisge (Sanna) (rpt)
22.55 ALT (rpt)

DISATHAIRNE 27 AN GIBLEAN SATURDAY 27 APRIL

16.00 Prògraman Chloinne – Children's programming
17.15 An Là – News
17.30 Earrann Eachdraidh (rpt)
17.35 **UR | NEW:** Sarah Beaney Cup Final 2019
19.50 Binneas – Na Trads (rpt)
20.00 Machair (rpt)
20.25 Fraochy Bay (rpt)
20.30 Kerry is Kirsty: Coigeach (rpt)
21.00 Skipinnish aig Barrowland (rpt)

22.00 Ameireaga air Film (rpt)
22.45 Dhan Uisge (Spar Cave) (rpt)
22.50 Belladrum Highlights (rpt)
22.55 **UR | NEW:** Scottish Premiership – St Mirren v St Johnstone

DIDÒMHNAICH 28 AN GIBLEAN SUNDAY 28 APRIL

16.00 Prògraman Chloinne – Children's programming
18.15 An Là – News
18.30 Seachd La – News review
19.30 Sorchar nan Reul (rpt)
20.00 North Coast 500 – le Anne London (rpt)
20.30 Dealbhan Fraoich (rpt)
21.00 Farpaisean Chon-Chaorach (rpt)
22.00 Skipinnish aig Barrowland (rpt)
23.00 Anna Bheag (rpt)
23.50 Dhan Uisge (Spar Cave) (rpt)

DILUAIN 29 AN GIBLEAN MONDAY 29 APRIL

17.00 Prògraman Chloinne – Children's programming
19.00 Beartas nan Daoine (rpt)
19.25 Speaking our Language (rpt)
19.55 Earrann Eachdraidh (rpt)
20.00 An Là – News
20.30 Fuine (rpt)
21.00 Trusadh – Taighean Sinc (rpt)
22.00 Port (rpt)
22.30 Iùl a Chiùil (rpt)
23.00 An Sgrùdaire (rpt)
23.45 Belladrum Highlights (rpt)

DIMÀIRT 30 AN GIBLEAN TUESDAY 30 APRIL

17.00 Prògraman Chloinne – Children's programming
19.00 Turas a' Bhradain (rpt)
19.30 Speaking our Language (rpt)
19.55 Earrann Eachdraidh (rpt)
20.00 An Là – News
20.30 Kerry is Kirsty: Caol Reatha gu Drochaid

Sheile (rpt)
21.00 Farpaisean Chon-Chaorach (rpt)
22.00 Trusadh – Taighean Sinc (rpt)
23.00 Òran na Mnà (rpt)
23.30 Sorchar nan Reul (rpt)

DICIADAIN 01 AN CÈITEAN WEDNESDAY 01 MAY

17.00 Prògraman Chloinne – Children's programming
19.00 Beartas nan Daoine (rpt)
19.30 Speaking our Language (rpt)
19.55 Earrann Eachdraidh (rpt)
20.00 An Là – News
20.30 **UR | NEW:** Dealbhan Fraoich
21.00 **UR | NEW:** An Là – A' Tuigsinn an Làin
22.00 Fonn Fonn Fonn (rpt)
22.30 Port (rpt)
23.00 Opry le Daniel (rpt)
23.50 Dhan Uisge (Spar Cave) (rpt)

DIARDAOIN 02 AN CÈITEAN THURSDAY 02 MAY

17.00 Prògraman Chloinne – Children's programming
19.00 Turas a' Bhradain (rpt)
19.30 Speaking our Language (rpt)
19.55 Earrann Eachdraidh (rpt)
20.00 An Là – News
20.30 Leugh Mi (rpt)
21.00 **UR | NEW:** Opry le Daniel
21.50 Binneas – Na Trads – Fiddlers' Bid (rpt)
22.00 Mach a Seol! (rpt)
22.30 **UR | NEW:** Ameireaga air Film
23.15 Belladrum Highlights (rpt)
23.20 Dhan Uisge (Spar Cave) (rpt)
23.30 Fonn Fonn Fonn (rpt)



BBC.CO.UK/ALBA | BBC.CO.UK/IPLAYER

Co-bhanntachd eadar MG ALBA agus am BBC | A partnership between BBC and MG ALBA

Festival of music and culture gets under way

Tobermory is likely to be rocking for the next four days as the 43rd Mull Music Festival rolls into town.

Four days of festival fun starts today, April 25, featuring folk rock, fiddle, accordion, dance and ceilidh bands at hotel and bar venues across the town.

No tickets are needed but places are expected to be crowded, with visiting bands and artists doing the rounds in the traditional fashion.

The fun kicks off at MacGochans tonight at 7.30pm, the line-up includes A'Hooligan and Ho-Ro.

Friday's bands start at 2.30pm with Crooked Reel, AJ and Ruairidh, Bein Lee and Chunks.

On Saturday, starting at 11.30am with the Beinn Lee Ceilidh Band continuing through the day until the

last act at 11.30pm. Trail West, Gunna Sound, Peat and Diesel and The Fold will also be on stage. Sunday is set for another 12-hour music marathon from 11.30am.

Bar Beag will have constant sessions all weekend from Davy Holt, Ron Johnston, Crooked Reel and Alan and Alan.

Robert McLeod, owner of the Tobermory Hotel and one of the events organisers, said: 'Preparation is fully under way and we're looking forward to a great weekend.'

'My grandfather started the festival over 40 years ago and it is amazing how it has grown into this huge event which is of great cultural importance to the west coast of Scotland.'

Bands on at the Tobermory Hotel over the weekend are Trail West, Robert

Robertson Band, Ho-Ro, Beinn Lee, Davy Holt, Calum Macphail Band and many more special guests.

Other venues hosting musicians over the four day extravaganza are the Mishnish Hotel, MacDonald Arms Hotel, Park Lodge Hotel, Western Isles Hotel and the Bellachroy Hotel, Dervaig.

Music festival

Mull and Iona Community Trust have teamed up with Mull Music Festival venues in order to find a greener alternative to plastic glasses.

This year's festival is being held from today, April 25, to Monday, April 29, with a large number of visitors set to arrive to see the likes of

Trail West, Gunna Sound,

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- Craft Tables
- Model Exhibits including Trains, Tractors, Buses, Boats, Trucks, Cranes, Helicopters and much more
- Working Railways
- 1:24 Scale Truck Exhibits
- The Tartan LUG (Lego users group)
- Traders Selling Model Trucks, Tractors, Trains, Parts & Accessories

With your help last year's show raised £1059 for The Lochaber Mountain Rescue. This year we will be once again donating proceeds to local charities & organisations.

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www.neviscentre.co.uk

Nevis Centre, An Aird, Fort William PH33 6AN T:01397 700707



Ho-Ro are set to make a return to the Mull Music Festival this year.

val gets drastic on plastic

Peat and Diesel and numerous other traditional bands that play in various venues.

In previous years plastic pint glasses have been used to help reduce waiting times at the bars at peak times but, this year, the Trust's ReThink Mess project has coordinated with all the pubs with the clear message being that it is time to

get drastic on plastic. The result is that PLA glasses will be used at all the venues.

'PLA (polylactic acid) is a plant-based, non-toxic material that has similar properties to plastic,' explained Ewan Baxter, Re Think Mess Project Officer.

'Manufactured from corn starch, the corn is grown in a field which is considerably

better for the environment than petroleum-based plastics.

'PLA also decomposes at a faster rate than regular plastic, and its plant-based source certainly makes it a greener alternative.'

Mull and Iona Community Trust's Rethink MESS project is funded by the Climate Challenge fund.

WHAT'S ON

In partnership with Oban Town Diary BID4oban.co.uk



THURSDAY 25TH APRIL

Slimming World
Salvation Army Hall, Fort William
9.30am, 11.30am, 3.00pm, 5.00pm
& 7.00pm
Tel; Gillian 07796 040803

8 Week Mindfulness Course
The Rockfield Centre
12-12:30pm

Live Music & Entertainment @ Markie Dans
FREE JUKEBOX EVERY THURSDAY

FRIDAY 26TH APRIL
8 Week Mindfulness Course
The Rockfield Centre
12-12:30pm

Live Music & Entertainment @ Markie Dans
Tweed. Open till 2am

SATURDAY 27TH APRIL

Ganavan Sands Parkrun
Ganavan Sands
9:30am-12noon

Master Builders: Lego & Creative Construction Club
The Rockfield Centre
10am-12pm

Green Shoots Open Garden Day
Glencruitten Woods
11am - 3pm

8 Week Mindfulness Course

The Rockfield Centre
12-12:30pm

Cearcall Cómhraidh (Gaelic Conversation Group)
Furan Gaelic Centre
12noon - 1:30pm

Oban Music Society Summer Programme
St John's Cathedral
7:30pm

75th Anniversary Fiddlers's Rally Concert

Corran Halls
7:30pm-10:30pm

Live Music & Entertainment @ Markie Dans
Disco with Stevo
Open till 2am

SUNDAY 28TH APRIL

8 Week Mindfulness Course
The Rockfield Centre
12-12:30pm

Live Music & Entertainment @ Markie Dans
QUIZ NIGHT at 9.30pm
£1 per person, max of 6 per team
Win £20 bar voucher

MONDAY 29TH APRIL

8 Week Mindfulness Course
The Rockfield Centre
12-12:30pm

Slimming World
Union Street/Argyll Street,
Lochgilphead
5.30pm & 7.30pm
Tel; Rhona 07880 878906

TUESDAY 30TH APRIL

8 Week Mindfulness Course
The Rockfield Centre
12-12:30pm

Carers Coffee Morning
North Argyll Carers Centre
10:30am-12pm

WEDNESDAY 1ST MAY

8 Week Mindfulness Course
The Rockfield Centre
12-12:30pm

Beach Clean
Slip opposite Stafford Street
10:30am-12pm

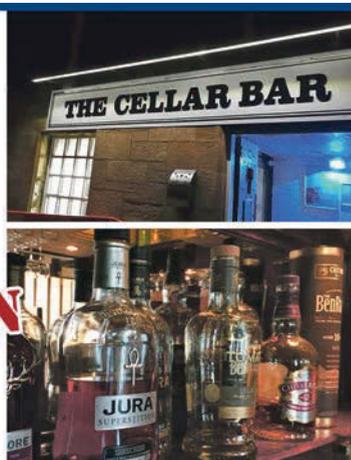
Slimming World
Glencruitten Church Hall, Oban
9.30am, 11.30am, 5.30pm & 7.30pm
Tel; Gillian 07796 040803

Events may charge. Please visit www.obanwhatson.co.uk for more details. To list your event, please call 01631 568000

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WHAT'S ON AT YOUR LOCAL CINEMA THIS WEEK

Tel: 01631 562905 or see www.obanphoenix.com for more details

FRIDAY 26TH APRIL
12:00/ 16:15/ 20:00 AVENGERS: ENDGAME 12A
16:15/ 18:15 WONDER PARK PG
20:15 THE FIGHT 12A

SATURDAY 27TH
11:30 PEPPA PIG: FESTIVAL OF FUN U
12:00/ 16:15/ 20:00 AVENGERS: ENDGAME 12A
13:15/ 15:15 WONDER PARK PG
17:15 THE FIGHT 12A
19:30 US 15

SUNDAY 28TH
12:00/ 16:15/ 20:00 AVENGERS: ENDGAME 12A
12:30/ 17:00 WONDER PARK PG
14:30 FISHERMAN'S FRIEND 12A
19:00 THE FIGHT 12A
21:00 US 15

MONDAY 29TH
16:15/ 20:00 AVENGERS: ENDGAME 12A
16:15/ 18:15 WONDER PARK PG
20:15 THE FIGHT 12A

TUESDAY 30TH
12:00/ 16:15/ 18:15 WONDER PARK PG
16:15/ 20:00 AVENGERS: ENDGAME 12A
20:15 THE FIGHT 12A

WEDNESDAY 1ST MAY
12:00 / 16:15/ 20:00 AVENGERS: ENDGAME 12A
16:15/ 18:15 WONDER PARK PG
20:15 THE FIGHT 12A

THURSDAY 2ND
16:15/ 20:00 AVENGERS: ENDGAME 12A
16:15/ 18:15 WONDER PARK PG
20:15 THE FIGHT 12A



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First book is tailor-made from island life

A book of poems, many of which are drawn out of inspirations taken from Mull and Ulva, was released last week.

An eclectic mix of verse and short stories, Parrot Droppings – A Poor Man's Poems, has been penned over a lifetime by former islands man Scott Murray, who turns 74 next month.

The name comes from the author's own description of what he believes poetry is all about.

'Like parrot droppings on Long John Silver's back,' says Murray.

'When I was asked that same question at a Mull Writers gathering that was what came into my mind.

'That's what my poetry is, it just comes out and sticks there.'

Despite the self-deprecating title, Murry's first publication invites readers to, 'share the author's deep empathy for the plight of the common man and a righteous anger at the excesses of privileged elites,'



Author Scott Murray used some Ulva influence in his new book.

according to Gordon Kerr, president of Dazzling Arts Foundation, in his Foreword to this deep and engaging collection.

Raised on the banks of the Clyde in Glasgow, Murray, a tailor to trade, moved to Ulva in 1974 with his wife Kathleen and their children

Vanessa and Kieran. The family spent three years on the island where he had secured employment as a farm labourer.

'Ulva never left my heart, there are so many fantastic memories of brilliant summers and wild, very wild winters feeding cattle on the

hill and probably the last visit of a Puffer delivering coal,' he told us.

Following a short spell in the Falkland Islands in the late 70s the family returned to live on Mull some 18 months later.

This was to be there home for the next 15 years.

With both children leaving home to move on to further education in the 1990s, Murray senior made the brave decision to apply to Stirling University where he was offered a place as a mature student to study film and media and religious and philosophical studies on the condition he achieve three Higher grades.

In order to do this, he moved back to the mainland so that he could attend evening classes at Oban High School.

The move proved a great success. Murray graduated with a teaching degree and spent the next 15 years teaching Religious studies and Philosophy at Alva Academy, Clackmannanshire.

Having now been retired for some eight years, the newly published poet is relishing a new chapter in his life and plans to continue recording his experiences as he has done throughout his life.

'Like parrot droppings.'

Bookends takes it nice and easy

Benderloch's Bookends has given rise to a new slower-paced event called Souffle as part of a festival celebrating creativity as we age.

'Instead of one of our usual pop-ups we thought we would slow-down the pace and have a souffle instead,' said Bookends founder Joy Cameron.

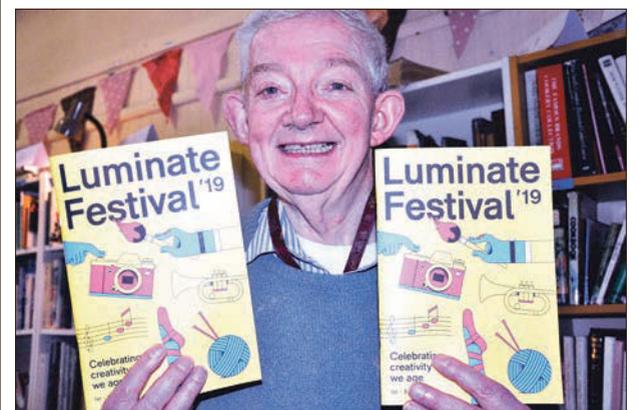
The chill-out event will be on Friday May 17 from 11am to 6.30pm in the Reading Room at the Victory Halls and is free to join in.

Bookends has filled its

100-year-old, wood-lined village hall with hundreds of pre-loved books, comfy sofas and the kettle is almost always on.

The May date's activities are still being planned, so watch The Oban Times for more information.

Events are being held across the whole of Scotland as part of Luminare 2019 from conversation, telling stories, sharing experiences, dance and theatre, proving that creativity has no age limits.



Bookends ambassador Walter Burton will be at the Souffle.

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Hosting the first Friday Dram Club is Julie Hamilton, from independent bottler Elixir Distillers. Julie will be taking us through 6 malts from Port Askaig.

We hope that you are able to join us on Friday 3 May 2019 for what will be the start of a regular gathering on the first Friday of every month!

Tickets available here: tickets.ardshiel.co.uk

Drink Whisky!

Save the date!
Friday 3 May

CALL TO BOOK
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*Offer subject to availability. Good for stays Sunday-Thursday nights between 1 May 2019 and 30 September 2019 at The Ugadale or Royal Hotels. Rate includes VAT and £3 nightly resort fee and is based on 2 people sharing one hotel room or 4 people sharing a 2-bedroom cottage.

Brookmyre's latest crime novel makes good summer read

I recently was lucky enough to get my hands on a copy of Christopher Brookmyre's new novel, *Fallen Angel*, which is published by Little, Brown today (April 25), writes Susan Windram.

This standalone book references a number of recent events, but based as it is on a tragedy involving a young girl on a family holiday in Portugal and given the Netflix documentary, the disappearance of Madeleine McCann will undoubtedly immediately spring to many people's minds.

In an interview with *The Times* in January, Brookmyre said that while the book makes fleeting reference to the McCann story, 'anyone who reads it will see that it is not intended as an echo of any real-life incident'.

In *Fallen Angel*, a toddler goes missing while on holiday and is presumed drowned. Years later the family return the holiday complex where it all happened. A nanny, visiting a neighbouring property, hearing about the incident,



Christopher Brookmyre.

Photograph: Angus Blackburn

suspects a family member of hiding a 'terrible' secret about the death.

For anyone heading off to the sun, this book makes a good holiday read. There is enough intrigue and well-developed characters to keep you interested, and although I managed to figure out most of what was going on by the final chapter, there was one little twist I wasn't expecting, which will put a smile on the face of Brookmyre's regular readers.

Brookmyre has a well-deserved reputation for writing good crime fiction, and this book is no exception.

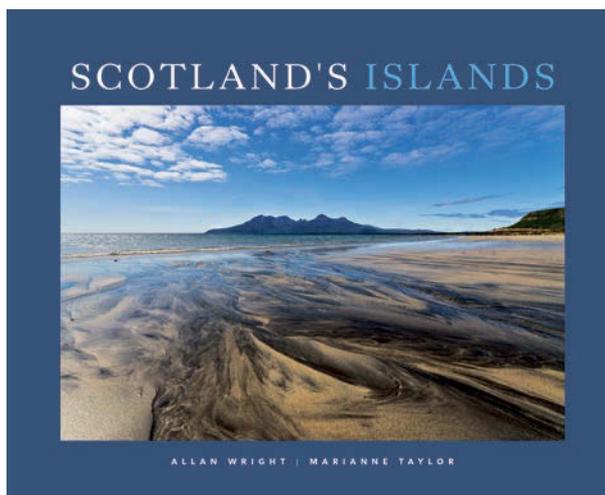
Photographer's new book is visual feast for island lovers

Award-winning landscape photographer Allan Wright demonstrates his unique ability to evoke and capture the spirit of the land, with the publication of his latest book.

Scotland's Islands, one of two new publications by the photographer launched last week, is packed with more than 200 stunning photographs that he taken over the years.

The eloquent writing of journalist Marianne Taylor – new literary editor for *Scotland's Herald* – expertly complements Wright's photographic skills. Taylor's personal reflections reveal her own special relationship with her favoured isles.

Whether weaving a course northwards on Scotland's famously beautiful West Coast through the Sound of Mull, the Inner Hebrides, the Small Isles and on out to the Western Isles, including remote St Kilda, or surfing the wind with the birds on Orkney's perilous clifftops and on to the most northerly and dramatic Shetland Islands, neither photographer nor writer are strangers to Scotland's seaboard.



Wright, an explorer at heart, has spent many years as a lensman, journeying onshore and off.

He says: 'There is nothing I enjoy more than the encounter and challenge involved in zeroing in on the moment to capture that once-in-a-lifetime shot.'

And on witnessing the sun setting on a Lochranza stag party on the isle of Arran, or rising over a herd of glistening grey Highland ponies, readers too are invited to share these very special mo-

ments. He continued: 'This portfolio of photographs exists by virtue of my being held captive by the beauty and atmosphere of these islands, and whereas I enjoy my job immensely, it is still work.'

'In general and in practice I will claim that it is the land that seems to speak to me, although I do also shorten the odds by making precise logistical calculations for some shots.'

'It is humbling and gratifying to encounter lyrical mo-

ments of fleeting beauty. The famously changeable nature of Scottish light, especially on the West Coast, means an alertness and readiness to move on opportunities is very much part of the game.

'I see my role in this process as a receiver transmitter, summed up well by Yann Arthus-Bertrand whose statement: "The Earth is Art, The Photographer is only a Witness"', speaks volumes about the role we photographers play in creating landscape consciousness.'

Wright second book to be published recently is *Vintage Tractors*, a marvellous photographic chronicle of a bygone era that pays tribute to the tractor in its many guises.

With more than 70 photographs of mainly abandoned tractors discovered in outstandingly beautiful Scottish locations, this is a real collectors must have.

The book includes the personal reflections on a life with tractors by Ayrshireman Russell McNab.

The books are both available to buy from the publishers website, www.scottishbookstore.com



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OLIVE GARDEN
MEDITERRANEAN & SEAFOOD

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MONDAY: 08.00 am on Fm, 08.10 breakfast show, 9.00 Monday morning with Stephen, 11.00 Ian Simmonds Monday Mix, 17.00 Drivetime, 19.00 Rosie's Highland fling with Rosie MacColl, 20.00 John McLuckie's show, 21.00 David Cullen show, 23.00 Through the night with Clyde 2
TUESDAY: 08.00 am on Fm, 08.10 Breakfast show, 10.00 Ken Hunter's Tuesday morning, 13.00 Macky on Fm, 17.00 Drivetime with Jim Lynch, 19.00 Highest praise with Stuart Chalmers, 20.00 Clyde 2 through the night with the Greatest Hits.
WEDNESDAY: 08.00 am on Fm, 08.10 breakfast show, 09.00 Sounds Scottish repeat, 10.00 The Comfort Zone with Lesley Blair Simmonds, 13.00 Doug Carmichael in the afternoon, 17.00 Drivetime with Campbell Cameron, 19.00 Country meets Rock & Roll with Len Ford & Kenny MacLachlan alternating, 21.00 Gordon's Grooves with Gordon Macintyre, 12.00 Midnight through the night with Clyde 2.
THURSDAY: 08.00 - 11.00 Breakfast with Andy and Sarah, 11.00 Molly's Mix with Molly Black, 15.00 Drivetime with Stephen McPhee, 19.00

Christine's collection, 21.00 Ann's Ceilidh, 22.00 Margo till midnight then Through the night with Clyde 2.
FRIDAY: 08.00 breakfast show with Laura, 10.00 Teeny and Tiny aka Harry, Janet, and Anna, 17.00 Drivetime with Jim Lynch, 18.45 Sports View, 19.00 Country meets Country with Jackie Craig, 21.00 Peter Rainnie 12.00 Midnight through the night with Clyde 2.
SATURDAY: 08.00 The Breakfast show with Stephen MacPhee, 10.00 Saturday Morning live with Linda Crosher, 13.00 Clyde2 Sports and the Greatest hits, 18.00 Sports view - Oban Fm Dream team, 19.00 Sounds Scottish with Archie Darling, 20.00 Dave Lewis, 22.00 Margo till Midnight then Through the night with Clyde 2 and the Greatest Hits.
SUNDAY: 09.00 Sunday Morning with Breege, 11.00 Sunday brunch with Allan MacKechnie, 13.00 Clyde 2 on a lazy Sunday afternoon with the Greatest Hits, 19.00 New Country show - David Entwistle, 21.00 Drum & Bass - Graham Scott, 23.00 Clyde 2 through the night with the Greatest Hits.

Glasgow Letter

ROBERT ROBERTSON

robert.d.robertson@hotmail.co.uk



I hope everyone had a relaxing Easter weekend and managed to get out and about in the beautiful spring weather. As I walked down Byres Road, along Dumbarton Road, and through Finnieston, it was great to see the number of people sitting out in the sun in beer gardens or restaurants. It felt like a scene from a Mediterranean country!

The abundance of people eating out reminded me of a tale I was told by the mother of a friend of mine; about her own first trip to a restaurant in Glasgow some years ago. Being from the Hebrides, she was not used to frequenting a posh city restaurant and was, therefore, feeling slightly out of her comfort zone.

At the end of the meal, the bill arrived with pieces of tablet. Delighted with this finishing gesture, but quite lost for words after such a classy meal, the lady natu-

rally reverted to her island roots and, without thinking, exclaimed to the waitress: That's fantastic! Did you make the tablet yourself?!

Glasgow Skye Association concert

The Glasgow Skye will bring another season to a close this weekend with their closing concert, The Wee Skye, on Saturday evening in the Crawford Hall, Beith Street.

Singers will be DI Brown, Darren MacLean, Catherine Tinney, and Mischa MacPherson. The piper for the evening will be John A Gillies and Jean Ann Callender will play the fiddle. In the chair will be the president of the Tìre Association, Margaret MacKinnon.

Edinburgh Argyll Association

St Cuthbert's Church, Lothian Road, will be the

venue for this cèilidh at 7.30pm on Saturday night - doors open at 7.15pm.

Margaret Nicolson will sing some Gaelic songs accompanied by Stewart MacDonald on guitar; Julie MacFadyen will also give a few Gaelic songs; and Anne McClary will sing in Scots. Steph Humphrey (clàrsach) and Andrew MacIntyre (highland pipes) will be the instrumentalists.

The cèilidh comes at a promising time for cèilidhs in the city of Edinburgh given that Comunn Tìr nam Beann Dùn Èideann's closing cèilidh a fortnight ago had an amazing attendance of 89 audience members - including 35 Norwegian tourists!

Another Successful Morino Day

I didn't manage to attend but, judging by Facebook and Instagram, the Park

Bar's bi-annual Morino day (a full day of Scottish dance music celebrating the famous Hohner Morino) seems to have been a tremendous day.

Members of Scottish dance bands from around the country were in attendance, and there were some guest appearances from members of Trail West, Gunna Sound, and Skerryvore.

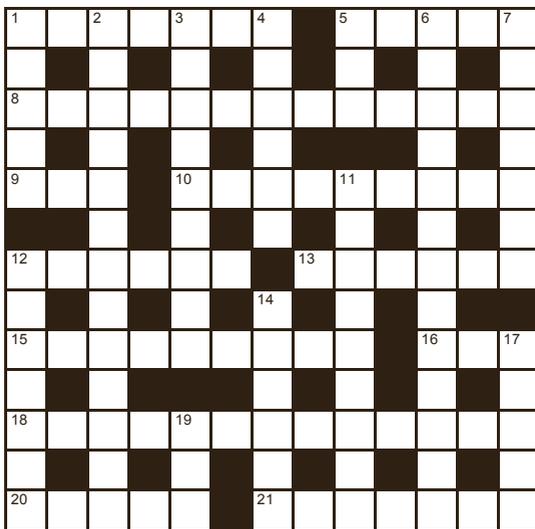
What's On

Saturday April 27: Glasgow Skye Association Annual Spring Concert (Wee Skye) in the Crawford Hall, Beith Street, at 7.30pm.

Saturday April 27: Glasgow Islay Association to host Tartan Pimpernel play in Partick Burgh Halls at 3pm.

Saturday May 11: Mòd Ghlaschu Strictly Come Cèilidh Dancing fundraising evening in the Woodside Hall.

Crossword



Across

- 1 Follow (7)
- 5 With weapons (5)
- 8 Above suspicion (13)
- 9 Part of WWW (3)
- 10 Type of triangle (9)
- 12 Refusal to recognise or acknowledge (6)
- 13 Nude (6)
- 15 Change of tone of voice (9)
- 16 Public transportation (3)
- 18 Tones of five whole and two others (8,5)
- 20 Vote into office (5)
- 21 One who examines (7)

Down

- 1 Offensive term for a female North American woman (5)
- 2 Seen in a playground (8,5)
- 3 Interpret (9)
- 4 Church official (6)
- 5 Remains of fire (3)
- 6 Books travelling round the region (6,7)
- 7 As a crab, ready to eat (7)
- 11 One who specialises in the law of the Catholic Church (9)
- 12 Diminish (7)
- 14 Glass ingredient (6)
- 17 Affirm (5)
- 19 Frequently (3)

LAST WEEK'S SOLUTION



Can you think of a better view whilst enjoying the finest locally caught seafood?



A sample of our fresh, locally sourced ingredients, perfectly cooked and served all day...

Potted crab • Hand dived Tayvallich landed king scallops • Sound of Jura langoustines • Classic moules marinière
Traditional fish and chips • Scottish sirloin steak • Roasted Ragu • Cranachan
Key lime pie...

And much more to wet your appetite.

Food served all day: Breakfast served from 10am. Lunch served from 12pm through to dinner. Last orders for food at 9pm

Tayvallich, Lochgilphead, PA31 8PL www.tayvallichinn.com

For reservations contact us on 01546 870282



COMMUNITY NOTICEBOARD

Green Shoots Open Garden Day
Glencruitten Woods
Saturday 27th April
11am-3pm
Free event but donations welcome.
Produce, activities, home baking.
Contact Catriona for more details 07775995650

OBAN MUSIC SOCIETY
SUMMER PROGRAMME
J.S. Bach's Goldberg Variations and Rachmaninoff's Second Piano Sonata
April 27, 7.30pm
Peter Seivewright, piano

To advertise in the Oban Times/Lochaber Times leisure section please call 01631 568000

Spring 2019
Edition

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& WEST HIGHLAND TIMES

LOCHABER TIMES
& Oban Times

• Menus and prices correct at time of going to press. • Menus are restaurant's own. • Home delivery available only where noted.



We don't do fast food,
we do quality food as fast as we can.



1 MEAL



Cheese Burger
Chips & Drink

£5.00



2 MEAL



Fish Fillet Burger
Chips & Drink

£5.00



3 MEAL



Veg Burger
Chips & Drink

£5.00



4 MEAL



Donner Burger
Chips & Drink

£5.00



5 MEAL



1/2 Pounder Cheese Burger
Chips & Drink

£6.50



6 MEAL



Sky Scraper Burger
Chips & Drink

£7.00



7 MEAL



12" Pizza with 2 toppings
(1 Veg & 1 Meat Topping)
Mix Kebab or Mixed Pakora
Chips & Drink

£15.00



8 MEAL



Wrap Donner or Chicken Pakora
or Veg Pakora or Chicken Tikka
or Strips
Chips & Drink

£6.00



9 BONELESS



1 Chicken Nugget
Chicken Popcorn
Donner Meat
Hot Shot
Chicken Pakora
Chips & Drink

£8.50



10 MEAL



10" Pizza with
2 Toppings
(1 Veg & 1 Meat Topping)
Donner
or Veg Pakora
Chips & Drink

£12.00



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Open 7 Days
Monday to Sunday 4pm to 11pm
Home Delivery Available
From 5pm to 11pm
DELIVERY CHARGES Only £3 for Dunollie & Soroba



STARTERS

	Small	Large
01 Chicken Pakora	£5.50	£7.00
02 Mix Pakora	£5.50	£7.00
03 Vegetable Pakora	£4.00	£5.00
04 Mushroom Pakora	£4.00	£5.00
05 Potato Fritters	£4.00	£5.00
06 Onion Rings	£4.00	£5.00
07 Potato Wedges	£4.00	£5.00
08 Curly Fries	£4.00	£5.00
09 Garlic Mushroom		£4.50
10 Spicy Mushroom		£4.50
11 Fried Mushroom		£4.50
12 Prawn Cocktail		£4.50
13 Chicken Tikka Starter		£5.00
14 Lamb Tikka Starter		£6.00
15 Chicken Chaat		£4.00
16 Mozzarella Sticks		£4.00

PURI

Fried Chapati with sweet and sour sauce with a choice of your topping

17 Chicken Puri	£5.00
18 Prawn Puri	£5.00
19 Mushroom Puri	£4.00
20 Vegetable Puri	£4.00
21 Channa Puri	£4.00

HOGGIES

Chips, Cheese & Kebab meat wrapped in a chapati with sauce

	Regular	King
22 Donner Hoggie	£5.50	£7.50
23 Chicken Tikka Hoggie	£6.00	£8.00
24 Chicken BBQ Hoggie	£6.00	£8.00
25 Chicken Pakora Hoggie	£6.00	£8.00
26 Mixed Hoggie		
(Chicken Tikka & Donner meat)	£6.00	£8.00
27 Special Mix Hoggie		
(Lamb Donner & Chicken Tikka)	£6.50	£8.50

TORTILLA WRAP NEW

Served with salad & sauce

28 Donner Wrap	£5.00
29 Chicken Mayo Wrap	£5.00
30 Chicken Tikka Wrap	£5.00
31 Chicken Pakora Wrap	£5.00
32 Veg Pakora Wrap	£4.50
33 Spicy Chicken Wrap	£6.00
34 Mix Wrap Chicken Tikka & Donner	£6.00

CHIPS 'N'

King served with Nan

	Reg	Large	King
35 Chips	£2.00	£3.00	£5.00
36 Spicy Chips	£2.50	£3.50	£5.50
37 Chips & Donner Meat	£4.50	£6.00	£7.50
38 Chips & Cheese	£3.50	£4.50	£6.00
39 Chips, Cheese & Donner	£5.50	£6.50	£8.00
40 Chips & Curry Sauce (Indian)	£3.00	£4.00	
41 Chips & Coleslaw	£3.50	£4.50	
42 Chips, Cheese & Coleslaw	£4.50	£5.50	

SAUCES

43 Curry Sauce	£4.00
44 Bhoona Sauce	£4.50
45 Korma Sauce	£4.50
46 Masala Sauce	£4.50
47 Chasni Sauce	£4.50
48 Clyine Sauce	£4.50
49 Patia Sauce	£4.50

Any sauce same try with chips or rice will be same price

OBAN GRILL SPECIALTIES - £8.00

Rice not included

Lamb or King Prawn £2 extra

50 Chicken Tikka Masala

Tender pieces of chicken tikka, cooked in a special tikka masala sauce with fresh cream and ground cashew nuts - Mild Strength.

51 Chicken Tikka Bhoona

Chicken tikka pieces cooked in a bhoona Sauce with ginger, garlic, tomatoes & coriander - Medium Strength.

52 Chicken Tikka Pardesi

Prepared in fresh ginger, garlic with spinach & mushroom - Medium Strength.

53 Chilli Tikka Masala

Barbecued pieces cooked in fresh ginger, garlic, green pepper, touch of green chilli, fresh tomato with garlic chilli sauce and topped with fresh coriander.

54 Chicken Tikka Nentara

Chicken marinated in special sauce, cooked slowly with fresh herbs & spices retaining all the natural juices with prawn - Medium Strength.

55 Chicken Tikka Achari

A strong spicy dish, slightly sour, cooked tangy pickle, fresh green chillies & a wedge of lemon - Hot Strength.

56 Chicken Tikka Garam Masala

Selected pieces of chicken tikka cooked in a garlic butter with blend of warm spices giving an excellent dish of medium to hot strength.

57 Chicken Tikka Makhni Masala

Barbecued pieces of chicken tikka cooked in a rich sauce with peeled plum tomatoes, ground cashew nuts, fresh cream, herbs & spices - Medium Strength.

58 Chicken Tikka Chasni

A sweet & sour smooth tangy dish prepared with fresh cream, mild spices & a wedge of lemon.

59 Chicken Tikka Jaipuri

A traditional dish from the orange city of Jaipur India. Chicken tikka pieces with sliced pepper, mushrooms & onions - Medium Strength.

60 Chicken Tikka Jalfrezi

A milder version of Jaipuri. Cooked with fresh cream & a choice of veg. Topped with almond flakes - Mild Strength.

61 South Indian Garlic Chilli Chicken

Barbecued pieces of chicken with a fresh green chilli, fresh garlic & ginger with a hint of fresh coriander - Hot Strength.

62 Chicken Tikka Punjabi Masal

Barbecued pieces of chicken with Punjabi spices, green peppers, onion & green chillies. Hot curry just like bhoona style.

63 Special Butter Chicken

Chicken cooked in chef special sauce.

TANDOORI SIZZLERS

All sizzler dishes are served with salad, curry sauce, rice or nan. Tandoori dishes are marinated in yoghurt and a selection of herbs & spices, then barbecued in a charcoal fired clay oven (known as a tandoori).

64 Chicken Tikka, Boneless spring chicken marinated in spices & herbs cooked in a tandoori	£9.00
65 Lamb Tikka, Tender chunks of lamb fillets marinated with herbs & cooked in a tandoori	£10.00
66 Mixed Tikka Chicken tikka, lamb tikka served with curry sauce, salad & rice or nan	£10.00
67 Tandoori Mixed Grill, chicken tikka, lamb tikka, donner meat & chicken chaat, rice & nan.	£13.00
68 Half Tandoori Chicken	£10.00

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Argyll PA34 4HS

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We don't do fast food,
we do quality food as fast as we can.



TRADITIONAL DISHES (rice not included)

The following dishes can be made hot or mild at no extra charge.
Lamb £1 extra, King prawn £2 extra, Prawn 50p extra.

69 Chicken Curry	£7.00
70 Chicken & Mushroom Curry	£7.00
71 Chicken Dopiazza (extra onion)	£7.00
72 Chicken Bhoona - Medium Strength.	£7.00
73 Chicken Korma	£7.00
74 Chicken Dhansak - Fairly hot Strength	£7.00
75 Chicken Patia (sweet & sour)	£7.00
76 Chicken Rogan Josh	£7.00
77 Chicken with Vegetables	£7.00
78 Chicken Vindaloo (very hot)	£7.00
79 Chicken Madras (fairly hot)	£7.00

SPECIAL KORMA DISHES

Korma dishes are traditionally mild & creamy. A very popular dish offering a unique & mouth-watering taste.

80 Chicken Ceylonese Korma	£7.50
Prepared with fresh cream & coconut.	
81 Chicken Mughlai Korma	£7.50
Smooth & creamy	
82 Chicken Mirchi Korma	£7.50
Prepared with yoghurt, fresh cream & fresh green chillies (medium/hot)	
83 Chicken Kashmiri Korma	£7.50
Cooked with fresh cream & fruit cocktail or pineapple	
84 Chicken Mango Korma	£7.50
Cooked with fresh cream and sliced mango	
85 Punjabi Style Korma	£7.50
Creamed coconut and green pepper is used in this dish, slightly hot.	
86 Vegetable Korma	£7.00
Prepared with fresh cream & coconut.	

VEGETARIAN DISHES

Rice not included

87 Mixed Vegetable Curry	£6.00
88 Aloo Gobi (potato & cauliflower)	£6.00
89 Saag Aloo (spinach & potato)	£6.00
90 Turka Daal Lentils	£6.00
91 Mixed Vegetables Dopiazza (extra onion)	£6.00
92 Mixed Vegetable Patia (sweet & sour)	£6.00
93 Mixed Vegetable Bhoona	£6.00
94 Mixed Vegetable Korma	£6.00

Any dishes not on the menu can be specially prepared on request.

BIRYANI

These dishes are cooked in a wok with onions, peas & basmati rice, served with separate mild, medium or hot sauce.

95 Chicken Biryani	£8.50
96 Lamb Biryani	£9.50
97 Chicken Tikka Biryani	£9.00
98 Prawn Biryani	£9.50
99 Mixed Biryani (lamb, chicken, prawn)	£9.50

EUROPEAN DISHES

Served with chips

100 Fish & Chips	£5.50
101 Plain Fried Chicken & Chips	£5.50
102 Chicken Nuggets & Chips	£5.50
103 Chicken Popcorn & Chips	£5.50
104 Plain Omelette & Chips	£5.50
105 Spanish Omelette	£6.50
(green pepper, onions, sweetcorn, tomatoes)	
106 Chicken Omelette	£6.50
107 Cheese Omelette	£6.50
108 Chicken Salad	£6.50

ACCOMPANIMENTS

109 2 Poppadoms	£1.00
110 Spicy Onions	50p
111 Mango Chutney	50p
112 Mixed pickle	50p

TANDOORI BREADS

113 Tandoori Chapati	£1.00
114 Buttered Chapati	£1.00
115 Vegetable Paratha	£3.50
116 Paratha	£2.50
117 Tandoori Nan	£2.50
118 Cheese Nan	£3.50
119 Garlic Nan	£3.50
120 Peshawri Nan (sweet)	£3.50
121 Garlic & Coriander Nan	£3.50
122 Cheese & Onion Nan	£3.50
123 Cheese & Garlic Nan	£3.50

RICE

124 Fried Rice	£2.50
125 Boiled Rice	£2.50
126 Onion Rice	£3.50
127 Mushroom Rice	£3.50

128 Chicken Rice	£3.50
129 Egg Rice	£3.50
130 Special Rice	£3.50
(sweetcorn, onion, mushroom & green pepper)	
131 Prawn Rice	£4.00

KIDS MEAL

Small tray any time with cheese 50p extra

132 Chicken Nuggets & Chips	£4.00
133 Lamb Donner & Chips	£4.00
134 Chicker Donner & Chips	£4.50
135 Chips	£1.70
136 Curly Fries	£2.00
137 Potato Veg	£2.00

PIZZA

10" 12" 16"

All our pizza are made using fresh dough.
Stuffed crust pizza 10" & 12" - £2 extra. 16" - £3 extra

138 Cheese Pizza	£6.00	£7.00	£12.00
Oban Grill special sauce with real mozzarella cheese			
139 Onion Pizza	£7.00	£8.00	£13.00
Any one topping from onion, tomato, mushroom or green pepper			
140 Chicken Tikka Pizza	£7.00	£9.50	£13.50
141 Hawaiian	£7.50	£9.50	£13.00
Ham & pineapple			
142 Chunky Chicken	£7.50	£9.50	£13.50
Chicken tikka, onion, green peppers, mushroom			
143 Rooster Booster	£7.50	£9.50	£13.50
Chicken, onion & Sweetcorn			
144 Vegetarian	£7.50	£9.50	£13.50
Selection of 4 veg, toppings of your choice			
145 Pepperoni	£7.50	£9.50	£13.50
Pepperoni & cheese			
146 Italian Connection	£7.50	£9.50	£13.50
Pepperoni, salami & olives			
147 Turkish Style	£7.50	£9.50	£13.50
Donner meat, onions & tomatoes			
148 Indian	£7.50	£9.50	£13.50
Chicken tikka, green chillies & onion			
149 Seafood	£7.50	£9.50	£13.50
Tuna & prawn			
150 4 Seasons	£7.50	£9.50	£13.50
Onion, mushroom, green pepper & tomato			
151 Italiano Mafia	£7.50	£9.50	£13.50
Tomato, pepperoni, salami, fresh garlic, onion, cheese			



CONTACT INFO

Tel: 01631 358246

Open 7 Days

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Home Delivery Available

From 5pm to 11pm

DELIVERY CHARGES Only £3 for Dunollie & Soroba



152 Spicy Chicken £8.50 £9.95 £14.00

Choice of medium or hot

153 Spicy Mince £8.50 £9.95 £14.00

Choice of medium or hot

EXTRA TOPPING

Extra Veg Toppings £1.00 £1.50 £2.00

Extra Meat Toppings £1.50 £2.00 £2.50

Extra Cheese Toppings £1.00 £1.50 £2.00

CALAZONI PIZZAS 10" 12"

154 Meat Lover £7.50 £9.50

(donner, pepperoni, salami, ham)

155 Pepperoni (1 veg topping) £7.50 £9.50

156 Ham & Mushroom £7.50 £9.50

157 Mix (chicken tikka & lamb donner) £7.50 £9.50

158 Lamb Donner (1 veg topping) £7.50 £9.00

159 The Mexian Way £7.50 £9.50

(chicken tikka, green chilli)

160 Spicy Chicken or Spicy Mince £7.50 £10.00

161 Chicken Korma or

Chicken Tikka Masala £8.00 £10.00

TURKISH KEBABS

Small Pitta Large Mini Nan King Nan

Separate sauce & salad 50p extra, pitta bread 50p extra

162 Donner £5.00 £6.50 £8.00

163 Special Donner £5.50 £7.00 £9.00

(onion, green peppers & mushroom)

164 Chicken Tikka Kebab £5.50 £7.00 £9.00

165 Special Chicken

Tikka Kebab £6.00 £7.50 £9.50

(onion, green peppers & mushroom)

166 Lamb Tikka £6.50 £7.50 £10.50

167 Special Lamb

Tikka Kebab £7.00 £8.00 £11.00

(onion, green peppers & mushroom)

168 Mix Kebab £5.50 £7.00 £9.00

(chicken tikka & donner kebab)

169 Special Mix Kebab £6.00 £7.50 £9.50

(chicken tikka & lamb donner,

onion, green peppers & mushroom)

170 Pitta Salad

or Nan Salad £2.00 £3.00 £5.00

Set Meal A for 1

2 Poppadoms, Spiced Onions, Veg Pakora, Any 1 Curry of your choice, (chicken or chicken tikka) Fried Rice or Nan or Chips.

£11.00

Chicken Pakora £1 extra

Lamb £1.50 extra

Set Meal B for 2

2 Poppadoms, Spiced Onions and Mango Chutney

Choice of starters from: Mix Pakora or Chicken Pakora

Choice of Any 2 Curries from:

Chicken or Chicken Tikka, 2 Pilau Rice or 2 Nan

£22.00

Lamb £1.50 extra each tray

Set Meal C for 4

4 Poppadoms, Spiced Onions and Mango Chutney

Any 2 starters from: Mix Pakora, Chicken Pakora, Veg

Pakora, Mushroom Pakora, Potato Fritter.

Choice of Any 4 Curries from:

Chicken or Chicken Tikka, 2 Pilau Rice, 2 Plain Nans

£43.00

Lamb £1.50 extra each tray

8" Munchie Box

8" Pizza Box filled with:

Onion Rings, Mixed Pakora, Chips, Donner Meat & 3

Tub of Sauce Served on Pitta Bread & Potato Fritter.

£8.00

10" Munchie Box

10" Pizza Box filled with:

Onion Rings, Mixed Pakora, Chips, Donner Meat & 3

Tub of Sauce Served on Nan Bread & Potato Fritter.

£10.00

12" Munchie Box

12" Pizza Box filled with:

Onion Rings, Mixed Pakora, Chips, Donner Meat & 3

Tub of Sauce Served on Nan Bread & Potato Fritter.

£12.00

Party Box £25.00

16" Pizza Box

Pakora, Donner Meat, Chicken Nuggets, Chicken

Popcorn, Chips, 2 Nan Bread, 4 Tub of Dips & 2lt Bottle

Of Juice.

BURGERS

£1.00 extra with chips

171 Burger £3.50 £5.00

172 Cheese Burger £3.50 £5.00

173 Chicken Burger £3.50 £5.00

174 Chicken Tikka Burger £4.00 £5.00

175 Fish Fillet Burger £3.50 £5.00

176 Veg Burger £3.50 £5.00

177 Peri Peri Burger £4.00 £5.50

178 Hawaiian £5.00

(ham, pineapple & cheese)

179 Mexican Burger £5.00

(green chillies & cheese)

180 Donner Burger £3.50

181 Mama Mia £5.50

(double burger topped with pepperoni ham,

salami, cheese and any sauce you like)

182 Yankee Doodle Dandy £5.50

(double burger topped with ham, garlic,

mushroom, cheese, salad and any sauce you like)

183 Sky Scrapper £5.50

(double burger topped with donner meat,

cheese, salad and any sauce you like)

184 The Don Burger £6.50

(triple burger with cheese)

10" MAGIC BOX

10" Pizza Box filled with:

Chicken, Veg, Mushroom Pakora, Onion Rings, Chips, Chicken Nuggets, Chicken Popcorn, Donner Meat & 3 Tub of Sauce

£12.50

12" MAGIC BOX

12" Pizza Box filled with:

Chicken, Veg, Mushroom Pakora, Onion Rings, Chips, Chicken Nuggets, Chicken Popcorn, Donner Meat & 3 Tub of Sauce

£15.00

GRILLED BOX

1/2 Tandoori Chicken, Chicken Tikka,

Lamb Tikka, Donner Meat,

Chicken Chaat, Chips,

3 Tub of Sauce, with Nan Bread.

£13.00

**45 Combie Street, Oban,
Argyll PA34 4HS**

**HOME
DELIVERY
AVAILABLE**





Award Winning

The most popular and established chippy in Oban

Three generations of frying excellence

Open 12 mid day - Late
Seating Available

Visit the best chippy in Oban

3 generations of frying excellence

	NO Chips	Chips
Haddock	£4.70	£6.70
Cod	£4.70	£6.70
Large Haddock	£8.10	£10.00
Large Cod	£8.10	£10.00
Breaded Fish	£5.20	£7.20
Wholetail Scampi	£4.70	£6.70
Calamari	£6.00	£8.00
Seafood Basket	£6.00	£8.00
Salt & Pepper Squid	£6.00	£8.00
Fishcakes	£3.00	£5.00

	NO Chips	Chips
Chicken Breast	£4.70	£6.70
Chicken Leg	£6.50	£8.50
Chicken Leg	£3.50	£5.50
Chicken Nuggets	£3.30	£5.30

Small Large

Chips	£2.00	£3.00
Chip Butty	£1.90	
Chips & Curry	£2.90	£3.90
Chips & Gravy	£2.90	£3.90
Chips & Mushy Peas	£3.00	£4.00
Chips & Cheese	£3.00	£4.00
Chip Butty & Curry	£2.60	
Chip Butty & Cheese	£2.80	
Chips & 2 Toppings	£4.00	£5.00

All Burgers are Buttered

NO Chips Chips

Hamburger	£3.00	£5.00
Cheese n Burger	£3.00	£5.00
Veggie Burger	£3.00	£5.00
Chicken Burger	£3.00	£5.00
Steak Pie	£3.10	£5.10
Scotch Pie	£2.50	£4.50
Chicken Pie	£3.10	£5.10



CONTACT INFO

Tel: 01631 563736

Open 7 Days

Monday to Thursday 12pm - 10.30pm

Friday and Saturday 12pm - 11.30pm

Sunday 12pm - 10.30pm



NO Chips Chips

Sausage	£3.00	£5.00
Smoked Sausage	£3.00	£5.00
King Rib	£3.00	£5.00
Haggis	£3.00	£5.00
Black Pudding	£3.00	£5.00
White Pudding	£3.00	£5.00
Stornoway Black Pudding	£3.00	£5.00

Fried Half Pizza	£2.40	£4.40
Fried Whole Pizza	£4.30	£6.30
Half Battered Pizza	£2.70	£4.70
Whole Battered Pizza	£4.80	£6.80
Macaroni	£4.50	£6.50

Sides

Tub of Curry	£1.60
Tub of Gravy	£1.60
Tub of Mushy Peas	£1.60
Onion Rings	£1.80
Pineapple Fritter	£1.00
Buttered Roll	50p
Pickled Onions	30p
Gherkins	50p
Egg	50p



Drinks

Tea/Coffee	£1.50
Can of Juice	£1.00
500ml Bottle	£1.50

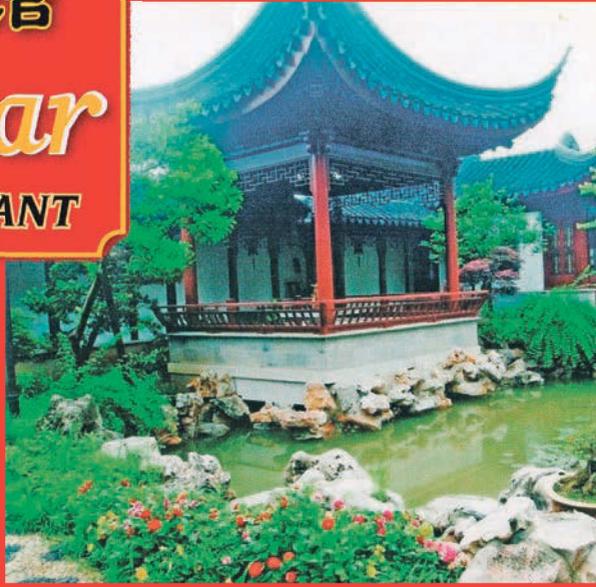
88 George St, Oban,
Argyll PA34 5NN

**Sit in or
take away**



New 京都菜馆 Highland Star CHINESE RESTAURANT

UNDER NEW MANAGEMENT



SOUP

1. Hot & Sour Soup £4.00
2. Won Ton Soup £4.00
3. Crab Meat Sweetcorn Soup £3.50
4. Chicken Sweetcorn Soup £3.00
5. Chicken Noodle Soup £3.00
6. Chicken Mushroom Soup £3.00

APPETISERS

7. Crispy Aromatic Duck
(Served with Pancakes. Cucumber. Spring Onions and Duck Sauce)
Whole £30.00 Half £17.00 Quarter £10.00
8. House Combination Hot Platter
(Peking Spare Ribs, Pancake Rolls, Prawn on Toast. Chicken Nuggets & Onion Ring) £13.00
9. BBQ Pork Spare Ribs (with Sauce or Dry) £6.50
10. BBQ Pork Spare Ribs Peking Style £6.50
11. Salt & Pepper Spare Ribs £6.50
12. Salt & Pepper Chicken Wings £6.00
13. Crispy Pancake Rolls (3) £4.50
14. Vegetable Pancake Rolls (10) £3.80
15. Prawn on Toast £5.00
16. Prawn Cocktail £4.50
17. Chicken Satay (or skewers) (4) £5.50

Most Chinese Dishes are cooked with Onions
Please Let Us Know If Onions Are Not Required!

SEAFOOD DISHES

18. Salt & Pepper King Prawn £7.00
19. Salt & Pepper Fish (Large) £7.00
20. Kung Po Prawn £7.00
21. King Prawn with Chilli & Black Bean Sauce £7.00
22. King Prawn Szechuan Style
(Stir fried with hot bean sauce) £7.00
23. King Prawn with Yu Hsiang Style
(Stir fried with hot garlic sauce) £7.00
24. King Prawn with Oyster Sauce £7.00
25. King Prawn with Tomato £7.00
26. King Prawn with Sweetcorn £7.00
27. King Prawn with Pineapple £7.00
28. King Prawn with Ginger & Spring Onion £7.00
29. King Prawn with Chinese Mushroom £7.00
30. King Prawn with Straw Mushroom £7.00
31. King Prawn with Fresh Mushroom £7.00
32. King Prawn with Cashew Nuts £7.00
33. King Prawn with Bamboo Shoots & Water Chestnuts £7.00
34. Fried Sliced Fish with Chilli & Black Bean Sauce £7.00
35. Fried Sliced Fish with Garlic & Wine Sauce £7.00
36. Fried Sliced Fish Kung Po Style £7.00

DUCK DISHES

37. Roast Duck in Orange Sauce £7.20
38. Roast Duck with Chilli & Black Bean Sauce £7.20
39. Roast Duck Szechuan Style
(Stir fried with hot bean sauce) £7.20
40. Roast Duck Yu Hsiang Style
(Stir fried with hot garlic sauce) £7.20
41. Roast Duck with Ginger & Spring Onion £7.20
42. Roast Duck with Pickled Ginger & Pineapple £7.20
43. Roast Duck with Pineapple £7.20
44. Roast Duck with Chinese Mushroom £7.20
45. Roast Duck with Straw Mushroom £7.20
46. Roast Duck with Fresh Mushroom £7.20
47. Roast Duck with Beansprouts £7.20

BEEF DISHES

48. Northern Hot Beef £6.30
49. Crispy Beef in Peking Sauce £6.30
50. Sauteed Beef Hong Kong Style £6.30
51. Sauteed Beef Szechuan Style
(Stir fried with hot bean sauce) £6.30
52. Sauteed Beef Yu Hsiang Style
(Stir fried with hot garlic sauce) £6.30
53. Sauteed Beef with Chilli & Black Bean Sauce £6.30
54. Sauteed Beef with Ginger & Spring Onion £6.30
55. Sauteed Beef with Oyster Sauce £6.30
56. Sauteed Beef with Cashew Nuts £6.30
57. Sauteed Beef with Sweetcorn £6.30
58. Sauteed Beef with Tomato £6.30
59. Sauteed Beef with Chinese Mushroom £6.30
60. Sauteed Beef with Straw Mushroom £6.30
61. Sauteed Beef with Fresh Mushroom £6.30
62. Sauteed Beef with Onions £6.30
63. Sauteed Beef with Beansprouts £6.30

CHICKEN & PORK DISHES

64. Kung Po Chicken £6.30
65. Crispy Chicken in Peking Sauce £6.30
66. Salt & Pepper Chicken Pieces £6.30
67. Lemon Chicken Cantonese Style
(sweet & sour sauce) £6.30
68. Lemon Chicken in Lemon Sauce £6.30
69. Chicken Szechuan Style
(Stir fried with hot bean sauce) £6.30
70. Chicken Yu Hsiang Style
(Stir fried with hot garlic sauce) £6.30

71. Chicken with Chilli & Black Bean Sauce £6.30
72. Chicken with Garlic & Wine Sauce £6.30
73. Chicken with Oyster Sauce £6.30
74. Chicken with Cashew Nuts £6.30
75. Chicken with Ginger & Spring Onion £6.30
76. Chicken with Chinese Mushroom £6.30
77. Chicken with Straw Mushroom £6.30
78. Chicken with Fresh Mushroom £6.30
79. Chicken with Tomato £6.30
80. Chicken with Sweetcorn £6.30
81. Chicken with Pineapple £6.30
82. Chicken with Bamboo Shoots & Water Chestnuts £6.30
83. Sliced Roast Chicken & Chinese Roast Pork with Beansprouts (Chinese style) £6.30
84. Sliced Chinese Roast Pork with Beansprouts £6.30
85. Sliced Chinese Roast Pork with Chinese Mushroom £6.30
86. Sliced Chinese Roast Pork with Fresh Mushroom £6.30
87. BBQ Pork Chop in Peking Sauce £6.90
88. Fried Pork Chop with Salt & Pepper £6.90

SATAY DISHES

(Contain trace element of Nuts)

89. King Prawn in Satay Sauce £7.00
90. Roast Duck in Satay Sauce £7.20
91. Chicken in Satay Sauce £6.80
92. Beef in Satay Sauce £6.80

SWEET & SOUR DISHES

93. House Special in Satay Sauce £7.50
94. Sweet & Sour Fish Hong Kong Style £7.00
95. Sweet & Sour King Prawn Hong Kong Style £7.20
96. Sweet & Sour Chicken Hong Kong Style £6.80
97. Sweet & Sour Pork Hong Kong Style £6.80
98. Sweet & Sour King Prawn Balls £7.20
99. Sweet & Sour Chicken Balls £6.80
100. Sweet & Sour Special Hong Kong Style £7.50

CHOP SUEY DISHES

101. House Special Chop Suey £7.50
102. King Prawn Chop Suey £7.00
103. Chinese Roast Pork Chop Suey £6.80
104. Chicken Chop Suey £6.80
105. Beef Chop Suey £6.80

*Please inform us if you have any food allergies



CONTACT INFO

Tel: 01397 703905
Tel: 01397 700061

Open 7 Days

Monday to Sunday 11am to 11.30pm

Home Delivery Service Available CASH ONLY

If there is a special Chinese meal that is not on our menu which you would like to request, please give us one day's notice to prepare.



CURRIED DISHES

(with Fried Rice or Boiled Rice or Chips)

106. House Special Curry.....	£8.00
107. King Prawn Curry.....	£7.80
108. Roast Duck Curry.....	£8.00
109. Chinese Roast Pork Curry.....	£7.50
110. Chicken Curry.....	£7.50
111. Beef Curry.....	£7.50

EGG FOO YUNG DISHES

112. Special Egg Foo Yung.....	£7.50
113. King Prawn Egg Foo Yung.....	£7.00
114. Chinese Roast Pork Egg Foo Yung.....	£6.80
115. Chicken Egg Foo Yung.....	£6.80

CHOW MEIN

116. House Special Chow Mein.....	£7.50
117. King Prawn Chow Mein.....	£7.30
118. Young Chow Chow Mein.....	£7.20
119. Chinese Roast Pork Chow Mein.....	£6.80
120. Chicken Chow Mein.....	£6.80
121. Beef Chow Mein.....	£6.80
122. Plain Chow Mein.....	£3.00

RICE DISHES

123. House Special Fried Rice.....	£7.50
124. Young Chow Fried Rice.....	£7.20
125. King Prawn Fried Rice.....	£7.00
126. Roast Pork Fried Rice.....	£6.80
127. Chicken Fried Rice.....	£6.80
128. Beef Fried Rice.....	£6.80
129. Egg Fried Rice.....	£2.80
130. Boiled Rice.....	£2.50

VEGETARIAN DISHES

131. Sweet & Sour Mixed Vegetables.....	£5.80
132. Kung Po Mixed Vegetables.....	£5.80
133. Szechuan Mixed Vegetables.....	£5.80
(Stir fried with hot bean sauce)	
134. Yu Hsiang Mixed Vegetables.....	£5.80
(Stir fried with hot garlic sauce)	
135. Mixed Vegetables in Chilli & Black Bean Sauce.....	£5.80
136. Mixed Vegetables Curry with Boiled Rice.....	£5.80
137. Mixed Vegetables Chop Suey.....	£5.80
138. Mixed Vegetables Fried Rice.....	£5.80
139. Mixed Vegetables Chow Mein.....	£5.80
140. Noodles with Onion & Beansprouts (Large)....	£4.50

SINGAPORE & THAI DISHES (SPICY)

141. Singapore Rice Vermicelli.....	£7.50
142. Singapore Chow Mein.....	£7.20
143. Singapore Fried Rice.....	£7.20
144. Thai Special Curry.....	£7.50
145. Thai King Prawn Curry.....	£7.20
146. Thai Chicken Curry.....	£7.00
147. Thai Beef Curry.....	£7.00

EUROPEAN DISHES (SERVED WITH CHIPS)

148. Chicken Nuggets with Chip & Gravy Sauce.....	£6.80
149. Chicken Omelette.....	£6.80
150. Prawn Omelette.....	£7.50
151. Mushroom Omelette.....	£6.00

SALAD DISHES

152. Chicken Salad.....	£6.80
153. Prawn Salad.....	£7.00

EXTRAS

154. Chips.....	£2.80
155. Fried Mushroom.....	£3.50
156. Deep Fried Onion Rings.....	£3.50
157. Fried Onion.....	£3.50
158. Fried Beansprouts.....	£3.50
159. Fried Bamboo Shoots & Water Chestnuts.....	£3.80
160. Prawn Crackers.....	£2.80
161. Sweet & Sour Sauce.....	£2.80
162. Curry Sauce.....	£2.80
163. BBQ Sauce.....	£2.80
164. Chips & Curry Sauce (Large).....	£4.30
165. Fried Rice & Curry Sauce (Large).....	£4.30
166. Chips, Fried Rice & Curry Sauce (Large).....	£4.60
167. Salt & Pepper Chips.....	£4.80

SWEETS

168. Banana Fritter (with Ice Cream £1.20 Extra).....	£3.00
169. Pineapple Fritter (with Ice Cream £1.20 Extra).....	£3.00
170. Lychee (Chinese fruit).....	£3.50

BEVERAGES

Soft Drink (Can) (Coke, Irn Bru).....	£1.00
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CHEF'S FAVOURITE

172. Roast Duck with Lemon Sauce.....	£7.50
173. Roast Duck with Plum Sauce.....	£7.50
174. Roast Duck with Hoi Sin Sauce.....	£7.50
175. Beef Kung Po Style (Sweet & Sour Spicy).....	£6.80
176. Chicken with Cashew Nuts in Yellow Bean Sauce.....	£6.80
177. Chicken with Peking Sauce.....	£6.80
178. Roast Pork with Peking Sauce.....	£6.80
179. Roast Pork with Chilli & Black Bean Sauce.....	£6.80
180. Salt & Pepper Shredded Beef.....	£6.80
181. Salt & Pepper Duck.....	£7.50
182. Crispy Beef with Peking Sauce.....	£6.80
183. Chicken in Orange Sauce.....	£7.00

SET DINNER (BANQUET)

MEAL FOR 2 PERSON £30.00

Chicken Sweetcorn Soup
Prawn Crackers
1/4 Aromatic Duck
(served with pancakes, Cucumber, Spring Onion & Duck Sauce)

Sweet & Sour Chicken Hong Kong Style
Beef with Chilli & Black Bean Sauce
Chicken with Mixed Vegetable
Egg Fried Rice

MEAL FOR 3 PERSON £45.00

Chicken Sweetcorn Soup
Prawn Crackers
1/2 Aromatic Duck
(served with pancakes, Cucumber, Spring Onion & Duck Sauce)

Sweet & Sour Chicken Hong Kong Style
King Prawn with Chilli & Black Bean Sauce
Lemon Chicken
Beef with Mixed Vegetable
Egg Fried Rice

MEAL FOR 4 PERSON £62.00

Chicken Sweetcorn Soup
Prawn Crackers
3/4 Aromatic Duck
(served with pancakes, Cucumber, Spring Onion & Duck Sauce)

Sweet & Sour Chicken Hong Kong Style
Beef in Satay Sauce
Chicken With Fresh Mushroom
King Prawn with Chilli & Bean Sauce
House Special with Mixed Vegetable
Egg Fried Rice

MEAL FOR 6 PERSON £90.00

Chicken Sweetcorn Soup
Prawn Crackers
Whole Aromatic Duck
(served with pancakes, Cucumber, Spring Onion & Duck Sauce)

Sweet & Sour Chicken Hong Kong Style
Beef in Satay Sauce
Lemon Chicken
Orange Duck
King Prawn with Chilli & Bean Sauce
House Special with Mixed Vegetable
Crispy Beef Perking Sauce
Egg Fried Rice

**155 High Street, Fort William,
PH33 6EA**

**HOME
DELIVERY
AVAILABLE**



ABI'S KEBABABS

FRESHLY HOME BAKED PIZZA

	10"	12"
MARGHERITA (cheese).....	£6.00	£7.00
HAWAIIAN (ham & pineapple).....	£7.50	£8.50
VEGETARIAN (onion, mushroom, olive mixed peppers & tomato).....	£7.50	£8.50
SPICY VEGETARIAN (jalapeno, onion, mushroom & mixed peppers)	£7.50	£8.50
FOUR SEASON (ham, salami, peppers & mushroom)	£7.50	£8.50
MEAT FEAST (pepperoni, salami & smoke sausage)	£7.50	£8.50
HOT & SPICY (beef, onion, mixed peppers & jalapeno) ...	£7.50	£8.50
SALAMI GARDENS (salami, sweetcorn, mixed peppers & olives).....	£7.50	£8.50
HOUSE SPECIAL (pepperoni, chicken, ham, doner, salami, mushroom & mixed peppers)	£8.50	£9.50
ZINGARA (salami, mushroom & mixed peppers)	£7.50	£8.50
CAMBRETTI (tuna & onion)	£7.50	£8.50
MARIA ROSEA (chicken, salami, mushroom & mixed peppers)	£8.50	£9.50
AMERICAN HOT (pepperoni, onion, jalapeno, mushroom)	£8.50	£9.50
JALAPENO (tomato, jalapeno & garlic).....	£7.50	£8.00
NAPOLI (salami & chicken)	£7.50	£8.50
TURKISH STYLE (doner)	£7.50	£8.50
ORIENTAL (beef & onion).....	£7.50	£8.50
10" TOPPING	£1.00	
12" TOPPING.....		£1.20

CALZONE FOLDED PIZZA

	10"
CALZONE I (pepperoni, mixed peppers, mushroom & tomato).....	£9.50
CALZONE II (salami, onion, mixed peppers & mushroom)	£9.50
CALZONE HOT & SPICY (spicy beef, onion, mixed peppers & mushroom)	£9.50
CALZONE VEGETARIAN (onion, olives, mushroom & mixed peppers)	£9.50
CALZONE DONER (doner, mushroom & mixed peppers).....	£9.50
CALZONE CHICKEN (chicken, mixed peppers, tomato & onion).....	£9.50
CALZONE SPICY CHICKEN (spicy chicken, onion, mushroom & tomato).....	£9.50
CALZONE SPICY MINCE (spicy mince, onion & mixed peppers)	£9.50

ABI'S KEBABS

DONER KEBAB	(Small) £6.00	(Large) £7.00
DONER KEBAB WRAP	£5.50	
DONER MEAT & CHIPS.....	£7.00	
DONER BURGER & CHIPS	£6.50	
CHICKEN KEBAB.....	£6.90	
SHISH KEBAB	£8.00	
MIX KEBAB	£9.50	
ABI'S SPECIAL KEBAB	£13.00	
CHICKEN DONER	£9.50	
SHISH & DONER	£9.50	
KOFDE KEBAB.....	£6.50	
SPICY CHICKEN WRAP	£6.50	



FISH, CHICKEN & CHIPS

	Single	Supper
FISH & CHIPS.....	£5.50	£7.20
SCAMPI & CHIPS	£5.50	£7.20
CHICKEN & CHIPS	£5.50	£6.70
CHICKEN GOUJONS	£4.50	£5.90
CHICKEN NUGGETS	£4.50	£5.80
CHICKEN PAKORA	£4.50	£5.50
MIX PAKORA	£4.50	£6.50



**28/32 CINEMA LANE,
FORT WILLIAM
PH33 6AT**

**Tel:
01397 704634**

**OPENING TIMES
Sunday - Thursday 4pm-10pm
Friday & Saturday 4pm-11pm**



FAMILY DEAL
2 X 10" PIZZAS WITH ANY 2
TOPPINGS
1 X GARLIC BREAD
1 X LARGE PORTIONS OF CHIPS
1 X TUB OF COLESLAW
2 LITRE BOTTLE OF COKE
£19.00

PARTY DEAL
3 X 12" PIZZAS WITH
ANY 2 TOPPING
2 X 12" GARLIC BREAD WITH CHEESE
2 X LARGE PORTIONS OF CHIPS
2 LITRE BOTTLE OF COKE
£36.00

FLAME GRILLED BURGERS

	Single	Supper
BEEF BURGER.....	£3.60	£5.50
CHEESE BURGER.....	£3.70	£5.50
DOUBLE BEEF BURGER.....	£4.50	£6.50
DOUBLE CHEESE BURGER.....	£4.80	£6.50
DOUBLE CHEESE BURGER & DONER MEAT.....	£5.90	£7.50
DOUBLE CHEESE BURGER & BACON.....	£5.40	£7.50
DOUBLE CHEESE BURGER & BACON & EGG.....	£5.90	£7.50
TRIPLE CHEESE BURGER.....	£5.90	£7.50
TRIPLE CHEESE BURGER & DONER MEAT.....	£6.50	£8.00
CHICKEN BURGER.....	£3.80	£5.50
CHICKEN CHEESE BURGER.....	£3.90	£6.50
SPICY CHICKEN BURGER.....	£4.50	£6.50
SPICY CHICKEN CHEESE BURGER.....	£4.60	£6.50
VEGETARIAN BURGER.....	£3.90	£6.20

PUDDINGS, PIES & SAUSAGES

	Single	Supper
RED PUDDING.....	£3.50	£5.70
WHITE PUDDING.....	£3.50	£5.70
BLACK PUDDING.....	£3.50	£5.70
HAGGIS.....	£3.50	£4.90
KING RIB.....	£3.70	£5.90
SAUSAGE.....	£3.20	£5.40
SMOKED SAUSAGE.....	£3.20	£4.50
BATTERED SMOKED SAUSAGE.....	£3.50	£5.50

CHIPS & SPECIALS

	Small	Large
CHIPS.....	£2.30	£2.90
CHIPS & CHEESE.....		£3.70
CHIPS & CURRY SAUCE.....		£3.70
CHIPS & BEANS.....		£3.50
CHIPS & CHEESE & BEANS.....		£4.00
CHIPS & COLESLAW.....		£3.50
CHIPS & CHEESE & COLESLAW.....		£4.60
CHIPS & MUSHY PEAS.....		£3.70
ONION RINGS.....		£2.90
VEGETABLE PAKORA.....		£3.90
TUB OF COLESLAW.....	£2.50	£3.00

DRINKS

CAN.....	£1.40
500ml BOTTLE.....	£1.70
2lts BOTTLE.....	£2.70

KIDS MEALS

ALL SERVED WITH CHIPS & DRINK	
PIZZA.....	£4.50
GOUJONS.....	£4.50
NUGGETS.....	£4.50
SAUSAGE.....	£4.50
SCAMPI.....	£4.50
FISH FINGERS.....	£4.50



Highland

Riverside Filling Station

Oban Road, Lochgilphead
01546 603 858

Quality Fresh Food From Local Producers



- Fergusons Butcher
- K Walkers Butchers Kilcreggan
- Murray Smoked Products
- Kintyre Eggs
- Wee Isle Dairy
- Ifferdale Lamb
- Ardfern Village Cakes
- Argyll Bakeries



Can't wait until home? Try our great range of produce at the Riverside Cafe

OPENING TIMES
Monday to Friday 6am - 4pm,
Saturday 7am - 1.30pm, Sunday 10am - 2pm.



- Quality Local Produce
- Groceries
- Café - fresh hot food
- Car care
- Coal, peat & logs
- Jetwash / Vac

Open 7 days
6am - 11pm



BONNIE babies competition 2019

**WIN
£500**

Vote now for your top 30!

Our readers never, ever let us down! You have been voting in droves for our Bonniest Baby and today we can unveil the top 50 – as chosen by you!

You now have the unenviable task of whittling these cute wee munchkins down to our top 30.

Voting closes at 10am on Monday April 29th. You know the drill by now, just select your favourite and complete the voting coupon and either post it to us or hand it in to our Oban or Fort William offices.

Our top 30 will be published on Thursday 2nd May – Vote for your favourite now!

VOTING COUPON LOCHABER TIMES & Oban Times The Oban Times & WEST HIGHLAND TIMES

I would like to vote for:

Baby number*:

Baby's name:

Please post to The Oban Times, Bonnie Babies VOTE, PO Box 1, Oban, Argyll, PA34 4HB.

*Baby number must be supplied. This can be found at the top left of each baby photograph.

Photocopied voting coupons will not be accepted and will not count as one vote.

You may send in multiple voting coupons in one envelope. Coupons can also be handed in to our offices in Oban and Fort William.



Terms & conditions: One coupon counts as one vote. From Thursday the 11th of April 2019 you will be able to vote for your favorite Bonnie Baby. Over the next few weeks we will publish in our papers and the digital editions the pictures of the entries. You will be able to vote for the baby you think should win either by purchasing a paper or if you are a paid for Digital Subscriber. You can vote for their favorite by emailing the number and name of chosen baby to bb@obantimes.co.uk – please include the email that you used to subscribe to our service with. This email will be checked against our live subscribers records and if valid - one vote will be allocated to your chosen entry – Only one vote per week per valid subscriber is allowed and duplicate votes will be discarded. If you wish to put in more votes you must purchase additional copies of the paper Your email address will only be used to validate your vote and will then be deleted – it will not be used for any other purpose. Customer services: 01631 568000. Photocopied voting coupons will not be accepted. The deadline to receive votes is 10am, Monday April 29, 2019.

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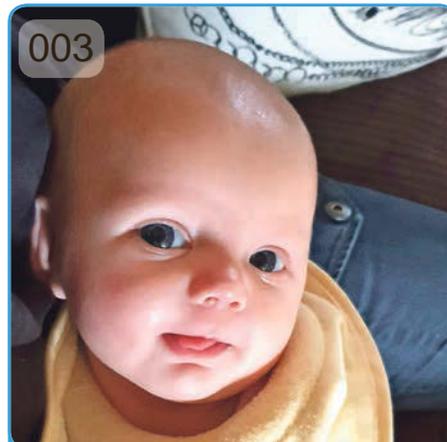
Logan Khan
Born February 2018 Dunbeg

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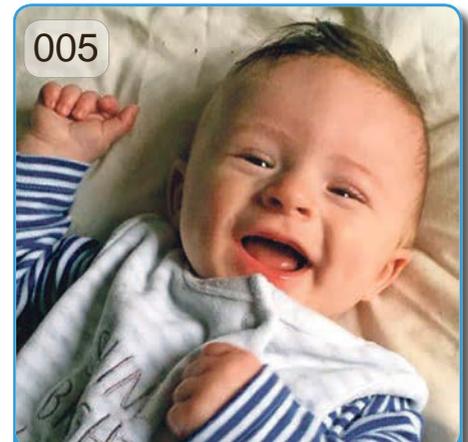
Laura Rose MacDonald
Born September 2018 Dunbeg

003

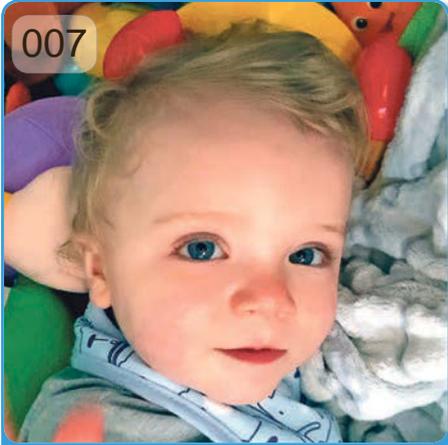


Makayla-Leigh Lawrie
Born October 2018 Caol, Fort William

005



Myles O'Neill Gibson
Born October 2018 Fort William



007

Tony Cranston
Born February 2018 Ardrishaig



008

Jessica Gibb
Born November 2018 Lochgilphead



010

Caleb Ellis
Born January 2019 Edinburgh



012

Elliot Martin
Born November 2018 Benderloch



013

Kendall Cameron
Born December 2018 Fort William



014

James Aitchison
Born February 2018 Fort William



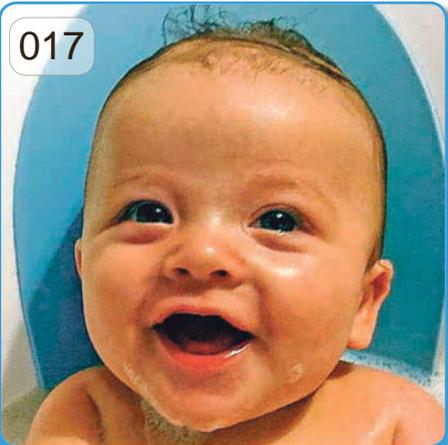
015

Koa Eldon
Born December 2017 Fort William



016

Eva Anna Varadi
Born May 2018 Oban



017

Matthew Russell
Born October 2018 Oban



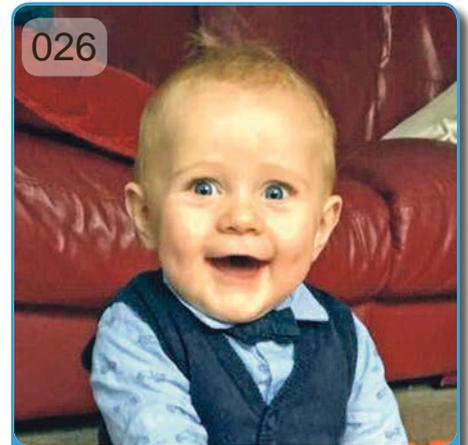
018

Olivia Kerr
Born December 2018 Oban



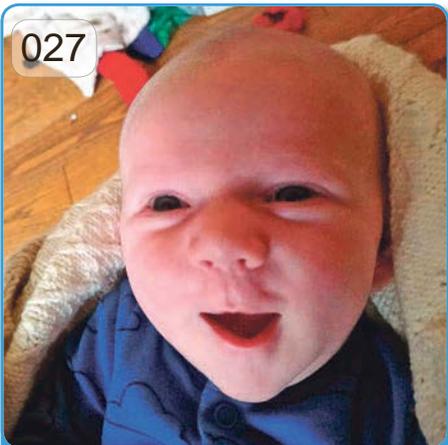
019

Ryan Ward
Born October 2018 Oban



026

Angus John Telfer
Born March 2018 Oban



027

Hunter Smith
Born December 2018 Lochgilphead



029

Alba McNicholas Smith
Born February 2019 Helensburgh



030

Eva Lopes
Born May 2018 Isle of Mull



031

Finn Oliver Mortimer
Born January 2019 Isle of Mull



032

Hollie McMillan
Born October 2018 Oban



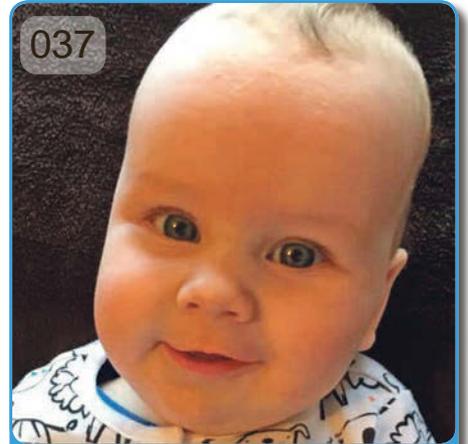
033

James Donald Morrison
Born April 2018 Isle of Islay



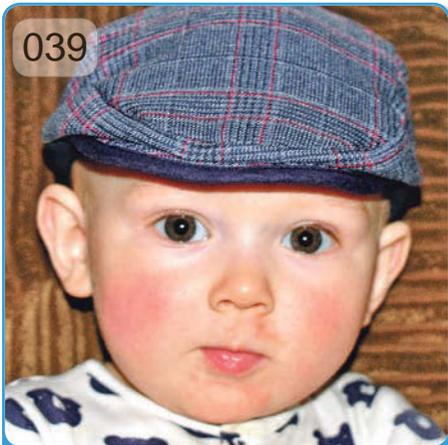
034

Amy Freitas
Born July 2015 Oban



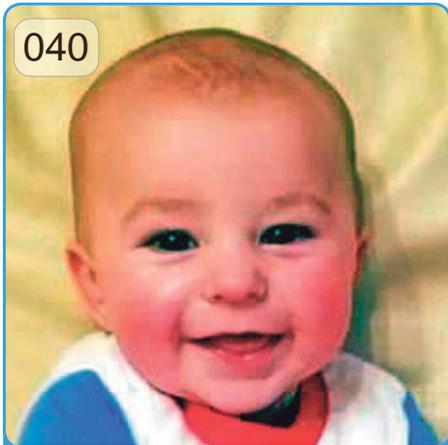
037

Nathan MacKechnie
Born July 2018 Oban



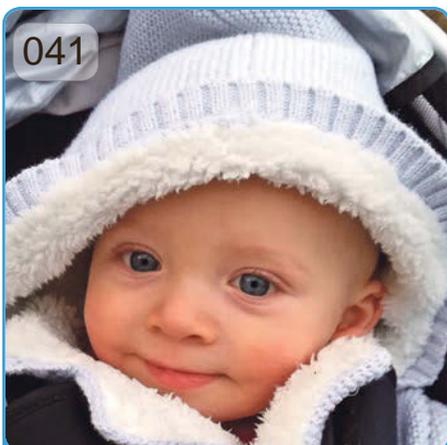
039

Cooper Stewart Cunningham
Born June 2018 Connel



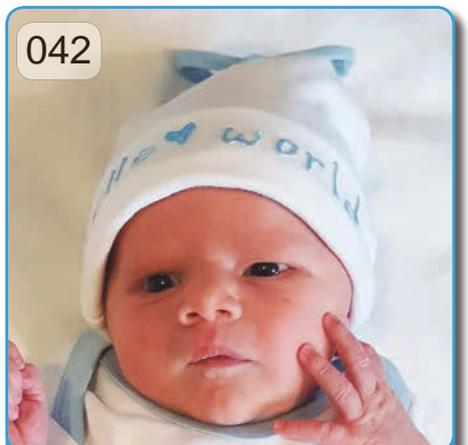
040

Fraser Shaw
Born September 2018 Lochgilhead



041

William Wade-Edwards
Born March 2018 Dunbeg



042

Oliver MacNeill
Born February 2019 Isle of Barra



043

Madison Cline
Born June 2018 Glasgow



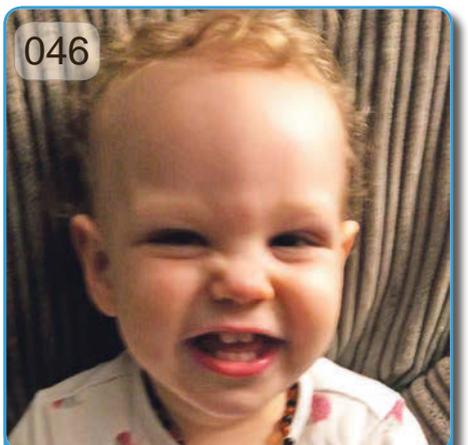
044

Darcy Poulton Watson
Born May 2016 Isle of Mull



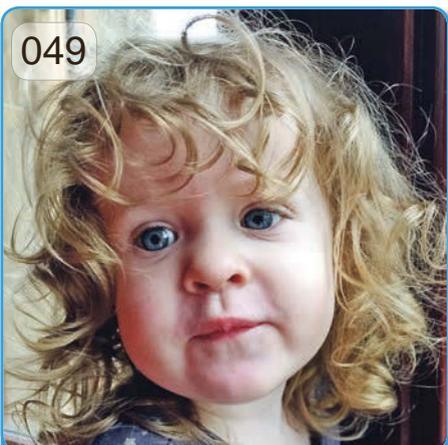
045

Willow Durkin
Born December 2017 Oban



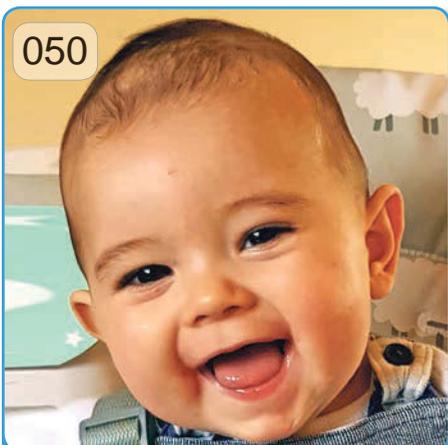
046

Evie Mackinnon
Born July 2017 Oban



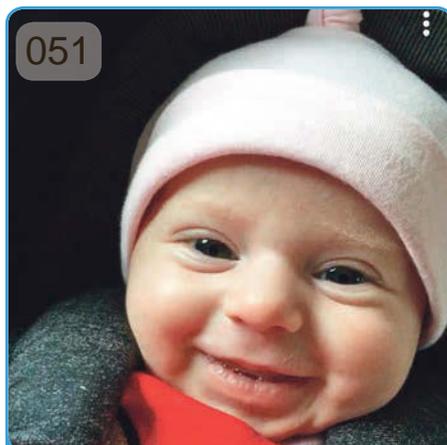
049

Alice Muir
Born April 2017 Glasgow



050

Allan Alvadia
Born September 2018 Oban



051

Amelia MacDonald
Born January 2019 Glasgow



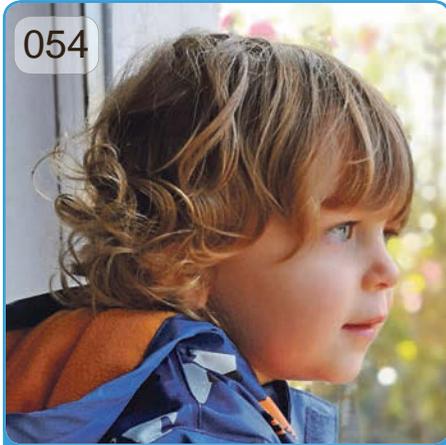
052

Darcie Kate Toal
Born January 2018 Fort William



053

David Laird
Born July 2016 Oban



054

Jamie Madden
Born May 2017 Oban



055

Charlotte Grace MacGillivray
Born August 2018 Barcaldine



057

Lewis Peterson
Born February 2019 Kilninver



058

Mila Mccracken
Born November 2017 Oban



059

Ella Fyfe
Born September 2018 Caol, Fort William



061

Emma Maclean
Born September 2018 Oban



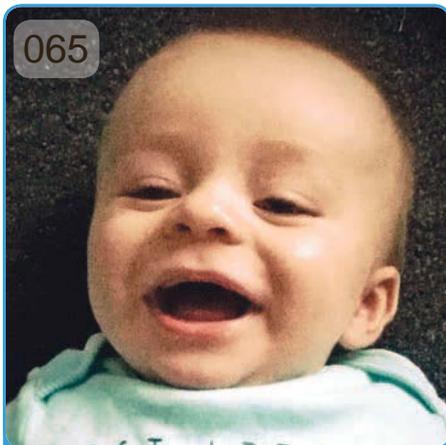
063

Lauren Gillies
Born September 2016 Arisaig



064

Andrew Kea Innes
Born November 2016 Easdale



065

Carter Harvey
Born May 2018 Oban



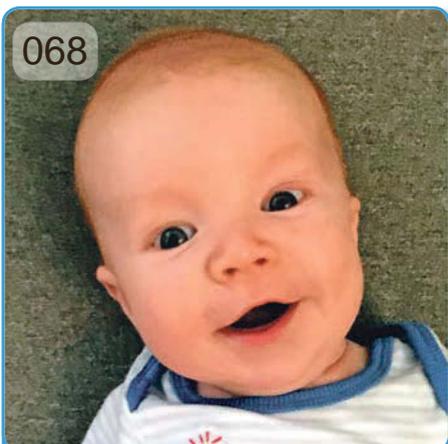
066

Ruaridh Freo Innes
Born October 2018 Easdale



067

Harry Hainsworth
Born May 2018 Fort William



068

Seumas Duncan MacNeil
Born January 2019 Barcaldine



069

Rowan Ewen Kelly
Born August 2016 Fort William

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Festival looks forward to biggest year yet

Thousands of people will be heading to Oban this May Bank Holiday for the 36th Highlands and Islands Music and Dance Festival.

Organisers, who have been working round the clock, are bracing themselves for three days of festival fever, kicking off on May 3.

A bumper number of entries from musicians and dancers are in, including the festival's first piping champion hopeful from New Zealand.

Proud organisers say this year's event is going to be its biggest year yet with new venues and more than 1,100 participants in 125 competition classes in 11 disciplines including piping, accordion, fiddle, clarsach, piano, recorder, singing, woodwind and brass, Highland dancing and choreography.

This year the singing competitions are being extended to welcome Gaelic singers across the age groups to reflect the rise in fluent Gaelic speaking youngsters

who might not have had the opportunity to compete and perform before.

The festival is also linking up with Feis Latharna, a traditional music and Gaelic Arts Tuition programme for young people in Oban and Lorn, so there will be a day of fun and action on Sunday May 5 to encourage new talent to try out new instruments.

Fringe events in venues across the town during the festival and outdoor performers are just some of the added attractions to bring in increased footfall to the town – last year more than 3,000 people came.



Highlands & Islands
MUSIC & DANCE
FESTIVAL

'Organised by volunteers, the committee has been proud to attract more than 3,000 visitors to the town which is a welcome boost to the economy and we are grateful to businesses which support the many fundraising initiatives.

'Over the years the economic impact has been acknowledged and the festival would not be possible without the support of many businesses and lottery funding. This support over the years has enabled young people to have the opportunity to compete to the highest level and then perhaps go on to make solid careers from their musical abilities and passion. Each year I am delighted that our funders and the businesses of Oban share our passion and are generous in support.'

Festival chairperson Breege Smyth said the event provided a 'great outlet' to showcase Argyll which was 'rich in musical and dance heritage.'

Tickets for the annual event can be purchased by calling 07510 841198 or go online to obanfestival.org

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Friday 3rd May

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George Davidson competing at St John's Cathedral last year; Pupils from Tainuilit Primary School were showcasing their musical skills during the 2018 festival; Baird Livingston Highland dancers at Oban's Atlantis Leisure Centre, where they were competing last year.

FÈIS AT THE FESTIVAL

Sunday 5th May 2019
Oban High School
10.00am – 3.00pm

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MUSIC & DANCE
FESTIVAL

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Programme Of Events 2019

THURSDAY 2nd MAY

7:00pm McCaig's Tower Piping Performance – Lions Club

FRIDAY 3rd MAY

9:30am-3:00pm	Corran Halls	Schools Day - Action Song
7:00pm	Corran Halls	Scottish Choreography Challenge
7:00pm	St. John's Cathedral	Accordion & Fiddle Masters
9:00pm	Markie Dans	Live Music
9:00pm	Tartan Tavern	Live Music
9:00pm	Regent Hotel	Come and have a tune, get a free dram

SATURDAY 4th MAY

8:30am	Atlantis Leisure Centre	Scottish Area Finals
9:00am	Oban High School (New)	Piping Competitions
9:15am-3:00pm	Regent Hotel	Fiddle
9:30am-3:00pm	Church Centre	Singing
9:30am	St. John's Cathedral	Piano & Clarsach
10:00am	St. Columba's Cathedral Hall	Accordion
10:00am	Congregational Church Hall	Woodwind Brass
12:00pm-4:00pm	Station Square	OUTDOOR SHOWCASE <i>with live music from Crackin' Craic, The Dice Ceilidh Band, Rumskee and more in our open mic session</i>
12:00pm-4:00pm	Station Square	Oban FM Live
3:00pm	Corran Halls	Scottish Choreography Challenge
3:00pm	Corran Halls	Piping Parade
8:00pm	Royal Hotel	Scottish Show
8:30pm-Late	Argyllshire Gathering	FAMILY CEILIDH music by Sileas Sinclair Ceilidh Band
9:00pm	Markie Dans	Live Music
9:00pm	Tartan Tavern	Live Music

SUNDAY 5th MAY

9:00am	Atlantis Leisure Centre	Highland Dancing Premier Competitions
10:00am-4:00pm	Feis at the Festival	Oban High School
2:00pm-5:00pm	The Barn Bar	Live Music Session
2:30pm	Dunollie Castle & Museum	Piping at the Castle

Festival Family Dance
Festival Fling
with Sileas Sinclair Ceilidh Band

Saturday 4th May 2019 - Argyllshire Gathering Hall, 8.30pm
Tickets available at the door £5.00.
Family Ticket £15.00 (2 adults & 2 children) or Tel. 07510 841198

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Saturday 4th May 2019

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FESTIVAL FAMILY DANCE

Festival Fling

with Sileas Sinclair Ceilidh Band

Saturday 4th May 2019

Argyllshire Gathering Hall, 8.30pm

Tickets available at the door £5.00.
Family Ticket £15.00 (2 adults & 2 children)
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Scotland's beef event to focus on 'beef after Brexit'

The likely impact of Brexit on the beef industry will be the theme of a seminar at Scotland's Beef Event 2019 at North Bethelnie, Oldmeldrum, Aberdeenshire, on Thursday May 30.

Five industry experts offering different perspectives from varied industry backgrounds will be joining the discussion panel which will be chaired by Ken Rundle, former agricultural correspondent with BBC Scotland and latterly head of regional development and partnership in the north with Scotland's rural college, SRUC.

Adopting the theme Beef after Brexit, the panel will comprise economist Peter Cook, director of Food, Drink and Agriculture with Opportunity North East (ONE); politician and farmer Colin Clark, MP for Gordon who farms at Thomastown, Auchterless; banker Brian Richardson, head of agricul-

ture with CYBG (Clydesdale and Yorkshire Bank Group); farmer and vet Kate Rowell, chairwoman of Quality Meat Scotland, who farms at Hundleshope, Peebles; and farmer David Watson, who runs a herd of 440 Salers cross suckler cows on the family farm of Darnford, Durris, Banchory, which was named Scotch Beef Farm of the Year in 2015.

'We may, or may not, know the outcome of the ongoing political battle on Brexit but, either way, our expert panel will have strong views on where we are and the impact on the beef industry of the various Brexit options,' said David Barron, vice-chairman of the Scottish Beef Association, organisers of the event, and chairman of the organising committee.

'We are grateful to our panel members for agreeing to join the discussion which is sure to provide a fascinating



Scotland's Beef Event 2019 hosts Robert and Barbara Milne, and their son, James.

insight into the implications of Brexit for the beef industry which is such an important part of Scotland's agricultur-

al economy, particularly here in the North-east.'

Scotland's Beef Event 2019 is expected to attract a large

attendance of beef farmers from all over Scotland and beyond and will be hosted by Robert and Barbara Milne,

and their son, James.

Visitors will be able to tour the 500-acre all-grass farm and view the suckler herd of 320 Salers and Salers cross cows, which are crossed with Charolais, Salers and Aberdeen-Angus bulls with all calves either finished on the farm or sold as forward stores.

Other features of the one-day event will include a range of technical demonstrations highlighting the latest technology available to beef farmers, beef breeds demonstration, stockjudging competition and more than 120 trade stands.

For more information visit www.scottishbeefassociation.co.uk/scotlands-beef-event or email: natalie.cormack@btconnect.com

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Livestock farmers urged to take leaf out of crop sector book on soil health

NFU Scotland's vice president Martin Kennedy has urged Scotland's livestock and grassland farmers to take a leaf out of their cropping sector colleagues' book when it comes to improving soil health.

Writing his blog while spreading lime on his Highland Perthshire farm, Martin and his family are two years into a five-year programme that will see them soil test every field and then, using GPS technology, target nutrients and fertiliser to

where they are most needed. But such technology, often combined with minimum tillage or no till, has been widely adopted by those growing crops for many years.

The benefits after year one on Martin's farm are stark. Not only is soil health improving but savings on fertiliser of £30 per tonne have already been achieved.

Martin writes: 'I would urge all those in the livestock and grassland sectors who don't presently use this

technology to take a leaf out of the arable sector's book and treat grass with the attention it deserves. After all, from a livestock perspective, it's every bit as important.'

Big win

And the big win in building on Scotland's excellent record on soil health is in storing carbon, an important element in tackling climate change.

'Scottish farmers could do more on soil health, but let's remember that in comparison to some other parts of the world, we are starting from a pretty admirable position. Politicians need to recognise these efforts, particularly in the arable sector, and appreciate that, if we're not careful, the opposite of what is desired will be achieved,' concludes Martin.

Read the full blog at www.nfus.org.uk/news/blog/vice-presidents-blog-19-april-2019

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United Auctions introduces Morton Strachan Memorial Quaich

This year's Stirling Bull Sales in May will see the inaugural presentation of the Morton Strachan MBE Memorial Quaich.

The silver quaich has been created by United Auctions to honour the late leading livestock auctioneer and long-time board member, who sadly died in August 2018.

It will be presented as an annual prize for the Supreme Champion Charolais Bull during the May Bull Sales, which take place this year on May 5 and 6 at Stirling Agricultural Centre.

Morton was a highly respected champion for the agricultural sector with a career spanning more than 50 years.

He left school aged 14 to become a trainee auctioneer at Hamilton market and worked in Edinburgh and Cupar before moving to Stirling market in 1958 where he specialised in selling prime cattle. Morton was managing director of UA from 1990-95 and, following retirement, re-



Morton Strachan MBE.

mained on the main board of UA Group PLC until 1999. He continued to be involved with the bull sales and acted in an advisory capacity as recently as the construction of Stirling Agricultural Centre.

Known for his energy and enthusiasm in and out of the

box, Morton never missed the Royal Highland Show where he was a local director in 1997 and a steward for many years.

Neil McLean, chairman of United Auctions, said: 'Morton lived and worked in Stirling for 60 years, making an indelible mark on those

who knew him by going that extra mile with great care, thought and attention. He was dedicated to his work while being a true family man, so it's fitting that his daughters are the first to present this special tribute which honours his legacy.'

Market report

United Auctions Stirling, Friday April 19:

A total of 2,800 prime sheep consisting of 44 new season lambs were sold, selling to an average of 244.18p and 2067 old season lambs selling to an average of 204.60p and also 689 ewes and rams. New season lambs (44) – West Carse (Suff) £126, Gillbank (BTex) £125, Balgonar (Tex) £120, Balgonar (Cont) £115, Whitehouse (Zwa) £105.

New season lambs (44) – Balgonar (Tex) 279.0ppk, Southfield (Suff) 271.0ppk, Greystone (Zwa) 249.0ppk, Balgonar (Cont) 245ppk, Gillbank (BTex) 231.0ppk.

Old season lambs (2,067) – Luckenburn (BTex) £124, Isle Cottage (Tex) £114.50, Easter Garden (Suff) £100, Wardhead (Chev) £96.50, East Bracklinn (X) £94.50, Lenaig (Mule) £92.50, Baldovie (Cont) £92, Wester Bleaton (BF) £91, Old Faskally (Char) £88.50.

Old season lambs (2,067) – Luckenburn (BTex) 276ppk, Wardhead (Tex) 256ppk, Easter Garden (Suff) 233ppk, Wardhead (Chev) 231ppk, Pityot (X) 221ppk, Old Faskally (Char) 214ppk, Pitsundry (BF) 210ppk, West Balgothrie (Mule) 204ppk.

Ewes (689) – Victoria (Tex) £141, Head of Balglass (X) £108, Barbarafield (Suff) £103, Hoprig (HB) £95, Kirkton (Berr) £95, Gayfield (Zwa) £92, Easter Garden (Mule) £82, Easter Garden (Chev) £80, Fearnoch (BF) £76.

Rams – South Dundonald (Tex) £134, Southfield (Char) £144.

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📍 Forthside Way, Stirling FK8 1QZ
☎ **01786 235 238** 🌐 www.westendskoda.com

Images are for illustrative purposes only. Model shown is not UK specification and may include features or options which are not available in the UK.

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Official fuel consumption WLTP for the ŠKODA KAROQ range in mpg (litres/100km): Combined 50.4 (5.6) to 32.1 (8.8). NEDC equivalent CO₂ combined emissions for the ŠKODA KAROQ range are 158 to 134 g/km.

Figures shown are for comparability purposes; only compare fuel consumption and CO₂ figures with other vehicles tested to the same technical procedures. These figures may not reflect real life driving results, which will depend upon a number of factors including the accessories fitted (post-registration), variations in weather, driving styles and vehicle load. There is a new test used for fuel consumption and CO₂ figures (known as WLTP). The CO₂ figures shown however, are based on a calculation designed to be equivalent to the outgoing (NEDC) test cycle and will be used to calculate vehicle tax on first registration. For more information, please see www.skoda.co.uk/owners/wltp-info or consult your retailer. Data correct at December 2018. Figures quoted are for a range of configurations (including non-UK) and are subject to change due to ongoing approvals/changes. Please contact your retailer for further information. For fuel consumption data based on the outgoing test cycle (NEDC equivalent data), which is the 'official' UK fuel consumption data until 31 December 2018, please consult your retailer.

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We currently have the following vacancies at our Kishorn build Site.

Site Manager

An opportunity has arisen for a Site Manager to oversee operations on a day to day basis, ensuring that work is completed safely and on time, and within budget, to the right quality standard, for our Aquaculture pens used in salmon farming sites. This is a full-time, permanent post, based at our Kishorn Premises.

Applicants should have experience of managing staff in the construction/production industry or similar, have a good knowledge of current health and safety regulations, be skilled at organizing and solving problems. Interpersonal and mediation skills would also be useful as the candidate will often be the liaison between managers, employees and customers. Experience in Aquaculture, PE pipe welding, project planning, purchasing and logistics would be an advantage. Applicants need to have a full driving licence and experience of Microsoft packages.

Site Technician

An opportunity has arisen for a Site Technician to join our Kishorn build team. Experience in Aquaculture and plastic pens, PE Welding would be an advantage. A Tele-handler licence would be desirable. Applicants need to have a full driving licence.

Salary for the above posts will be commensurate with qualifications and experience. Overnight accommodation may be available in Kishorn when required. Benefits include an employer contributory pension, Cycle to Work Scheme and 27 days holidays plus 4 additional days over the festive period.

Closing date for applications is Friday 10th May 2019. Interested applicants should send their CV with cover letter by email or post to:

Mrs Tracy Cleary, HR Manager, AKVA group Scotland Limited
36F Shore Street, Inverness, IV1 1NF

Tel: 01463 221444

Email: tcleary@akvagroup.com

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The role provides excellent opportunity for progression over time, and offers generous holidays, flexible hours with competitive remuneration and pension arrangements while working with a fascinating and inspiring client community. If you are interested in finding out more, please see our websites: www.uhi.ac.uk / www.apuc-scot.ac.uk

How to Apply

To apply for the role, please email your full CV (two pages maximum) to careers@apuc-scot.ac.uk along with covering letter (no more than one page), explaining why you feel you would like to work in this role, noting your current salary level.



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In the first instance, applications, in writing only, giving brief details together with a C.V. if available to: -

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Or by e-mail to : hr@gleaner.co.uk



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Please enclose your CV and return by Thursday 9th May 2019 to Box Number 34, c/o The Oban Times, Crannog Lane, Oban, Argyll PA34 4HB.

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A full current driving licence is essential for this position.

Please apply by email with full CV and contact details to: fiona@wyvexmedia.co.uk

RAS Technicians

Barcaldine, Argyll

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We are recruiting for RAS Technicians for our Freshwater Recirculation Unit located in Barcaldine, Argyll to assist with the day to day operation at Barcaldine site to ensure we achieve set goals including high standard of fish quality, health and welfare

The successful candidate should have at least 2 years practical experience in fish husbandry or equivalent role with a good knowledge of fish welfare and water chemistry.

You must also ensure that all tasks are completed in a professional manner adherent to strict health and safety requirements and practice good house-keeping throughout all activities.

In return, we will offer an attractive salary dependant on experience, discretionary company bonus, pension scheme, life cover, occupational health support, structured training plan, subsidised gym membership and cycle to work scheme. A generous relocation package will be offered as required. **A current driving licence is essential.**

We are an equal opportunities employer and we welcome applications from all suitably qualified persons; however you must be able to provide documentation of your right to work in the UK.

To apply, please visit the careers page on our website: www.scottishseafarms.com/our-people/careers. Closing date for applications is: Friday 3rd of May 2019.



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Health and Wellbeing Practitioner
20-hour contract: 10pm-8am, two days per week with some weekend working

NHS training. For further information or to apply, contact Marie on **07531 194029** or visit www.quarriers.org.uk/jobs.

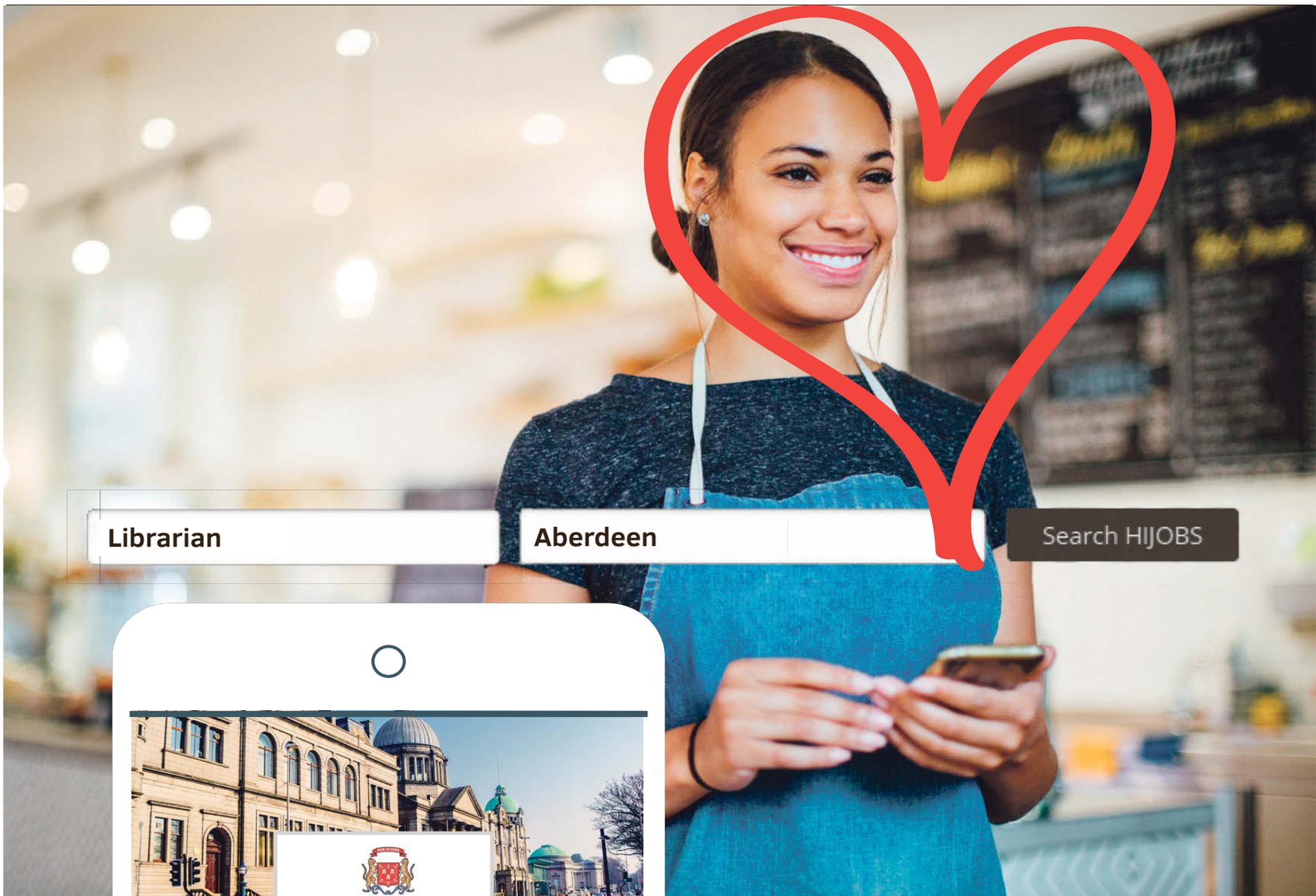


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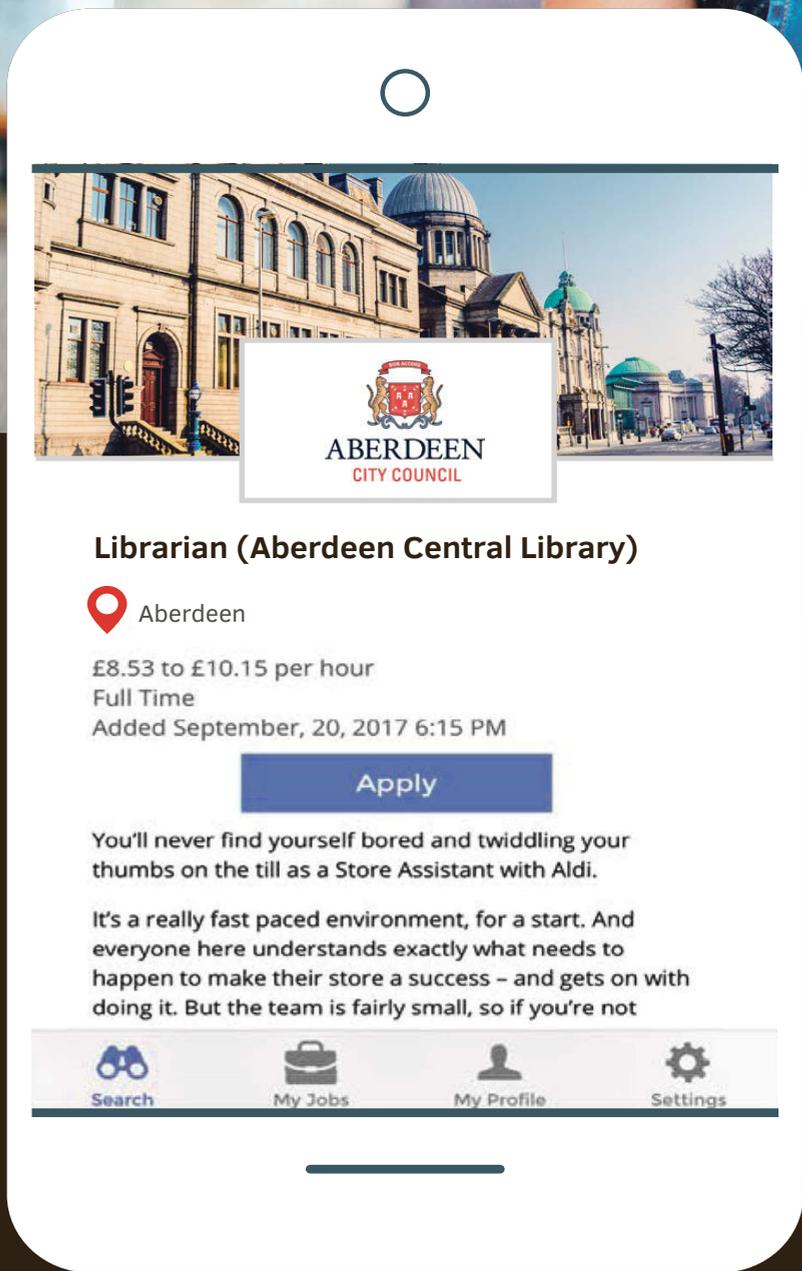




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PLANNING

These applications listed below may be inspected between 09:00-12:30 -13:30-16:00 hrs Monday to Friday at Municipal Buildings Albany Street Oban PA34 4AW, 1A Manse Brae Lochgilhead PA31 8RD, your Local Customer Service Point and 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
19/00733/PPP	Site for the erection of dwellinghouse	Land North Of Campbell Hall Cottage, Ledaig, Oban, Argyll And Bute
18/02784/PP	Erection of a dwellinghouse and installation of a septic tank	Land South Of 10 Cornaigbeg, Kenovay, Isle Of Tiree, Argyll And Bute, PA77 6UU

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 Council's website.

To find out more about living and working in Argyll & Bute visit us at:
www.argyll-bute.gov.uk
Comhairle Earra – Ghàidheal agus Bhòid



Argyll and Bute Council

Councillor Roddy McCuish
(E.W. 4 Oban South and the Isles)

Councillor McCuish will be holding a surgery on **Friday 3rd May 2019** in the **Municipal Buildings, Albany Street, Oban** from **1.30pm – 4.00pm**
He can be contacted by email – Roderick.McCuish@argyll-bute.gov.uk and by telephone 01631 567854

Councillor Jim Lynch
(E.W. 4 Oban South and the Isles)

Councillor Lynch will be holding a surgery on **Friday 10th May 2019** in the **Municipal Buildings, Albany Street, Oban** from **2.00pm – 4.00pm**.
He can be contacted by email – Jim.Lynch@argyll-bute.gov.uk and by telephone 01631 567893

Councillor Sir Jamie McGrigor
(E.W. 5 Oban North and Lorn)

Councillor Sir McGrigor will be holding a surgery on **Friday 24th May 2019** in the **Municipal Buildings, Albany Street, Oban** from **10.00am – 12 Noon**.
He can be contacted by email – Jamie.McGrigor@argyll-bute.gov.uk and by telephone 01631 567853

Councillor Kieron Green
(E.W. 5 Oban North and Lorn)

Councillor Green will be holding a surgery on **Friday 17th May 2019** in the **Municipal Buildings, Albany Street, Oban** from **2.00pm – 4.00pm**.
He can be contacted by email – Kieron.Green@argyll-bute.gov.uk and by telephone 01631 562444

Councillor Elaine Robertson
(E.W. 5 Oban North and Lorn)

Councillor Robertson will be holding a surgery on **Friday 24th May 2019** in the **Municipal Buildings, Albany Street, Oban** from **2.00pm – 4.00pm**.
Councillor Robertson can also be contacted by email – Elaine.Robertson@argyll-bute.gov.uk

www.highland.gov.uk



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>; electronically at the AREA PLANNING AND BUILDING STANDARDS OFFICE, CHARLES KENNEDY BUILDING, ACHINTORE ROAD, FORT WILLIAM, PH33 6RQ; or electronically at your nearest Council 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
19/01357/FUL	Ardru House	Onich, Fort William	Proposed change of use from private residential to Shared Residential Accommodation
19/01613/FUL	Laudale House	Ardgour, Fort William	Erection of extension to outbuildings to form staff accommodation
19/01534/FUL	Land 50M NW Of Farm Foods	Lochyside, Fort William	Erection of 3 houses
19/01606/FUL	Maybank, Mallaig		Siting of 4 no. holiday pods, removal of garages.
19/01216/FUL	55M North West Of Unit 9	Annat Point Industrial Estate Corpach, Fort William	Temporary siting of modular accommodation block
19/01207/FUL	Land 5585M SW Of Camusrory House,	Loch Nevis, Morar, Mallaig	Installation of on shore pontoon

Time period for comments is 14 days
ePlanning Centre, The Highland Council, Glenurquhart Road, INVERNESS IV3 5NX
Email: eplanning@highland.gov.uk

First Registration of a Croft
Raymond Stephenson and Mavis Stephenson has registered their croft 7 Lower Scotstown, Ardnamurchan & Sunart 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 January 11, 2020.
Details of the registration can be found at www.crofts.ros.gov.uk/register/home. The croft registration number is C5879.

Comunn Gàidhealach an Òbain
AGM
7th May 2019
7.30pm
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CONSULTATION FOR THE NATIONAL ISLANDS PLAN IS NOW UNDERWAY.

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- Monday 29 April - Craignure Village hall - Doors open and refreshments served 7.00pm for 7.30pm event start.
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- Wednesday 1 May - Tobermory Aros Hall - Doors open and refreshments served 2.00pm for 2.30pm event start

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Scottish Government Riaghaltas na h-Alba gov.scot

TRANSPORT SCOTLAND

THE A83 TRUNK ROAD (FURNACE TO CUMLODDEN) (40MPH SPEED LIMIT) ORDER 201[]

THE SCOTTISH MINISTERS give notice that they propose to make the above speed limit Order under section 84(1)(a) of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984 which will have the effect of imposing a 40mph speed limit on that length of the A83 Tarbet - Lochgilhead - Campbeltown Trunk Road from a point 1.242 kilometres or thereby south west of the extended centre line of the junction with the C36 Furnace Side Road to a point 130 metres or thereby south west of the point where that trunk road meets the extended western gable wall of Number 1 Cumlodden Cottages, a distance of 1.558 kilometres or thereby.

Full details of the proposal are contained in the Order which, together with a plan showing the length of road involved and statement of the Scottish Ministers' reasons for proposing to make the Order, may be examined free of charge during normal business hours from 25 April until 27 May 2019 at the offices of Transport Scotland, Buchanan House, 58 Port Dundas Road, Glasgow, G4 0HF; Argyll & Bute Council, 1A Manse Brae, Lochgilhead, PA31 8RD and Ardrishaig Community Council, Ardrishaig Public Hall, Chalmers Street, Ardrishaig, Argyll, PA30 8EY.

Any person wishing to object to the proposed Order should send details of the grounds for objection in writing to the Director of Roads, c/o Scott Danks, Transport Scotland, Buchanan House, 58 Port Dundas Road, Glasgow, G4 0HF quoting reference A83/NW/SD by 27 May 2019.

A copy of the Order and this Notice will be available on the Transport Scotland website at <https://www.transport.gov.scot/road-orders/?roadorderregion=1291>

A member of the staff of the Scottish Ministers
Transport Scotland, Buchanan House,
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Dr. Elvire Feeney

Wishes to thank everyone who attended her recent tea party. She also thanks those who sent kind words, cards and gifts. She sincerely thanks the Glen Mor team for their support during her time there and wishes them and all the Glen Mor patients all the best for the future.

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Obituary – farewell Mr Oban Mart

Tributes have been paid to Ronnie Maccormick, a former head yardsman at Oban Livestock Centre.

Mr Maccormick died, aged 70, at his home in Croft Avenue, Oban on March 16.

At a humanist celebration of Mr Maccormick's life at Argyllshire Gathering Halls, Mull farmer Donald MacGillivray from Pennygown Farm said his close friend would be remembered by many.

'Ronnie will be remembered for many reasons, not least, his helpfulness and courtesy to us all,' he said.

Mr Maccormick was born in Iona as the oldest son in a family of six, being educated at the island's primary school before moving on to Oban High School.

After school he returned to Iona to work

for his father and helped to fence apportionment on the common grazing.

With full time jobs being scarce, he went lambing in the Borders and did other farm jobs including shearing.

'He became an expert at the job and his name will be found on trophies won around the many competitions in west Scotland.

'On retiring he became a much-sought-after judge,' said Mr MacGillivray.

He returned to Iona and worked on the ferry for a time but the call of the land persuaded him back to shearing and fencing.

In October 1973 he was awarded the tenancy of Saorphion farm at Bunessan where he stayed for some years.

'To supplement his income he continued shearing and we in Glenforsa were fortunate

to benefit from his services, hard work, and it was always a pleasure to have his craic and stories,' added Mr MacGillivray.

He was involved in local area cattle sales, before they ceased, during which time he caught the eye of Argyll Auctions, resulting in being offered the job of yardsman at the then New Oban Market, a job title he held until his illness overtook him last October.

'He was in the eyes of many, Mr Oban Mart.

'Many reps and auctioneers on their annual visits left the farms not knowing if they had succeeded in persuading them to make use of their facilities until the final hand shake with the parting words – I'll be in touch with Ronnie,' said Mr MacGillivray. Mr Maccormick leaves a wife, Margaret.

THOUGHT for the week



And the Lord said ... Tell the priests who carry the Ark of the Covenant: 'When you reach the edge of the Jordan's waters, go and stand in the river.'

Have you ever been in a situation where it took all your will to start a task or course of action because you didn't know what the outcome would be?

You could say it was a step of faith either in yourself, your own abilities or in a higher power.

For Christians, this would be trusting in God who, from experience, has never let us down. The children of Israel had reached a climatic point on their journey through the wilderness.

The promised land was in front of them. All they had to do was cross the river Jordan which we are told was in full flood.

God said to Joshua to tell the priests to stand in the river, carrying the substantial, weighty Ark of the Covenant.

What do you think was going through their minds at this time? However, we are told they took that step of faith, put their feet in the river and the waters parted to allow a few million of God's chosen people to cross to their inheritance. God was with them, and before them.

Sometimes we need to take that step of faith, not relying on our own strength and abilities which may not be sufficient and put our trust in a God who delivers.

A few weeks ago, I purchased a caravan and towed it 200 miles home. I had never towed anything like that in all my years of driving. I knew I had the ability to do it but not the experience and that's something I had to gain for myself.

But did I do it by myself? No. I asked for God's help before and during the journey. My wife was praying hard too! And we arrived safely.

**Dr Stuart Chalmers,
Oban Baptist Church.**

Worldwide funding for major new series on BBC ALBA

The power and mystery of the tide is the focus of a major new three-part series coming to BBC ALBA, the channel's first co-production with Chinese investment.

Filmed across four continents, Tide is a visually stunning exploration of one of the most powerful and mysterious natural forces on Earth.

Along with Chinese production company LIC, the project was funded by broadcasters BBC ALBA, BBC Northern Ireland, S4C and TG4, and the distribution company Sky Vision. Gaelic language producer MacTV, based in Stornoway, led the project with Welsh company Cwmni Da, which first pitched the concept at the 2017 Celtic Media Festival.

The first episode airs on BBC ALBA at 9pm on Wednesday May 1 and features George Orwell's son Richard Blair, who revisits the famous Corryvreckan whirlpool which almost took their lives in 1947.

Blair says in the episode: 'Unfortunately my father misread the timetable coming out of Glengarrisdale and we arrived at Corryvreckan not at slack water, but when the tide was still running on the flood and

we got ourselves into all sorts of trouble on the edge of the whirlpool area.'

Other features about Scotland include the world's last sea-going, manually-operated turntable ferry in Skye, skippered by a 20-year-old woman; and the EMEC, the tidal and wave power testing centre in Orkney.

This year is the International Year of Indigenous Languages, highlighting the importance of nurturing and preserving knowledge in minority languages. Each country which has taken part in the co-production receives its own bespoke edit of the documentaries, in its own indigenous language.

The co-production comes off the back of last year's announcement of £5.2million investment into high-quality programming for the Gaelic language channel.

Margaret Cameron, executive producer at BBC ALBA, said: 'We are very excited to be working with the partners on this brilliant project. World-class productions such as Tide enhance our offering to the BBC ALBA audience and unlocks the creative and economic potential in our suppliers.'



Richard Blair, George Orwell's son, at Corryvreckan whirlpool, which almost took their lives in 1947.

OT

Magnificent seven for red

Scottish Sea Farms Glasgow Celtic Society Cup – quarter finals

Oban Celtic 0

Oban Camanachd 7

Scottish Sea Farms Glasgow
Celtic Society Cup holders Oban
Camanachd ran out convincing

Fixtures

Saturday 27 April

Cottages.com MacTavish Cup

Second round

Newtonmore v Caberfeidh

Calum Girvan

Scottish Sea Farms

Glasgow Celtic Society Cup

Second round

Inveraray v Taynuilt

Graham Cameron

Liberty British Aluminium

Balliemore Cup first round

Fort William v Oban Celtic

Andy MacLean

Aberdour v Beaulay

David Mitchell

Glenurquhart v Glengarry

John Wood - 3pm

Bute v Ballachulish

Ross Brown - 3pm

Glasgow Mid Argyll v Skye

Des McNulty -3pm

Col Glen v Strathglass

Lachie Wood

Strathdearn Cup

Preliminary Round

Lovat v Lewis

Callum Duff - 1pm

1pm throw-up.

Mowi Premiership

Kinlochshiel v Kyles Athletic

Archie Ritchie

Kilmallie v Oban Camanachd

Martin MacLean

Kingussie v Lovat

Alex MacVicar - 3pm

Mowi North Division 1

Caberfeidh v Fort William

John Angus Gillies

Glenurquhart v Newtonmore

John Matheson - noon

Inverness v Skye

Iain Kennedy

Kingussie v Kinlochshiel

Steven MacLachlan - noon

Mowi South Division 1

Glasgow Mid Argyll v Inveraray

Ewan MacDonald - noon

Kyles Athletic v Tayforth

Deek Cameron

Mowi North Division 2

Lochcarron v Kilmallie

Ronnie Campbell

Strathspey v Boleskine

Brian MacKay - 1.30pm

Mowi South Division 2

Bute v Aberdour

Neil MacDonald - noon

Oban Celtic v Kilmory

Graham Fisher

7-0 winners against neighbours Oban Celtic in their last-eight tie at Ganavan.

Both teams had suspensions to contend with as Oban Celtic's Ross MacMillan and Gary McKerracher from Oban Camanachd started bans. MacMillan misses three matches, whilst McKerracher is out for two.

Oban Celtic got a pre-match boost when Neil Carmichael declared himself fit to play at centre whilst youngster Jamie Forgive also returned from injury and took up a place on the bench. Rory Bruce was unavailable but Craig MacMillan returned following suspension and played for the 90 minutes.

Daniel Madej was back in the Oban Camanachd starting line-up while Malcolm Clark started in defence. Willie Neilson, Craig MacDougall and David Lafferty made up a strong bench, but Aidan MacIntyre and Scott McKillop were still missing.

The early period was fairly even but Daniel MacVicar's 13th minute goal seemed to rock a nervous Oban Celtic and set the tone for the first 45 minutes. MacVicar's opener was a great strike on the half volley out of nothing.

Daniel Cameron thumped the ball high into the net to make it 2-0 on 15 minutes and got his second and Oban Camanachd's third a couple of minutes later as he bundled the ball over the line following a melee inside the 'D'.

Andrew MacCuish added a brace on 22 and 26 minutes. His first came following a Scott MacMillan hit-in from the left. MacCuish got onto Daniel MacVicar's flick and turned the ball home at the second attempt from a tight angle on the left.

MacCuish then gathered a long ball forward, turning the full back to score from the right of the 'D'.

Daniel MacVicar got his second with another superb finish on 30 minutes to make it 6-0.

David Hill's eye injury forced an Oban Celtic reshuffle with Ally McKerracher dropping back into defence where he helped steady things up.

As the match moved into first-half injury-time, Andrew MacCuish completed his hat-trick when he took a clever Daniel MacCuish pass to score from the edge of the D.

Oban Celtic came more into it in the second half and will take heart from how they competed during the second 45 minutes.

Oban Camanachd took the chance to make changes and give their three substitutes game time.

The match was played in a good spirit and Oban Camanachd will now host Inveraray or Taynuilt, who are due to meet this Saturday, in next month's semi-finals.

Oban Celtic assistant manager Les Kinvig said: 'This is all about experience for our guys and, in many ways, a game like this is a free-hit for us as what we are doing at Oban Celtic is a work in progress. We want to



Oban Camanachd's Daniel Madej and Oban Celtic's Ally McKerracher in a tussle for the ball during last Saturday's Scottish Seafarms Celtic Society Cup match held at Ganavan. Photograph: Stephen Lawson.

improve, to raise the standard and get better and playing premiership sides shows our players just what's required to get to that level.

'There were some well taken goals in the first half, but Oban Camanachd were still going for goals after half-time. They made substitutions from the hour mark on but we steadied ourselves and competed much better in the second half and are pleased about that. Jamie Anderson deserves special mention for how well he did.

'This was the first of a run of four cup games with the next three all away from home. It's Fort William next in the Balliemore. That will be another tough game but we hope to have a stronger squad available than when we recently played them in the league so it's another chance to gauge our progression.'

Oban Camanachd manager Stephen Sloss said: 'It was a convincing win. We asked the boys to play at a high tempo and they did that, scoring some spectacular goals into the bargain. We were able to swap some players about in the second half and also gave a few players that haven't been playing recently much-needed game time.

'I'm really pleased with some of the goals we scored. That's a big thing for us. However, it was hard to keep things going at the same level when the game is effectively over by the end of the first half.'

Oban Camanachd assistant manager Kenny Wotherspoon added: 'We've been working with the forward line over the last few weeks so to get seven first half goals was pleasing. The momentum was disrupted when we started making changes but it was the right thing to do to give others time on the field. We've now scored ten goals in two games and move on to Kilmallie away in the league this Saturday.'

**Glasgow Mid Argyll 5
Ballachulish 2**

Glasgow Mid Argyll sealed a place in the semi-finals after beating

Ballachulish 5-2 at Yoker. GMA took the lead on 20 minutes when referee David Mitchell awarded them a penalty which Craig Anderson scored.

Garry Luke made it 2-0 on 32 minutes and it stayed that way until the break.

Brian Slattery added a third on 61 minutes and Oliver MacRae made it 4-0 on 73 minutes.

Ballachulish, who had Alistair Banks free of suspension, fought back and Allan Clark scored on 75 and 82 minutes to make it 4-2.

GMA's Ian Luke rounded off the 5-2 win with a goal a couple of minutes from time.

Bute 0 Kyles Athletic 3

Kyles Athletic maintained their perfect start to the season as they defeated Bute 3-0 in their 3pm throw up at the Meadows.

Colin MacDonald broke the deadlock on 35 minutes and it remained 1-0 until the turnaround.

Colin MacDonald got his and Kyles' second on 65 minutes and Ross MacRae made it 3-0 a couple of minutes later.

Kyles now travel to face Glasgow Mid Argyll in the last four of this all-south competition.

Cottages.com MacTavish Cup – quarter-finals

Kingussie 3 Lovat 1

Roddy Young's early double helped Kingussie maintain their unbeaten record this season as they beat Lovat 3-1 at the Dell.

Lovat started with a slight wind advantage, but it was Kingussie who took the lead on 13 minutes. As James Falconer battled for possession on the Kingussie right, the ball broke for Roddy Young and he needed no second invitation as he crashed a rising shot past unsighted Lovat goalie Stuart MacDonald, beating the keeper on his right side.

It only took Roddy Young another couple of minutes to add his and Kingussie's second goal. This time the Lovat defence failed to deal with Kieran MacPherson's deep hit-in from the right. Roddy Young tried to make for goal but the ball broke to Savio Genini on the left and he cut the ball across goal where Young confidently placed it into the net to make it 2-0.

Marc MacLachlan pulled a goal back on 23 minutes. A Calum MacAulay corner from the left was knocked down by Fraser Heath and MacLachlan got by Robert Mabon and burst into the 'D' where he appeared to be brought down by Alexander Michie but forced the ball over the line. Kingussie claimed referee Iain Kennedy had blown for a penalty before the ball was knocked over the line but he waved away their pleas.

Lovat suffered a blow on the half-hour when Marc MacLachlan was forced off after twisting his ankle. Graeme MacMillan came on as a replacement.

The outcome remained in the balance until 94 minutes. A free-hit on the right from substitute Lee Bain, who had come on for James Falconer, was cleared by Danny Kelly but only as far as James Hutchison who chipped the ball into the danger area. Fraser Munro found Roddy Young who was too quick for Martin Mainland's attempted block. Young's shot was saved with his feet by Stuart MacDonald but, as the ball rose into the air, Lee Bain got ahead of the Lovat defence to knock the rebound home.

**Glenurquhart 2
Skye Camanachd 1**

Glenurquhart recovered from the loss of an early goal to beat Skye Camanachd 2-1 at Blairbeg.

Skye looked dangerous from the throw-up and took the lead on five minutes when a John Gillies pass found Jordan Murchison who took a touch before flicking the ball up and smashing home an unstoppable volley.

Neale Reid was causing Skye problems and he equalised when he got onto a Connor Golabek pass on 25 minutes before smashing the ball high into the net.

There was controversy surrounding the winning goal on 51 minutes. With full back Jamie Gilles approaching the ball to clear, the Skye camp felt he was pushed in the back and, as he fell, Oliver Black found Connor Golabek who slipped the ball home. Referee Martin MacLean awarded the goal, much to Skye's disappointment.

Beaulay 2 Strathglass 3

The second all-National Division quarter-final between Beaulay and Strathglass was played at Braeview Park.

Jack MacDonald pounced on slack defending to give Beaulay the lead in the opening minute. But the visitors

and blacks

Results

Saturday April 20

Cottages.com MacTavish Cup second round

Glenurquhart 2 v 1 Skye
Beaulieu 2 v 3 Strathglass
Kingussie 3 v 1 Lovat

Scottish Sea Farms Glasgow Celtic Society Cup second round

Bute 0 v 3 Kyles Athletic
Oban Celtic 0 v 7 Oban Camam
Glasgow MA 5 v Ballachulish 2

Mowi Premiership

Lochaber 1 v 6 Newtonmore
Kinlochshiel 1 v 0 Kilmallie

Mowi North Division 1

Aberdeen Uni 0 v 4 Caberfeidh
Fort William 3 v 0 Kingussie
Glengarry 2 v 1 Inverness
Lovat 3 v 3 Glenurquhart
Newtonmore 5 v 0 Skye

Mowi South Division 1

Col Glen 3 v 0 Tainuill
Lochside 5 v 1 Glasgow MA

Mowi North Division 2

Inverness 1 v 5 Strathspey
Lochcarron 4 v 2 Beaulieu
Strathglass 0 v 4 Kilmallie

Mowi South Division 2

Aberdour 5 v 1 Ardnamurchan
Bute P v P Oban Celtic
To be rescheduled

went on to score three times before the break.

Scott Douglas pulled the ball back to the penalty spot on eight minutes before his shot went in off diving Beaulieu keeper Josh Grant.

Referee Andy MacLean awarded Strathglass a penalty on the half-hour, penalising keeper Grant for fouling one of the Strathglass forwards. Scott Douglas scored from the spot.

Ruari Strachan made it 3-1 on 39 minutes and it was to prove to be an important goal.

Beaulieu manager Alan MacRae made changes at the break and his side went on to have the better of the second half. But all they had to show for their efforts was a second Jack MacDonald goal on 71 minutes.

Strathglass held out and go into the cottages.com MacTavish Cup semi-final draw at the Bught Park, Inverness, on Thursday May 2.

Mowi Premiership

Lochaber 1 Newtonmore 6

Newtonmore go third in the Mowi Premiership after beating Lochaber 6-1 at Spean Bridge.

Lochaber's Shaun Nicolson missed out with an ankle injury and boss Michael Delaney had Martin Johnstone amongst his substitutes.

Newtonmore's Ewan Fraser faces a spell on the sidelines with a knee injury but manager Paul John MacKintosh named an unchanged side.

Newtonmore made a strong start and Michael Russell went on a run after four minutes before cracking a shot off the crossbar.

Jamie Robinson then found Glen MacKintosh on the left but his strike went wide of keeper Callum MacDonald's left post.

Newtonmore found the net on 12 minutes. Steven Macdonald played

Continued on page 68



George MacMillan of Oban Celtic clashes with Oban Camanachd's Daniel Sloss during the Celtic Society Cup clash at Ganavan.

Photograph: Kevin McGlynn.

new SPOT THE SHINTY BALL



THIS WEEK'S JACKPOT £2450

We have removed the shinty ball from the photograph below. 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 2pm Tuesday. No refunds will be given for entries received after the deadline.

You may hand it into any of our offices - The Oban Times, Lochavullin, Oban; The Lochaber Times, High Street, Fort William; The Campbelltown Courier, Main Street, Campbelltown; The Argyllshire Advertiser, Argyll Street, Lochgilphead or the Arran Banner, Brodick, Isle of Arran 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. Winners agree to have their photograph taken for publicity purposes. Winners' names and home towns will appear in the newspaper. Employees of Wyvex Media, their immediate relatives and any person otherwise connected with the competition are ineligible to enter. We will protect your personal data. We only gather what we need for the requirements of this competition. Entry data will be deleted/destroyed within 30 days of the competition entry deadline and in a manner appropriate to GDPR regulations. Entrant's details will not be used for any other activity.



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 or hand in to any of our offices as detailed above.

Name

Address

Tel No.....

Please tape your £1 coin here (only if posting)

RECENT WINNERS:

- T Campbell Sept '18 £2500
- S Campbell Sept '18 £2550
- L Currie Nov '18 £800
- L Nicolson Dec '18 £3900

LAST WEEK'S SHINTY BALL WAS HERE...



The two entries who got nearest the ball and each receive £25 are:

- K Smith
Oban
- G Gibson
Oban

OT

Continued from page 67

a free hit forward from the centre line to Glen MacKintosh on the left. MacKintosh struck a first time ball across goal and Iain Robinson, who had made a diagonal run, hit the ball past the helpless Callum MacDonald in the home goal.

Newtonmore laid onslaught on the Lochaber goal and Glen MacKintosh fired wide on 17 minutes, whilst the lively Iain Robinson shot over five minutes later.

Michael Russell, whose pace and all-round ball control was causing the Lochaber defence problems, crossed a good ball to Evan Menzies and his well-struck shot was equally well-saved by Callum MacDonald.

Glen MacKintosh and Evan Menzies combined to great effect on 34 minutes and MacKintosh's rasping shot was turned away by keeper MacDonald for a corner.

Newtonmore eventually doubled their lead on 41 minutes. A good ball forward from Fraser MacKintosh found Glen MacKintosh at the penalty spot and his low shot was saved with his feet by Callum MacDonald. But the ever-alert Iain Robinson knocked the re-bound into the net to score his second goal of the game.

The pattern of play remained the same in the second half and Iain Robinson completed his hat-trick on 58 minutes when he won the ball before running at the defence, weaving around a few players before slotting the ball past the keeper at his left post.

Newtonmore continued to move the ball around the forward line, teasing the Lochaber defence with interlinking passing, but they seemed reluctant to have more direct shots at goal.

Evan Menzies, who passed up a couple of chances earlier in the match, got his goal on 69 minutes when Glen MacKintosh played an inch-perfect pass on the right and Menzies fired low into the corner of the net, beating the keeper on his left side.

Glen MacKintosh added a fifth on 74 minutes when he found space around the penalty area. MacKintosh scuffed his shot but the ball deceived the keeper and bobbed over the line to make it 5-0.

Lochaber should have pulled a goal back when Stuart Callison played a precision pass into the 'D'. Conor Sweeney only had to touch the ball into the net but was unable to get a touch.

When the impressive Michael Russell won the ball on the right on 79 minutes, he ran along the by-line, taking on the defence before being brought down by the keeper and referee John Angus

Gillies awarded a penalty. Russell picked himself up before despatching a power-penalty into the roof of the net.

Lochaber made a positional switch with Stuart Callison going to buckshee forward and Ben Delaney coming back to the centre line.

There was some consolation for the hosts four minutes from time when Conor Sweeney won the ball on the left and crossed for the on-rushing Stuart Callison who hit the ball first-time past Kenny Ross to make the final score 6-1.

Keeper Callum MacDonald did well for Lochaber, whilst defender Duncan MacKinnon did all he could in an attempt to tame the Newtonmore forwards.

Newtonmore were strong in defence with Rory Kennedy and Iain Richardson marking closely and hitting cleanly. Their experienced midfield provided plenty ball for the forwards and in Iain Robinson and Michael Russell; they had the game's two exceptional players.

**Kinlochshiel 1
Kilmallie 0**

Kinlochshiel go fifth in the division after edging out Kilmallie 1-0 at Kirkton.

Finlay MacRae was still out for the hosts, but John MacRae's hamstring problem isn't as bad as first feared and he took a place on the bench. Duncan 'WD' MacRae was unavailable but Jordan Fraser returned and Scott MacLean started for the first time this season.

Kilmallie boss John Stewart welcomed Stephen McAlister back into the defence, whilst fellow defender Steven Stewart passed a late fitness test.

The first half finished goalless but Kilmallie came closest to breaking the deadlock with Innes Blackhall thumping a great shot off home keeper Stuart MacRae's left post, whilst MacRae did well to stretch low to his left to turn away a Liam MacDonald shot.

Kinlochshiel introduced John MacRae in place of Scott MacLean at the break. It was a calculated risk given MacRae's hamstring problem, but the gamble paid dividends when the Scotland forward put the hosts ahead on 53 minutes. MacRae collected a Duncan Matheson ball on the right and a drop of the shoulder got him away from Stephen McAlister and he blasted a fierce shot across Shane Gillies in the Kilmallie goal.

Worse was to follow for Kilmallie when, on 59 minutes, Martin Stewart was sent off by referee Calum Girvan for chopping down Keith



Skye's John Gillies and Alisdair MacLeod up against Glenurquhart's Michael Fraser and Finlay Ralston during the cottages.com MacTavish Cup tie. Photograph: Neil Paterson.

MacRae as he burst forward. Keith MacRae continued after treatment.

Kinlochshiel took John MacRae back off on 65 minutes but his contribution had been telling.

Stuart MacRae again saved well from Liam MacDonald as Kilmallie applied pressure late in the game.

The visitors, who pushed Michael Rodger from defence into attack with Craig MacIsaac going in the opposite direction, claimed for a penalty when a Liam Cameron shot appeared to deflect off Paul MacRae's arm. But the visitors had to settle for a corner after referee Girvan consulted with the goal judge.

**Mowi North
Division 1****Fort William 3
Kingussie 0**

The Fort William colts beat the Kingussie colts 3-0 at An Aird.

David Wright was suspended for the hosts, but still went in front on 13 minutes through Greig Kelly.

Victor Smith doubled Fort William's advantage on 31 minutes and they led 2-0 at the break.

Victor Smith bagged a second for the second successive Saturday when he netted five minutes from time.

Fort William's Duncan Stevenson was sent off by referee Callum Duff.

Glengarry 2 Inverness 1
Glengarry recorded a good

2-1 victory over Inverness at Craigard.

Steven Cameron gave Glengarry the lead on 13 minutes and Nick Dalgety added a second on 33 minutes.

David Campbell halved the hosts advantage a couple of minutes later but there was no further scoring.

Glengarry's Rhuairaidh MacDonald was sent off by referee Alex MacVicar.

Elsewhere in the division, league leaders Lovat seconds drew 3-3 with neighbours Glenurquhart seconds at Balgate, the Newtonmore second team were too strong for the Skye Camanachd second team, winning 5-0 at the Eilan, and the Caberfeidh colts were 4-0 winners against Aberdeen University at Balgownie.

**Mowi South
Division 1****Lochside Rovers 5
Glasgow Mid Argyll 1**

Lochside Rovers scored four times in the first half as they defeated Glasgow Mid Argyll's second team 5-1 at Mossfield.

Throw-up was brought forward to 1pm to allow the players to attend the Oban derby at Ganavan.

Lennon Campbell opened the scoring on five minutes with a shot from the edge of the box.

The goal was followed up on 10 minutes with a good strike from Craig MacDougall who is working his way back to fitness after a knee injury. Craig MacDougall scored

again on 23 minutes, this time following a scramble in the box.

Lewis Buchanan's strike on 34 minutes had a touch of fortune about it.

The effort looked to be going wide when the GMA keeper stopped the ball high in the air but it spun off his stick and landed behind him, the backspin taking the ball over the line.

GMA pulled a goal back a couple of minutes after the break when a lapse of concentration in the Lochside defence allowed Graham Love to pounce on a loose ball, leaving him one-on-one with keeper Brian MacCallum and Love slipped the ball into the net.

Young Jamie MacGillvray rounded off a good Lochside win with a strike on 83 minutes.

Lochside manager Brian MacCallum was delighted with his side. He said: 'I'm really pleased with the performance. It was great to have Mossfield for a change and we had a good balance to the team this week.'

'For the first time this season, the seniors were almost at full strength and didn't require any players from our squad which was a big help. Everyone in the team played well, but Scott Robertson deserves a special mention as he was fantastic at half back.'

Col Glen 3 Taynuilt 0

Col Glen were 3-0 winners against Taynuilt at Glendaruel.

Ian Wilson was suspended for the hosts.

Scott MacVicar opened the scoring on 10 minutes and Sandy Paterson doubled their advantage on the half-hour.

Donald MacDiarmid made it 3-0 15 minutes from time.

**Mowi North
Division 2****Strathglass 0 Kilmallie 4**

The Kilmallie seconds turned in a good performance to beat the Strathglass seconds 4-0 at Cannich.

Cam Ross on three minutes and Andrew Gibb just 60 seconds later gave Kilmallie an early two-goal lead.

Andrew Gibb got his second on 24 minutes to make it 3-0 at the break.

Andrew Gibb completed his hat-trick on 76 minutes.

Elsewhere in the division, Lochcarron saw off a fight-back from the Beaully second team to win 4-2 at Battery Park, whilst Strathspey Camanachd came from a goal down to beat the Inverness reserves 5-1 at Bught Park.

**Mowi South
Division 2****Aberdour 5
Ardnamurchan 1**

The Aberdour seconds beat Ardnamurchan 5-1 at Silversands.

With some second team regulars unavailable because of the Easter holidays, Aberdour included first team youngsters David McDougal and Iain Fullerton.

Aberdour player/manager Roddy MacColl gave his side the lead on 16 minutes, turning the ball home following a surging David McDougal run down the left wing.

The hosts had to wait until a minute before the break for Mack Mckean to add a second with the excellent McDougal again involved in the build-up.

Roddy MacColl got his second on 53 minutes but Herbie Patterson pulled a goal back four minutes later with a good finish.

Tom Bowerman had come close on a couple of occasions before he made it 4-1 with 20 minutes remaining and Roddy MacColl completed his hat-trick on 72 minutes after strong and determined play from Harry Simpkins.

Bute P Oban Celtic P

The Bute second team and the Oban Celtic second team both agreed to re-schedule their match at the Meadows.

WCA round-up

There were no Women's Camanachd Association fixtures but a number of the game's promising players attended a development/training day at Lochaber High School.

Team Carmichael get the measure of Caledonia Pairs

There was tension in the air as Oban Bowling Club's first competition of its 150th anniversary year came to a dramatic conclusion on Saturday.

Fourteen teams battled it out for the Caledonia Pairs title at the Dalriach Road venue with two closely-fought round robin groups determining the eventual finalist.

Hazy sunshine at the start of the competition gave way to clouds and showers as the match progressed, making the run of the green difficult to decipher throughout.

However, following some serious number crunching from the organising committee, Malcolm Scott and Colin Carmichael (skip) won through to play George Main and Gilbert Mullen (skip) in the final.

Entertaining

Playing in a different direction for the final added another twist to a highly entertaining afternoon and after the first end, of five, it looked as if a low scoring final was in the offing when team

Carmichael edged in front with a single shot. Nothing could have been further from the truth. Team Mullen responded with a three, Carmichael then took a five before Mullen chalked up a seven.

Uphill struggle

Scott and Carmichael faced an uphill struggle going into the last end on the wrong side of a 10-6 scoreline but three steady bowls, and one slightly stray one, from new boy Scott, saw them in a good position by the time the skips came to the mat.

Carmichael also had a stray but two well-executed draws gave his team the count of five they were looking for. Mullen played his last bowl and with all four players now up in the head Carmichael took the brave decision to declare the end without playing his last bowl despite Mullen disputing that his bowl lay the fifth shot.

An umpire was called to perform a measure and the excitement was palpable as the players and spectators



Oban Bowling Club vice president Margaret MacAlpine presented the winners with their trophy. From left: Gilbert Mullen, Colin Carmichael, Malcolm Scott and George Main.

awaited the outcome.

Carmichael and Scott were given the nod and no announcement was needed as the victory whoop from the winning skip left all in

attendance in no doubt of the result.

Speaking after the final Carmichael said: 'I'm well chuffed to have won that one.

'We both played well when it

mattered and that's what got us through.

'The group stage was a bit of a roller coaster, we won four and peeled two games so had to wait on other results before

BOWLS

we knew if we were through or not.

'I even went and changed my shoes because I honestly didn't think we had done enough.

'Then, when we got the five in the final I thought we had nailed it, losing that seven brought us back down to earth though.

'Going into the last end four shots down I just said to Malcolm, "Come on. We got five shots before we can do it again".

'I was totally confident when I declared the end that we had it. George and Gilbert gave us a great game and it was a thoroughly enjoyable final.'

This Saturday Oban bowlers head to Tarbert for their opening West Association League match of the season.

On Sunday there will be a try bowls fun session free to anyone who fancies going along to try their hand. The session will run from noon until 4pm, with all age groups welcome.

Whenman is the win man in new comp at Craignure

Craignure Golf Club was blessed with glorious weather on Sunday as the first competitive event of the season tee'd off.

The 18-hole, par three competition was the first of a series of events taking place this season designed to make the sport more accessible and to attract more players to take part.

And the tournament did what it said on the tin. Every hole was temporarily shortened to a par three meaning (in theory at least) the greens would all be reachable in one shot.

Barry Whenman won out on the day with a total of 44 points with club captain Steve Wilson taking the runner-up spot with 39.

'It was a fun and interesting format, which certainly helped to hone the short game for the start of the season,' said Whenman.

Next month the Craignure club will host a golfer and non-golfer (GANG) compe-

titition with the experienced player taking on the difficult long shots and the golfing beginner chipping on to the green and putting out.

'We have a number of 'learners' that have only recently taken up the game,' added Whenman.

In June the club will be holding a mixed ladies and gents 'better ball' competition and then in July a fun event called 'Completely Against the Rules of Golf' (CATROG), which

GOLF

has been described as: 'based loosely on a normal round of golf with some twists and additions!'

For further information and a full list of fixtures, please refer to the club website: www.craignuregolfclub.co.uk, or follow them on Facebook. Events described as Open are open to anyone with a recognised handicap certificate from any club.



Ann Munro, June Sutherland, Janet Buchanan and winner, June Boden.

Fun in the sun at Dalmally

Sunday April 21 saw perfect playing conditions for the first round of the Dalmally Gents Club Championship.

Along with the added attraction of an Easter egg hunt, the competition saw a recent record turnout for a gents' club competition.

First overall was Graeme MacKechnie with an impressive net three under par 61.

Runner-up was Scott Gibson with a net 65, and third place went to Shaun Squire

GOLF

with a net 67. Matching the gents' turnout the next day, on Easter Monday, 14 Dalmally ladies enjoyed the warmth and sunshine for their traditional Easter Cup, a nine-hole Stableford. Prizes were gifted by Ann Munro and rewarded winner June Boden on 17pts with Janet Buchanan second on 14 pts bih and a close third, June Sutherland on 14.



Club captain Steve Wilson presented par three winner Barry Whenman, left, with the trophy.

Billy rules the waves in Britannia Cup at Glencruitten

GOLF

Billy Wotherspoon had the leading score at the Britannia Cup Qualifying/Monthly Medal at Glencruitten on Saturday with a score of 72-9 = 63 (bih) with Alan MacPhee also on 69-6 = 63. Steven Murphy, Alistair MacLean and Dugald MacLean scored net 64.

On Saturday the Stokes Qualifier takes place along with Eclectic Round three.



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OT

GOLF



Robert MacIntyre.

Robert back in action

Oban's European Tour golfer Robert MacIntyre gets back to action this weekend, after a five-week break, when he takes part in the Trophee Hassan II tournament at the Royal Golf Club Dar Es Salam, Rabat, Morocco starting today (Thursday).

The Glencruitten left-hander has had a whirlwind start to his first year on the European Tour making the cut in 10 out of the 11 tournaments entered and he will be hoping to continue the good work for the rest of the season.

MOTO3



John McPhee.

Spanish Grand Prix for John

Oban Moto3 rider John McPhee's next race is on May 5 in the Spanish Grand Prix at Jerez. John finished in 14th place in his last race at the Circuit of the Americas in Austin, Texas.

SCOTTISH AMATEUR FL RESULTS AND FIXTURES

Results and fixtures

Last Saturday's results: Jimmy Marshall Cup, quarter final - Motherwell Thistle 1, Oban Saints 2.

Saturday's fixtures: Premier Division - Oban Saints v Inverclyde; Premier Division One - Castlemilk v Campbeltown Pupils; Premier Division Two - Carlton YM v Tarbert.

OBAN SAINTS YOUTH TEAMS

Results and fixtures

Oban Saints youth teams get back to action in the Glasgow and District YFL after the Easter holiday break with the following fixtures - Under 13s v Milton Rovers; Thistle Weir v Under 14s; Under 15s v Ardencaple; Under 16s v Drumchapel.

Oban Saints reach

Motherwell Thistle	1
Oban Saints	5
Marshall Cup - quarter-final	

Oban Saints kept their treble hopes alive with a comfortable Scottish Amateur Football League Jimmy Marshall Trophy quarter-final win last Saturday afternoon over Motherwell Thistle at Ravenscraig.

After David Beaton had opened the scoring midway through the first half a brace from Craig MacEwan, and one successfully converted free-kick a-piece from Willie Gemmell and Lewis Cameron eased Saints through to the semi-finals of the Scottish Amateur Football League's premier cup competition for the sixth time in seven seasons.

Saints made five changes to the squad which, seven days earlier, had secured a place in the West of Scotland Amateur Cup Final. Out went the injured Donald Campbell and the unavailable Dene Cassells and Matty Kelly and in came Douglas Graham, Craig MacEwan and Keir MacLean.

Four-man wall

Saints kicked off with the sun at their backs and were quickly on the attack with Lewis Cameron sending Cammy Hill off on a run which ended with Thistle right back David Collins hauling him down just outside the Thistle box. Captain-for-the-day Cameron tried

Motherwell Thistle keeper Nathan Wharton is helpless as Willie Gemmell's free kick finds the corner of the net.



his luck with the free-kick from 22 yards which he curled round the four-man wall but straight into the grateful arms of Thistle keeper Nathan Wharton.

Already through to the Centenary Cup Final, Thistle were keen to keep their bid for a cup double on track and won a third minute free-kick in a dangerous area when Ruaridh Horne felled Jonny Brennan on the corner of the Saints box. Saints' wall did its job but the loose ball broke to Christopher Brannan whose 25-yard effort flew high and wide of target.

Saints found more joy on the left in the 18th minute when Willie Gemmell, with more time than he would have imagined, sliced a first-time shot from a Craig MacEwan cutback well wide of target.

After several failed attempts Saints finally found the killer pass necessary to open up the Thistle defence when Willie Gemmell won the ball in the centre circle and threaded the

ball through for David Beaton to run on to. Beaton's pace took him away from Scott Watson and James Gibbons and his well-struck right foot finish from 16 yards beat Nathan Wharton low to his left to give Saints a 25-minute lead.

Countered

Hesitancy in the Saints defence ensured the lead lasted less than 60 seconds as the hosts countered straight from the restart. Mark Begg was allowed time on the edge of the box to pick out the run of Mark McGinty, who sent a low shot across Graham Douglas and into the bottom corner of the net to restore parity.

Saints regained the lead in the 29th minute when Lewis Cameron's trickery on the right took him to the bye-line from where he sent an inviting ball into the six-yard box. Craig MacEwan met Cameron's cross but was denied by a fine reflex save from Nathan Wharton.

Unfortunately for the Thistle keeper luck was not on his side when his parried save fell at the feet of MacEwan, who slammed the ball high into the net from close range.

The hosts should have levelled the score for a second time in the 39th minute but a wayward finish by Christopher Brannan came to Saints' rescue. Mark Begg survived a big Saints appeal for an offside decision collecting a lofted ball over the top and running through on the left. Begg's low cross to the six-yard line was met by Brannan who, somehow, much to the relief of the Saints defence, managed to send the ball wide of target. Saints should have been happy at the let-off but continued their protests at the lack of an offside call too long for referee John Cairney's liking with Willie Gemmell and Graham Douglas both picking up needless yellow cards for dissent.

In the dying seconds of the first half Lewis Cameron flashed a shot inches wide of Nathan Wharton's right hand post before Mr Cairney blew for half-time and a well-earned rest from the intense heat for both sets of players.

Quick feet

After a quiet start to the second half Saints eventually clicked into gear in the 55th minute. Cammy Hill's quick feet took him away from his marker to slip the ball through for Lewis Cameron. Cameron was felled 25 yards out and slightly left of centre by James Gibbons earning Saints a free-kick in perfect Willie Gemmell territory. After coming close on a couple of recent occasions Gemmell's eye was now firmly in and he placed a perfect effort over the Thistle wall and into the postage stamp corner giving Nathan Wharton absolutely no chance.

Gemmell's first strike of the season signalled the end of his afternoon's work as he joined Donald Campbell on the



Lewis Cameron drills home this free kick to put Saints 4-1 in the lead.



Craig MacEwan nets the fifth and final goal.

another semi-final



David Beaton wheels away after opening the scoring against Motherwell Thistle. Match report and photos: Derek Black

touchline and was replaced by Matt Rippon in Saints' first change of the afternoon.

Rippon joined Daniel Croarkin in midfield where Croarkin continued to work hard in the holding role making a timely block on Jonny Brennan on the edge of the Saints box to deny the Thistle wide man a strike on goal.

On the hour mark Saints withdrew Ruaridh Horne and Daniel Croarkin and replaced them with Scott Maitland and Fraser MacFarlane.

Deployed in a less familiar midfield role Maitland was soon presented with an opportunity to make his mark on proceedings when he arrived from deep onto a Fraser MacFarlane lay off from a Cammy Hill left wing cross. Unfortunately for Maitland the ball fell to his less deadly right foot and his shot sliced wide of Nathan Wharton's left hand post.

More good work on the left by Cammy Hill turned the Thistle defence in the 67th minute and created an opening for Fraser MacFarlane.

Scott Watson tugged back MacFarlane, just outside the box in Mr Cairney's opinion, an indiscretion which earned the Thistle fullback a yellow card.

Lewis Cameron resumed the free-kick mantle and continued where Willie Gemmell left off by slamming the ball into the bottom corner past the right hand of Nathan Wharton for Saints' fourth goal.

Replaced

Before the action could restart Lewis Cameron and Cammy Hill were replaced by James Ford and Keir MacLean.

The heat coupled with the fresh legs introduced by Saints made for a difficult closing 20 minutes for the home defence and keeper Nathan Wharton made good



FOOTBALL

Motherwell Thistle keeper Nathan Wharton claws away a Lewis Cameron corner kick.

stops to deny James Ford, Fraser MacFarlane and Keir MacLean.

Saints maintained the upper hand and Craig MacEwan twice headed Fraser MacFarlane right wing corners just over the bar.

Consant threat

David Beaton's pace remained a constant threat on the right and the wide man raced away from Stuart Hunter in the 82nd minute to send a low cut-back into the box which Craig MacEwan got in front of David Collins to smash high into the net and round off the scoring.

Despite their charges never quite getting into full stride against a below-full-strength Motherwell side Saints management duo of Donald Campbell and Willie Gemmell will be reasonably satisfied with the afternoon's work which keeps them involved on three fronts going into the finishing straight of their first season in charge.

Saints return to league duty this coming Saturday when Inverclyde visit Glencruitten for the last ever Scottish Amateur Football League clash between the two old rivals. Kick-off is 2pm.

Taking charge of proceedings is experienced Lochgilphead-based whistler Jimmy Litster.

Saints players called up for international duty

Oban Saints players Lewis Cameron and Scott Maitland have been drafted into the Scottish Amateur FA international squad for training sessions before the game against Northern Ireland due to be held on Saturday May 11 at Falkirk Stadium.

The boys will attend a session at Falkirk Stadium on Sunday and another session at Dalziel Park, Motherwell on Sunday May 5.

However, they are unlikely to play in the international as they are both attending a friend's wedding where Scott is the best man.

Saints secretary David Buchanan said: 'The boys are gutted, but I'm sure there will be more opportunities for them and hopefully some more of our players in the future.'



Lewis Cameron



Scott Maitland



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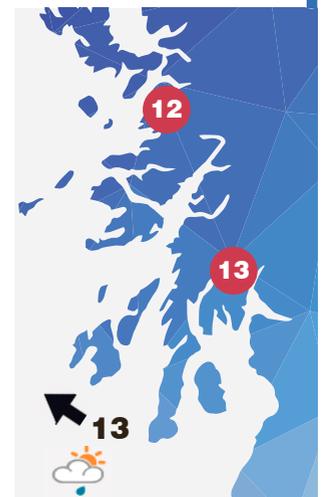
Thursday
Sunny intervals and a moderate breeze
Temperatures
8°C to 15°C.

Friday
Light rain showers and a moderate breeze
Temperatures
7°C to 13°C.

Weekend Outlook

Saturday
Light rain and a moderate breeze

Sunday
Light rain in the afternoon with a gentle breeze
Temperatures
7°C to 11°C.



FRIDAY

TIDAL INFORMATION

Tide tables for Oban during the week from **Thursday April 25, 2019** are listed below with differences for major ports listed on the right. All times are GMT (add one hour BST)

	03.35	1.3	09.02	3.1
Thur	15.58	1.5	21.35	3.2
Fri	04.26	1.6	09.48	2.8
	16.54	1.7	22.38	2.9
Sat	05.29	1.9	11.07	2.6
	18.02	1.8	** ** *	**
Sun	00.40	2.8	06.50	1.9
	14.12	2.6	19.28	1.8
Mon	02.14	3.0	08.36	1.8
	15.01	2.8	20.51	1.7
Tues	03.04	3.1	09.31	1.6
	15.30	3.0	21.42	1.5
Wed	03.43	3.3	10.07	1.4
	16.01	3.2	22.19	1.3

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

Chain, shackles and buoys all available to purchase.



INSIDE THIS WEEK:

Oban Saints reach another semi-final

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AND TIDES - SEE PAGE 71

Mull Rally will return this year, organisers reveal

‘The island has missed the event over the past two years, but the sport has missed the island as well’

The Mull Rally will return this year after MSPs backed legislation to allow closed-road motorsport to take place in Scotland.

Due to insurance issues, the rally has not taken place since 2016.

This year will be particularly special, as it marks 50 years since cars first rallied up Glen Aros.

And the organisers have ‘no intention of letting the golden anniversary of Britain’s foremost closed-road rally pass without celebration’.

The Beatson’s Building Supplies Mull Rally 2019 will take place from October 11-13, which has been approved by Police Scotland and Argyll and Bute Council.

October 11 will mark 1,089 days since John MacCrone and Stuart Loudon won the renowned event.

Clerk of the course Andy Jardine said: ‘The island has missed the event over the past two years, but the sport has missed the island as well. Mull is such a special rally for lots of people.’

‘Our thanks to everyone at Transport Scotland for pursuing this legislation and for enabling the event to come back in time for the 50th anniversary.’

‘We also have to express our thanks to Duncan Brown and the Saltire Rally club for all they have done on the Targa Rally and Gravel Sprint over the past two years to keep motorsport alive on this beautiful island.’

Organisers said that additional support for the rally had been applied for and granted by Event Scotland.



The Mull rally will be back from October 11-13.



If you answer yes to any of these questions then Wallace Optometrists can help

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Child rapist jailed for eight years

A child rapist who subjected a girl to a catalogue of sexual abuse, including molesting her in Fort William's Belford Hospital, has been jailed for eight years.

Andrew Temple, 53, preyed on the victim from the age of eight and even committed a sex crime against her during a ward visit.

Temple, formerly of George Terrace, Loanhead, Midlothian, had earlier denied a string of charges during a trial at the High Court in Edinburgh.

But on Tuesday April 16, a jury convicted him of the seven offences he faced, including two charges of rape and three of indecent behaviour towards the girl, and two further offences of indecency against boys aged six and between six and seven.

A judge told Temple he had taken advantage of young children for his own sexual

gratification. Judge Robert Weir QC said the offences of which Temple was convicted, particularly those against the girl, were 'plainly very serious'.

He told Temple that as a result of the jail sentence he was imposing, he would remain on the sex offenders' register indefinitely.

Temple's offending against the girl began in 1996 and went on until 2004. The boys were targets for his abuse between 1996 and 1999.

Concerns

It was while the underage teenage girl was in hospital that a nurse spoke to a relative about concerns over Temple.

The female victim, now in her thirties, first spoke to police in 2003 but told the court she was informed there was not enough evidence to charge her abuser.

She contacted police again in 2010 when she was feeling 'really suicidal'. She said she

had three overdoses and added: 'I just thought enough is enough. Something needs to be done.'

She made further contact with police in England in 2014 which eventually led to Temple being charged.

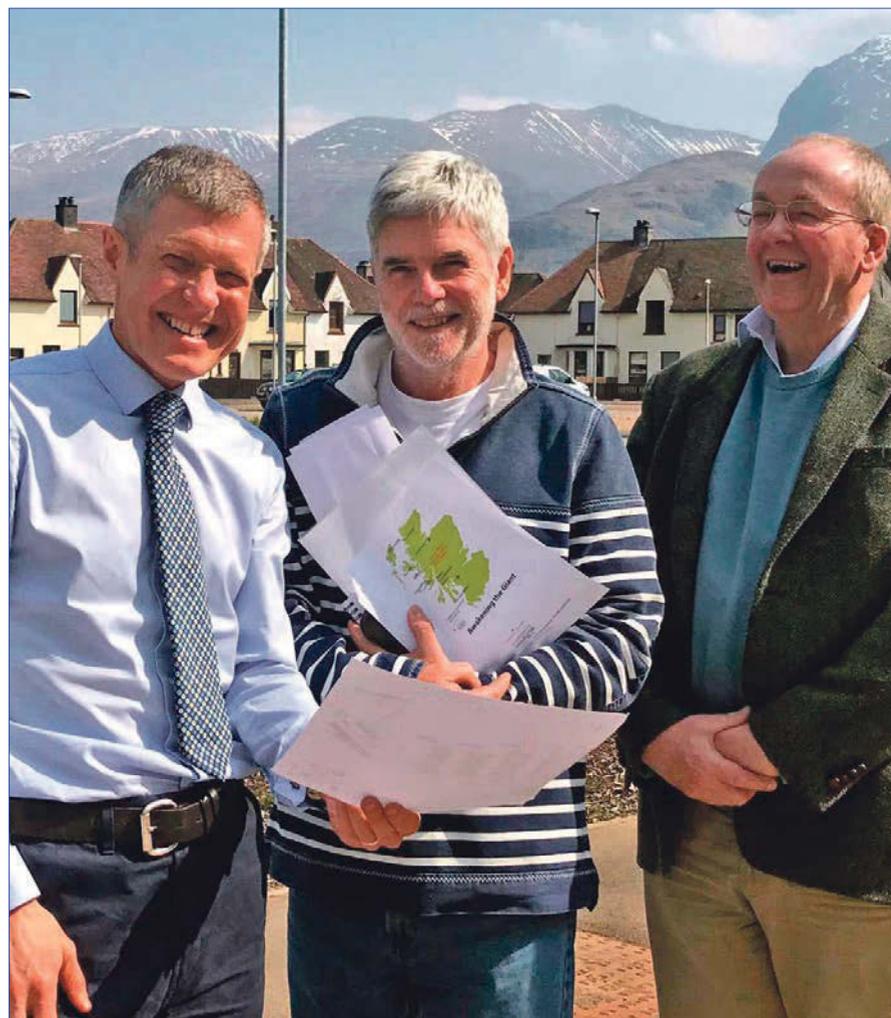
At one stage she handed a letter to officers in which she detailed some of the abuse she suffered at the hands of Temple.

Defence solicitor advocate Chris Fyffe told the court Temple continued to maintain his innocence, but realised that a custodial sentence was inevitable because of the seriousness of the convictions.

He said the supermarket worker had stopped drinking in 2006 after a problem with alcohol during much of his adult life.

Mr Fyffe said: 'He was not the person he is now and that was as a result of his alcoholism.'

Lib Dem leader visits Lochaber



Lib Dem MSP Willie Rennie, left, joined Andy McKenna, chairman of Thomas Telford Corpach Marina, and Councillor Denis Rixson to discuss plans for a new marina in the village during a fact-finding mission to the region. Full story, pages 10 and 11.

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LT

Kinlochleven yoga teacher Penny launches Zen in glen

by Mark Entwistle
mentwistle@obantimes.co.uk

For Kinlochleven yoga teacher Penny Clay, it is quite apt that one of the most important yoga poses you can learn is called Tadasana, or Mountain Pose.

For experienced mountain climber Penny is also the owner/operator of Mountain Yoga Kinlochleven, which offers weekly/monthly classes, workshops and retreats in Zen yoga, meditation and mindfulness in Kinlochleven, Ballachulish and Glencoe.

Penny is trained in Zen Yoga, a Japanese Buddhist tradition teaching practices to foster well-being, develop awareness of body-mind and cultivate the ability to live life fully and fearlessly.

A former teacher originally



Kinlochleven-based yoga teacher Penny Clay in a snowy Reverse Warrior yoga pose.

Yogi in Glencoe. Our aim is take people through the seasons with a blend of Zen and seasonal yoga, mindfulness and outdoor adventures, ranging from easy going stravaigs to high mountain retreats.

'To practice here in the Highlands, out in the elements in this inspiring landscape, is very important to us. It's wild, invigorating and energising.'

Penny said the new classes will be far removed from yoga sessions more normally found in big cities: 'We're not really into yoga leggings and posh mats, just that this practice is really good for you. It will be about taking your yoga to a different place than your usual posh studio, so I'm quite excited about it.'

Last year, Penny and her London-based Zen teacher Daizan Roshi, of Zenways, hosted a Zen retreat in Lochaber. Penny completed her yoga and meditation training with him and the next Zenways Mountain Retreat will be for three days starting on Thursday August 29 in Glencoe.

'I'd never done anything like that before, but my teacher was interested. In Japan there is a whole school of mountain zen practice.'

'The idea is to go into the hills to some fairly remote places for Zen practice.'

'Last year's event was probably a first for the UK - combining the stunning Scottish mountainscape with Zen practice.'

Penny will also be hosting a session on mindfulness in Fort William on May 11 at the town's first Conscious Living Fair.

from Cumbria with a long career in education, she specialised in Buddhism, philosophy of religion and beliefs in society.

She is also a keen mountaineer with many years' experience climbing in the UK, European Alps, Norway, Canada and the Himalayas.

She trained with the British Wheel of Yoga and holds a teacher training qualification in Zen Yoga.

She is registered with Yoga Alliance, a trained meditation and mindfulness teacher and a qualified mountain leader.

Penny and her partner moved up to the Highlands in the summer of 2016 and she told the Lochaber Times the move was prompted by several factors.

'Teaching is a brilliant job but after 21 years of just work, work, work - when by the time you get to holidays you were always totally exhausted - I realised there was still stuff I wanted to do but that kind of life was not going to see me achieve any of it.'

'I was thinking 'am I still be going to do this when I am 65?' The answer to which was 'no'. I'd always done yoga. I was a religious studies specialist while working in education. I studied Hinduism at university, which was when I started

doing yoga. And I always kept up my yoga practice, mainly as an accompaniment to other sports such as climbing and running.

'But as I got more into my 40s, I started thinking I'm getting older, yoga is really good for you, I love teaching and I love yoga.'

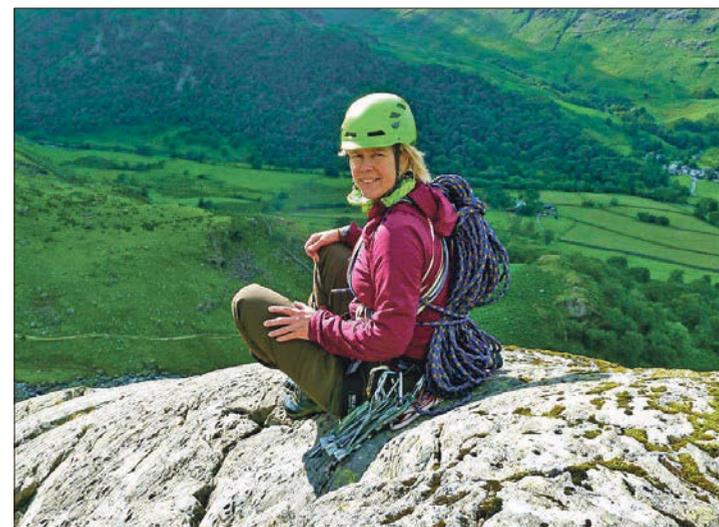
'So I thought I should just give it a punt and see if I could do it full time. So I retrained during my last few years working in education, doing a yoga foundation year and getting qualified.'

'I did have a good job, was head of department, earned a good salary but seemed to be angry all the time, ranting about stuff at the end of each day and I didn't want to keep being like that.'

Within a few months of the couple moving to Kinlochleven, Penny had started teaching a small local yoga class.

Nearly three years on and with classes in Kinlochleven and Tyndrum, as well as teaching yoga for Highlife Highland, she is on the verge of launching a new yoga business in Glencoe with friend and fellow yoga teacher Claire Thomson.

Penny explained: 'I'm going into partnership with Claire who teaches as The Highland



Penny is also an accomplished climber and mountaineer.

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Crews tackle wildfires across Lochaber

by Neill Bo Finlayson
nfinlayson@obantimes.co.uk

Wildfires wreaked havoc across Lochaber over the Easter weekend as fire crews battled a number of blazes in the dry, hot weather.

A fire on 75 acres of land south of Kinlochleven on Sunday was still burning on Monday evening.

Eleven firefighters still at the scene 12 hours after fire broke out, extinguished the flames which were being fanned in windy conditions.

Last Friday (April 19), an area of woodland on Kylesmorar caught fire and the Fort Augustus crew had to wait for an RNLI lifeboat to be launched from Mallaig to access the scene. The incident was handed back to the estate manager and crews returned to Mallaig. On the same day in the glens between Morar and Lochailort, firefighters tackled an area of heath spanning around 50 acres.



Left, smoke still hangs over the extinguished wildfire and, below, a firefighter works on keeping the flames from breaking out again in the fire ravaged glens between Lochailort and Morar.

Photographs: Iain Ferguson, alba. photos

Three fire appliances, one from Mallaig and two from Fort William, were sent to the scene, as well as a community response unit from Spean Bridge. They eventually brought the fire front down with beaters, before a hose reel jet was used.

The Scottish Fire and Rescue Service has been on alert for a number of days because of 'tinder dry' conditions.

A Scottish Fire and Rescue Service spokesman said: 'Our

crews have worked tirelessly to tackle a large number of significant wildfires across Scotland this Easter weekend. There remains an extreme risk of wildfire across the country in the coming days, with temperatures remaining high and moisture levels low.

'We encourage everyone who is enjoying the countryside during this period of extreme danger to exercise caution and be aware of how easily fires can start and spread.'



Upper Achintore house plan to be discussed

A meeting of Lundavra Community Area Group is to be held next week to discuss plans for a 325-house development on land near the lower slopes of Cow Hill.

Attending the meeting will be Alex Farquhar, chairman of Fort William Community Council, who is keen to hear residents' and neighbours' views on the proposed Link Housing development on the 60-acre site behind Angus Crescent, Lochaber Road and Perth Place in Upper Achintore.

The meeting will be chaired by Mark Linfield who is hoping for a good turnout of Upper Achintore residents. Items on the agenda will include an update, if any, on the progress of the upgrading of the kickabout pitch behind Ross Place.

The meeting will be held at 5.45pm on Monday April 29 at the Community Room in Lundavra Primary School.

Man jailed for reset offences

A former Fort William resident who vanished before he could be sentenced for four offences, including the reset of a £22,000 car and number plates, appeared at the town's sheriff court this week from custody.

An arrest warrant had been issued in May for Antonio Sabiu, whose previous address was in Claggan, Fort William, after he failed to appear for sentencing.

Last year Sabiu, 61, admitted charges that on December 11, 2017, at North Road, Fort William, he had driven a car without insurance or an appropriate licence.

He was found guilty after a trial of two other charges involving the reset of a pair of number plates and a VW car worth £22,000 on the same date and at the same location.

Sheriff Eilidh MacDonald had deferred sentence for the compilation of a criminal justice social work report.

Defence agent Gerry Sweeney this week told the court the reason Sabiu had

given for not reappearing at court was that he had travelled to Sardinia to visit his elderly and infirm father.

'Mr Sabiu had taken himself off to Sardinia for a significant period of time, before returning in November to Scotland and he subsequently came into contact with the police when back in Claggan,' said Mr Sweeney.

The defence agent went on to say Sabiu had a number of previous road traffic convictions of an analogous nature and a number of past custodial sentences.

Disposal

'But there is one chink of light to report which is during the period in Invermoriston, Mr Sabiu utilised his skills and appears to have done a number of home repairs. If Her Ladyship was so minded to consider some community-based disposal, perhaps some of these skills could be used for the benefit of the community,' said Mr Sweeney.

Sheriff MacDonald told Sabiu: 'On the main matter

of the trial charges [reset of number plates and the car] I have no alternative but to impose a prison sentence - this was a valuable vehicle which was in your possession. I sentence you to six months' imprisonment backdated to April 16 when you were remanded in custody.'

On the charge of driving without insurance, she told him: 'You also have a considerable number of analogous convictions - I have lost count of the number of analogous convictions you have - and have no alternative but to sentence you to a period of imprisonment of five months to run concurrently and your licence is endorsed.'

And on the charge of driving without a licence, Sabiu was banned from driving for three years and fined £600 with no time to pay, and will serve an alternative period in custody as a result.

Sabiu also pleaded guilty to a charge of breaching a community payback order for which he was fined £500 by Sheriff MacDonald.

Consultation on draft Clyde Regional Marine Plan



18th March – 27th May 2019 – Take part now!

The Clyde Marine Planning Partnership is running a pre-consultation on the draft Clyde Regional Marine Plan. This is an important opportunity for coastal communities, individuals, businesses and other organisations to provide feedback and respond to the proposed plan.

The objectives and policies within the plan address a variety of issues across the Region, such as climate change, sea-level rise and marine litter. The Plan also focusses on sustainable development including sea fisheries; aquaculture; sport, recreation and tourism; shipping, ports, harbours and ferries.

The consultation will take place from 18th March until 27th May 2019 and there will be a range of public events where people can learn more about the draft Plan and regional marine planning in the Clyde. See the list of events below to find an event near you; we look forward to seeing you there!

- Arrochar Three Villages Hall 3rd May. Drop-in event with a presentation every hour, 17:00 – 21:00.
- Lochgoilhead Village Hall 4th May. Drop-in event with a presentation every hour, 14:00-18:00
- Dunoon Burgh Hall 7th May. Drop-in event with a presentation every hour, 17:30-21:30
- Bute Museum Rothesay 9th May, 10:30-15:30. Information stall and free entry to the museum!
- Rothesay Library, 9th May, 19:00-21:00. Presentations and Q&A session.
- Lochgilphead Community Education Centre 16th May. Drop-in event with a presentation every hour, 17:00-20:30
- Tarbert and Templar Arts and Leisure Centre 17th May. Drop-in event with a presentation every hour, 17:00-21:00
- Campbeltown, Aqualibrium Leisure Centre 18th May. Information stall between 11:00-16:00
- Campbeltown Town Hall 18th May. Presentation and Q&A, 19:00-21:00

To view the consultation documents and for a full list of events please visit: www.clydemarineplan.scot.

To get in touch please contact us via: info@clydemarineplan.scot, 0131 314 6782.

LT

Lochaber celebrates Easter weekend in the sunshine

by Neill Bo Finlayson
nfinlayson@obantimes.co.uk

The people of Lochaber celebrated Easter in all manner of ways last weekend as the area basked in glorious sunshine.

From egg hunts to Good Friday walks, people made the most of the sunny weather during the Easter weekend, including an unlikely band of Harley Davidson enthusiasts.

During the Rumble under the Ben 2019 motorcycle rally, which took place on Friday and Saturday, riders made a slight diversion to visit Abbeyfield care home in Ballachulish where they chatted to residents, handed out Easter eggs and gave them an up-close look at their two-wheeled motors.

The group of riders camped



Members of Ballachulish Parish Church took full advantage of the sunny weather with a Good Friday walk around the village; and right, two-year-old Holly MacKenzie from Corpach took to the Easter Egg Trail at the National Trust for Scotland's Glencoe visitor Centre with Alex Cameron, four, and his brother James, seven, as they searched for cleverly concealed butterflies. Each secret butterfly location saw the youngsters collecting a stamp and once they had enough they received a chocolate egg from Aiden Lenihan of NTS Glencoe at the finish point. All photographs: Iain Ferguson

and parked up at Fort William Shinty Club's An Aird pitch for the weekend

as part of the Easter event, culminating in an evening of celebrations in the clubhouse

on Saturday night. From road to rail, the Jacobite steam train embarked its first journeys of the year on Friday and over the Easter weekend, with people from all over the world coming to board the train to Mallaig over the famous Glenfinnan viaduct.

The weather also attracted droves of families and children to the outdoors in search of Easter egg hunts, particularly to the recently revamped Glencoe Visitor Centre which hosted a whole day of Easter celebrations.

The Ballachulish Church of Scotland congregation also made the most of the sunshine and enjoyed a leisurely walk around the village to mark Easter Friday.

Right, Thomas Corps, seven, and his brother Samuel, four, travelled from their home in Cardiff for a trip on the 'Harry Potter' train.



Bikers taking part in a Harley Davidson rally in Fort William visited Abbeyfield Home in Ballachulish and handed out Easter eggs to residents before continuing their 'ride-out' to Kinlochleven and back to camp on An Aird.




Fashion changes, but style endures



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Fassfern driver banned for year

Woman also fined £600 following collision

A Fassfern woman was banned from the roads for a year and fined £600 at Fort William Sheriff Court this week after a sheriff heard how she had driven a car while unfit through drugs and had collided with another vehicle waiting at traffic lights.

Johanna Alvarez-Landesa, 43, had pleaded guilty to careless driving on the A830 near Corpach on June 11 last year. She further admitted driving while unfit through the influence of drink or drugs.

Sheriff Eilidh MacDonald heard how the driver of a Land Rover Discovery also travelling along the A830 had become aware of Alvarez-Landesa's Nissan Qashqai crossing the centre line of the road, mounting the verges three times and weaving about on the road.

Procurator Fiscal Martina Eastwood told the court while the Discovery was waiting for temporary traffic lights at Corpach to turn green, Alvarez-Landesa's car had collided with the rear of a Menzies delivery van shunting it into the back of the Discovery.

'The accused was seen to then exit her car and remove a child from the vehicle and place it on the ground. A witness who observed all this



from her house contacted the police,' said Mrs Eastwood.

'The driver of the Discovery had then approached and observed the accused and said she seemed in shock, disorientated and confused.

'Police attended and found the boy, who had a small cut to the left temple, being looked after by a member of the public.

'The accused is reported to have told a member of the public she had taken diazepam that morning.

'Medical staff at the Belford Hospital found the accused to be drowsy with reduced

co-ordination. Police carried out a drugs impairment test and a blood test which showed traces of diazepam, codeine and morphine, the latter being a breakdown product of prescription drugs.'

Defence solicitor Claire Russell told the court her client had been prescribed medication by her GP for back pain: 'The substances found in her blood had all been prescribed by her GP,' said Ms Russell.

The defence agent said Alvarez-Landesa had been forced to drive her son to school because she had been

'Substances found in her blood had all been prescribed by her GP'

left with no-one to transport him on that particular day and took it upon herself to do so.

'It is a matter she deeply regrets,' said Ms Russell.

As well as being banned from driving and fined for being unfit to drive through drugs, Alvarez-Landesa also had her licence endorsed for the careless driving charge.

Sheriff MacDonald admonished Alvarez-Landesa on a separate complaint after hearing she had been of good behaviour for the past six months.

Kilmallie council not impressed with road names

Proposed road names for the new housing development at Blar Mhor were the subject of derision this week by Kilmallie Community Council (KCC) members, who feel the suggestions 'lack imagination', writes Neill Bo Finlayson.

Members were asked to comment on road names, proposed by Highland Council, for the new development, the first phase of which will see 117 houses built at the site just outside Fort William.

Some of the names put forward by the council, including Nevis View and Nevis Way, provoked a disdainful response from those at the meeting.

At a meeting on Monday night, KCC secretary Russel Leaper said: 'It's indicative of a lack of imagination and thinking on the development. There's a lot more serious concerns that people are worrying about than the road names and we should leave the names until we sort out the other problems first.'

KCC has previously criticised Highland Council for

failing to adequately address environmental issues, namely the carbon emissions impact of peat removal, in its proposals for the Blar Mhor site.

Aside from some joke suggestions mocking the council's attempts, members did suggest alternatives and said they would be in favour of names more reflective of the historical importance of the site, which is known as Corpach Moss or Blar Mhor.

The council said if KCC had alternative suggestions to submit them to planners with a statement outlining the reasons for the name.

Councillor Denis Rixson proposed making suggestions public, saying: 'We could rack our brains here or we can go round the community and see what they come up with.'

KCC decided to relay this back to Highland Council and ask about submitting alternative names.

HAVE YOUR SAY
email us at fort@obantimes.co.uk

Fort woman fined £400 for having air rifle without licence

Fort William resident Daniella Hinchcliffe was fined £400 at the town's sheriff court this week after previously pleading guilty to possessing an air rifle without a certificate.

Hinchcliffe, of Belhaven Drive, who turned 30 on the day of the court case, was not present for sentencing due to what her defence agent said were serious health issues.

Procurator Fiscal Martina Eastwood told the court that two home care nurses visiting Hinchcliffe on August 18 last year, had noticed the weapon on open display in the living room.

'They described it as a 'black rifle' when they reported it to the police,' said Mrs Eastwood.

'The police attended with a firearms search warrant. There was another person in the house at the time and both were open about the air weapon and admitted it belonged to her, who told them 'I use it for balance'.

As well as seizing the air rifle, two boxes of pellets were removed from Hinchcliffe's home by police.

Defence agent Hamish Melrose told the court: 'When I visited her at home to take instructions, this was the first time I'd seen

her in about 10 years and I got quite a shock.

'She is confined to bed,' he said.

Mr Melrose said for a long time Hinchcliffe had lived on a croft at Roy Bridge where the air rifle had been kept in a cupboard, as the crofter has a firearms licence.

'It was a rather strange response she gave to police, but I understand she also took up archery at the croft which also helped with her balance.'

As well as fining Hinchcliffe £400, Sheriff Eilidh MacDonald ordered forfeiture of the air rifle.

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Drones to be used in search for missing people

Police searches for missing and vulnerable people will be enhanced with the introduction of state-of-the-art drones.

The two Remotely Piloted Aircraft Systems (RPAS) will become operational in Aberdeen and Inverness on May 1 but will be used in rural environments to get an aerial view of locations which are typically difficult to get to. The RPAS will supposedly be able to locate a person faster than officers on the ground.

The number of missing people recorded for the Highlands and Islands was 2,343 in 2018.

Head of specialist services Chief Superintendent Matt Richards said: 'The introduction of the RPAS will be hugely beneficial to teams for example, when searching for vulnerable or missing people, particularly in the remote areas that we have in the north of Scotland.'

Kilmallie council backs meeting call

Community wants to voice fears over cutbacks

Members of Kilmallie Community Council (KCC) have supported calls to hold a public meeting about plans to reallocate pupil support assistants in schools because of Highland Council budget cutbacks.

A public meeting of all Fort William area community councils was proposed earlier this month to address fears over Highland Council's plans to save £2.8 million from its Additional Support Needs (ASN) budget, which includes pupil support assistants (PSA) provision, over a three-year period.

The council's chief executive and its director of education were to be asked to attend a public meeting, however, a date has not yet been set.

At a meeting on Monday night, KCC chairwoman

Christine Hutchison said: 'A lot of people are anxious there are going to be these changes within the education system and in schools, and they are worried they won't have the

Council says it is beginning a phased realigning of roles to where required

support they need.'

Highland Council says it has the highest reported levels of ASN staff in Scotland and is beginning a phased approach to realign this role to where, it says, it is most required.

Caol and Mallaig councillor Denis Rixson, a former teacher at Mallaig High School, told members: 'I have a background in education

and feel very strongly about it, but it's right that people have their voices heard and get them answered.'

Mr Rixson pointed out that this year the £700,000 cuts in PSA funding was not 'a huge amount' Highland-wide and said that the council would be instead investing more money into early years education.

He continued: 'Communities have been forthright in expressing their views. I can see how strongly people feel and I accept that.'

'This is partly down to the success of head teachers. Part of it is about resolving anomalies in the system. But I don't want to take away those parents' rights to be concerned about it.'

Councillor Allan Henderson agreed that it was 'relatively quite a small

amount' being cut from the PSA budget but 'quite a big amount' being funnelled into the younger years.

Mr Henderson did warn members that any public meeting on PSA would have to happen 'fairly soon' as the bulk of the preparatory work was happening soon.

In concluding the discussion, KCC secretary Russell Leaper said that, given the number of people in support of a public meeting, the community council should support arranging a public meeting in principle, 'even if it is just relaying people's concerns'.

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Sentence deferred on Fort man

A Fort William man has had his sentence deferred to allow for the preparation of a Criminal Justice Social Work Report.

Iain Roy, 34, of the town's Camanachd Crescent, had previously pleaded guilty by letter to three charges.

Roy admitted that on December 8, 2018, in the car park of Morrison's supermarket in Fort William, and later at the town's police station, he had behaved in a threatening or abusive manner likely to cause fear or alarm by shouting, swearing and uttering threats of violence to police witnesses.

He further pleaded guilty to resisting, obstructing and hindering four police officers by attempting to pull his arms away from them and kicking out with his legs.

He also admitted possessing of cannabis resin at the police station.

Sheriff Eilidh MacDonald told Roy she would defer sentence until May 21 for the preparation of a social work background report.

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Source: ABC/Icreg data as at 01/11/2016



Dylan Callander, seven, astride the winning Harley Davidson Hardtail Sportster with owner Dave Eastwood.

Sunart Wildcat Rally raises £2,000 for charity

The second Sunart Wildcat Rally, held over the Easter break, proved an enormous success, with the event raising £2,050 for Spinal Injuries Scotland, writes Neill Bo Finlayson.

Around 50 bikers congregated from as far away as Hamburg in Germany for the event at Sunart Campsite in Strontian.

Participants took advantage of the glorious weather to complete a treasure hunt which saw riders accumulate points by visiting various destinations in the West

Highlands. This event was won by Mike Grey from East Fortune in East Lothian on his Honda Africa Twin.

The competition for best motorbike at the event was judged by youngsters Dylan Callander from Strontian and Max Power from Ardgour.

Favourite

The pair decided upon a custom-built Harley Davidson Hardtail Sportster as their favourite on the day – much to the surprise and delight of owner Dave Eastwood from Caithness.

Runners-up were Helge

Denecke from Hamburg with his Kawasaki 300 and Christine Black from Glasgow with her Honda NC700.

An evening hog roast and auction – with live music from Michael Mannering – rounded off the weekend.

Tim and Lynn Coldwell of Sunart Camping and Mike Taylor of Passing Places Tours would like to thank everyone who took part in this year's event, as well as friends and businesses who helped raise such an impressive amount for the charity.

Extinction Rebellion protesters helped to raise awareness of climate change on Saturday by making chalk drawings in Fort William's Cameron Square. People of all ages were encouraged to use chalk to draw what they most value about the natural world.

Photographs: Iain Ferguson.



Campaigners make their mark on Fort

Climate change campaigners created colourful statements on the future of the environment at Fort William's Cameron Square on Easter Saturday.

As demonstrations gripped cities across the world last week, the message of the Extinction Rebellion campaign group was not lost in Lochaber as dozens of people turned up to raise awareness of the imminent threat of global climate change.

People of all ages were encouraged to join in the Draw for Life event and use chalk to draw what they most valued about the natural world, which is facing the dual emergency of global climate change and ecosystem collapse.

At the end of the day, water, mops and scrubbing brushes were used to remove all traces of the beautiful drawings, returning to the grey stone, in what the group saw as a symbolic echo of what lies ahead for mankind.



A spokesperson for the Extinction Rebellion group explained: 'The event was also an opportunity to discuss these complex issues with passers-by, many of whom had similar concerns for what the future holds in store for young people everywhere, and for the other species with whom we share the planet.'

'Paradoxically, a few people did seem rather more upset by the temporary use of chalk on the paved surfaces of the Square than by the message of unfolding global catastrophe, which was a useful reminder

of the wide range of priorities and viewpoints that need to be reconciled if we are to achieve a lasting solution.'

The protest even reached the highest point of the UK as an intrepid group of campaigners climbed Ben Nevis to adorn the summit shelter with Extinction Rebellion banners and flags.

The Extinction Rebellion Highlands and Islands branch is urging governments to act now to prevent catastrophic climate and ecological breakdown, 'so that extinction does not happen'.



The Extinction Rebellion campaign even reached the top of Ben Nevis.

VIEW FROM THE CHAMBER

Be cyber prepared

This week marks the first Cyber Scotland Week – highlighting the importance to business of online security.

It's come at the right time, as a new report published this week shows the number of cyber attacks against businesses surged last year, with more than 60 per cent of companies reporting at least one attack in 2018.

The Hiscox Cyber Readiness Report 2019 surveyed more than 5,400 small, medium and large businesses across seven countries, including the UK, Germany, the US, Belgium, France, the Netherlands and Spain.

While large firms remain the most likely to be targeted, smaller businesses cannot afford to be complacent: around 47 per cent of small firms, (those with fewer than 50 employees) reported cyber-attacks, up from 33 per cent last year. The proportion of medium-sized businesses targeted (those



with 50 to 249 employees) almost doubled, rising to 63 per cent from 36 per cent in the previous year.

Easily guessed passwords being used across multiple accounts have been highlighted as a major gap in the online security practices of UK internet users, according to a separate survey by the National Cyber Security Centre (NCSC).

Can you guess what the most commonly used passwords are? Yes – '123456' was the most used, ahead of '123456789' and 'qwerty', the word 'password' and '1111111'.

NCSC technical director Dr Ian Levy said: 'We understand that cyber security can feel daunting to a lot of

people, but the National Cyber Security Centre has published lots of easily applicable advice to make you much less vulnerable.'

Find out more at www.ncsc.gov.uk

Dr Levy advises: 'Using hard-to-guess passwords is a strong first step and we recommend combining three random but memorable words. Be creative and use words memorable to you, so people can't guess your password.'

Join Lochaber Chamber of Commerce for access to great business events, training, information and advice. See www.lochaberchamber.co.uk for our upcoming events or call us on 01397 705765.

MarPAMM COMMUNITY EVENTS

Marine Protected Area Management and Monitoring (MarPAMM) is a project that aims to trial the production of Marine Protected Area (MPA) regional management in Argyll.

Come along to one of the three community drop-in events to find out more!

TUESDAY 30TH APRIL

The Rockfield Centre, Oban, 2pm-8pm

WEDNESDAY 1ST MAY

Kintyre Community Education Centre, Campbeltown, 2pm-8pm

THURSDAY 2ND MAY

Lochgilphead Community Education Centre, Lochgilphead, 2pm-8pm

For more information contact Amie Williams on

0300 244 9360



LT

WHAT'S ON in Lochaber

■ Kilmallie Shinty Club is hosting a fundraising race night at Tradewinds for club funds this Saturday, April 27. Starter's gun is at 8pm. There will be a raffle. To buy or sponsor a horse, speak to Cath MacKay.

■ Friends of Nevis is holding its spring litter pick and curling ponds tidy-up on Sunday April 28. Meet at Ben Nevis Highland Centre (Woolen Mill) at 10.30am and finish about 3.15pm. Come for a couple of hours or whatever time you can spare. Under-18s should be accompanied by an adult.

Coffee, lunch and all equipment will be provided. Please wear suitable clothing. Register beforehand if possible at friendsofnevis.co.uk or contact Rory at info@friendsofnevis.co.uk or 01397 701088 or contact Joy at pjbiggin@gmail.com or on 01397 772459.

■ Nether Lochaber Community Association's proposed community purchase of land at Inchree drop-in consultation event will take place on Sunday April 28 in Onich Village Hall between 10am and 7pm.

■ In anticipation of Lochaber Local History Society's annual trip to Corroun on May 11, Marion Barrie who grew up there will be giving a talk at the Alexandra Hotel on Thursday May 2 at 8pm. The talk is illustrated and full of anecdote and history of one of Lochaber's most remote communities - much more so when Marion was young. And on Thursday May 9, also in the Alexandra Hotel, another talk on Lochaber's own disease, Sibbens, by Chris Robinson will be preceded by a brief AGM at 7.30pm. The origins of this disease are obscure but were almost certainly imported from abroad and caused much misery and anxiety in Lochaber 250 years ago - and spread throughout Scotland. Everyone welcome at both events.

■ Kilmallie Community Centre is welcoming the Cork Accordion and Fiddle Club to its concert on Friday May 3. Starting at 8pm, the performance will feature Donal Ring, 'Ireland's Jimmy Shand', and other leading Irish musicians. Tickets available at the door.

Locals invited to inch group plans Inchree

by Neill Bo Finlayson
nfinlayson@obantimes.co.uk

The group behind the proposed community purchase of more than 13 hectares of land at Inchree, near Corran, is holding a public information meeting about the plans.

Nether Lochaber Community Association (NLCA) is inviting local residents to a community drop-in day to discuss the group's plans to buy two pieces of land, one from the Forestry Commission and the other from Lochaber Housing Association, near the popular Inchree waterfalls.

The public information day will take place at the Nether Lochaber Village Hall on Sunday (April 28), between 10am and 7pm.

Gwyneth Jennings, speaking on behalf of the Inchree subgroup of Nether Lochaber Community Association, said that although the proposals are in the initial stages of development they hope for a good turnout to the information session, adding: 'On the day, it is hoped there



Above: The view over the site at Inchree which is subject to a proposed community land buy out and, right, the waterfall at Inchree which is a popular visitor attraction.

will be a good attendance of residents in Nether Lochaber,' she said.

Roy Bridge trials rider looks to take Europe by storm

Despite being too young to compete at this year's Scottish Six Days Trial on his home turf, a young Roy Bridge rider has been flying the flag for Lochaber in Europe this week, writes Neill Bo Finlayson.

Sixteen-year-old Ben Dignan is bidding for another podium finish at the FIM Europe Trial Championship in Italy this weekend after he took third place at the first round of competition last Saturday in Pietramurata.

After enduring a gruelling two laps of 12 sections, taking five hours to complete the section in the baking sun, Ben narrowly lost out on second place and is looking to go one better this week at Monza.

The Gas Gas UK Youth Team rider said: 'Good way to start the European Championships with a podium. My riding was on and off today and made some silly mistakes which cost me second place. Now looking forward to a further week of training in Italy before next weekend's second round.'

As well as the European Championships, Ben is



Ben Dignan in action in Italy.

Photograph: Pixel Point Photography.

competing in the World Championship 125. He remains hopeful of finishing well in those competitions after claiming second at the British Championship Elite 125 in March, the next round of which is in Neath, Wales.

Ben will continue his training in Italy with his coach Michael Brown, a former World Rider and British Champion, who will compete in the Scottish Six Days Trial in Lochaber next month. The pair move on to Monza on Thursday. Friday is registration, practice and walking the sections then the competition itself takes place on the Saturday.

A member of Lochaber and District Motorcycle Club, Ben has previously been coached by riders including Kinlochleven-based trials legend Gary Macdonald, experienced riders Dan Thorpe and Adam Raga and world rider Jack Price.

Ben has sponsors from all over the country, including Highland Leisure Sport from Invergordon which has supported him from an early age and have helped Ben achieve his dream of competing at an international level. He is also grateful for the backing of sponsors MacPhee and Partners, AN Fraser Joiners and Inverness Taxis.



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Information day as Inchree land buy out



Some of the land at Inchree subject to the community buy out proposals.

'The proposed format is to provide information and enable residents to discuss and bring their suggestions about the proposal to purchase land on behalf of the community in Inchree. It is also hoped residents

will support and volunteer potential skills and specialist knowledge to take this proposal further.'

Conservation

The area is also known for its red squirrel conservation area and

woodland walks, which attracts more than 50,00 visitors each year. The association is hoping to enhance visitors' experience with help from the public.

In 2013, Forestry Commission Scotland offered the community the buildings near the car park and conservation area.

One of the buildings now needs to be renovated, but it is something which the NLCA said could be put to great use for the community with the right funding.

Ideas

A 13 hectare area of land, currently owned by Lochaber Housing Association, has been offered to the community, which has first refusal to buy, and the Inchree subgroup has since formed to garner ideas and suggestions for land use.

The team is keen to give the community greater control over the use of the land.

Contact the Inchree subgroup by emailing inchreecommunitybuy-out@gmail.com

Concerns over Corpach speeding and parking

Corpach residents have raised concerns over speeding traffic in various areas of the village, which they feel is putting other drivers and pedestrians at risk, writes Neill Bo Finlayson.

At a meeting of Kilmallie Community Council on Monday evening (April 22), Sergeant Ross McCartney told members 'a number of fixed penalties' were issued for speeding on the A830, recorded by mobile police units.

He also told the meeting there have been several complaints made recently about the speed of traffic travelling along Hillview Drive.

'People coming up to the 30mph limit sign, as clear as it is, are not going at 30mph,' said one Hillview resident at the meeting who warned of the potential of a serious accident in the spot.

'They race up and come to the top of the junction and then they can't go anywhere.'

Sergeant McCartney said this is a case of trying to educate the perpetrators on the impor-

tance of driving safely in built up areas.

It was suggested the rumble strips, currently positioned at the top of Hillview Drive, be moved further down to alleviate speeding on the straight stretch leading to the A830.

Complaints had also been received about vehicles parking on pavements in Hillview. Members of the public at the meeting said this has caused problems for mothers with push chairs and children who need to dismount the pavements to get past parked cars.

Sergeant McCartney also told the meeting similar complaints of speeding and parking have been made in relation to Lady Margaret Drive in Drumfada and police officers on patrol have been briefed about the issue.

READMORE
www.lochabertimes.co.uk

A Cry for the Wild

HOLLY GILLIBRAND

fort@obantimes.co.uk



For a week, the usually peaceful roads of London have been experiencing continuous disruption in an attempt to bring the capital city of the UK to a standstill.

The non-violent direct action group Extinction Rebellion has been blocking four locations around London since April 15 to draw attention to the ecological emergency we are facing and to demand our government takes action.

The four locations, Waterloo Bridge, Parliament Square, Oxford Circus and Marble Arch, have been blocked by peaceful protesters, ordinary people, who are concerned about the future and the criminal inaction of our politicians. For the first five days of the rebellion, police said they had arrested more than 600 protesters.

It is not only London that is being blocked. This is an international rebellion and Extinction Rebellion groups around the world are protesting for our future.

On April 16, I went to a roadblock taking place on North Bridge in Edinburgh. It wasn't an angry mob or

riot. For me, it was a peaceful, joyous celebration of life and a rebellion against the current system that is putting profit over humans and nature.

Here in Fort William, we had our own little rebellion in solidarity with those down south.

We placed plants around Cameron Square and drew quotes, facts and pictures of animals and plants onto the cold, grey slabs.

Symbolic

For a few hours last Saturday, the town centre of Fort William was alive with fun, colour and creativity. But it was short lived. A few hours later the life and colour of the square was washed away as a symbolic act of the species which are lost each day.

Some people are angry and some understand why this is happening but think there are other ways of protesting about climate change. Recently, I saw a statement which said: 'Being annoyed about the disruption caused by Extinction Rebellion is like being annoyed about a fire alarm for waking you up.'

I think this really puts into perspective who Extinction Rebellion are and what they are trying to achieve.

For the last few days, Extinction Rebellion has been in the headlines on the news and so many people are now talking about the climate crisis and ecological collapse.

We are in the midst of the sixth mass extinction, with up to 200 species going extinct every day.

In the future, when wildfires, droughts, floods, famine and rising sea levels ravage the land, we probably aren't going to remember the minor inconveniences caused by people who were trying to protect the people and animals on this planet.

The IPCC has said that if we don't take action now, we will be facing irreversible climate catastrophe in 11 years, though this may happen sooner or later.

To solve this massive issue, we need long-term thinking and innovative solutions.

We need to keep the fossil fuels in the ground and prioritise the protection of humanity and the natural world.

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MacPhail

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Witnessing people in an environment in which they are totally at home is a very satisfying experience.

Last week I was on a day trip from Holy Loch, Dunoon, on a converted fishing boat, accompanied by my friend, eighty-one year old Alec Thorburn, an ex-fisherman originally from Fisherrow, Musselburgh.

He is the great uncle of Rory Thorburn Grindlay, who plays drums in the band, and when we were offered the opportunity to take the trip, we thought Alec would be the perfect person to join us.

The boat, Splendour, was built in 1959 by Jones's yard of Buckie at around the very same time that Alec, aged 21, had his own first boat, Honestas, built. Seeing Alec looking totally at home in the surroundings, especially when he took the helm, and hearing his stories and recollections of fishing days gone

by, were the highlights of a very enjoyable day.

As well as being a great storyteller, Alec is also a fine singer, and he recently recorded backing vocals on our recording of the following song.

Last of the Hunters, Angus MacPhail

Here's a health to the fishermen who plough the lonely sea

And battle with the ocean where it's in their blood to be.

Dear the fruitful bounty of the blind and savage foam.

They're the last of the hunters, and they're proudly sailing home.

Away to the fishing ground against a flooding tide

The hunters of the wild, now the last in our time.

Through living gale and storm they sail, the crystal sea they roam.

They're the heart of every harbour when the boats come sailing home.

Chorus

*Sailing home, sailing home,
The last of the hunters sailing home.*

*From the mighty fleets of Yarmouth to the deep-sea ships of Hull,
The famous Fleetwood trawlers all have suffered from the cull;*

*In Lossiemouth, Lochinver, Fisherrow and Pittenweem
Golden days in memory, but now a fading dream.*

*Quiet now the harbours where the distant echo rings,
Eriskay and Scalpay where the herring men were kings;
Laden deep for Stornoway, the skipper's chair a throne
Legends of the sea and still their ghosts are sailing home.*

*A realm of strong intrepid men and heroes of renown
A shadow of the past, traded off and torn down;
The pawns in politicians'*

games, lives ravaged to the bone

But still they go to sea and still the boats come sailing home.

*And in Newlyn, Plymouth, Weymouth, Poole, The Wash and Grimsby town,
North Shields and Eyemouth, Peterhead, the Broch, they'll hold their ground.*

Orkney, Shetland and the Hebrides, in Oban and Kintyre

Kilkeel, the Isle of Man and Killybegs, they will not die.

So we'll toast the Mallaig trawlers and the creel men of the West,

*Pelagic ships of Whalsay and the seiners of Caithness,
Brixham beamers, Cornish crabbers, and in every pier and cove*

We'll give a welcome at the harbour when the boats come sailing home.



Lib Dem

Scottish Liberal Democrat leader Willie Rennie MSP conducted a fact-finding visit to Lochaber last week alongside Caol and Mallaig Liberal Democrat councillor Denis Rixson, writes Neill Bo Finlayson.

The duo visited the Lochaber Environmental Project, the leader of the Corpach Marina project and the Newton Room (STEM centre) on their whistle-stop tour of the area.

After his visit, Mr Rennie said: 'There is a real buzz about Lochaber, some great work is being done through some excellent projects. We've known for some time we need more people trained in a whole host of STEM subjects, and we need those training places available right across Scotland. The Newton Room is an excellent concept based on a Norwegian model already working in practice. It is funded by the Inverness and Highlands City-Region Deal and will bring science, technology, engineering and

maths to life for young people. The Lochaber Environmental Group has the objective of reconnecting people with the land and produce, and also cut carbon emissions for the benefit of the climate. They are an enthusiastic team which is already making a real impact.

'The Thomas Telford Corpach Marina project is truly inspiring. It is very impressive that the team has raised almost all the funds required to make this happen. Creating a marina at this spot could bring real economic and leisure benefits to Lochaber.'



Harris Tweed kits out Scotland women's team

The Scotland women's football team will travel to the FIFA Women's World Cup in Harris Tweed style this summer.

Edinburgh-based tailoring firm Walker Slater will supply the squad with Harris Tweed Hebrides jackets to wear as they fly out to France in June, ensuring the players and coaching staff look the part ahead of the biggest test of their careers so far.

The announcement sees Walker Slater continue its role as an official licensee of the Scottish FA, which has seen it exclusively retail the Scotland

National Team Harris Tweed, designed and produced in Shawbost, since 2015.

Walker Slater will now supply the players with the Iona jacket, in a traditional style designed by Harris Tweed Hebrides to combine the dark blue of the Scotland jersey with the sky blue from the Saltire to give a subtle, modern tweed.

Scotland team manager Shelley Kerr, left, and players Nicola Docherty and Hayley Lauder wearing the new jackets.



Morvern Eco Morning for Lochaline residents

Morvern Eco Wheels, supported by Morvern Community Development Company, is to host Morvern Eco Morning next month.

Billed as a great morning out for the whole family, people can learn how to reduce their and their community's carbon footprint both behind the wheel and with foraging food for them and their family.

Clare Holohan from West Highland Herbal will be sharing her knowledge as a herbalist with a foraging walk. Rosemary Farrell, of Auto Global Solutions, will be showcasing Fuel-Good Driver Training with the

community electric car.

Fuel-Good driver training is the use of driving methods and skills that produce economic and environmental benefits such as reduced fuel consumption and carbon emissions, increased miles per gallon (MPG) by up to 15 per cent, reduced risk of vehicle incidents and lower risk of vehicle wear and tear.

Morvern Eco Morning is to be held at Lochaline Snack Bar from 10am to 1pm on Saturday May 18. Have a cup of tea, a scone and a chat, as well as participating in a fantastic morning of foraging and Fuel-Good driver training.



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leader visits Lochaber



Left: Willie Rennie with Andy McKenna, chairman of Thomas Telford Corpach Marina, and Councillor Denis Rixson; above: Lochaber Environmental Group chairwoman Marian Austin, centre, and Stephen McDonach, right, welcomed Mr Rennie to the community gardens in Claggan; and below, Lochaber STEM Andrew Johnston HIE director for the Science Skills Academy showing Mr Rennie around the new Newton Room in Caol.

Photographs: Rennie Rixon

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MP has tunnel vision for islands

Na h-Eileanan an Iar SNP MP Angus MacNeil has written to Transport Minister Michael Matheson MSP to suggest the Scottish Government visit the Faroe Islands to see its new 11.2 km subsea tunnel.

Mr MacNeil has hailed the success of the Faroes in creating a highly advanced transportation infrastructure, which includes 17 land tunnels and two subsea tunnels, with another almost complete and construction on a further tunnel due to start soon.

The system, which will include the world's first subsea roundabout, will virtually eradicate the need for ferry services.

Mr MacNeil said: 'The transport network in the Faroes is the kind of system we should aspire to follow in the Scottish islands.'

'Infrastructure of this kind would have huge economic and social benefits to all parts of the islands and would remove travel disruption due to weather conditions or issues associated with capacity.'

He has also suggested to Transport Minister Michael Matheson that Transport Scotland should visit the nearly complete Faroese tunnel and learn from the Faroese experience of creating a seamless travel system.

CalMac job boost with Stornoway call centre

by Neill Bo Finlayson
nfinlayson@obantimes.co.uk

CalMac is opening a new customer service centre in Stornoway, bringing a handful of new jobs to the town.

The ferry operator's customer service team is boosted by additional staff over the busy summer months but this year five of these seasonal jobs will be based in the Western Isles.

The team will help to handle some of the 300,000-plus calls and 44,000 emails the company receives every year.

CalMac has pledged to look at ways of spreading support function staff more evenly around its area of operations.

Comhairle nan Eilean Siar has welcomed the announcement with Councillor Uisdean Robertson, chairman of the comhairle's Transportation and Infrastructure Committee, saying: 'The impact of salaries in the Western Isles is much greater on the local economy than in the central belt and I would call on CalMac to give serious consideration to further devolution

and relocation of jobs into the islands.'

'We would reiterate our suggestion that each and every island should have a fair share of central jobs and head office functions including senior management roles and would ask that the practice of centralisation of roles to a head office will cease and future vacancies will be advertised on a network wide basis instead of head office with a target of 30 per cent of these jobs being based in the Western Isles by 2030. Not only would such a

move be an economic boost but it would also continue to demonstrate CalMac's commitment to the communities of the islands.'

CalMac currently employs around 1,700 people from Campbeltown in the south to Stornoway in the north, 60 per cent of whom live in fragile coastal or island communities. Last year it carried more than 5.2 million passengers on its fleet of 33 vessels across 26 routes to island and remote mainland destinations making the company the UK's

largest ferry and harbour operator.

'We are on record as saying we will look at boosting job numbers within the islands we support when the opportunity arises, and this pilot is an important first step on this journey,' said CalMac's managing director Robbie Drummond.

'Although this may seem a modest move, it is a firm reinforcement that we are taking our communities' wishes to see more support service jobs spread around our network seriously.'

Stornoway to host first independence march

Stornoway will see its first ever pro-Scottish Independence march this Saturday (April 27) and Western Isles SNP MSP Alasdair Allan is looking forward to taking part.

In recent years, hundreds of independence marches have taken place all over Scotland.

This Saturday's march, organised by the group Outer Hebrides For Independence, was created to allow pro-independence supporters

from the islands to take part in an independence march closer to home.

The march has been planned as a family-friendly day with live music, stalls and face painting. Ceilidhs for those attending the rally will also be held in the evening.

Mr Allan said: 'It's really exciting to see an activity of this kind taking place in Stornoway.'

'It promises to be a fun day out for everyone, and I hope

that as many independence-supporting islanders as possible will be able to attend.

'With marches for Scotland's independence now taking place the length and breadth of the country, the UK Government can be in no doubt of the significant and growing appetite there is for Scotland to take control of its own affairs.'

'I passionately believe that Scotland will flourish as an independent country free to

make its own decisions, and I think we are reaching the point now where a majority of people in Scotland believe that too.'

The gathering point for the march is Old Acres Rugby Pitch, across from Comhairle nan Eilean Siar's offices on Sandwick Road. People will be able to gather from noon onwards with the march itself due to begin at 2pm.

Alasdair Allan MSP, right.



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Danny MacAskill recreates a scene from the April 2009 video, filmed in Edinburgh. Photograph: Dave Mackison.



Skye stunt rider marks 10 years with new show

Danny MacAskill heads for Edinburgh Fringe Festival

World-renowned street trials rider Danny MacAskill celebrated the 10th anniversary of the launch of his breakthrough video of April 2009 last week, which shot the Skye rider to fame and turned him into a YouTube sensation overnight.

It was viewed by hundreds of thousands of people overnight, skyrocketing a riding career that has seen Danny demonstrating his extraordinary street trials skills all over the world, both on video and to live audiences. To date April

2009 has amassed more than 38 million views on YouTube.

To celebrate this milestone in his career, Danny and Drop and Roll Tour, his popular street trials stunt display team, are heading to Edinburgh Festival Fringe 2019 with their new live indoor show, featuring jaw-dropping stunts and gravity-defying tricks.

Danny said: 'After living on the Isle of Skye for my entire childhood, Edinburgh was the first city I ever lived in. Since arriving

in the capital in 2006 the city has always been a home from home. It really opened up a whole new world in terms of riding and made me the rider I am today.'

Danny MacAskill's Drop and Roll Live will feature a talented team of riders, including Drop and Roll's co-founder and fellow Scot Duncan Shaw, and will be performed at The Lafayette at Underbelly's Circus Hub on The Meadows, Edinburgh, every day from August 3 to 24.

'Ten years on it seems a fitting time to return to Edinburgh with the Drop and Roll Tour display team for a run of shows with Underbelly at such an iconic venue. Our new show is going to be something very special!'

The team is working on making this one of its most ambitious shows yet. Hosted by extreme sports commentator Henry Jackson, the hour-long show will be filled with audacious stunts, many replicated from that first video.

Happy Meals sessions come to Uist and Barra

Following on a successful pilot in Lewis, NHS Western Isles (NHSWI) is excited to bring Happy Meals to Uist and Barra next month.

Parents/carers in Uist and Barra are invited to come along to the Happy Meals information sessions to find out ideas to make food and mealtimes fun.

'Fussy eating is a common problem for parents and we want to provide some ideas for parents to try at home to stop mealtimes turning into battles,' said NHSWI Occupational Therapist Caren Laird.

'Anyone who has concerns relating to their child's fussy eating is welcome to come along and join us,' she added.

The Happy Meals sessions are led by a dietitian, occupational therapist, and speech and language therapist – and their different backgrounds are complemented by a shared knowledge of feeding, allowing parents/carers the unique opportunity to benefit from their expertise in an informal setting. The Happy Meals session will be held in Barra on Tuesday May 14, in Barra's Children's Centre at 2.15pm, and in Uist on Wednesday May 15, at Benbecula Church of Scotland Hall, Griminish, at 10am.

The Happy Meals sessions are aimed at parents/carers of children of any age, and there is no need to book.

If anyone would like further information about Happy Meals and the Uist and Barra sessions, please contact NHSWI nutrition and dietetic manager Karen France on 01851 708279 or email wi-hb.Dietetics@nhs.net



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Source: YouGov 2018

Bar Rio

Cocktail Menu

*Woo Woo..... £6.95	*Bahama Mama £6.95
Espresso Martini..... £6.45	Cosmopolitan £6.65
White Russian £6.85	*Pina Colada £6.95
Strawberry Daiquiri..... £6.50	Pink Gin..... £5.30
Mojito £6.65	Rainbow Smirnoff £5.50
French Martini £6.65	Old Fashioned £5.10
Red Corona £6.50	Lychee Martini £6.25
Lychee Martini £6.25	*Tequila Sunrise..... £6.70
*Sex on the Beach..... £6.95	Strawberry Gin Fizz £7.65
Limoncello..... £7.65	*Long Island Tea £7.85

* Cocktails available as a jug £13.99

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LETTERS

Write to us: send your letters to editor@obantimes.co.uk
or The Editor, PO Box 1, Oban, Argyll PA34 4HB

Concern that most vulnerable will be hit by ASN cuts

Kilmallie Community Council is backing calls for a public meeting about plans to reallocate pupil support assistants in schools because of Highland Council budget cutbacks.

Highland Council is aiming to save £2.8 million from its Additional Support Needs (ASN) budget, which includes Personal Support Assistant provision, over a three-year period.

This service is provided to our most vulnerable children and understandably a lot of people are concerned that these changes will mean youngsters will not receive the support they need.

The council says it has the highest reported levels of ASN staff in Scotland and is beginning a phased approach to realign this role to where, it says, it is most required. That means cutting the service in anyone's language.

We appreciate that money is tight but at a time when some children are being denied an education because there is not enough support, leaving even more children in that position is not the answer.

Gratitude as firefighters extinguish wildfires

A huge thanks must go out to all our firefighters who have spent so much time over the past week or so fighting the wildfires that have broken out across Lochaber.

The devastation caused over the Easter weekend in estates and glens in Kinlochleven, Klyesmorar, Morar and Lochailort must have pushed crews to their limits.

We are hugely grateful for their dedication, service and sacrifice when they could have been spending time with their friends and families.

Use delivery companies which do not charge extra

I was most interested to read about the man having trouble getting deliveries from John Lewis ('Retailer won't deliver to Isle of Oban, The Oban Times, April 11).

I live in Dalavich, on the front near the road, and see John Lewis and Harrods vans go by – yes, Harrods – and if they can come all that way from London, does it not make all those other over-charging companies look rather stupid?

I deal with companies that deliver free only, and believe me, they are out there.

I bought a wooden farm gate and also a side gate on the internet, both delivered free and that was from Devon, so when I see those notes saying if you live in PA postcode area it will cost extra, it makes my blood boil.

Thomas Middleton, Dalavich Village.

School strikers are fighting for the planet's future

There is not space in a short letter to summarise the mass of evidence that D C Gill has managed to miss (Lochaber Times, Letters, April 11), published in thousands of scientific papers, demonstrating clearly that the steady warming of the Earth over the past 50 years is almost entirely man-made.

The scientific method, and scientists themselves, may not be perfect but it has proven to be the best approach to understanding the world, and burying one's head in the sand is scarcely a credible alternative.

Fortunately, some of our children are better schooled in the scientific basis of climate change than their elders. They understand the links between human activity, greenhouse gases, planetary heating and the potentially devastating consequences for humanity and the natural world that may follow.

They have chosen, entirely of their own volition, to act. The school strikers have actively resisted the involvement of adult organisations with their movement, precisely because they do not wish to be anyone's pawns. They have acted of their own accord, inspired solely by a single Swedish schoolgirl who has done her homework.

D C Gill's views are the past. Some of our children have decided that their future is worth fighting for.

Philip Gillibrand, Kinlocheil.

YOUR PICTURES



We know our readers love to take photographs so we are happy to create this space to showcase these each week. If you have a photograph you would like to see published here, send it to editor@obantimes.co.uk

obantimes.co.uk, post it to The Editor, PO Box 1, Oban, PA34 4HB or hand it in to our offices in Crannog Lane, Lochavullin Industrial Estate, Oban, or in High Street, Fort William.

Change your thinking to improve the environment

When I read the article titled 'Councillor slams worsening litter' (Lochaber Times, March 28), I started to wonder what drives people to litter.

I believe the reason lies in the universal plague where people don't believe they are enough and as a result don't respect themselves. Because when you like and respect yourself, it shows up in how you treat your environment. When you like yourself, your

life is extraordinary, and you cherish your environment.

As a therapist, I meet so many people who don't like themselves and, by extension, they create environments and lives they don't like either. People need to learn to like themselves – not because they are perfect, or had perfect parents, or experienced no adversity – but because everyone is enough, everyone is lovable.

We are all born knowing we are lovable and enough, but we unlearn this behaviour as our environment gives us messages and experiences that cause us to take on



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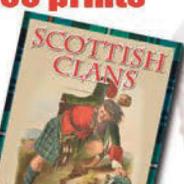
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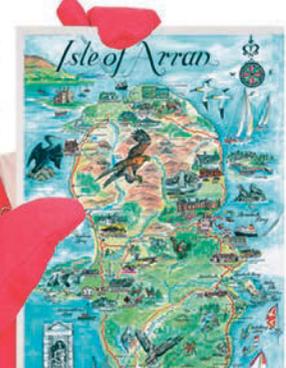


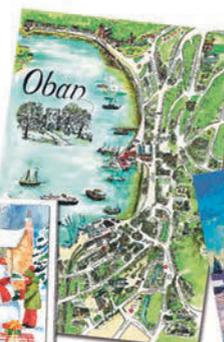
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DISTRICT NEWS

FORT WILLIAM

Almost two thirds of people (64 per cent) in the Highlands and Islands are tapping into the trend of carrying a refillable bottle when on the go, according to the latest YouGov research.

The insight into the region's water drinking habits comes as figures show more people nationally are choosing to go with the flow, with around two thirds (65 per cent) of people in Scotland opting for a refillable bottle.

Scottish Water's Your Water Your Life campaign aims to encourage people to top up from the tap for the benefit of the planet, their health and their pockets.

A Top-up Tap was recently unveiled in Fort William's Gordon Square, to help keep locals and thirsty West Highland Way walkers refreshed.

With the research showing 87 per cent of people in the Highlands and Islands drink tap water at home, it is hoped even more people will consider making the switch while out and about to help reduce plastic waste.

£600 raised for Fort's Moss Park care home



Joyce Mathers, left, pictured presenting a cheque to Stephanie Allan, wellbeing co-ordinator at Moss Park care home in Fort William, with Norah Smith and Jimmy Cameron from the Harris and Skye Ceilidhs at the Ben Nevis hotel. A fantastic total of £600 was raised for Moss Park.

Photograph: Abrightside Photography.

FORT WILLIAM

At Fort William Town Team's meeting on April 8, the following matters were discussed:

AGM Date: The team has decided to postpone its AGM to October.

Retractable Canopy, Cameron Square: An appeal has been submitted to Highland Council.

Town Centre Action Fund: Three members attended a meeting on Friday April 5 with Highland Council, Lochaber Chamber of Commerce, Councillor Andrew Baxter, Fort William Community Council and the High Street Retail group to discuss the Scottish Government's Town Centre Action Fund of £50million. Nearly £3m has been allocated to Highland. Inverness is ineligible for this fund.

The Town Centre Action Plan from 2014 was referred to and discussed. The fund needs to be spent by 2020. The fund is for capital projects. Four ideas proposed so far:

■ Gateway features, including ways of channeling people into the town.

Glencoe hotel supports campaign for refillable water bottles

Glencoe's Kingshouse Hotel has put its weight behind a campaign from Scottish Water to help protect the environment by reusing their water bottles.

The Highland hotel is supporting Scottish Water's #TopUpFromTheTap initiative which aims to reduce the use of plastic by encouraging people to use refillable bottles. By supporting the campaign, Kingshouse, a popular stop-off on the West Highland Way, will offer free tap water to walkers with refillable bottles at the Way Inn so they can hydrate and be kind to the environment at the same time.

Having welcomed walkers for more than two centuries, the team at the Kingshouse Hotel are happy to support a campaign which is kind to the environment and encourages travellers to drink plenty of water.

Craig Haddow, general manager at Kingshouse Hotel, said: 'Being environmentally friendly is very important to us and this campaign reflects our commitment to recycling and being a "green" hotel.'

Gavin Steel from Scottish Water, was delighted to get the hotel's support.

He said: 'As users of the West Highland Way travel through some of Scotland's most spectacular landscapes, it's easier than ever for them to help take care of the environment by using refillable water bottles.'

'By keeping hydrated on their journey, they can stay safe, healthy and really get the best from our amazing outdoors.'

The Kingshouse Hotel is supporting the campaign to help protect the environment.



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Fort William Town Team.
Photograph: Iain Ferguson

■ Link from the High Street to the waterfront and the Old Fort.

■ Canopies along the pedestrian sides of the High Street to keep people dry.

■ Move the existing Thursday market further into town and include a craft market.

After some discussion, the Town Team favoured a link to the waterfront and Old Fort.

Concern was expressed about people walking along the cobbles and climbing over the railings. The team reported that Dot Ferguson was asked if signs could be erected to dissuade people from using this method to get from the town to the Promenade. Town Team added the idea of coloured lights along the Promenade.

Bike pumptrack: The team discussed using the fund for this along with expanding the bike-friendly scheme to include storage and more bike racks. There is bike storage at the station but it was unclear whether anyone knows where the keys are kept. The team discussed the fund raising well and thought more could be made of it.

AOCB: Sue has resigned as secretary as she is moving away from the area. Moira thanked Sue for all she has done over the last few years and wished her well. The other volunteers echoed their thanks, too, and said she would be missed.

The next meeting is on Monday May 13 from 7-9pm at the West End Hotel.

Curling cup on display in West Highland Museum

The Strathcona Cup, recently won by the Lochaber Curling Club, is now on display in the West Highland Museum until 2020.

The Lochaber Curling Club won the cup in March after a close match on the ice of Braehead, returning to Fort William for the first time since the team last one the cup in 2006.

The magnificent silver trophy was gifted by Lord Strathcona of Glencoe House in 1900 and presented to the Glencoe and Ballachulish Curling club to be played for in annual competition by Oban, Appin, Ardgour and Fort William Curling Clubs.

The cup will be displayed in the museum in Cameron Square, Fort William, for the year together with some memorabilia and old photos.



The cup and other curling memorabilia are on display in the Museum until 2020. Photograph: WHM.



CSgt Kelly (front left) with her section visiting 45 Commando Memorial.

Kathryn swaps Easter holidays for nine-day cadet training camp

Instead of gorging on Easter eggs, a Fort William army cadet has spent part of her Easter break this year honing her leadership skills at a cadet training camp.

Cadet Colour Sergeant Kathryn Kelly, 17, from 1st Battalion The Highlander's Fort William Detachment, took part in the Cadet Leadership Course during the first week of the school holidays at Barry Buddon Training Camp, near Dundee.

The intensive course, conducted by Cadet Training Team Scotland, saw almost 120 cadets from across the United Kingdom attend to build upon

their leadership abilities. The Cadet Leadership Course is open to cadets aged 15 to 17 from all three cadet services and is designed to develop cadets' initiative and self-reliance by using the challenging and demanding problems.

Throughout the course, Kathryn took part in various leadership situations, with the culmination being a three-day exercise on Barry Buddon Training Area, which had the cadets take on various command and leadership positions either in their respective platoons or within their sections.

As well as adding another qualification on her cadet record, completion of the Cadet Leadership Course now also qualifies Kathryn for a newly created SQA Level 6 qualification in leadership which can be added to her CV.

1st Battalion the Highlanders ACF is a youth organisation which provides challenging adventure, sporting and community activities aiming to inspire young people to achieve success in life while having fun at the same time. Fort William Detachment meet at the Cadet Centre on Croft Road every Wednesday evening between 7.30pm and 9.30pm.

LOCHABER TIMES & Oban Times

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Lochaber shinty in focus



Lochaber versus Newtonmore.



Fort William versus Kingussie. Photos: Abridge Photography

TEN-PIN BOWLING

10-pin singles results

After week three of the 10-pin bowling singles leagues at the Nevis Centre in Fort William, Brian Johnstone is the new leader of the scratch league with 51 points. Pam Weller also has 51 points in second place, followed by Iain Gregor and John Weller both on 47 points. The handicap league is now led by Tony Weldon on 46 points followed by Gary Cowan and John Weller both on 41 points.

Brian Johnstone is the new leader in the chase for the Nevis Radio High Pin Trophy with 1368 pins followed by Pam Weller in second with 1346 pins and Tony Whitelocke in third place with 1330 pins.

The top individual scratch game this week came from Brian Johnstone with a game of 184. Also this week Steve Day had a 173, Gary Cowan a 171 and Pam Weller a 170. Pam Weller had the best three-game scratch series with 504 giving her this week's maximum of 20 scratch points followed by Brian Johnstone with 459 and Andrew Brown with 458. Steve Day had the top handicap game of 231 followed by Nick Richardson with 226 and Brian Johnstone with 219. Pam Weller also gained the maximum 20 handicap points this week with the top three-game handicap series of 633 followed by Tony Weldon with 604 and Andrew Brown with 590.

LOTTERY NUMBERS

Lochaber club lotteries

Fort William Golf Club's lotto numbers last week were 7, 13 and 17. There was no winner so the jackpot for the draw today, Thursday April 25, will be £700.

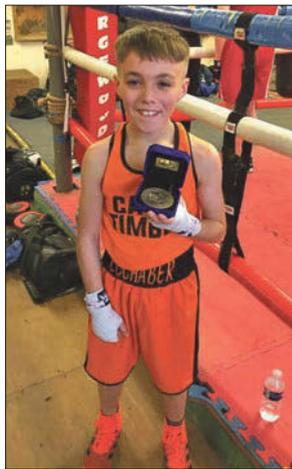
Ballachulish Shinty Club's lottery numbers last week were 4, 5 and 9. There was one lucky winner this week. Next week's jackpot will be £200.

Caol Community Centre bingo club's lotto numbers were 9, 19 and 20. There were no winners this week. Next week's jackpot will be £200.

The numbers in Lochaber Camanachd Club's lottery on Tuesday April 16 were 2, 11 and 13. There was no winner so the jackpot for Tuesday April 23 was £500.

The numbers in the Caol Regeneration Lotto this week were 14, 16 and 17. There was no winner this week. Next week's draw has a prize of £300.

Boxers enjoy mixed fortunes in Motherwell



Josh Hunter narrowly lost his bout.

Two of Lochaber Phoenix Boxing Club's brightest young talents were in action on Sunday for the ForgeWood show in Motherwell.

Josh Hunter and Josh Dieguno took to the ring with mixed fortunes in what was a great learning curve for both boxers.

Hunter was first up against a very busy home boxer. Although he started slowly, Hunter gradually grew into the bout with a better second and third round. At the end of a very tight contest, the Motherwell boxer got the nod with a 2-1 split decision. There was nothing much to

BOXING

choose between the two in the contest and it could easily have gone the other way.

Next up was Dieguno who initially found it difficult to get clean shots on target in what was a scrappy bout. His determination and fitness shone through and he came on stronger in the second half of the contest. It was another 2-1 split decision but this time it went in favour of the Lochaber boxer.

Both boxers will be back in the gym this week working hard for their next outing.



Josh Dieguno claimed victory in Motherwell.

Glencoe Boat Club to hold open taster sessions

The Royal Yacht Association's Push the Boat Out (PTBO) campaign is set to return this May, with West Highland venues offering free sailing taster sessions next month.

Glencoe Boat Club is welcoming those with a curiosity about learning to sail or windsurf to experience a local taster session. Sailors will have the opportunity get out on the water, from powerboats and sailboats to kayaks and skiffs, while there will be

stalls and a barbecue on the shore. The taster days, which take place on Saturday and Sunday, May 18 and 19, are either free or low cost.

The Saturday will consist of iPowerboat running powerboat taster sessions and Glencoe Outdoor Centre with dinghy sailing and kayaks, while the Sunday will see fast safari tours with SeaXplorer and keelboat sailing trips in Loch Leven and Oban.

There will also be a public

showcase for the club's brand new skiff.

RYA Scotland's development manager Liza Linton said: 'With events taking place throughout the month of May, we know that the Scottish public has a great opportunity to undertake safe and enjoyable sailing and windsurfing sessions.'

'With a current global emphasis on the environment, what better way to help to showcase our beautiful

SAILING

offerings than through on the water activities with the help of our skilled instructors and volunteers.

'Whether you're a complete novice or a seasoned sailor looking to find out what is available in your local area, get involved this May.'

Oban Sailing Club and Tarbert Loch Fyne Yacht Club will be holding PTBO days as well next month.

No experience or kit is necessary and the open days are aimed at complete novices, as well as more experienced sailors. Everyone is welcome.

All kit and safety equipment will be provided, visitors just need to bring a pair of old trainers they don't mind getting wet, and a sense of fun and adventure.

Last year, more than 39,000 people across the UK attended a PTBO open day, inspiring thousands of new sailors to join their local club.

Find out more about the Push the Boat Out campaign and events near you at www.rya.org.uk/ptbo.



The Glencoe Boat Club taster days take place on Saturday and Sunday, May 18 and 19.



Fort goalscorer Jordan Andrew goes down under the challenge of Ross MacPherson, left, and Forres captain Scott Moore. Photos: Iain Ferguson, alba.photos.

Forres frustrate the Fort

Continued from page 64

‘Unfortunately, the referee got the second one completely wrong. There was a blatant two-handed push on the back of Robert Nevison off the ball.’

Forres picked up where they left off in the first half and in the 58th minute made it 3-0 thanks to a Robbie Duncanson strike. Just two minutes later, Stuart Soane made it four.

This sparked a response from the Fort William forwards and Jordan Andrews popped up to get a goal back in the 63rd minute to offer a sliver of hope to the home side.

The Fort’s resurgence was short lived, however, as Forres regained a four-goal advantage through Simon Allan before former Caley Thistle player Andrew

MacRae rounded off the scoring for the Can Cans in the 84th minute.

Forres finish the season in sixth position in the Highland League, while Fort William will finish the season bottom on -7 points following a deduction earlier in the season for fielding an ineligible player.

The Fort currently have a goal difference of -220 and are without a victory as they head into their final league game of the season this Saturday against Wick Academy at Claggan Park.

This fixture has been rearranged for this week after the previous meeting between the teams was abandoned after 38 minutes with the Fort leading 1-0.

MacMorran said he is feeling ‘confident and positive’



Scott Hunter drives the play forward for Fort William.

about the final game of the season and is determined to see the victory through this time: ‘In my view, there’s always a chance in every game

FOOTBALL

but certainly in this match there’s something to prove. It’s unfinished business.’



Duo win first competition of the season at Fort Railway Bowling Club

A large turn-out of competitors for Fort William Railway Bowling Club’s first competition of the season, the Stewart Cup, a balloted pairs.

Pictured here are the winners (right to left) Alan Lawrie and Gus Fraser with runners-up Pattie Rodger and Tommy Campbell.

Praise was given to Kevin Douglas for his work over the winter to get the green in such good condition.

Members of the club also worked hard over the close session laying paths and bringing the ground around the green back to a good standard.



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WEATHER

Thursday
Sunny intervals and a moderate breeze
Temperatures
8°C to 15°C.

Friday
Light rain showers and a moderate breeze
Temperatures
7°C to 13°C.

Weekend Outlook

Saturday
Light rain and a moderate breeze

Sunday
Light rain in the afternoon with a gentle breeze
Temperatures
7°C to 11°C.



FRIDAY

TIDAL INFORMATION

Tide tables for Oban during the week from **Thursday April 25, 2019** are listed below with differences for major ports listed on the right. All times are GMT (add one hour BST)

	03.35	1.3	09.02	3.1
Thur	15.58	1.5	21.35	3.2
Fri	04.26	1.6	09.48	2.8
	16.54	1.7	22.38	2.9
Sat	05.29	1.9	11.07	2.6
	18.02	1.8	** ** *	**
Sun	00.40	2.8	06.50	1.9
	14.12	2.6	19.28	1.8
Mon	02.14	3.0	08.36	1.8
	15.01	2.8	20.51	1.7
Tues	03.04	3.1	09.31	1.6
	15.30	3.0	21.42	1.5
Wed	03.43	3.3	10.07	1.4
	16.01	3.2	22.19	1.3

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

Chain, Shackles and buoys all available to purchase.

Boxers enjoy mixed fortunes in Motherwell

Forres frustrate the Fort

Forres floor the Fort with six-goal defeat

Mallaig unbeaten in title defence

FOOTBALL

North West Skye	3
Mallaig	5
Skye and Lochalsh AFA	

Fort William	1
Forres Mechanics	6
Highland League	

Four second-half Forres goals saw off a tireless Fort William side which made the league's sixth-place team work for their three points.

Having been disappointed in last week's performance against Fraserburgh, Fort manager Russell MacMorran was pleased with the 'extremely positive' display from the home side, despite the scoreline, as they hassled and harried their opponents for the full 90 minutes.

MacMorran said: 'I can't take anything away from the guys. It just shows that in the last four games the boys have taken on board what we've said to them, putting in a battling performance and playing a bit of football. There's not much change in the scoreline but in terms of playing and performing, it's much improved.'

Forres struggled to break down the Fort defence and it took them until the 21st minute to get the breakthrough courtesy of defender Ross MacPherson, however, not without controversy as the home side claimed the ball had not actually crossed the line. The referee awarded the goal nonetheless and play continued.

Can Cans soon got their second but again the referee was the focus of some anger



John Treasurer tries to shrug off a challenge from Forres' Andrew MacRae. Photo: Iain Ferguson, alba.photos.

from the Fort players and management with claims of a push on the back of one of the Fort defenders in the run-up to Graham Fraser's

goal. Once again, the referee allowed the goal to stand and the Fort were frustrated to be 2-0 down at the half-time interval.

MacMorran said: 'The first goal came from our own mix-up, two guys for the same ball, but there was a bit of dubiety on whether the ball

FOOTBALL

crossed the line. It goes with you or goes against you.

Continued on page 63

Mallaig continued their defence with another victory on Saturday as they beat North West Skye in a thrilling encounter in Uig.

Andrew Sneddon and last year's player of the year, Andy Cunningham, both scored two goals each to help the reigning champions comeback after going behind in the match.

Tom Benfield also got on the scoresheet to secure the visitors' first away victory of the season.

With an unbeaten record, Mallaig sit top of the William Wilson League after just three matches.

This Saturday, Mallaig are away to Tomatin in the Highland Amateur Cup.

In the other matches in the league, Portree caused an upset by beating GA United away from home 2-1, while Kyleakin and Portree Juniors played out a 1-1 draw.

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