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North Berwick break with cruise



Family pass to Galloway Country Fair



Oban Live bosses call for improvements to Mossfield

by David McPhee
 dmcphree@obantimes.co.uk



Every year Mossfield Stadium holds a number of large-scale events – Oban Live, the Argyllshire Gathering, and more recently an independence rally, but is the arena fit for purpose?

According to local events organiser Neil MacKay, Mossfield is 'hanging in by a thread' and needs its 'basic' facilities improved.

Mr MacKay is chairman of the Oban and Lorn Tourism Alliance, director of Argyll and the Isles Tourism Co-operative, as well as a director of both Oban Live and Tthree Music Festival.

Speaking to The Oban Times, he said that aspects of Mossfield are not fit for purpose for large-scale events and highlighted the 'unsatisfactory' toilets, the state of the pavilion, as well as the grandstand as issues that need to be addressed urgently.

'The facilities are basic,' he added. 'And at times can verge on not fit for purpose.'

'The grandstand still leaks and there is no power source. It does not have a 13 amp socket – most

people have them in their back gardens nowadays. Then there's the turnstiles that were refurbished – the access goes on to a road.

'It's only the retrospective maintenance being done, no improvements. It's hanging by a thread.'

Mr MacKay asked councillors at the most recent Oban, Lorn and the Isles Area Committee if they could guarantee that work would be carried out within 12 months. He added: 'I have no confidence in the comments from the councillors attending that meeting. I have zero confidence in any of the promises – they said they would have a report by August 14.'

Daniel Gillespie, managing and artistic director for Oban Live, says the festival organisers have been highlighting issues with the venue for more than four years: 'Sadly, nothing has improved during that period and if anything access has become worse, particularly for those groups requiring it most.'

'It is also highly concerning that the terms and conditions of hire are not consistent across all

events and groups – this needs to be addressed by Argyll and Bute Council.'

Chairwoman of Oban, Lorn and the Isles Area Committee, Elaine Robertson, said: 'Members of the area committee have met with representatives of the main events held in Mossfield to consider a partnership approach; this is a route we would like to continue to explore. Mossfield is a huge asset and we would all enjoy seeing it reach its full potential.'

Councillor Robertson said Mr MacKay has been invited to attend the Area Committee Business Day in August to discuss the issue further.

An Argyll and Bute Council spokesperson said: 'Oban Live is a fantastic event for the town. We thank the organisers for bringing it to Mossfield.'

'Mossfield Stadium is, however, essentially a sports ground and we work hard to keep it fit for purpose. We would very much like to invest in the stadium but, given the financial position we, like many local authorities are in, it seems unlikely in the near future.'

The big picture just got better...



Luanna Lamers, Argyll Health and Social Care Partnership lead radiographer, and Mark Nichols, Lorn and Islands Hospital radiology manager, with the hospital's new CT scanner. For full story, turn to page 11. 16_T25_newctscanner02-Oban

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OT

Drink drive man offers to sell car in aid of charity

A well-regarded member of Oban's Gaelic speaking community offered to sell his car and give the proceeds to charity after police caught him driving almost six times over the drink drive limit.

Duncan MacNeil of 2B Buchanan Terrace, Oban, pleaded guilty to drink driving when he appeared at the town's sheriff court on Monday.

Before being fined £1,000 and being banned from driving for 16 months – reduced to one year if he successfully passes a drink drivers' rehabilitation course – and ordered to obtain a new licence, MacNeil, 47, had pledged to sell his car in aid of charity rather than it be scrapped by police.

His Vauxhall Astra, worth about £4,000, was seized by police who watched him move it in the early hours of June 9 this year from the public paying car park at the Corran Halls into the free staff parking area.

He was seen repeatedly trying to manoeuvre it into a space but was having difficulty doing so, said procurator fiscal Eoin McGinty.

When officers approached MacNeil he got out of his car and was unsteady on his feet, smelling extremely strongly of alcohol.

He immediately told officers he had had a drink a few hours earlier. A breath test showed he had 128 microgrammes of alcohol in 100 millilitres of breath, exceeding the 22 microgramme limit.

Solicitor Laura McManus said it was MacNeil's first offence and he had been upset that the car could be crushed if the court chose. 'He would undertake to sell the car and donate the proceeds to charity,' she said.

The court heard MacNeil worked at the Corran Halls as an administrator for the Gaelic Centre and was well-regarded in the community. He was supported in court by two friends who are students there.

Mrs McManus said MacNeil continued to be 'extremely remorseful' about what happened and had completely abstained from alcohol since.

'He had experienced difficulty with alcohol in

his past and he sought some help at that time. He realises he needs to re-engage with those services and has referred himself,' she said.

The court heard how MacNeil had been drinking alcohol at his home when he remembered he had left his car in the paying car park opposite the Corran Halls. To avoid having to pay the next day, he made the 'extremely foolish' decision to go and move it.

'He accepts his judgement was affected by alcohol. He completely lost perspective,' said Mrs McManus.

She said it was a short journey and did not go on a public road, it was from one car park to another.

Summing up, Sheriff Patrick Hughes said as well as punishing MacNeil, a deterrent message should also be sent out to the community. However in sentencing, he took into account MacNeil's previous good character, the fact he had no points on his licence and had not driven on a public road.

Mr Hughes said there was no need for the car to be forfeited.

Rotary Am-Am aids Mary's Meals



A long established part of Oban Rotary's annual Golf Am-Am, the club's principal fundraiser for local good causes, has been its raffle, with the proceeds from this being dedicated traditionally to Mary's

Meals, the Dalmally-based charity which provides meals for under privileged children in Africa and East European countries so that they can attend school and get an education.

This year was no different,

with Am-Am Convenor David Mudie, along with Rotary President Iain MacIntyre, recently presenting a cheque for £700 to Mary's Meals supervisors Mary MacInnes and Liz MacNeil.

Woman lashed out at partygoers

A woman spurned on an Oban dance floor pulled partygoers' hair and lashed out at police, a court has heard.

Samantha Strang, 34, of 32 McCaig Road, Oban, was at the town's sheriff court on Monday where she pleaded guilty to four charges of assault and one of resisting arrest after a night out at a pub in the town on March 10.

The court heard how Strang,

who is of previous good character, had approached people celebrating a 19th birthday and started dancing up against one of them.

Procurator fiscal Eoin McGinty said the group told her to go away but she grabbed the complainer's hair. He grabbed her by the wrists to stop her but she broke free and slapped him on the face. A member of staff intervened and separated Strang but she returned and poured a drink over the complainer, then tried to punch him but missed.

Others tried to intervene, said Mr McGinty, but also had their hair pulled and a struggle broke out as the party tried to distance themselves.

A member of staff flagged down police who found Strang in a highly agitated state and she was removed before starting to lash out at officers.

She was taken to the police station but once there she deliberately scratched one of the female officers with her nails, said Mr McGinty.

The case was deferred until July 31 for reports.



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Fury as island parking fees approved

by Kathie Griffiths
kgriffiths@obantimes.co.uk



Councillors squeezed through off-street parking charges for Mull last week to boos and public cries of 'poor show'.

Despite a warning of 'mayhem and madness' once the charges are imposed, members of Oban Lorn and the Isles Area Committee voted in favour of the proposals, narrowly defeating an amendment to reject the plan.

On Wednesday June 12, four of seven councillors backed the motion to introduce the new traffic regulation order (TRO). Independent Councillor Mary Jean Devon and SNP councillors Julie MacKenzie and Jim Lynch voted against.

The TRO will see Iona residents who use the Fionnphort off-street car park offered a 12-month parking permit for £95, 20 per cent of the full price, which they can also use at Craignure car park.

A 12-month sail and park permit will also be offered at £95 to everyone using the long stay at Craignure.

It was also agreed to move ahead as quickly as possible with an on-street TRO for Tobermory Main Street, starting with an initial consultation this autumn. At the same time, another consultation will also look at charging coaches after two hours at the Ledaig car park in the town.

The decision has angered residents on Mull and Iona as it flies in the face of their concerns and the hundreds of objections.

Councillor Jim Lynch said the council had 'missed a golden opportunity' to work with the Scottish Government, which had offered to help with

an Island Community Impact Assessment (ICIA). The guidelines for that assessment are still being worked on but should be available from October.

Oban North and Lorn councillor Julie MacKenzie said it was 'a bad day for local democracy in Argyll and Bute', adding: 'Instead we see an area committee refusing to listen to the views of constituents and riding roughshod over the communities of Mull and Iona. I'm left seriously concerned that today's decision potentially sets a dangerous precedent for all of Argyll and Bute's island communities.'

The council's traffic and development manager Jim Smith claimed communities had been properly consulted, a matter strongly disputed by islanders.

During an earlier public question time, councillors were advised by officials not to respond to anything said on the Mull TRO because it could expose the council to legal challenge.

Speaking after the meeting, Iona Community Council convenor Dr Shiona Ruhemann described it as 'a complete shambles', accusing the council of 'acting blindly'.

She said: 'It's just a dreadful lack of democracy and accountability. We had to sit gagged while the council officer made misrepresentations and the council rewarded that with a vote in favour of the charges.'

Mhairi Killin said she had lost faith in the democratic process. Speaking on behalf of the Iona Business Forum, she said business turnover on the island had already fallen by about 10 per cent in the

last 12 months with reduced visits from cruise ships, tour buses and organised tours, and feared the new charges would only make that worse, affecting independent visitors.

She also said traffic on the island could double if seasonal workers applied for permits to take their vehicles across just to avoid paying for parking – making Iona less appealing.

Mr Finch said the council's process had been 'shallow and superficial'. 'We're really disappointed that Argyll and Bute Council declined the offer from the Scottish Government to assist with an ICIA. There has been a missed opportunity again for the council to set an example to the rest of Scotland. It's ironic that the TRO will come into effect in the autumn of 2019 at the same time the Scottish Government's island team is preparing to provide guidance on ICIA's.'

Within 24 hours of the decision, there were almost 200 'likes' and comments on a Facebook apology by Brian Swinbanks, chairman of Tobermory Harbour Association, who had wanted the proposed charging fully considered for the island.

He said the TRO for Tobermory High Street would have a considerable knock-on effect for tourists and businesses and that an idea to have a park at the top of the town was totally ignored. 'Local discounts were offered at the last minute to sway the vote,' he said.

HAVE YOUR SAY
email us at editor@obantimes.co.uk

visit the site. TSL Contractors Limited wants to build 46 homes in Lonan Drive.

The proposal has been widely opposed by residents for a number of reasons, such as ruining green space, traffic congestion, impacting wildlife and protected plants, flooding, as well as the presence of Japanese knotweed.

Oban Community Council is among the 60 public objectors.

Speaking previously, Iain Lumsden, managing director of TSL Contractors, said: 'Such opportunities to provide low cost affordable homes to sustain and support the Oban community, and in particular young families, in such a central location within the town are unfortunately rare.'

He added that the company would be happy to meet with the local community to present the proposals.

Man banned from driving after explosive crash

A man airlifted to hospital after an explosive crash near Achnaioich bridge, near Connel, has been found guilty of dangerous driving. Scott Parmiter of 16 Avindale Drive, Lockstock Hall, Preston, was banned from driving for two years and fined £700 at Oban Sheriff Court on Monday.

He denied charges including causing serious injury to the driver of another car by driving at excessive speed, overtaking when it was not safe and failing to keep control of his car which crossed into the other side of the road crashing into the second vehicle.

Parmiter, 48, claimed he had not been speeding at the time and that his car had 'aquaplaned' out of control after it hit spilled diesel on the road. His car speedometer had frozen at 50mph and had just had four new tyres.

The court heard how Parmiter had overtaken an HGV on a blind corner be-



Parmiter appeared at Oban Sheriff Court on Monday.

fore the crash. Oban sheriff Patrick Hughes rejected the spilled diesel claim and told Parmiter: 'Your driving fell far below what is expected of a competent and careful driver.'

Parmiter, who had been driving to work in Oban on the A85 between Taynuilt and Connel when it happened on May 30 in 2017, spent six-and-a-half weeks in hospital after the crash.

The other driver also had to be airlifted to hospital with injuries.

Witnesses had described seeing Parmiter's car 'flying' fast with smoke coming

from its wheels before the impact that was like an 'explosion'.

Police who had walked back from the crash towards the bridge said they had not found any diesel although there was some spilled contaminant on the road at the scene.

The court heard it was likely to be car fluids from the collision. Both vehicles were petrol run.

Solicitor Eddie Thornton had asked the sheriff to acquit his client, saying it was disappointing police had not had the contaminant on the road forensically tested.

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Lonan Drive hearing set for next week

A public hearing will take place next Wednesday (June 26) in Oban to determine the future of a housing proposal for Lonan Drive.

The hearing will begin at 10am in the Argyllshire Gathering Halls after councillors have had a chance to

OT

Speaking up to keep Oban Burns Club alive

One of Oban's last all-male bastions might have to open its arms to women members if it is to survive, writes Kathie Griffiths.

Oban Burns Club has run for more than 80 years but is struggling for volunteers to sit on its committee.

Difficulty in getting speakers to make the toasts at its Burns Supper every January is also putting the 2020 event at risk, says former club chairman John MacLean.

Mr MacLean, who is still on the committee and stood down as chairman after seven years, said as it stands, next January's supper will not take place.

'This is due to a lack of committee volunteers and the increased difficulty over a number of years to get keynote speakers.'

'It is with great regret that after some 80-odd years the club, like other organisations, is struggling. Because of time restraints this is a final attempt to rally support,' he said.

Committee members hope people will respond to their

appeal for help and go along to a meeting on Thursday June 27 at 6pm at The Royal Hotel.

'If you are a speaker or are willing to speak or know someone who would, please come along. Also, if anyone would like to join us as a committee member we need you, please come forward,' added Mr MacLean.

Speakers are needed to make three toasts at the supper, one is to the immortal memory, the other to the land we live in and finally one to the lasses.

'It's really not a big job but we need people willing to take the toasts on. It's just the one event we have in the year although it would be nice to have others throughout the year.'

'There's no constitution, the club can change. We could have a completely new committee. Up until now it has been all men but I think to take the club forward now is the time to look at opening it up to women. Anyone who thinks they can help us should get in touch,' said Mr MacLean.

Charity launches Beer mat initiative

by David McPhee
dmcph@obantimes.co.uk



A new initiative has been launched in Oban pubs to try and help those going through a tough time.

Martyn's Monday Club (MMC) has created bespoke beer mats, which ask 'is there a mate missing around this bar? Reach out to him'.

The charity is a peer-to-peer support group for men over the age of 18, which meets once a week.

'If these bar mats can help one person, then it is worthwhile,' Robert Cruikshanks of MMC said.

'It is us just raising awareness and trying to get to where people meet,' he added.

There is a QR code on the coasters, which can be scanned and will take people directly to the charity's web-



Abbie Cameron from Coasters with Robert Cruikshanks of Martyn's Monday Club.

17_t25_MartynsMondayClub01

found in eight pubs in Oban. Anyone looking to get in touch, either about mats or for anything else, should contact Martyn's Monday Club on Facebook or visit www.martynsmondayclub.co.uk

Martyn's Monday Club men's group meets on a Monday night at 7pm in Hope Kitchen at 2 Soroba Road.

The ladies group meets at 7pm in Hope Kitchen on a Tuesday night.

site. The first bar to highlight the mats was Coasters.

Nicola MacIntyre said: 'We are happy to support it. So many people, even our regulars, have said how good an idea it is - it is just a good cause.'

Nicola hoped the coasters would remind people about their friend who might be feeling down.

Billy Ferguson of MMC

said: 'It is nice the pubs are putting them out there. We are giving people an alternative to drowning their sorrows, so fair play to them for doing that.'

'We have a few more designs with different messages on the back. We thought we would try 500 or so, but the pubs are happy to be helping us in any way they can.'

The beer mats can be

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TLC celebrates first birthday



The Neish family: Rhuaridh, Siobhan, Honey, and Brian.

17_T25_TLCSpas01

Oban's TLC Spas recently celebrated its first birthday.

The hot-tub provider held a birthday bash at its premises on Lochavullin Road on Saturday, with balloons, glasses of bubbly, and an impressive jacuzzi-themed

cake. Owner Rhuaridh Neish said: 'It has been a good year; better than expected.'

Rhuaridh and his wife Siobhan want to thank all their customers, as well as Tinks Faces and Balloons, and Natalie's Cupcakery

for making their birthday special.

TLC Spas, which recently took on new members of staff, is awaiting a new range of tubs. Based in Argyll, the company covers the whole of Scotland.

POLICE FILES

■ About 9.30am on June 11, on Albany Street, Oban a 25-year-old man was stopped and searched by police and was allegedly found to be in possession of cannabis, cocaine and heroin. He was charged and a report submitted to the Procurator Fiscal.

■ Between 6pm on June 1 and 10am on June 11, within the public car park at Gallanach Road, Oban, a parked trailer was vandalised with all four tyres punctured. Police are appealing for witnesses.

■ About 1.30am on June 14, following a report of a disturbance on George Street, Oban, an 18-year-old man was arrested and charged

with abusive behaviour. A report was submitted to the Procurator Fiscal.

■ About 10.45pm on June 12, at Java Houses, Craignure, Mull, a man, 35, was arrested for allegedly obstructing

police officers and resisting arrest. He was charged and a report submitted to the Fiscal.

■ About 10.30am on June 14, on the B8035 near Gruline, Mull, a gold-coloured 4x4 Land Rover car collided with a white-coloured Volkswagen car. The gold car failed to stop. Police are investigating.

Anyone with information in relation to the above can contact their local Police Station on call 101.

Call to help celebrate memorial's first birthday

by Kathie Griffiths
kgriffiths@obantimes.co.uk



Romantics and those with a passion for a good story are invited to a special celebration marking the first anniversary of one man's memorial to love.

The occasion, starting tomorrow (June 21) sees two days dedicated to the unfolding love story behind Deirdre's Sheiling, perched high above Taynuilt.

It includes the UK premiere of a concerto inspired by the tale of Deirdre of the Sorrows and following a Europe-wide hunt to track down its composer who is flying over to conduct it.

This weekend marks 12 months since Sam MacDonald, who had the enchanting memorial built with help from friends and supporters as a fulfillment of a promise to his late artist wife Evelyn, first opened it up to the public.

The sheiling, 1,500ft up on Beinn Ghlas, overlooking Glen Etive, is a legacy to the ancient love story that stole Sam and Evelyn's hearts. The spot, with its panoramic views, was a favourite picnic place of the pair.

Work to get the finishing touches done in time for the weekend has been ongoing.

Public art sculptor David Wilson has been staying with Sam for the past five weeks putting in more than 300



Sam MacDonald has been very busy preparing the site for the celebrations.

hours of hard graft to finish a Celtic-knot bench at the heart of the shieling. A four-cornered cast bell has also been reinstalled for visitors to ring as loud as they like.

Tomorrow the public is invited to the Corran Halls Studio Theatre at 5pm for a free seminar about the 12th-century Glenmasan Manuscript telling the love story of Deirdre and Naoise, two young runaways who fled from Ireland to escape an angry king and found happiness for a time in Glen Etive.

Professor Ruairi O'Huiginn, Professor of Celtic Studies at Trinity College Dublin will give the seminar and the National Library of Scotland is making a facsimile copy of the original manuscript for people to see at the event. Irish consul general to Scotland Mark Hanniffy and Argyll and

Bute MSP Michael Russell have also been invited to the event that sees celebrations continue on Saturday June 22 at 2.30pm with a free concert at St John's Cathedral, Oban, for the UK premier of the Glenmasan Concerto, performed by the Glasgow Wind Orchestra and conducted by its Swiss composer Marc Jeanbourquin whose imagination was caught by Deirdre and Naoise's romantic tale back in 2016.

Sam said: 'I knew of the concerto, but when I discovered it had never been performed in the UK I was determined to bring it to Argyll. I was delighted that Marc was equally enthused by the idea. He was able to send me the entire orchestral score and amazingly he asked if he could come and conduct the piece as well.' The concert, in collaboration

with Oban Music Society, and under the direction of musical director Kevin Price, will also include works by Philip Sparke, Malcolm Arnold, Peter Graham, Richard Strauss, Matthew Brown, Norman Richardson and Korb and Roever.

Sam continued: 'This past year has been hugely satisfying. It's been such an exciting project, so many people have shared my vision. It's never been difficult to find the energy and enthusiasm for it. Who would not be intrigued and fascinated by this story? It is a love story that is still unfolding and touching hearts.'

There are plans to make more parking spaces for a small number of cars and there is a likelihood the sheiling will be featured on maps for the latest part of the newest pilgrimage walk passing through Glen Lonan to Iona.



The new stand at Oban Phoenix Cinema.

New concession stand open

Oban Phoenix Cinema's new concession stand was finished on Friday night.

The modern snack-bar will make buying tickets and food a lot smoother, with dedicated areas for each.

There is also a seating area to the left of the stand, where people can sit and wait to get into the film.

Marco Pacitti, duty manager, said: 'It feels fantastic. It has completely changed the way that we work.'

'It will make things go so much smoother. It is an amazing space and it is more welcoming - it is so modern.'

'This is probably the way

it should have been when it first opened.'

Marco added: 'Thanks for the community support in the first phase of our development of the cinema. We are working on a second part and we are still fundraising.'

Emma Grant, project manager, said previously: 'This project has come from aspirations that staff and directors have had for a number of years and it is stuff the community has been asking for for a while.'

'We were funded for this by The Crerar Trust, the Oban Common Good Fund, and community fundraising.'

Celebrating carers in North Argyll

North Argyll Carers celebrated Carers Week 2019 in a variety of ways, including bingo, Zumba and a mindfulness walk, writes Fiona Scott.

The annual campaign helps highlight the challenges the UK's 6.5 million unpaid carers face and recognises the vital contribution they make to families and communities.

Fortune shone on the group at the start of a busy week, with glorious sunshine for an outing to Auchindrain Township near Inveraray. An open day with buffet, bingo, carer quiz and lots of laughter took place the following day.

The quiz threw up some statistics which even those involved in caring found surprising; not least that every day another 6,000 people take

on a caring responsibility, which equals more than two million people each year; and seven out of 10 carers reported they had to reduce the amount of exercise they took due to becoming a carer.

The group was grateful to the young carers from Oban High School who helped out.

Wednesday saw the group get active with a Zumba session at the Rockfield Centre.

Other highlights included a Mindfulness Walk through Dunollie Castle grounds followed by a delicious cream tea at the Kettle Garden Café.

Young carers designed magazine covers showing highlights of the last year's young carer activities and events which are available to view on the North Argyll

Carers Centre Facebook page.

Carers Week is only a small part of the on-going support North Argyll Carers Centre offers.

Morag MacLean, North Argyll Carers Centre manager, explained: 'We want to make sure people who look after someone receives information, emotional and practical help and support to assist them in this vital role.'

'We are there to support people throughout their caring journey, not just when things become too tough.'

Anyone can pop into the Centre on Albany Street, call on 01631 564422 or email at info@northargyllcarers.org.uk or go to www.northargyllcarers.org.uk for regular activities and events.

A TWO DAY CELEBRATION OF
Deirdre of the Sorrows
21st and 22nd June 2019

DAY ONE
Exploring the 12th Century Glenmasan Manuscript
Opening address and welcome by Michael Russell, MSP for Argyll & Bute and Irish Consul General to Scotland Mark Hanniffy.

Lecture by Professor Ruairi Ó hUiginn
Professor of Celtic Studies at Trinity College Dublin

Studio Theatre, Corran Halls • Friday 21st June at 5:00pm
Entry Free – All Welcome

DAY TWO
UK Premiere Performance of The Glenmasan Manuscript
Concerto by Swiss composer Marc Jeanbourquin

St John's Cathedral, Oban • Saturday 22nd June at 2:30pm
Entry Free – All Welcome

There will be an interval during the performance with tea and coffee served in the vestibule.
The Glasgow Wind Band is one of the top Symphonic wind orchestras in the UK.

OT

Around Oban
KAY MCDONALD
editor@obantimes.co.uk

Everyone knows how proud I am to belong to Oban, I can be a bit boring about it, but it's lovely to hear other people praising the town I love and that's been happening quite a lot lately.

Living here it's easy to pick up on all the little (and big) things that annoy you and let that take over how you see everything, but I'm lucky enough to be in touch with people seeing Oban for the first time and through their eyes I'm reminded what a wonderful place we live in.

We're also known as being a friendly and welcoming place to visit which makes me even happier. I notice it myself using the local shops and cafes – the service is always friendly and helpful, and I was delighted in one place I visited to overhear the owner taking time to pass on customer service advice to a younger member of staff.

One place that stands out because the customer service is always genuine and warm is Farmfoods. Every time I leave the shop I comment on what a pleasant experience it

WHERE IS THIS?



was at the checkout, I'm not rushed, I get a wee blether and bit of craic and I leave smiling.

It's amazing the difference a nice, friendly experience can have on someone's whole day, the recent visit by the Queen Victoria is a good example as the people we spoke to as they returned to the ship were happy and in good spirits, with many of them praising the welcome they received in the town and promising to return.

If you have an experience of places in the town showing good customer experiences you'd like to share, then please get in touch.

Last week's photograph was the cliff face in the distillery courtyard. This week's is a bit more accessible.

Thousands march for independence in Oban

by David McPhee
dmcphoe@obantimes.co.uk

Thousands of people marched through Oban in support of Scottish independence on Saturday in what was said to be the 'biggest political event the town has seen'.

A sea of Saltires made their way from Atlantis Leisure, through George Street, before stopping at Mossfield, where a rally took place. Organisers quoted the number of people taking part as 7,000.

Fronting the march was Oban's Fiona Ferris and Benderloch's Campbell Cameron.

A counter-demonstration also took place during the march, consisting of a 50-something strong group of protesters holding Union Jacks, equipped with a micro-



Tam and Fiona Ferris. It was the first public hearing of a song Fiona's dad wrote as a Scottish national anthem.

phone and a speaker. At the rally in Mossfield, musicians and speakers entertained the crowd.

MP for Argyll and Bute, Brendan O'Hara addressed the crowd, saying: 'Welcome to yes town.'

Speaking to The Oban Times, Mr O'Hara said: 'I thought it was a remarkable turnout - 7,000 people paraded through Oban.'

'What I loved; it was happy, a carnival atmosphere, it was colourful, but it was inclusive. No one was excluded, from

pushchairs to pensioners. It is really important that Scotland is not just seen as the central belt. Every part of Scotland can build a better future. It is important that places such as Oban, Campbeltown, and other towns of that size get to be part of it.'

The MP added: 'I made a point of singling out English Scots for Yes - it is not about where we are born or where we come from, it is about where we want to go together.'

The rally was particularly

special for Fiona Ferris as it was the first public hearing of a song her dad wrote for a competition calling for a Scottish national anthem.

The Bluebells Still Will Sweetly Bloom, written by Colin Campbell, who died in 2015, was met with a positive response when it was played on Saturday after the march.

Fiona refreshed the lyrics, originally written by the town's Jean MacDonald, and recorded it with her husband Tam as lead vocalist.

Speaking after the song was played, Fiona said: 'It was a proud moment. I feel there was a very positive reaction.'

Fiona has since put the song on YouTube.

She added: 'We are not planning on selling it. I want it to be popular and I would like other musicians to pick it up and play it. I have it written for bagpipes and if anyone wants a copy, I have that.'

Tens of thousands of people have since watched The Oban Times' live video of the march coming down George Street.

The event was organised by an organisation called All Under One Banner.

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Organisers say 7,000 people attended Saturday's march.



Musicians in Highland attire entertained the crowd.



Brendan O'Hara MP on the march. Photograph: Kevin McGlynn



One marcher is 'apprehended' by police as he makes a break for freedom.

ch for n Oban



Robert the Bruce and William Wallace dressed for the occasion. Photograph: Kevin McGlynn

Posting after the event, the organisers said: 'At least 7,000 participants on the March for Independence at Oban today, well done everyone and well done Scotland.'

A spokesperson for Argyll and Bute Council said: 'The priority for the council and

our partners was to ensure the march and rally was conducted in a safe and orderly fashion. This was achieved.

'At the end of the event, the organisers cleared Mossfield Stadium of equipment and rubbish leaving it ready for the next day's shinty match.'



ain the crowd.



Campbell Cameron and Fiona Ferris on the march on Saturday through Oban.



Oban police officers
Photograph: Kevin McGlynn



The march ended with a rally at Mossfield.

Ambulance bosses apologise for delay

Scottish Ambulance has apologised after a woman who collapsed outside the Oban Inn had to wait 34 minutes for help. The incident happened on June 13 just before 4pm. Police were on the scene first.

The ambulance service blamed the delay on crews dealing with a number of high priority calls at the same time. A Scottish Ambulance spokesperson said: 'We would like to apologise to the patient for the delay experienced. This was due to high demand in the area at the

time, with other crews attending a number of high priority calls.

'We received the initial call at 15.43. We immediately dispatched a crew as soon as they became available at 16.04, who arrived on scene at 16.17. However, we are very sorry we were unable to get to the scene quicker due to the high demand.

'All crews operate within their locality and support surrounding areas, so patients in Oban are served by two full ambulance crews and crews from neighbouring communities.'

Stormy Stan opens RNLI fundraiser

Catch up with Stormy Stan when he heads off to Oban's RNLI station this Saturday for its open day.

Mascot Stan will be leaving Station Square at 10.30am with Oban High School Pipe Band accompanying him, to walk to the station in Gallanach Road and officially open the fun.

There will be lots of activities for children and the young-at-heart until 3pm with face-painting, high-speed Safari RIB rides, tombola, BBQ and Cream Teas. This year visitors will also get a chance to Guess the Weight of the Lobster - to win a lobster! All of this is to raise funds to help support the RNLI at one of the busiest lifeboat stations in Scotland.

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OT

Memorial tree installed at Dunollie to remember babies

by David McPhee
dmcph@obantimes.co.uk



A tree of tranquility was unveiled at Dunollie Museum Castle and Grounds on Friday night for families to remember babies they have lost.

The memorial tree aims to provide comfort for both the newly bereaved and for those who may have lost their baby many years ago. Families can add an engraved leaf with the baby's name onto the tree.

It was installed by the charity SiMBA, which supports anyone who has endured the loss of a baby during pregnancy or close to the time of birth.

Oban's tree of tranquility was officially unveiled by Charis and Niamh Simpson, who lost a sibling. Their mum, Susan, is the Highland ambassador for SiMBA.

The ribbon cutting was fol-



A tree of tranquility was unveiled at Dunollie Castle, Museum and Grounds.

17_T25_Butterflyrelease09

lowed by the charity's annual butterfly release.

Sara Fitzsimmons, MBE, RM, SiMBA CEO, said: 'I am very proud to unveil the SiMBA Oban Tree of Tranquility in Dunollie Museum Castle

and Grounds. The tree of tranquility is not just for the newly bereaved but also for families who sadly lost their baby many years ago and were perhaps provided with little or no recognition of their baby's existence.

'The 23 leaves that we have already added today onto the Oban Tree of Tranquility show just how important this beautiful memorial is for the local community.

'When a baby dies there is a huge feeling of isolation; our

handcrafted trees of tranquility show families that they are not alone and our butterfly releases encourage families to come together in a gentle event, knowing that they are surrounded by others who understand.

'SiMBA is here to offer on-going support to our families and I would encourage anyone affected by the loss of a baby to visit our website www.simbacharity.org.uk for full details of our support services.'

Sara highlighted the work that Susan Simpson, SiMBA's Highland ambassador had done driving the project forward.

She also commended the pathway pupils, who helped transform the area from a 'jungle' to a tidy garden.

Sara said that the team at Dunollie had also supported the project massively and thanked the Oban Sea

Cadets, who helped on the night.

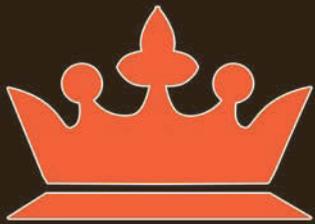
A number of poems were recited by various people in the community during the ceremony, including Susan and deputy provost for Argyll and Bute Council Roddy McCuish.

All the poems were written by parents who have endured the loss of a child.

Speaking before reading a poem she had written, Susan said: 'We do know what a comfort this tree will be to so many.

'This will last through the generations and honour the babies you could not watch grow up.'

Councillor Roddy McCuish said he hoped the tree would offer comfort and added: 'I can only imagine the pain some of you must be going through. The continued support for this project will go on.'


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Pathway to Ph way of Dunoll

This month, Oban: A University Town (OaUT) has been catching up with staff and students at Dunollie Museum, Castle and Grounds, which is a popular visitor destination and proud part of the town's culture and heritage, but perhaps less known for the diverse training opportunities it provides.

As the offering for visitors has grown at Dunollie, so has the academic opportunity for the community – from high school through to graduates.

While heritage is at the heart of Dunollie, educational opportunities are varied, with experience available in areas such as archiving, curatorial care and gardening, through to standard business principles such as marketing and retail.

Over the winter of 2018, five pathways students from Oban High School visited Dunollie weekly to take part



Donald MacDougall returned to Dunollie after his studies, becoming museum manager.

in individual research projects of interest, including textiles, piping and ancient equestrian care. All research conducted by the students has then been put into an article in either an interpretation board, leaflet or short booklet for visitors to enjoy.

As these students were working hard indoors, another team of 10 pathways students donned their overalls and got their hands dirty in the beautiful Dunollie gardens, transforming an

overgrown green space to create a colourful, calming area for the SiMBA charity's tree of tranquillity.

As for higher level education, Donald MacDougall undertook a dissertation using research from the Dunollie archives. He said: 'Working at Dunollie throughout my time as an undergraduate made me aware of the quality and importance of its collections. There is vast potential for researchers, and I was privileged to use the archive for my own work.'

After finishing his studies at Glasgow Caledonian University, Donald returned to his seasonal job at Dunollie, and soon progressed to become the museum manger. Not only does Dunollie offer opportunities



Charis and Niamh Simpson cut the ribbon for the tree. 17_T25_Butterflyrelease01



Susan Simpson and her daughters Charis and Niamh. 17_T25_Butterflyrelease02



Junior sea cadet Angus Shaw gets ready to release his butterfly. 17_T25_Butterflyrelease06



Depute provost Councillor Roddy McCuish, left; and Sara Fitzsimmons, CEO of SIMBA, right. 17_T25_Butterflyrelease07 and 08



PhDs by the Castle

for students who are in the midst of their studies but provides career prospects which can retain or draw people back to the area.

Similar to Donald, Gillian Campbell returned to the area after her degree to decide what to do next. She said: 'I was back in Oban for a month when a graduate placement came up at Dunollie; it was amazing to find this right on your doorstep - I was completely unaware opportunities like this were available locally.'

Through a graduate programme with Scotgrad and Highlands and Islands Enterprise, Gillian received a job to develop Dunollie's marketing systems, and has been with the organisation for five years.

Dunollie provides valuable employment opportunities for many people in the community and prides itself on the continued personal development of both staff

and volunteers through businesses such as GOAL Training, Digital Skills Scotland and Museums Galleries Scotland. This has allowed the workforce to grow and the business to undertake more operations all year round, rather than be limited to the summer.

On the current team, there is a total of 21 staff members - 11 of whom have undertaken a degree in the central belt and have returned to the area to work, as well as students from the University of Highlands and Islands through Argyll College UHI and SAMS UHI.

Dunollie's 2020 Vision - the steadings redevelopment - is a key priority for Dunollie to provide working space to host students of every level, from Pathways to PhDs, who can have access to Oban's rich heritage as well as additions of more employment opportunities.

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OT

MacPhail

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I have been trying to track down a boat my father owned for nearly 15 years without success. She was built as the Moher Maid, coming from County Clare in the West of Ireland near where the cliffs of Moher dominate the coastline.

When dad bought her in 1987 he renamed her the Skipinnis Maid after my mother. She was the only boat of those he had owned that might still have been in existence.

Thanks to Facebook and some very helpful people, last Saturday she was found!

That day, I posted what is below on the Irish Fishing boat Facebook page through which the information on her was found. Keeping with the recent celebration of Father's Day, I have included it in this article. It is now nearly 20 years since my father died and despite the time that has elapsed, he was still on that boat with me on Saturday.

I travelled over to Cork and then on to Fenit today and stood on board this boat for the first time in over 25 years. Huge thanks to William Kelly for the detective work,

transport, hospitality and good company. Also massive thanks to Leighton, the boat's current owner, for being so welcoming and having me on board. I had pretty much given up hope of this boat still being in existence. It is difficult to explain the strength of connection to boats but today was a very, very powerful day for me.

Another aspect of my trip to Kerry that added significantly to the sense of a completing circle was the calibre of those who I met when there, the warm hospitality I was shown and the sense I felt of being at home among them.

When dad bought the boat in October of 1987, on his passage home the conditions were poor and he was weather bound in various ports up the West of Ireland.

He talked for many years afterwards about the warm welcome he received from the people in all these harbours.

Willie Kelly of KK Hydraulics, Tralee, who found the boat and was the main lynch pin in the positive outcome – who up until last

Wednesday I had never met or heard of – collected me at Cork Airport and welcomed me to his house like an old friend.

Leighton James of Ballyheige the current owner of the boat welcomed me on board and understood exactly what the boat and the trip meant to me.

In Leighton, his brother Brent and their late father Patrick there were many other close parallels that added to the completing circle.

These men, their families and the many others I met were exactly the same type of people as dad described meeting while taking the boat home nearly 32 years ago.

The closing circles of boats and human connections of last weekend made the journey one of the most emotional and deeply enjoyable I have ever experienced.

A poem I wrote a few years after dad passed away goes some way to explain how the experience of finding the boat felt.

To read it, visit www.oban-times.co.uk



Charis with the red balloon she retrieved and made sure it was binned safely.

Charis comes to rescue on World Oceans Day

Oban Seals swimmer Charis Simpson helped protect the sea at Ganavan on World Oceans Day, writes Kathie Griffiths.

The Oban High School pupil from Benderloch, who was swimming with her sister Niamh and other Seals members, spotted a bright red balloon bobbing in the water.

The swimmers thought it was a new buoy before realising it was a balloon and set out in the waves to bring it back to shore.

'Charis tried to swim after it but ended up having to get out the water, run along the shore and get back in ahead of where it was drifting too,' said Charis's mum, Susan Simpson.

'Niamh and Charis were so upset that it had been floating away in the sea. Needless to say it ended up in the bin.

'We really have to be better custodians of our planet and that means cutting out unnecessary things like balloons. There are so many alternatives,' added Mrs Simpson.

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Free app will help keep dementia sufferers safe

by Fiona Scott
fscott@obantimes.co.uk



Highlands and Islands police are encouraging residents to sign up to a free app which provides community alerts if a person with dementia has been reported missing.

Purple Alert was launched by Alzheimer Scotland last year and creates a way of sharing information which could help return vulnerable people home safely.

The app – endorsed by Police Scotland – works best if a number of people in a community have downloaded it in order to share details and possible sightings of the missing person.

The app, which is available on iPhone and Android, uses GPS technology to send an alert to all users within a 30-mile radius.

Sergeant David Campbell,



Sergeant David Campbell showing off the new phone app.

Highlands and Islands Division missing persons co-ordinator, is encouraging people to download Purple Alert.

He said: 'People go missing

for a variety of reasons and unfortunately people who have dementia becoming lost or disorientated is something that we can be faced with.

'This not only puts the miss-

ing person at risk but it also causes considerable distress for their loved ones. Speed is of the essence in any missing person enquiry – the longer someone is missing, particu-

larly if they are vulnerable, then the greater the risk to them.

'New technologies such as the Purple Alert app can be an invaluable aid as they allow information to be shared quickly in the local area.

'I would encourage as many people as possible to download it so they can play their part in looking after vulnerable people in our communities.

'It is easy to use and by downloading it you could play your part in helping us get a person with dementia home safely.'

Joyce Gray, deputy director of development for Alzheimer Scotland, added: 'Purple Alert is a community based app for people living with dementia to support in a missing person search or for those who have lost their way and sits alongside the important work of the Police

Scotland National Missing Persons Unit. The app shares key information at the point of crisis and allows for more eyes and ears on the ground helping with the immediate search.

'Our continued partnership with Police Scotland has helped to strengthen the reach of our app and has supported increased trust in the app from the public.

'We thank the Highlands and Islands division for their support and for helping to increase awareness of the app during this important action week.'

The Purple Alert app has been specially designed by people living with dementia by Alzheimer Scotland.

To find out more about Purple Alert or to download the app, visit www.dementiacircle.org and click on the Purple Alert icon.

CT scanner unveiled at Oban hospital

A new £1.2 million state-of-the-art scanner at Oban's Lorn and Islands Hospital should speed up treatment and care for Argyll patients, writes Kathie Griffiths.

The scanner is only the second of its kind to be installed in the UK and will save some patients long trips to Glasgow.

Although the new scanner is in the same location in the hospital's radiology department the whole room has had a bright make-over to make it more patient-centred and more friendly.

Two designs on the ceiling and wall show a cherry blossom against blue sky view and a bluebell woodland scene to put patients at ease.

Luanna Lamers, Argyll and Bute Health and Social Care Partnership lead radiographer, said: 'It's getting approval from our regular patients who are used to coming for scans. They like it. The room is less clinical now and more friendly. Having the scanner here should speed things up for patients in Argyll. For some, it will save



Staff with Oban's new £1.2 million CT scanner.

trips to Glasgow. Patients who need CT scans can now ask to have it here.'

The project involved lots of teamwork to get the scanner including Siemens, which supplied it, and staff from a range of departments in the Health and Social Care Partnership.

'Everyone had a role to play in making this a real team effort and I would like to take this opportunity to thank them all for their expertise,' said Ms Lamers.

Mark Nichols, Lorn and Islands Hospital radiology

manager, said: 'This project has been the culmination of a lot of hard work and effort by a whole range of people and I would like to say a particular thanks to Luanna though, for the many hours of additional work she has put in, keeping the project on track. It is a pleasure to see it come to fruition.'

The radiology team knew the new machine would cut down on radiation doses for patients but Mr Nichols said it has beaten expectations.

For more images, visit www.obantimes.co.uk

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OT

Island youngsters make a splash on the mainland

Pupils from Tiree Primary School swapped a wind-swept loch for a modern city pool to enhance their swimming skills last week, writes Fiona Scott.

Children on the island usually train in the cooler waters of Loch Bhasapol due to the lack of a pool.

But last week 14 primary six and seven children ditched their wetsuits to make the 180-mile journey to Glasgow Club Gorbals to participate in Scottish Water and Scottish Swimming's Learn to Swim initiative.

Ruth Budge, their teacher at Tiree Primary School, said: 'Trips to the mainland are a big highlight in our school calendar and we always try to fit in a visit to a pool for swimming and water confidence lessons.'

'Living on an island,



Left, the Tiree children usually hone their swimming skills in Loch Bhasapol; and below, Children from Tiree Primary School get set to sail to the mainland for their swimming lessons.

swimming becomes an even more important skill to have.

'Some of the children really only get the chance to go swimming when they're on holiday once a year and because it's not something they're doing regularly, it's really difficult for them to maintain and improve their abilities.'

The island children



were given their lesson by Glasgow Sport which delivers the national swimming framework to the area and has helped to co-ordinate the trip.

Tiree is part of Live Argyll - the leisure trust which is also part of the National Learn to Swim Framework, however, a school trip to Glasgow enabled one of the other partner leisure trusts - Glasgow Sport to help out.

The children took the ferry to Oban before travelling by bus to Glasgow to enjoy their time on the mainland.

Brian Lironi, director of corporate affairs for Scottish Water, said: 'The Hebrides are surrounded by water so it's so essential that children have the skills to be safe in the water.'

'We're extremely proud to be supporting the Learn

to Swim Framework and to be giving children the opportunity to develop their swimming skills even when pools aren't within easy reach.'

Sharon MacDonald, director of development at Scottish Swimming, said: 'It's just fantastic to see how the National Learn to Swim Framework and the strong partnerships formed within it between leisure trusts can support children living in the most remote areas like Tiree and give them special opportunities to help them flourish as swimmers.'

Miss Budge added: 'We're very grateful that everyone has been so accommodating to us.'

'The kids have been so excited and they even started a countdown leading up to the trip.'

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Plans move ahead for Tobermory's Solum

by Kathie Griffiths
kgriffiths@obantimes.co.uk



Tobermory Harbour Association (THA) is moving ahead with plans to purchase the Solum of Ledaig car park and boat park thanks to £22,040 from the Scottish Land Fund.

THA chairman Brian Swinbanks said the board of Tobermory Harbour Association was 'incredibly pleased' with the award.

In 1993, the THA signed away the right to lay and maintain moorings at Ledaig so that Ledaig Car and Boat Park could be built. It was built in partnership with Strathclyde Region Council and finished and improved over the last 20 years by the harbour association, providing facilities from parking to pontoons and from boat slips to showers.

Once the Solum purchase is finalised, Tobermory Harbour Association says it aims to work with others to create new facilities and other

environmental improvements at Ledaig.

Mr Swinbanks said the work would include a design strategy to benefit the harbour, the wider island community and very welcome visitors.

The Solum of Ledaig Car Park and Boat Park, a piece of land to the south west of Tobermory, was once the seabed owned by the Crown Estate. The area was infilled with rock in the mid-1990s to make the Ledaig development.

The land is currently leased to Argyll and Bute Council and hosts the only off-street car park for the town centre.

The council sub-lets a small section of the Solum, known as the 'boat park', to THA. Over several years, the association has developed that area to include a harbour building with toilets and showers, offices for let, boat storage and compounds, and extensive landscaping and environmental improvements.

THA general manager Anne Fraser said: 'We are

delighted to receive this award from the Scottish Land Fund. This piece of land has strategic importance for the long-term development of Tobermory Harbour.

'Ownership of the Solum will empower the local community to ensure any future development of Ledaig will include a community impact assessment. As community landowners, Tobermory Harbour Association will work in partnership with government bodies on equal terms, to drive transformational change, for the good of the local community.'

Paul Bancks, asset manager at Crown Estate Scotland, added: 'It's great news that the Tobermory Harbour Association has been able to secure its long-standing plans for the Solum of Ledaig. Hopefully this development will help both residents and visitors alike, and we're looking forward to working with it to help Tobermory Harbour develop in a way that benefits the community.'



Ledaig carpark and boatpark at Tobermory, Mull.

Holiday dad fined for towing caravan illegally

A dad-of-three has been fined £250 after illegally towing a caravan off the Tiree ferry.

Donald John Stewart, who had been holidaying on the island with his family, appeared before Oban's Sheriff Court on Monday and pleaded guilty to not having the correct licence to tow the caravan.

The 23-year-old, of Clinterty Caravan Park, Kinellar in Aberdeen, also pleaded guilty

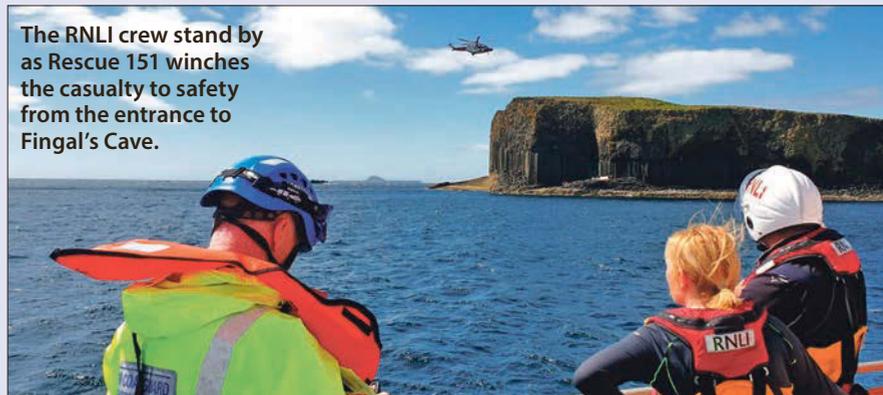
to using the van without a front nearside lamp.

Stewart was stopped by police in Oban on August 15, 2018 after they spotted a number of people, including children, in the front seat of his van. A relative, who had to stay behind on Tiree had driven the caravan onto the ferry and Stewart's father was meant to meet him in Oban and drive it from there.

'The caravan had to be taken off the ferry somehow. He accepts he took a chance,' said solicitor Laura McManus, defending him.

'As a member of the travelling community his driving licence is very important to him,' she added, asking sheriff Patrick Hughes to limit the number of penalty points.

Stewart's licence was endorsed with three points.



Trio of tasks for Tobermory lifeboat crew

Tobermory RNLI's volunteer crew responded to three back-to-back callouts last Wednesday (June 11), covering a distance of more than 100 miles across a wide geographical area.

Tobermory RNLI's Severn class lifeboat, Elizabeth Fairlie Ramsey, was launched shortly after midday to aid a 10-metre fishing vessel, with two people on board, that had lost power to the south of Crossapol Bay on the island of Coll, 25 miles from Tobermory.

Once on scene, a tow was established and the vessel was taken towards Arinagour, Coll.

En route, the all-weather lifeboat was once again tasked by the UK Coastguard to assist with the evacuation of a person with leg injuries from the island of Staffa.

Due to the inaccessibility of the location of the casualty, the Coll Coastguard Rescue Team and Coastguard helicopter Rescue 151 were also called upon.

The lifeboat continued to Arinagour where the fishing vessel was secured alongside the pier and members of the Coll coastguard team collected. The lifeboat and coastguard team then went to Staffa and stood by as

Rescue 151 winched the casualty to safety from the entrance to Fingal's Cave and subsequently transferred them to hospital.

Having returned to Tobermory and refuelled, the volunteer crew then received the third request of the day, almost exactly six hours after the pagers first sounded.

The lifeboat went to Loch Sunart where two people had requested assistance when their RIB suffered engine failure a short distance from their starting point. The RIB was towed to Salen Pier and tied to the pontoons.

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BUSINESS NEWS

Mull guest house has five-star quality

A family-run business has become the Isle of Mull's fifth five-star accommodation provider following a grading from VisitScotland.

Oakfield House, in Tobermory, received five stars from the national tourism organisation's Quality Assurance (QA) Scheme in recognition of its exceptional standards.

The QA Scheme is a benchmark for quality across the tourism industry and operates across accommodation, visitor attractions and food sectors.

A beautiful Scottish Victorian building, Oakfield House has been owned by the same family for three generations. After a recent renovation to the property, owners Susan and Iain Maclean have incorporated modern decor and furniture while retaining Oakfield's antique features.

The Maclean family has been a Quality Assurance customer of VisitScotland for nearly 20 years, with Oakfield House being its second recognition after its four-star QA Award for its self-catering property, Spey Cottage.

Iain and Susan said they strive to provide excellent service and have decided to join VisitScotland's iKnow Partner programme. This accreditation demonstrates the owner's in-depth knowledge and expertise on topics around the Tobermory area, enhancing further the experience of visitors.



Iain and Susan Maclean.

Argyll hosts event for women entrepreneurs

Around 50 women from six countries gathered in Argyll last week to explore the challenges facing female entrepreneurs in sparsely populated areas and how these can be overcome.

Delegates from rural parts of Iceland, Ireland, Sweden, Finland, Canada and Scotland attended the three-day W-Power seminar.

The event was organised by Highlands and Islands Enterprise (HIE) as part of the Northern Periphery and Arctic (NPA) programme supported by the European Regional Development Programme (ERDF).

It took place at Portavadie Marina and Inveraray Inn and included visits to women-led businesses, including Benmore Cafe, Beinn an Tuirc Distillery and Argyll Coffee Roasters.

The itinerary also included presentations on using tools such as virtual networking and digital marketing in tackling some of the challenges of doing business in sparsely populated areas.

Accessing finance, peer learning and gender-aware business coaching were also discussed.

A networking and learning session featured real-life stories about the opportunities and challenges faced by women entrepreneurs and information about support available through the W-Power programme.

Cathy Higginson, HIE's W-Power project manager, said: 'It's great to be hosting this important international event in Argyll. The seminar focuses on growing the contribution female entrepreneurs make to the rural economy.'

'Encouraging the creation of more women-led businesses and helping existing ones to expand will not only bring fresh and creative ideas but will empower women in society and create new sources of prosperity and jobs.'

'The Highlands and Islands region is home to many vibrant, ambitious, innovation-driven business women. For Scotland, this event represents an opportunity to engage with stakeholders across the northern and Arctic communities and discuss ways to help retain and develop skills in more rural areas.'

Eve MacFarlane, founder of Argyll Coffee Roasters, said: 'W-Power offers small, rural



Eve MacFarlane of Argyll Coffee Roasters welcomed the delegation last week.

businesses some great opportunities for networking and business skills development. We're absolutely delighted to be involved in the project and really look forward to sharing our experiences, as well as our hand-roasted speciality coffee with the W-Power team when they visit our new roastery in Kames.'

Helena Puhakka-Tarvainen, international lead for the W-Power project from North Karelia, Finland, said: 'Highlands and Islands Enterprise is a valued partner in the W-Power

project. We are very excited to be spending time in Argyll visiting female-led businesses and seeing at first hand the opportunities W-Power is creating here.'

'By working together across national boundaries, W-Power helps us share ideas and good practice.'

'Together we can test out new types of gender-aware business support, and empower business women across the region to develop and grow their businesses.'



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Idea aims to offer new way to buy whisky

Edinburgh-based whisky-technology company Uisge Tech Ltd, trading as Craft Whisky Club, has launched an industry-first platform to transform the way consumers buy single cask whisky.

Caskshare allows whisky lovers to reserve 'shares' of whisky casks from their favourite distilleries, choosing between a variety of wood types and ages as the whisky matures.

Single cask bottles will then be sent directly to buyers upon maturation, or even traded between them on this new leading-edge technology platform.

Described as 'crowdfunding for whisky', the aim of Caskshare is to allow whisky lovers the chance to experience different cask variations by lowering the financial barrier to cask ownership.

Customers pre-order cask 'shares' from their distillery of choice via the Caskshare online platform. Cask ownership stays



Idea aims to offer new way to buy whisky

with the distillery where the spirit matures into whisky and until the ageing process is complete. Once ready for bottling, whisky allocations are bottled and distributed to 'shareholders'.

The first casks to be featured on the Caskshare platform are from Raasay Distillery. The initial offering includes ex-bourbon, Chinquapin virgin oak, and Bordeaux red wine casks, giving

customers the opportunity to experiment with several different finishes.

There is peated and unpeated spirit on offer, with the first whisky cask listed on www.caskshare.io being bottled in 2022.

Raasay Distillery co-founder Alasdair Day believes Caskshare offers distilleries a new way to connect with potential customers.

He said: 'We believe this is an industry-first that offers the opportunity to share a cask with others and allows us to share the story of our Raasay spirit.'

'Caskshare offers real choice, the opportunity to select bottles from our different oak and cask types filled with our unpeated and peated spirit matured for three to 12 years.'

Uisge Tech/Craft Whisky Club co-founder David Nicol created Caskshare with the aim of making single cask whisky more accessible to whisky fans across the globe. 'Caskshare offers whisky fans a way to get closer to their favourite distilleries and wood types.'

'Reserving shares of a cask by the bottle allows consumers to discover and experience all of the cask expressions their favourite distilleries have to offer.'

'What's more, you don't need to part with the vast sums of money required to purchase a full cask.'

Skye community in international spotlight

Minginish was in the spotlight at an international community development conference recently.

A short film about the impact of Minginish Community Hall Association's work on community life was showcased to the 270 delegates at the Strengthening Communities Conference Scotland '19 in Aviemore.

The event, organised by Highlands and Islands Enterprise (HIE), attracted community groups and organisations from Nova Scotia, Maine, Norway and across the UK to look at the key issues for communities leading the way on their own social and economic futures.

Douglas Cowan, director of Strengthening Communities at HIE, said: 'This was a fantastic opportunity to look in depth at the social and economic opportunities and challenges of living in a rural community.'

'There were remarkable similarities even across international communities – with people looking at how to retain and attract young people, and how to provide infrastructure, services and opportunities for all.'



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History of Killin is important to St Columba's Way

Stirling MSP Bruce Crawford has taken part in a debate in the Scottish Parliament on The Saint Andrew's Way – a series of pilgrimage routes that lead to St Andrews Cathedral.

Among the routes is St Columba's Way, which stretches 200 miles from Iona to St Andrews, via Oban, Dalmally and Killin, among many other places.

Mr Crawford took the opportunity to talk about Killin's history, giving particular focus to the Killin Incident of 1749.

Speaking in the debate, he said: 'Killin's history is of great interest to many who visit, and the history of the village has great character that endures to this day, as I can testify.

'The Killin incident of 1749, in the aftermath of the Jacobite uprising, gives a flavour of the type of community that Killin is.

'Two men who were causing mischief were captured by the British Army, not for crimes that they had committed, such as the stealing of goods, but because they were in full Highland dress, which the British Government's Dress Act 1746 had outlawed.

'They were captive until a large mob of the good folk of Killin secured their release.

'I can testify that, to this day, the good people of Killin will not stand for injustice.'

Commenting after the debate, Mr Crawford added: 'Pilgrim routes in Scotland have become more popular recently, and I welcome this.

'They are a celebration of our country's history and it is fitting that people who take part in these routes seize the opportunity to soak up as much local history as possible.

'Killin is a fantastically beautiful village. Nestled in the Trossachs, with the spectacular Falls of Dochart running through its heart, it has so much to offer those who visit.

'I am delighted that Killin is on the pilgrimage map, and hope to see the St Columba's route of The St Andrews' Way continue to grow in its success.'

Recalling the Glen

Morvern lines

IAIN THORNER

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Visitors to Glen Shiel in Kintail on Saturday June 9 could be forgiven for thinking they were in the Sierra Nevada in Andalucía rather than the West Highlands.

They would have heard the Spanish national anthem resonating from the bagpipes while a beautiful young senorita in Spanish national dress proudly displayed the flag of her homeland and paid tribute in Spanish to her countrymen who had taken a prominent part in a battle there 300 years ago.

The piper was the young and talented Iain MacGillivray, commander in chief of the Clan MacGillivray, ably assisted by his friend, Fuensanta Guerrero Alba from La Linea in the province of Cadiz. But the attendant midges and dampness certainly confirmed the location as Glen Shiel.

Here, in the driving wind and rain, unlike June 8, 1719, when one of the Spanish soldiers collapsed and died of heat stroke, Mrs Janet Bowen CVO, Lord Lieutenant of Ross and Cromarty, Skye and Lochalsh, with several clan chiefs, local children and others, laid wreaths by a cairn erected to those who fought and died there.

The battle of Glen Shiel, coming four years after the ill-fated 1715 Rising, was another attempt by the followers of James Edward Stuart to regain the thrones of England, Ireland and Scotland for the exiled House of Stuart. The Jacobite army, totalling some 1,600 men, was made up of Camerons, Mackenzies, MacGregors, MacDougalls, Macraes, Campbells, MacDonalds, Mackinnons, Atholl men and more than 300 regular Spanish troops led by Colonel Don Bolano, as well as those described by a contemporary source as being 'not very fond of their enterprise', which I take to mean clansmen and mercenaries there under sufferance.

The Hanoverians, commanded by Major-General Joseph Wightman, consisted of more than 850 infantry, comprising 150 Grenadiers, four companies of Dutch, 136 Highlanders including some Lovat Frasers, Munros, 120 mounted troops of Campbell's dragoons (later the Scots Greys) and four cohorns or mortars. These were stubby artillery pieces each weighing 90lb capable of throwing 8lb fused bombs



several hundred yards being used here for the first time in Scotland.

To the Gaelic-speaking Highlanders they were 'an gunna a leig urchair aig gach ceann' - the guns that spoke twice - the double noise referring to the projectile leaving the mortar, and then exploding when it hit something.

Accuracy may not have been their strong point but as a show of over-whelming power and a spectacular display of force, they literally set the heather ablaze in Glen Shiel and succeeded in paralysing the enemy's position and destroying their will to fight or 'crowd-busting' by shock and awe', as my American friends would call it.

The Hanoverian deaths were 21, including three officers and 121 wounded. The Jacobites had no more than 10 wounded and, according to tradition, only one local man, Finlay Macrae, was killed. The following day 274 Spaniards surrendered, the remainder, presumably, being wounded and were taken to Edinburgh as prisoners of war until they were released a few months later and returned to Spain. Some

of them must have died as two named burial places are pointed out on Eilean nan Gall and at Clachan Duich burial ground near the head of Loch Duich.

What actually happened at the battle is easily found on the internet and in several new books, therefore I do not intend repeating it here. The Jacobites officially lost despite being up against horses, mortars and well-ordered troops, but the number of casualties on the Hanoverian side is telling.

Mark Twain wrote: 'Fluid prejudice is the ink with which history is written', or, as Winston Churchill said more simply: 'History is written by the victors.' This is certainly true of the battle of Glen Shiel, most likely because following it and the earlier '15, the English government felt it necessary to suppress the courage and tenacity of the Highlanders at war.

Not much Gaelic poetry or bardachd about the battle has survived in writing other than a rather sarcastic, sometime lewd but witty contemporary song, attributed to the Gaelic bard, Murdo Matheson (c1670-1757) in

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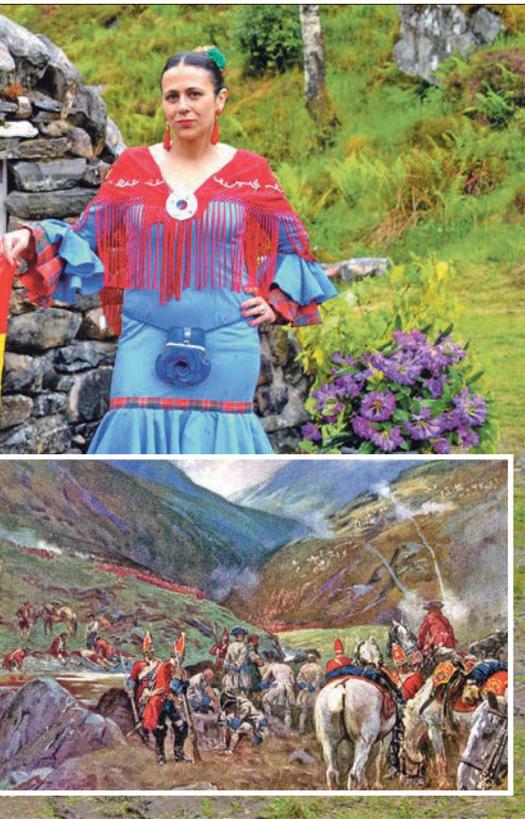
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Shiel affair



Clan Commander in Chief Iain MacGillivray and Fuensanta Guerrero Alba displaying the Spanish flag at the battle of Glenshiel commemorative cairn (Photograph: Iain Thornber) and, inset, The battle of Glen Shiel from a painting by Lionel Edwards (Copyright: the Lionel Edwards Estate)

Enterprise, to the area which opened fire on the castle which was being held by a detachment of Spaniards, and captured it.

According to one of the ships' logs, in the castle were 'an Irishman, a captain, a Spanish lieutenant, a sergeant, one Scottish rebel and 39 Spanish soldiers, 343 barrels of powder and 52 barrels of musket shot'.

The naval force spent the next two days and 27 barrels of gunpowder almost completely demolishing the castle. HMS Flamborough then took the Spanish prisoners to Edinburgh.

The senior military officer on parade at the tercentenary commemoration was Argyll's well-kent Brigadier John Macfarlane of Taynuilt, who read extracts from Murdo Matheson's poem in Gaelic. The Very Rev Allan Maclean of Dochgarroch said a prayer in English and wreaths were laid following that of Her Majesty's representative, by Fiona Hyslop MSP, cabinet secretary for culture, tourism and external affairs; Neil Oliver, president of the National Trust for Scotland; Lt-Col Geraint Davies on behalf of the Army in Scotland; the Earl of Cromarty for the Clan Mackenzie; Sir Malcolm MacGregor of MacGregor for Clan Gregor; Madam MacDougall of MacDougall for Clan MacDougall; Hector Munro of Foulis for Clan Munro; Lois MacDonnell of Glengarry for Clan Donald; Baroness Miranda van Lynden for Clan Macrae; the Very Rev Dr Emsley Nimmo, for the 1745 Association; Graeme Mackenzie for AHCS representing all other clans; and, finally, two school children.

Andrew MacLennan played the pibroch, The Battle of Glenshiel composed by Angus Mackay and I Will Return Home to Glenshiel during the march to the cairn.

It was unfortunate that no one from the Spanish Consulate-General's office in Edinburgh was able to be present due to Brexit commitments, which I interpret as relating to the Catalan situation. However, Commander Iain MacGillivray's impromptu rendering of the Marcha Real on the pipes and his companion's display of Spain's flag and her widely applauded moving words in praise of her fellow citizens, more than made up for their absence.

which he ascribes victory to a minor action in the closing moments of the battle by Major Patrick Robertson of the Scots Greys and his dismounted troopers.

The tercentenary commemoration was arranged by the Association of Highland Clans and Societies in conjunction with the Clan Mackenzie Society and the 1745 Association as part of a weekend of activities based at Inverness.

Included in the Saturday itinerary was an exhibition in Dornie village hall arranged by Mrs Anne Maclean of Dochgarroch, showing a replica of a cohorn mortar, a large plan of the battlefield made by Lt Jean Henri Bastide, an officer in one of Wightman's regiments, present at the battle, and several musket balls, shrapnel, and a bullet mould found on the site. There was also a tour of Eilean Donan Castle which played a strategic part in the conflict.

In May 1719, the government, getting wind of Jacobite troops amassing in the north-west, sent three Royal Navy warships, HMS Worcester, HMS Flamborough and HMS

DOWN MEMORY LANE

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



This week we go back to the summer of 1995 and a photograph from that year's royal visit to Oban. The Duke of Edinburgh seemed very relaxed as he strolled among residents and visitors in glorious sunshine.



This aerial photograph shows Fort William but does anyone know the year?

Photograph: Roamer Archive

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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 4HBState-of-art
scanner installed
at Oban hospital

News that the much-anticipated £1.2 million state-of-the-art scanner is now up and running at the Lorn and Islands Hospital will be welcome news for many people, as it should mean fewer people having to travel to Glasgow to receive treatment.

The scanner is only the second of its kind to be installed in the UK, which is a fantastic coup for the town.

A huge amount of work has gone on to bring the CT scanner to the hospital, particularly by Luanna Lamers, Argyll and Bute Health and Social Care Partnership lead radiographer and Siemens, which supplied it. NHS Highland has also given the room a bright make-over to make it more patient centred and friendly.

This is a fantastic facility to have in Oban, so well done to everyone who had a hand in making it happen.

Tree of tranquility
unveiled at Dunolli

On Friday night families gathered at Dunollie Museum Castle and Grounds as a tree of tranquility was unveiled.

The tree has been installed by the charity SiMBA, which supports anyone who has endured the loss of a baby during pregnancy or close to the time of birth.

The unveiling of the tree coincided with the annual butterfly release.

On the evening, there was praise for Susan Simpson, SiMBA's Highland ambassador, who has driven the project forward, Dunollie for its support, the high school's Pathway Pupils who helped transform the garden area for the tree, and Oban Sea Cadets, who helped on the night.

This is such a worthy cause, so huge congratulations to everyone involved.

MICT committed to helping
parents with childcare issues

The letter from Argyll and Bute Council regarding childcare in last week's edition was prompted by an article about pre-school arrangements on Mull from August 2020, but referred back to a pre-school pilot initiated in 2015.

It stated that MICT made assurances about delivery of wraparound care as part of the pilot and then failed to deliver. In fact, MICT was not consulted about the pilot nor the application to the Scottish Government to fund it. The application committed MICT as a partner without our knowledge or agreement, and we were only informed once funding was granted and the pilot announced. As such, false promises or assurances could not have been made.

Despite concerns from MICT trustees about the circumstances, we made every effort to support the pilot as it aligned with our aims to improve childcare. We were as disappointed as the council when we could not find staff for the temporary, holiday-working positions, leaving us unable to finalise our Care Inspectorate registration.

Regarding the more recent MICT project for a nursery at Aros, the council was supportive then unexpectedly announced in September 2018 that it would not provide funding from its budget to extend pre-school hours. Those involved were aware the project was dependent on this investment. We were forced to delay while we sought meetings to clarify the council's plans.

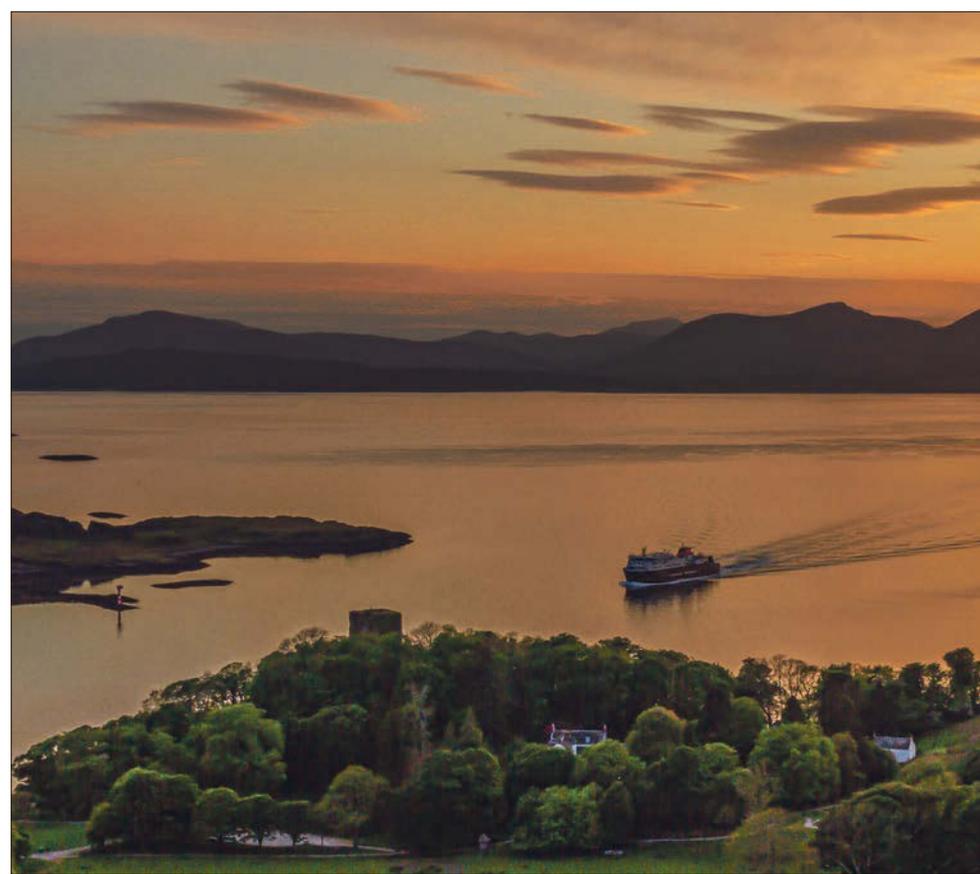
At the Salen meeting last month we learned, alongside staff and parents, about plans to provide the increased pre-school hours at the school.

The council reiterated that council policy not to invest in non-council property prevented them from investing in our project, as we have been told, so we were surprised to read in the letter that the decision was instead due to a lack of preparedness on our behalf.

We are committed to helping parents on Mull who struggle to work due to the lack of childcare. We need to find other ways of doing so now the council intends to deliver extended pre-school hours in isolation rather than as part of a broader childcare facility, but hope to work productively together on any plans we take forward.

Moray Finch and the Board of MICT.

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.

Village surgeries on Islay

I was recently out and about in Islay visiting local businesses, hearing from my constituents and checking up on the progress being made with road and pavement repairs.

At my latest Port Ellen surgery I heard numerous concerns from residents.

These included the continuing poor condition of Mansfield Road and flooding on Charlotte Street due to drainage issues.

I have raised these matters with our roads

department directly and have also raised them at MAKI area meetings. Even with the welcome investment in our roads network clearly more needs to be done.

Availability of ferry spaces or lack thereof is being brought to my attention by ever increasing numbers.

With the terrific economic and industrial expansion we are seeing, particularly on the south side of the island, and the huge growth in tourism to both Islay and Jura, CalMac's management and Transport Scotland must



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Oban Times reader Iain Lockhart took this photograph last month from Battleship Hill in Oban, overlooking Dunollie Castle and looking out towards the Sound of Mull.

In Port Charlotte I spoke directly to our hard working roads men as they were re-tarring pavements in the village.

This work is hugely welcome and long overdue. It also shows what our roads teams can achieve when given the resources they need.

Councillor Alastair Redman.

More than just litter being left to mar our countryside

With reference to the Glen Etive litter situation (Lochaber News June 6). It is not just tents and manufactured waste we are talking about.

Human faeces is spreading across the Highlands. One can fairly argue that this is due to the lack of toilet and waste campervan loo facilities [and parking], plus the huge increase in the number of visitors all year round.

This is something councillors, politicians, environmental health bodies and particularly the Scottish and local tourist boards will have to address very urgently.

Recently I came across domestic kitchen rubbish mixed with blood-soaked sanitary items and human faeces left in a ditch – which drained into a burn and onwards to a river – just off a main road in Lochaber.

I believe this is a widespread problem, and mostly hidden from view. The days when, with delight and without a thought, we could drink from a pristine Scottish mountain stream may be gone for ever.

One of the main dangers of the above practices is the spread of Giardia infection [giardiasis]. Most people who contract Giardia acquire their infection abroad. It is one of the most common causes of water borne disease in the United States. The parasites are found in back country streams and lakes [most looking pristine] but also in swimming pools, whirlpool spas and wells. The infection can be transmitted through food and person-to-person contact. However, it is in the UK too, although, not yet out of control or as widespread – there are estimated 50,000 cases in UK.

Giardia parasites live in the intestines of people and animals. Before the microscopic parasites are passed in stool, they become encased in hard shells called cysts which allows them to survive outside the intestines for months.

Perhaps, environmental health/medical experts may wish to expand on my observations and concerns?

**Graham Noble
Kinlocheil.**

look to increase the number of ferries and the number of sailings they are making, or risk allowing an economic chilling effect to our businesses and huge inconvenience for those of us who live and travel on and off the island.

In Bowmore I was concerned when I was shown first-hand just how bad some of the pavements are.

I have been and will continue to push for investment into getting our crumbling pavements up to scratch. Our pavements, much like our roads' network, need regular investment.

Beachd Ailein

ALLAN CAMPBELL

editor@obantimes.co.uk



Chuala mi aithris inntinneach air telebhisean bho chionn ghoirid air mar a tha amaran innearach a tha gan gleidheadh air tuathan airson todhair a' cur a-mach uabhas den ghas methane dhan àrainneachd.

Thathas a' tuigsinn gun gabh seo seachnadh le bhith a' sgaoileadh an todhair sin bitheanta seach a bhith ga ghleidheadh fad ùine, ach 's i cheist an tachair an t-atharrachadh cleachdaidh. Chuimhnich mi air an t-seann chleachdadh far am bithte a' gleidheadh mùn (neo fual) gus an amòinia ann a chleachdadh a luadh clò, agus chluinneadh balach 'cleachd an tuba' nuair a dh'èireadh e a-mach bhon taigh-cèilidh! Rinn Fionnlagh J Dòmhnallach dealbh den chleachdadh san leabhar ghrinn Gruth is Bàrr agus tha cuimhn' agam e bhith 'g innse dhomh mar a thachair san taigh-òsta an Inbhir Nis san do chuir na foillsichearan e an oidhche ron chlà-bhualadh. San àbhaist bhiodh Fionnlagh air fuireach cuide ri a bhràthair Ailig ach cha robh roghainn aige is luchd-reice proifeiseanta an sàs, agus nuair a ràinig e seòmar-cadail an taigh-òsta

bha e sgith agus beagan claidhte. 'Dh'fhosgail mi an doras,' arsa Fionnlagh, 'agus theab fàileadh amòinia mo leagail. Bha Ailig agus ban-Sgalpach a bha ag obair san taigh-òsta air cleas a chur orm is bha tuba amòinia san t-seòmar! Thòisich mi ri gàireachdainn agus thog mo shunn!' Cha tig às a' phoit ach an toit a tha innte! Sin seanfhacal a bhios air inntinn mhòran na làithean seo is iad a' beachdachadh air suidheachadh annasach far am bheil, airson an dàrna turas ann am beagan bhliadhnaichean, buidheann beag de shluagh na dùthcha a tha uile nam ball de aon Phàrtaidh phoiliteach dol a thaghadh Prìomhaire ùr!

An cùl m' inntinn tha mi a' cluinntinn buill Phàrtaidhean eadar-dhealichte ag argamaid gur e sin an siostam a th' ann agus gum feum mo leithid-sa dìreach cur suas leis! Ach cha do dh'fhàg gum bheil siostam air a bhith ann ùine mhòr sin ceart idir, agus saoilidh mi gur còir dha mòr-shluagh na dùthcha pàirt a bhith aca ann an taghadh Prìomhaire.

Air ais chun na toit, agus tha gu leòr dhith a' toimadh oirnn an-dràsta eadar

tagraichean cheannas nan Tòraidhean, agus gleadhraich dhùbhhlanaich aig nach eil lèirsinn dad nas soilleire air slighe air adhart.

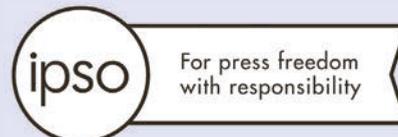
Cha b' iongnadh daoine a bhith iomagaineach mu staid na dùthcha is cho beag ealantais stiùiridh ri fhaicinn, fhad 's a tha seirbheisean agus sochairean an t-sluaigh a' sior chrionadh. Eadar buaidh gach toit cha bu mhiste togail spioraid dhuinn uile, agus bu mhath gun toireadh sgeulachd bheag Fhionnlagh sin dhuibh!

When the television programme Landward recently highlighted the amount of harmful gas emitted from farm slurry pits it was reassuring to also learn that regular distribution of the fertiliser can solve this problem.

Changing established practice may be costly and more challenging.

Meanwhile the Westminster political arena seems so pre-occupied as to be almost oblivious to the increasing frustration of people it was appointed to serve.

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



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

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OT

DISTRICT NEWS

DALMALLY

Dalmally's Got Talent 2019 will take place this Saturday, June 22, from 6pm in Dalmally Community Centre.

Categories include primary school age solo, high school age solo, adult solo, or groups.

All the money raised from the event will go towards Dalmally school.

There will be a raffle, as well as refreshments on offer.

To find out more, email dalmallysgottalent@gmail.com.

APPIN

An afternoon tea, raffle, and tombola has raised £755 for the Port Appin playing field and playgroup.

The event was held in the field on June 2 between 2pm and 4pm.

The organisers said: 'A huge thank you to all who donated prizes, baked and came along to support us, it's very much appreciated.'

STRATHFILLAN

The most recent Strathfillan Community Council meeting took place on May 6.

The monthly police report revealed that there had been 35 calls on the Strathfillan beat since the last gathering.

A rough breakdown of these, with disparity due to multiple calls regarding the same incident, shows that there were six road traffic-related calls; one for housebreaking; four for road accidents; one for mountain rescue; one for a dead golden eagle; two for non-payment of fuel; one for a domestic incident; four concerned calls; two parking complaints; and one for a sudden death.

The next Strathfillan Community Council meeting will take place on Monday July 1 in the Crianlarich Hall from 7.30pm.

ISLAY

An over-65s' information day will be held in The Gaelic Centre in Bowmore this week.

The informal event starts at 11am

Bòrd na Gàidhlig road trip comes to Oban



Bòrd na Gàidhlig members undertook a road trip recently, visiting some of the Gaelic communities in Argyll and Bute and Lochaber as part of a series of board meetings.

Bòrd na Gàidhlig met with Comann nam Pàrant in Oban on Tuesday June 4 and held an informal community meeting in the Corran Halls on Wednesday evening where those involved in Gaelic in the area had the opportunity to meet with board and staff members.

The bòrd's interim chairwoman, Mairi MacInnes, opened the meeting and welcomed all those who attended. The bòrd's ceannard, Shona MacLennan, highlighted how Bòrd na Gàidhlig's work is contributing to the use of Gaelic in the area. Last year, the bòrd provided £261,886 to 23 different projects in Argyll and Bute, including funding towards Ionad Chaluim Chille Ìle, the Gaelic centre in Islay; early years groups in Bowmore, Tobermory, Dunoon and Oban; officers at Comunn na Gàidhlig, based in Islay and Jura, Mull and Oban, and the

new Comann nam Pàrant officer based in Oban; a co-ordinator of music and culture in Tiree; Argyll and Bute Council's Gaelic classes; and also funding to the Hebridean Whale and Dolphin Trust, based in Tobermory, to encourage the increased use of Gaelic in their work.

In addition to supporting the funding for Ionad Chaluim Chille Ìle, Bòrd na Gàidhlig also gave financial help to Fèisean nan Gàidheal and An Comunn Gàidhealach, two other organisations which contribute significantly to promoting the use of Gaelic in the area.

Bun-sgoil Ghàidhlig Loch Abar won the prestigious Gaelic Award at this year's Scottish Education Awards in Glasgow, which also took place last week. Bòrd na Gàidhlig sponsored this category and congratulated head teacher John Joe MacNeil on the school's success.

More information about Bòrd na Gàidhlig's work and funding schemes can be viewed on their website, www.gaidhlig.scot.

JURA

tomorrow (Friday June 21) and will cover home adaptations, private sector housing grants, energy efficiency, attendance allowance and pension credit.

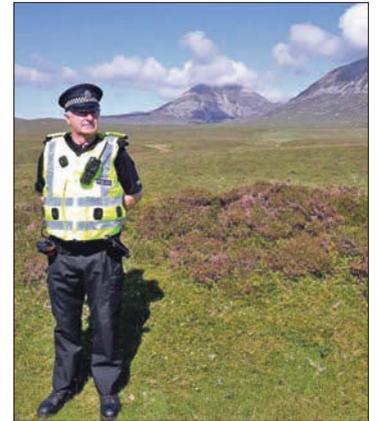
Speakers will include home improvements officer Moyra Paterson, welfare rights officer James McCorkindale and welfare rights assistant Kerry Gillespie.

A Police Scotland special constable, who provides the only policing presence on one of the Hebridean islands, has been awarded an MBE in the Queen's Birthday Honours.

Donald Ewen Darroch has been commended for his contribution to law and order on the Isle of Jura,

where he has been a volunteer officer for more than 22 years.

He said: 'I am extremely grateful to have been nominated for this honour, and it was a complete surprise to receive the notification several weeks ago. It's a role I very much enjoy and I'm glad I am able to do so much for my island community. I joined, many years ago, as a special at



Donald Ewen Darroch.

the same time as my cousin, after the local inspector asked us to consider it because the existing special constable was retiring. I've been volunteering ever since.'

With the nearest regular police officers based on Islay, Donald Ewen is often the first point of contact when islanders need help, and has been involved with a huge range of incidents, from mountain rescues to knife crime and road traffic incidents.

When officers have to travel from Islay or the mainland, Donald Ewen often accompanies them on their duties.

The 63-year-old, who has two sons who are both full-time officers with Police Scotland, said he's been very lucky to have experienced so much in the line of duty.

'Because I'm the only officer permanently based on the island, I've got to do a lot more than many other specials ever would,' he said. 'I've been called out to situations that a special constable in another location would possibly never experience, but also got to assist with major events like royal visits, and the World War One commemorations on Islay.'

He added: 'I think people on the island often appreciate having a well-known face to deal with, especially in situations where I've had to deliver bad news.'

KILMORE

The winner of the Kilmore 100 Club

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FINANCE AND DELIVERY ARRANGED

for May was J Hall, while R Clunie and A Morrison were the June winners.

WESTERN ISLES

North Uist was launched into the space age last week when plans to build the UK's first vertical commercial space port were unveiled last week.

The consortium behind the spaceport is proposing to build a new spaceport at Scolpaig on the north-west coast of North Uist.

Comhairle nan Eilean Siar has agreed to invest around £1 million to purchase the land where the launch facility will be constructed.

From this base, rockets will be launched vertically, offering low-cost, safe and efficient access to sun synchronous and polar orbits.

Discussions have already begun about proposed test launches from the site later this year.

Further community consultation events on the planned activities and the Spaceport1 project will take place over the summer.

MULL

Communal bins at Uisken Beach, Mull, will be removed because of persistent fly-tipping.

The bins were provided for the houses at the end of the road leading to the beach and home owners have now been given individual bins.

The fly-tipping has brought complaints from residents and has meant the council has been forced to step up its refuse runs in the area.

The most recent incident involved building materials.

Councillor Roddy McCuish, policy lead for roads and amenity services, said: 'It is very disappointing that such inconsiderate behaviour pushed us to take these steps. These were domestic refuse bins.

'To use them for the disposal of waste that should be taken to one of our amenity sites is shameful.

'Not only does it cause distress to residents, it incurs additional costs at a time when the council is struggling to fund its most vital services.'



Bookberries Book Club on Islay celebrate their win.

Islay book club wins reading challenge

An island's reading project inspiring a love of books among primary pupils has won a First Minister's top challenge.

Bookberries book club started as an after-school club by a group of parents, with the support of teachers at Port Charlotte Primary School on Islay, and has just been announced the worthy winner of the First Minister's Reading Challenge 2018-19.

Bookberries, which received the Community Reading Culture Award, was among 19 schools, one library and one book club honoured at a ceremony in Glasgow.

Minister for Mental Health Clare Haughey also joined the celebration event and presented the Reading Inspiration Award.

With only a library van to

serve the island, Bookberries started its own lending system. It encouraged pupils to log their books using their reading passports and set up their own personal challenges like sharing books and recommendations with friends.

Bookberries Book Club has been so successful that P5-P7 pupils have also expressed interest, resulting in Narnia and Harry Potter sessions for their age group in June.

Port Charlotte head teacher Maggie McLellan said: 'I was not surprised that our book club won the community culture reading challenge as it is has been absolutely amazing with lots of excitement, fun challenges, games and craft activities, book-related snacks, stories and more.

'Bookberries aimed to bring stories to life and build the foundations of a life-long love of reading, while challenging barriers and prompting learning through reading fun and play. The positive response from the children suggests we are on our way to achieving this goal - we couldn't be prouder that the children of Port Charlotte Primary have had their club recognised through this fantastic achievement, they are all stars.'

Bookberries will be sharing some of its book club fun with the whole island on August 5 at an all-day fundraiser, serving tea and cakes with a timetable of children's activities for all age groups from birth to P7.

Money raised will go to Port Charlotte Primary and Bookberries book club.

At random

MARTIN LAING

mlaing@obantimes.co.uk



Risk to public health

I went for a quiet pint the other evening and was approached in the Lorne bar by Debbie, who had worked herself up into a right old state of umbrage.

The thing is, I absolutely agree with Debbie on the subject which was exercising her so greatly.

She was apoplectic about the amount of bird waste disfiguring the stone steps in George Street, next door to Waterstones.

Debbie said she had contacted Argyll and Bute Council asking for staff to clean up the mess, but was informed that it was not the local authority's responsibility. It is apparently the building's owner, whoever that might be.

As Debbie said, not only is the waste unsightly and unpleasant, it also poses a genuine health risk, as was evidenced



so tragically just a few months ago after two people died at the Queen Elizabeth University Hospital in Glasgow after inhaling the fungus cryptococcus, typically found in soil and pigeon droppings.

The two patients who died were a 10-year-old boy and a 73-year-old woman, who contracted infections connected to pigeon droppings in the building.

If these bird droppings can cause fatal infections, the situation in Oban must be dealt with as a matter of urgency before people are taken ill here. Can the council not take enforcement action against the building's owner? And, if not, surely it is not beyond the wit of the council's senior officials to organise a cleaning crew.

Debbie also pointed out, quite rightly in my opinion, that the council is responsible for cleaning up other litter and dog waste, so what is the difference?

Will it take a tragedy here such as happened in Glasgow before any action is taken?

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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OUTDOORS

Strategy launched to 'Tak it Hame'

Reflecting the interests of its members, Mountaineering Scotland has launched a conservation strategy – and marked the occasion with a hillside litter-pick.

The new policy looks at three main areas.

■ Land use and wildlife – issues include overgrazing by wild or domestic animals, the creation of extensive monocultures through excessive muirburn or large, single-species forestry plantations, and the concept of rewilding.

■ Wild land and development activity – the strategy looks at ways of responding to increasing demands for wind turbines, hydro power schemes and new hilltracks in wild areas.

■ Recreational activity – the spotlight is turned on walkers and climbers themselves, looking at what people can do to minimise their impact on the environment.

Stuart Younie, chief executive of Mountaineering Scotland, said: 'Our landscape provides us the environment in which to enjoy our recreational activities, so we need to do our part to help preserve and enhance it.'

'Mountaineering Scotland already has a strong record of campaigning on issues that matter to its members. We will continue to do that and by launching this strategy we hope it sends a clear message to government and other organisations about our commitment to the conservation agenda, and also our desire to take a strategic approach and engage with other organisations to help influence change in policy and legislation.'

And a new campaign – Tak It Hame – is encouraging members – and other walkers and climbers, to take home their own rubbish from the hills and to pick up any other rubbish they find there.

In a survey of Mountaineering Scotland's 14,000 members, 85 per cent gave a high priority to protecting the wildness of Scotland's mountain areas.

Nevis Range opens its own bike school

Nevis Range, the host venue for the UK round of the UCI Mountain Bike World Cup at Fort William, has launched a new mountain bike school – the first trail centre owner-operated bike school in Scotland.

Running annually from May to the end of September, the Nevis Range Bike School will offer fun-filled skills, coaching and guided rides to kids, families, individuals and groups of all ages and abilities.

The two-hour sessions will fully utilise the 60km of mixed graded cross-country trails of the Leanachan Forest and the world-renowned orange graded downhill track and the black graded Top Chief track, both accessed using the UK's only mountain gondola.

The Nevis Range Bike School will also offer a mountain bike hire service in association with Trek Bikes as part of the coaching and guiding service.

Dave Parfitt, the Nevis Range Ski School Manager and a Fort William man with more than 20 years of service with the organisation, is heading up the Nevis Range Bike School.

He told us: 'We are really excited to be adding mountain bike coaching and guiding to our summer operation here at Nevis Range.'

'We have such a huge variety of top-quality waymarked trails for all skill levels coupled with the most amazing views.'

'We want our mountain bike visitors of all abilities to fully immerse themselves in some of the best riding in the UK, while having the best possible day out on a bike.'

The team of four locally-based mountain bike guides, all level two and three British Mountain Bike Leadership Award qualified coaches, will offer guiding and coaching options to suit all abilities from beginner to expert. They will operate in a guide to client ratio of one to eight, enabling them to cater effectively to the specific requirements of every rider.

The Nevis Range Bike School will offer six different mountain bike guiding and coaching



Dave Parfitt with, from left, Elise Macgregor, and Louise Anna Ferguson.

options to suit all skill levels, from the entry level cross country course, an introduction to cross country mountain biking on the more gentle trails within the Leanachan Forest, to Downhill 101 where the highest level riders can experience the technical demands of the multi-award winning and internationally renowned World Cup downhill track under expert supervision.

Over the past 12 months Nevis Range has formed integral partnerships with Trek, one of the world's leading bike brands, and Endura, a global market leader in cycle apparel, both of which are passionate about the development of mountain biking at all levels at the venue.

They are keen to encourage more people to get involved with the sport regardless of ability or age, while further cementing the venue's reputation as a world leading mountain bike

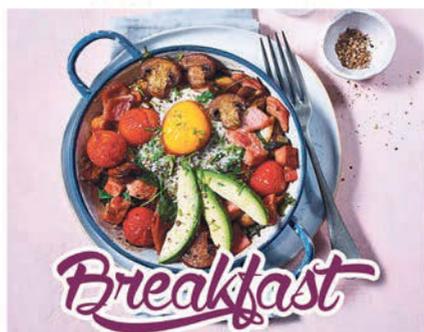
downhill and cross-country trail centre and international event hub.

Both brands are fully behind the new bike school, providing Trek bikes and Endura clothing and protective gear to the guiding team, while also investing in the design and development of new exciting track and trail features, trail signs and advertising at the venue.

Nikki Stafford, commercial manager of Nevis Range Mountain Experience, said: 'We are incredibly excited about the opening of our bike school this summer.'

'It is vital to us to bring on the next generation of world class mountain bikers and the introduction of our own bike school will allow us to do this. We have a strong MTB community in Fort William and this will allow it to grow further.'

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



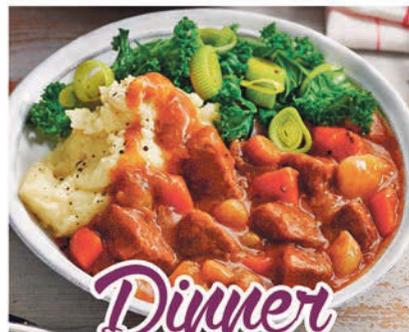
Breakfast

Avocado breakfast bowl
Wake up to a mouth-watering medley of bacon, mushrooms, egg and avocado... and it tastes even better when someone else cooks it for you!



Lunch

Smoked salmon maki rolls
The Slimming World Smoked salmon maki rolls recipe is an easy sushi recipe that anyone can make. Perfect picnic food and great for a healthy packed lunch



Dinner

Slimming World beef casserole
A Free medley of tender beef, carrots, silverskin onions and button mushrooms – perfect for the slow cooker

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This week's walks



Children from Lochnell Primary School took part in a beach clean at Tralee with staff and volunteers from Hope Kitchen in Oban back in 2017.

Help the Great British Beach Clean

The Marine Conservation Society (MCS) is appealing for people to become part of the solution to the litter problem engulfing UK beaches by adopting a beach and leading a clean-up and survey during this year's Great British Beach Clean (September 20-23).

During last year's event, volunteer cleaners picked up more than 600 items of litter for every 100m of UK coastline surveyed. Just short of 15,000 volunteers took part – double the number in 2017.

MCS says it hopes the 26th Great British Beach Clean will continue to smash records when it comes to volunteer numbers – but not litter amounts. The charity is appealing for more organisers to lead more beach cleans around the UK coastline – 494 were cleaned in 2018, an increase of 155 on the previous year. 'Cleaning so many individual

beaches last year was a fabulous achievement by our volunteer cleaners and organisers,' said Lizzie Prior, MCS Beachwatch officer.

'But we know that it's only the tip of the iceberg. There are hundreds and hundreds of beaches around our coasts that have never been cleaned and surveyed – and it's the collection of this data that is so important to getting even more positive actions implemented than have already been achieved in the last year or so.'

Data collected by volunteers from the 25 years of MCS-led Great British Beach Cleans has been instrumental in the introduction of the five pence single-use carrier bag charge, the ban on microbeads in personal cleaning products like shower gels and toothpastes, the commitment to a deposit return scheme in Scotland (and the consultation on one in

England and Wales), and a ban on plastic straws, stirrers and cotton buds in England from next year.

'This year we're appealing for more people to adopt a beach and become one of our army of organisers,' said Lizzie. 'It's an absolutely vital role because the more beaches we have litter data for, the clearer the picture we will have of where it all comes from and what needs to be targeted next.'

This year, for the first time, the Great British Beach Clean will be sponsored by the Ocado Foundation, the charitable arm of the online supermarket.

Becoming a Great British Beach Clean organiser is simple. Find a beach that needs to be cleaned, sign up and register it on the MCS online system and MCS will provide all the help needed to get going.

www.mcsuk.org/beachwatch

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 June 27: Aonach air Chrith and Maol Chinn-dearg, Glen Shiel

An interesting route that includes some easy scrambling and tops out at the summit of the highest peak on the South Glen Shiel Ridge.

Start at the lay-by on A87 at NH044114. Cross the road, follow stalkers' path to the foot of Druim Coire nan Eirecheanach, then turn SE to reach the Allt Coire nan Eirecheanach at about 300m alt.

Cross the burn and, heading E, traverse the slope to reach a slabby tongue of rock at the foot of the NW ridge of A' Chioch, 400m alt, NH061101. Scramble up the ridge to its summit, 830m. Descend slightly SW to a col then up to the right avoiding scree to reach the crest of Druim na Ciche, which forms the N ridge of Aonach air Chrith. Follow it to the summit, 1,021m. Head W along the main South Glen Shiel Ridge for about 2Km to the summit of Maol Chinn-dearg, 981m. Turn NE and descend Druim Coire nan Eirecheanach, eventually picking up the stalkers' path back to the start.

Grade: S; Distance: 11km; Height to climb: 998m; Map(s): LR33, EX414 Meet: Fort William WM NN112742 at 0815. Start of Walk at 0930. Leader: Andrew Gilbert 07808 924722.

Sunday June 30: Glen Creran to Ballachulish

Start at the car park at Elleric NN035488. Follow the forest track up north eastwards for 2.5Km, fork left and follow it for another 2Km, then fork left again, turning northwards to the end of the track after a further 1½Km.

Here a path climbs more steeply up to a col at NN065540, altitude 395m. The path continues northwards down into Gleann an Fhiodh. Cross the River Laroch to reach the Glen

Duror – Ballachulish path and follow it down to the village. Pleasant forest walking with fine open mountain views from the col onwards. Transport required at each end.

Grade: M; Distance: 12km; Height to climb: 400m; Maps LR41/50 EX384. Meet at: Ballachulish Tourist Information Centre at 0900 or at start of walk at 0945. Co-ordinator: Ian Moir 07973 836498.

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.

Saturday June 29: Maol Chean Dearg and An Ruadh Stac, Strathcarron

A day out on two fine hills, steep and rocky with splendid views in the spectacular Torridonian landscape that is such a contrast to our local area.

Start from Coulags Bridge at NG957450. Limited parking is available in the vicinity. Follow the path N along the E side of the Fionn-abhainn and cross it on the FB after 2km. Continue N along path, past the bothy to a junction at NG948490. Turn W and climb up the path to *Bealach a' Choire Ghairbh at 587m. Head N up the spur, turning NW when it levels and continue over a small summit at 757m. Continue NW along the spur then climb up to more level ground at about 830m. Turn N and head up to summit of Maol Chean-dearg. **Return to Bealach a' Choire Ghairbh and descend SW to Loch a' Mhadaidh Ruadh. Ascend a short way to col at NG928483.

Climb W up the ridge of An Ruadh-Stac on beautiful clean rock up to summit***. Return to col and continue NE over the 603m top, curving E to reach the summit of Meall nan Ceapairean at 677m. Descend SE and then SSE to a more level area, alt about 425m, at NG943478. Descend E to path back and return to the start.

Distance: 18km *15km **15km ***14km. Ascent: 1,246 *900m **900m ***938. Coordinated by Andrew Gilbert.



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The Oban Times newspapers have teamed up with Neighbourhood Watch and Scottish & Southern Electricity Networks to bring you practical information, advice and tips on how to keep you, your family and your community safe.

This feature will run over 12 weeks, from protecting your home and possessions to helping your children enjoy the benefits of the Internet in safety. We hope you find it useful and informative!

Summer WATER SAFETY

When Summer hits it can be tempting to look for the nearest place to cool off. Here are our top tips if you plan on going for a paddle:

- LOOK OUT FOR LIFEGUARDS** (Icon: Goggles)
- IT'S COLDER THAN IT LOOKS** (Icon: Snowflake and thermometer)
- DON'T GO TOO FAR** (Icon: Person on a chair)
- IT'S STRONGER THAN IT LOOKS** (Icon: Person swimming)
- BRING A FRIEND** (Icon: Two people in a boat)

www.rlss.org.uk

GENERAL WATER SAFETY ADVICE

- Avoid walking or running near water e.g. canals, rivers at night.
- Always wear a suitable personal flotation device when participating in any water sports e.g. canoeing, kayaking, paddle-boarding. Be aware of Cold Water Shock where low water temperatures will affect the body's normal functions and can cause serious difficulties. Even on a hot day - it only needs to be 15 degrees or lower for cold water shock to kick in.
- Avoid drinking any alcohol near water.
- Be aware of any strong currents and underwater debris in reservoirs and rivers.
- The safest option for any kind of swimming is to go to a supervised beach or swimming pool. In winter avoid icy lochs and rivers as people (and dogs) can easily fall through the ice and drown.

ADVICE FOR FAMILIES WITH YOUNG CHILDREN

- Young children are inquisitive and any water may be of interest to them. Paddling pools, baths, buckets of water and garden ponds are all key hazards around the home environment. Follow these top tips to keep your child safe around the home environment: Check the garden at regular intervals. All containers, pools and buckets should be emptied of any water.
- Always supervise children in the garden.
- Be aware of cleaning buckets which can pose a hazard to young children if they are left full. Grille, fence or fill in garden ponds until children are older.

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there's something for everyone. But sea and coastal conditions can change fast and you can get in trouble before you know it. To help you enjoy the coast safely, make sure you check weather and tides before you set out, wear appropriate clothing and footwear and be aware of the risks. If you get into trouble or you see someone else in trouble, call 999 and ask for the COASTGUARD."

Alec Wallace
Senior Coastal Operations Officer

"With our holiday season in full swing it's worth taking a moment to remind everyone to enjoy and respect our coastline. It's great to spend a day out at the coast or seaside. Whether you like cliff walks, boating or just soaking up the sunshine on a beach,

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MPs to visit 2019 Highland Show

Westminster will show its support for Scotland's agriculture, food and farming sectors this week when ministers take part in the Royal Highland Show in Edinburgh.

Scotland's biggest agricultural event gives the rural industries and members of the public the chance to speak to UK ministers and staff about what is important to them, and find out more about how the UK Government delivers for people in Scotland.

Scottish Secretary David Mundell said: 'I'm very pleased to be attending the Royal Highland Show - it's a fantastic event which shows rural Scotland at its very best.'

'The Royal Highland Show is an important opportunity for the UK Government to hear views from farmers and others in the rural economy, and for us to talk about our plans to support them.'



Last year's show saw these magnificent Clydesdales take to the field.

'Agriculture is vital to Scotland's economy, and I look forward to discussing with the industry and show-goers how the UK Government can help the sector flourish.'

The Scottish Secretary will attend the event on its opening day, Thursday June 20.

A number of other UK Government ministers will

also visit the four-day show and eight UK Government departments, plus partner organisations will be represented.

As well as touring the show site and meeting industry representatives, Mr Mundell will host a whisky reception showcasing the best of Scotland's distillers and toasting their success.

The whisky industry makes up 70 per cent of Scottish food and drink exports, employs more than 10,000 people, and contributes £5.5 billion a year to the UK economy.

In total hundreds of thousands of jobs are reliant on Scotland's farming, food and drink sectors which produce billions of pounds of exports annually.

UK Government departments will also be on hand to give advice about a number of initiatives, including opportunities available through the Industrial Strategy, and information about pensions and Tax-Free Childcare.

Meanwhile Diesel, a Scottish Fire and Rescue search and rescue dog with his own Twitter page, will be the star of the Department for International Development (DFID) display showcasing UK aid work.

AROUND THE MARKETS

Caledonian Marts Ltd, Tuesday June 18: sold 657 Spring Lambs, Prime Hoggets, ewes and tups at Stirling. Included in the sale was the show and sale of Suffolk prime lambs, held in conjunction with the west and central Scotland Suffolk Club and was kindly sponsored by McCaskie Farm Supplies and Shearwell Data. The show was ably judged by Bill MacKinnon of Scotbeef. Overall average for 454 sold was 207.3ppkg (-8.4p on the week).

Prize list:
Champion - J Lawrie, Tillyrie 47.6kg £104 purchased by Buffalo Farm, Boglilly.
Class 1 - Suffolk Under 42kg
1 - W & E Cook, Balcachie;
2 - R A Campbell & Son, Meikle Seggie.

Class 2 - Suffolk 42.1kg-44.9kg
1 - R Wardrop & Son, Easter Coates;
2 - R A Campbell & Son, Meikle Seggie;
3 - R Wardrop & Son, Easter Coates.

Class 3 - Suffolk 45kg+
1 - J Lawrie, Tillyrie;
2 - Bankhead Farmers, Crook of Devon;
3 - Bankhead Farmers, Crook of Devon.
Outwith the show, top price of the day went to D Nicol, Auchtenny for a 46kg Beltex at £115 and the same lamb topped the p/kg at 250p. Leading prices: Spring lambs per head:
Texel £111 Bankhead,
Texel X £111 Skeoch,
Beltex £109 Mawcarse,

Continental £108 Pitcairle,
Continental X £108 The Horn,
Suffolk X £107 Drumardoch Estates.

Spring lambs per Kg:
Beltex 242p Mawcarse;
Beltex X 238p Meikle Seggie;
Continental 236p West Lundie;
Continental X 231p Auchtenny;
Texel 230p Golland;
Texel X 228p Mawcarse.

Also forward were 233 cast ewes, tups and hoggs. All classes, particularly mules and Blackfaces would be sharper on the week, with heavier ewes also seeing a slight increase. Heavy ewes averaged £87.50 selling to £110 for a Texel from Donibee Livestock, Whitehills, Crossgates. Light ewes averaged £58.09 selling to £71 for a Cheviot from D Nicol, Auchtenny, Forgandenny.

Cast tups sold to £86 for a Texel from E Forrester, Cattle Moss, Saline. Other leading ewe prices:
Texel:
£96 Dyke (Milton of Campsie);
£87 Donibee & Auchtenny.

Suffolk:
£94 Deanston;
£89 Easter Cash.
BFL:
£83 (x4) Little Balquhomrie Mule;
£79 West Lundie;
£77 Easter Cash;
Cheviot:
£68 Knoxfauld.

BF:
£67 Deanston,
£65 Drummond Estates.

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Life's a Beach



2019

Your guide to some of the West Coast, Highland's and Islands' most beautiful beaches



Photo courtesy of scotphoto.com

Life's a Beach

The perfect staycation.



Where is your favourite beach?

It is not that we are biased, but welcome to the best sands in the UK, the wonderful beaches all around the West Highlands and islands – the perfect staycation destination

Where is your favourite beach? There are so many here in the West Highlands and Islands to choose from.

The sea is in our blood here in Argyll and Bute; 80 per cent of us live within 1km of the coast and nearly all of us, 96.6 per cent, live within 10k of the coast, our local council says – so when it comes to beaches we know what we like!

By the way we have 23 inhabited islands in Argyll and Bute and these are Bute, Coll, Colonsay, Danna, Easdale, Eilean da Mheinn, Erraid, Gigha; Gometra, Inchtavannach, Innischoonan, Iona, Islay, Jura, Kerrera, Lismore, Luìng, Mull, Oronsay, Seil, Shuna (Luìng), Tiree and Ulva – but a couple don't count as they are in fresh-water lochs.

If you want to start an argument in The Oban Times office just ask one of the following: who put the empty milk bottle back in the fridge, who serves the finest fish supper in Oban and which is the best beach.

We'll save the fish supper question for another day, the milk bottle inquisition continues but which is the best beach? We'd have to ask: what kind of beach do you want? A beach to chill out on? Play with your kids, let the dogs run free, for you to swim, ride your pony, windsurf, visit by kayak, have a barbeque or play beach rugby?

Of maybe you fancy watching the sunset, sit and enjoy a dram, meditate, say your prayers, fly a kite or do a spot of

beach fishing, night fishing or star gazing. Many of us have a favourite beach for different events and needs.

We have got them all! And one thing we promise you, whichever beach you visit in the West Highlands – you will not be disappointed.

Enjoy your trip to the beach.

Many of the images have been taken by an old friend of The Oban Times, who is greatly missed, the late Dennis Hardley one of life's gentlemen and a true professional with a great eye for a photograph. It is always an honour to present his work, with the kind permission of Tony Hardley.

And we would also like to thank Eileen Ferguson and Eilidh Carr.

Please love our beaches as much as we do

Take all litter home and help pick up anything that thoughtless people have left behind.

Respect signs asking you to keep off sand dunes and other fragile areas where preservation/conservation work is taking place. Some areas are so fragile that wild camping and access does not apply, signs will tell you where.

The machair, the peatland covered by windblown sand, is incredibly rich and fertile and gives a stunning display of wildflowers throughout the spring, summer and autumn. In places it can only be a few inches deep, so please do not light fires or have barbecues.

Remember to keep dogs on leads at times when there are ground nesting birds as well as any free-roaming livestock.

Remember to check

Some public transport services only run at the very height of the summer season; or during school days only. Saturday and Sundays have fewer services.

Caledonian MacBrayne ferries sail to Tarbert, Loch Fyne and Tarbert, Isle of Harris; these are at opposite ends of the region but have caught visitors out before now...

Filing stations can be few and far between in the more remote parts of the Highlands and many do not open late at night.

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Isle of Skye: Claigan Coral Beach



Close By: Dunvegan Castle, home of Clan MacLeod, a major tourist and cultural destination is a 10-minute drive away; together the castle and beach make a great day out.

Find eateries at the castle and also in the village of Dunvegan, plus shops and fuel.



Don't miss: Photographers' heaven with plenty of viewpoints to take stunning, atmospheric pictures.



Useful websites:

www.calmac.co.uk www.scotrail.co.uk
www.dunvegancastle.com
www.isleofskye.com

Where? Isle of Skye

Skye is one of the best-known destinations in the Hebrides, full of stunning scenery, history and culture. This white sand beach and turquoise waters are in the north of the island, close to Claigan, which is 4.5 miles north along a single track road from the village of Dunvegan. Think about 25 miles or 35 minutes from Portree, the island capital. The A87 is the main road across the island; the A863 and A850 make an interesting tour to Dunvegan and the beach. The beach car park well-signposted.

GETTING HERE: Getting there: Coach services link the island to all major cities and the Kyle of Lochalsh rail line will take you to the nearest point on the mainland. CalMac ferries link Skye with the mainland via Mallaig-Armadale and the Western Isles via Uig-Lochmaddy, North Uist and Tarbert, Harris. A ferry sailing and the Skye Bridge make memorable trip.

Harris: Luskentyre Beach



Close By: The main ferry port of Tarbert (10 miles north of Luskentyre) has shops, cafes, restaurants, Harris Tweed shops, distillery, post office and a bank.



Don't miss: More beaches, Harris Tweed fashion and crafts, island boat tours from Tarbert, The Summer HebCelt Festival on Stornoway (further north on Lewis, just an hour on the bus from Tarbert)



Useful websites:

www.calmac.co.uk www.hial.co.uk
www.visitouterhebrides.co.uk
www.loganair.co.uk

Where? Isle of Harris

The Isles of Harris and Lewis are in fact one big island in the Western Isles – the largest in the Outer Hebrides. Harris is famous for its spectacular beaches, and there is perhaps none more perfect. At high tide it is submerged under crystal clear waters. The beach is accessible from a small single track road that arches across the north side of the bay, making Luskentyre fairly easy to reach. There aren't any facilities (other than a toilet block nearby-ish), but who cares when the beach is this good.

GETTING HERE: The easiest crossing is from Uig, Skye, or make a grand tour of it with the sailing from Oban to Castlebay on Barra. Drive north along the chain of islands and be amazed. Fly Logan Air to Barra, Benbecula or Stornoway.

Vatersay: Bagh A'Deas beach

Close By: Vatersay is now linked to Barra by a causeway making this enchanted wee island so much easier to reach. Castlebay with its ferry terminal, accommodation, shops and post office are in easy reach. Vatersay Hall is a welcome stop with toilets, showers and café; a brilliant community venture.

Don't miss: The sheer, stunning, 'edge of the world' experience of being on Vatersay. Next stop Newfoundland. Discover island history from Neolithic burial to the remains of an RAF Catalina from the Second World War.

Useful websites:
www.calmac.co.uk
www.hial.co.uk
www.visitouterhebrides.co.uk
www.loganair.co.uk

Where? Vatersay

Vatersay is the 'most' – it is the southernmost and westernmost inhabited island in the Outer Hebrides, and Caolas on the north coast of the island is the westernmost permanently inhabited place in Scotland and in Great Britain, says Wikipedia.



GETTING HERE: CalMac sails from Oban to Castlebay which takes five hours so treat it as a mini cruise. Car hire is available on Barra, which boasts the only beach runway in the world to handle scheduled airline services. Traigh Mòr beach has been home to Barra airport for 80 years. Follow signs for Vatersay as you leave the ferry at Barra; keep left after Caolas and keep heading south. Please respect conservation signs asking you keep off the dunes.

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Isle of Berneray: West Beach

Close By: A shop, tea room, post office, church, community hall and visitor information centre at The Nurse's Cottage. There are no pubs and only one restaurant, so if you fancy eating out, you can hop across the causeway to Lochmaddy on North Uist.

Don't miss: The East Beach is lovely too. Berneray has an information centre open during the summer months and a community hall, fishing harbour, church, shop, tea room and post office.

Useful websites:
www.calmac.co.uk
www.hial.co.uk
www.isleofberneray.com

Where? Berneray, Western Isles

Berneray is between Harris and North Uist, linked to the latter by a 900m causeway and to Harris by CalMac ferry. West Beach can be reached via the village of Borve and stretches for three spectacular miles. Look out for seals, otters, snipe, corn crakes, barnacle, greylag and Brent geese. The shoreline is home to wading birds including turnstones, red shanks, oyster catchers and curlews. A glance to a clear sky at night will often reward you with stars, meteors, comets and the breath-taking Northern lights. The machair, a fertile strip of peatland mixed with windblown sand creates a stunning display of wildflowers including rare native orchids.



Photo: Eilidh Carr of Coralbox gift shop, Berneray

GETTING HERE: CalMac sails to Lochmaddy on North Uist, then travel by car across the causeway, or sail into Berneray from Leverburgh on Harris. Regular scheduled flights from Glasgow, Stornoway and Benbecula. Buses connect with flights and ferry arrivals.



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www.burnsidecroft.com

Mull: Calgary Bay Beach

Close By: Shops, café, gallery, B&B's, self-catering accommodation. Cafe@calgary Arts is now open for the summer. The art gallery is open 10am-5pm for teas, cakes and lunch. The Sculpture Walk is open all year, dawn till dusk.

Don't miss: Calgary Art in Nature, Staffa boat trips, Mull Theatre, Seafood in Tobermory.

Useful websites:
www.calmac.co.uk
www.holidaymull.co.uk

Where? Isle of Mull

Calgary Bay is located north west of Mull, 12 miles from Tobermory and 5 miles from Dervaig. The craggy landscape hugs a soft shell sandy beach and is undoubtedly Mull's finest. There aren't many white sandy beaches on Mull that are outstanding but this one truly is. A wonderful place to relax and take in the views to the neighbouring islands of Coll and Tiree. Calgary is Gaelic for 'The meadow beside the bay'. The beach can be accessed by a lovely 300m sculpture walk which families will love. Nature and wildlife lovers will be watching out for Sea Eagles, Otters, Basking Sharks and much more. 'Many consider Calgary beach the finest beach in Scotland if not the UK'.



Photo courtesy of scotphoto.com

GETTING HERE: Calgary Bay is best reached by car, some 55 mins along the A849. CalMac ferries run frequently each day from Oban to Mull (40 mins to Craignure) as well as crossings from Kilchoan and Lochaline. Once on the island there is a great bus network to get you around if you don't have a car.



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Mull: Kilvickeon Beach, Nr Bunessan

Close By: A pub, shop with post office, gift shop and the heritage centre.

Don't miss: Weaving workshops with Isle of Mull Weavers, Kilvickeon Church and Mariota's Stone. The Ross of Mull Historical Centre is at Millbrae Cottage beside the ruins of the Old Corn Mill, on the edge of Bunessan Village. Car parking is available by the bridge

Useful websites:
www.holidaymull.co.uk
www.calmac.co.uk
www.isle-of-mull.net

Where? Isle of Mull

The village of Bunessan is in the south west corner of Mull. Kilvickeon is another beautiful, white sandy beach with lots of coves to explore and getting there is part of the fun with a walk over farmland giving the chance to explore an old chapel and cemetery along the way. Be careful though, the road can be rough underfoot. Look out for seals and beautiful sea birds and across to Garbh Eilean - a tidal island on this stunning beach. The beach is sheltered in places and is a wonderful place to watch a beautiful sunset and generally chill out.



GETTING HERE: Bunessan is on the road from Craignure to Fionnphort. Just before Bunessan follow the road signposted to Scoor. The rough track leads to a very small car park opposite Kilvickeon Old Parish Church and Cemetery. A right turn here will take you on a 10 minute walk to the beach.

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The Road to the Isles: Camusdarach Beach

Close By: Mallaig is a thriving port at the end of the famous Road to the Isles. Find a range of shops and services here, and enjoy some of Britain's freshest fish and chips.

Don't miss: Wildlife Cruise from Western Isles Cruises, operating daily from Mallaig throughout July to September, this trip is designed to tie in with the Jacobite Steam Train. Leaving Mallaig you will travel out to Green Island on the Knoydart Peninsular.

Useful websites:
www.westernislescruises.co.uk
www.undiscoveredscotland.co.uk/morar/silversands/
www.road-to-the-isles.org.uk/morar.php

Where? Camusdarach

Beautiful Camusdarach Beach is an arc of white glistening sand and sparkly waters that sits just south of the estuary of the River Morar, thought to be the shortest river in Britain. The views from Camusdarach look out to the Cuillin on the Isle of Skye and across to the rugged blue peaks of Rum and steep cliffs of Eigg. Camusdarach is the beach featured in Local Hero and Highlander films.



Photo courtesy of scotphoto.com

GETTING HERE: From Fort William, take the A830 road to Mallaig. This road has been modernised and widened in places giving some stunning hilltop views. Look out for the B8008 loop road which runs alongside the new road between Arisaig and Morar; this is the original road which takes you to the beaches.

From the Camusdarach car park cross the wooden bridge and through the wooden gate to paradise. Arisaig and Morar both have railway stations. Shiel Buses route 500 runs between Fort William and Mallaig.



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The Road to the Isles: Silver Sands of Morar

Close By: Morar village, shops, accommodation, food car hire, garage.

Don't miss: A walk along the River Morar which flows into the sea here, to its source in Loch Morar, as well as the sands themselves.

Useful websites:
www.wildlochaber.com
<http://www.shielbuses.co.uk>
www.road-to-the-isles.org.uk
www.scotrail.co.uk

Where? Morar

Don't be surprised if you get a sense of déjà vu; these stunning sands have been photographed so many times and appear on so many calendars and in brochures.



Photo courtesy of scotphoto.com

GETTING HERE: From Fort William, take the A830 road to Mallaig. This road has been modernised and widened in places giving some stunning hilltop views. Look out for the B8008 loop road which runs alongside the new road between Arisaig and Morar; this is the original road which takes you to the beaches. Arisaig and Morar both have railway stations. Shiel Buses route 500 runs between Fort William and Mallaig.

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The Road to the Isles: Traigh beach

Photo courtesy of Eileen Ferguson

Close By: Between Arisaig and Morar each with shops, eating places and services; boat service from Arisaig to Small Isles. Arisaig is home to the Land, Sea and Islands Centre, with fascinating displays about the area's natural and cultural history.

Don't miss: Great beaches for swimming, kayaking, beachcombing, rockpooling, wildlife spotting and picnicking. Traigh Golf Course is a superb links course.

Useful websites:
www.wildlochaber.com
<http://www.shielbuses.co.uk>
www.road-to-the-isles.org.uk
www.arisaig.co.uk
www.scotrail.co.uk

Where? Road to the Isles

White sandy beaches hug the coast and the old section single-track section of the Road to the Isles hugs the coast. Traigh beaches are as perfect as West Highland beaches can be, a mix of sheltered bays, miles of silvery sand, with the machair behind you and some of the finest seascape in Scotland in front of you.

GETTING HERE: From Fort William, take the A830 road to Mallaig. This road has been modernised and widened in places giving some stunning hilltop views. Look out for the B8008 loop road which runs alongside the new road between Arisaig and Morar; this is the original road which takes you to the beaches. Arisaig and Morar both have railway stations. Shiel Buses route 500 runs between Fort William and Mallaig.



Visit the Road to the Isles

Experience the Western Highland's 'Road to the Isles' running between Fort William and Mallaig. Stunning wild mountain scenery, sea views, sandy beaches and spectacular sunsets behind western islands.

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Find out where to stay, what to do and what's on at www.roadtotheisles.org.uk



Ardnamurchan Peninsula: Sanna Bay

Photo courtesy of scotphoto.com

Close By: The village of Portuairk is the western most settlement on the British mainland. Kilchoan has a shop and the ferry terminal to Tobermory on the Isle of Mull.

Don't miss: Don't miss on the Ardnamurchan Peninsula: The Ardnamurchan Lighthouse is nearby and has a lovely tea room.

Useful websites:
www.sannabay.co.uk/
www.wildlochaber.com/ardnamurchan/wildlife/sanna-bay www.calmac.co.uk

Where? Ardnamurchan

If you are looking to truly get away from it all, then Sanna Bay on the tip of the Ardnamurchan Peninsula offers one of the most remote and spectacular beach experiences in Scotland. Located six miles from Kilchoan, it's quite a trek to reach Sanna, including a ferry crossing and 30 miles along a single track road, across a stunning extinct volcanic landscape now clothed in purple heather. But that's part of its beauty—you'll miss the crowds and nothing stands between you and Sanna's vivid turquoise seascapes. There is a gravel car park and telephone box there, but no other signs of civilisation. Instead, enjoy the dunes and rock formations, look for swooping sea eagles and playful otters, and do some frolicking yourself in the tranquil rock pools that dot the bay. Climb the rocks for stunning views over Isle of Skye, Muck, Eigg, Rhum and Canna—that alone is worth the drive!

GETTING HERE: Take the Corran Ferry from Inchree near Onich. Take the signed right turn not far from Kilchoan.



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Isle of Tiree: Traigh Thodhrasdail



Close By: The island has a good selection of accommodation, shops, cafes, taxi and minibus service. Cycle hire plus watersports hire and lessons with trekking and fishing



Useful websites:

www.isleoftiree.com
www.southernhebrides.com
www.calmac.co.uk

Where? Isle of Tiree

Surfs up: Tiree is famous for its fabulous beaches and tropical-like climate in the summer plus all those Atlantic rollers which make it 'the Hawaii of the North', home to the Tiree Wave Classic and an undisputed surfers' paradise thanks to its westerly aspect. The dunes and the machair complete the picture. Tiree Music Festival in July is always fantastic and this year's sold out months ago.

Photo courtesy of Jim Murdoch
www.tireeimages.com

GETTING HERE: Caledonian MacBrayne ferry service from Oban scheduled flights from Glasgow with Logan Air and from Oban with Hebridean Air. Book ferries and airlines well in advance for busy times like the festival, wave classic and Tiree Agricultural Show to avoid disappointment.

Isle of Coll: Feall Bay



Close By: Coll's main village of Arinagour offers some shops and services, and there is a golf course nearby. Or try a pony trek for something different.



Don't miss: Mairi Hedderwick's series of Katie Morag children's books take place in the fictional Struay, inspired by Coll. See if you can spot some of the set pieces from the books. Historic Environment Scotland lists the remains of rig and furrow ploughing and draining of the land near the beach as of national historical importance in Canmore, its historical register.



Useful websites:

www.calmac.co.uk
www.southernhebrides.com
www.visitcoll.co.uk

Where? Isle of Coll

The Isle of Coll is a Dark Skies area, which means there is no light pollution to get in the way of the breath-taking sunsets and night skies. Star gazing courses are on offer at times.

Photo courtesy of scotphoto.com

GETTING HERE: Caledonian MacBrayne ferry service from Oban and flights from Oban with Hebridean Air Services.

Isle of Colonsay: Kiloran beach

Photo courtesy of scotphoto.com

Close By: Colonsay is 10 miles long and two miles wide so everywhere is close by, with a good selection of accommodation from hotel to back packers' lodge and a wide mix of holiday rentals. With a café, restaurant and bar, brewery, incredible wildlife, a publishing house, a gin lovers' retreat with Colonsay Gin plus a thriving shop, what more does an island need?

Don't miss: Wild goats, believed to be descended from Spanish ones washed ashore from an Armada shipwreck off Colonsay. Do not leave this island without a jar of its wild flower honey!

Useful websites:
www.colonsay.org.uk www.colonsayshop.net
www.colonsayholidays.co.uk
www.calmac.co.uk
www.obanandtheislesairports.com

Where? Isle of Colonsay

Kiloran Bay on Colonsay, an island where you are spoilt for choice when it comes to beaches, but this one is extra special with Atlantic rollers for surfers and about a mile of golden sand. The island is home to a wide range of wildlife on land, sea and air with plenty to see from the beach.



GETTING HERE: Caledonian MacBrayne ferry service from Oban and flights from Oban with Hebridean Air Services.



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Kintyre: Southend beach

Close By: The village of Southend has accommodation, caravan and camping sites and a superb new village hall which is home to the post office. Dunaverty Golf Course has a great club house and is open to visitors.

Don't miss: Look for St Columba's Footsteps etched in rock centuries ago to show where St Columba first landed on Scottish soil before he sailed up the coast to found Iona Abbey. The site of Dunaverty Castle, the Blood Rock, scene of a Civil War massacre seems so out of place in somewhere so beautiful and peaceful today.

Useful websites:
www.southendargyll.org.uk
www.visitkintyre.info

Where? Berneray, Western Isles

Only 13 miles from Ireland, Southend in Kintyre is such an incredible spot. You feel like you have stepped back in time by half-a-century. The rich lush farmland is grazed by prize herds of dairy cows and the hedgerows and banks are overflowing with wildflowers.



GETTING HERE: Pick up the A83 in Lochgilphead and follow it all the way down to its end in Campbeltown, then the B842 to Southend. Take City Link bus route 926 Glasgow-Campbeltown; West Coast Motors 400/444 will take you to Southend and Campbeltown is well served by taxis. CalMac has a summer sailing linking Campbeltown with the Isle of Arran and Ardrossan. Logan Air flies to Campbeltown from Glasgow.

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Oban: Ganavan Sands

Photo courtesy of scotphoto.com

Close By: A walk or a short bus ride from all the hustle and bustle of Argyll's top tourist destination, Ganavan is traditionally one of the favourite spots for Oban families.

Don't miss: The great walks, the stunning view over to Mull and Lismore; watching the boats come and go, sometimes gigantic cruise liners visiting Oban or navy ships so large they have to anchor off Oban Bay. A pair of binoculars will come in handy.

Useful websites:
www.obantimes.co.uk
www.oban.org
www.calmac.co.uk



Where? Oban

Oban is known as the 'gateway to the isles', as well as the 'seafood capital of Scotland'. Argyll's biggest shopping, eating and entertainment destination. Ganavan Sands is a wonderful beach for families, popular with visitors and locals alike.

GETTING HERE: Via A85, follow signs from Corran Halls roundabout; via A816 follow one-way system through town and continue along the coast. Follow signs for Dunollie Castle and Museum (both worth a visit) and follow the road on towards Ganavan. Oban is a major destination served by road, rail, sea and air. West Coast Motors services 1 and 401 will take you to the beach, check timetables.

BREAKFAST MENU

BACON
 BACON & EGG
 LOCAL LORNE SAUSAGE
 LINK SAUSAGE
 FREE RANGE EGGS
 HAGGIS
 STORNOWAY BLACK PUDDING
 FULL BREAKFAST ON REQUEST
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LUNCH MENU

BURGERS - BEEF, CHICKEN, VEG
 1/4LB LOCAL BURGER
 1/4LB LOCAL BURGER WITH CHEESE
 1/4LB LOCAL BURGER WITH CHEESE & ONION
HOT DOGS
DAILY SPECIALS
PANINIS
 CHICKEN, HAM, CHEESE, TUNA - TWO FILLINGS OR BUILD YOUR OWN

LUNCH MENU

TOASTIES
 CHEESE, HAM, HAGGIS, CHICKEN - OR BUILD YOUR OWN
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Benderloch: Tralee Bay

Close By: Playpark beside the beach, car park, village shop, café, fuel, garage with plenty of beach and holiday supplies and Ben Lora hill walking.

Don't miss: Both Benderloch and surrounding area provide great services for holiday makers, for food, drink, shops with some award-winning local holiday parks and caravan sites and establishments with top TripAdvisor scores. Benderloch is a really friendly and welcoming village with a great sense of community and plenty going on to join in. Tralee is home to the Lorn Agricultural Show each August.

Useful websites:
www.oban.org.uk
www.benderloch.com
www.tralee.com

Where? Benderloch

Tralee Beach is tucked away near the village of Benderloch. It is just nine miles from Oban, across the Connel Bridge on the A828. This lovely beach has shingle at one end with soft golden sand at the other. The beach is so long that it never seems overcrowded, despite being a popular spot.



GETTING HERE: Access to the beach is via a short walk by a signposted footpath from Benderloch village at the Ben Lora Café, where there is a car park. There is another car park at the west end of the beach off the South Shian road.



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www.highfieldholidays.co.uk

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Islay: Machir Bay, Kilchoman

Close By: With a 2km sweep of the finest sand, Machir Bay has to be one of Islay's most beautiful beaches. How many other beaches have their own whisky? Nearby Kilchoman distillery produces Machir Bay, its signature peated single malt, a vatting of Kilchoman matured in both bourbon and sherry casks

Don't miss: Tie your visit to the beach with one of the many festivals and events on Islay from Fèis Ile to the Islay Mòd, both Gaelic events, to beach rugby, books or cycling, classical music or jazz.

Useful websites:
www.islayinfo.com www.calmac.co.uk
www.islayjura.com

Where? Isle of Islay

Islay is the most southerly of the Inner Hebridean islands and is known as the Queen of the Hebrides. Islay can offer you all kinds of holiday from tranquil to action-packed; foodie or music or culture, wildlife exploring, golf or, of course, whisky for which it is famous.



GETTING HERE: CalMac ferries sail into Port Askaig and Port Ellen from Kennacraig and Oban with a link to Colonsay. Logan Air flies in from Glasgow with Hebridean Air Services flying scheduled services from Oban. City Link bus route 926 Glasgow-Campbeltown calls at Kennacraig. Car hire and taxis available on the island.



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Islay: The Singing Sands and Carraig Fhada

Close By: Port Ellen, one of the Islay's ferry ports and a major centre on the island with shops, places to eat and drink and services.

Don't miss: The singing! But remember, like all good opera divas, the sand can be temperamental. Shape and size of grains of sand, humidity, and frequency of vibration in ratio to thickness of the dry top layer of sand need to combine into the perfect conditions. Once they do it is quite magical.

Useful websites:
www.islayinfo.com
www.calmac.co.uk
www.islayjura.com

Where? Isle of Islay

The opposite end of Kilnaughton Bay from Port Ellen, a visit to the Singing Sands should include a trip to see the Carraig Fhada lighthouse,



GETTING HERE: Park your car at Kilnaughton graveyard and follow the track round the bay.



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SEAFOOD SOUP £6.50

Our own recipe served with a warm bread roll and butter

POTTED CRAB £8

With toasted ciabatta

PÂTÉ OF THE DAY £7

WARM GOATS CHEESE SALAD £7.50

With a honey and mustard dressing

HADDOCK, TIGER PRAWNS AND VINE TOMATOES £8

Baked in chilli, herb and garlic olive oil served with a warm bread roll

BALSAMIC ROASTED MUSHROOMS £7.25

On toasted ciabatta with dressed leaves

FISH

FISH & CHIPS £12

Fresh haddock fillet in our own beer batter with tartare sauce

OVEN BAKED SCOTTISH SALMON FILLET £16.50

With spinach mash potatoes, prawn and garlic butter and crispy dulse seaweed

HADDOCK, SMOKED SALMON & PRAWN GRATIN £16.50

Oven baked with a cheese, cream and leek sauce, topped with breadcrumbs and served with rustic chips and salad

SHELLFISH

CLASSIC MOULES MARINIÈRE

STARTER £7.75 **MAIN** £14

Mussels steamed in white wine, cream, garlic and onions served with a warm bread roll or swap to chips for £2

MUSSELS

STARTER £8 **MAIN** £14

Steamed in chilli, chorizo and white wine served with a warm bread roll or swap to chips for £2

HAND DIVED TAYVALLICH LANDED KING SCALLOPS

STARTER £12 **MAIN** £25

Pan seared with a choice of garlic butter or chorizo or chilli and lemon butter

Served with rustic chips and a dressed salad

HAND DIVED TAYVALLICH LANDED KING SCALLOPS £26

Pan seared served with Stornoway black pudding, kale mash and a white wine & dill cream sauce

SOUND OF JURA LANGOUSTINES

STARTER £10 **MAIN** £20

Served hot with garlic butter or cold with garlic mayonnaise

Served with rustic chips and a dressed salad

SOUND OF JURA DRESSED CRAB £17

Served cold with langoustines, dressed salad, garlic mayonnaise & a warm bread roll or swap to chips for £2

OVEN BAKED DRESSED CRAB £18

With an apple smoked cheddar and breadcrumb crust served with langoustine, dressed salad, & a warm bread roll or swap to chips for £2

EVERYTHING ELSE

CURRY OF THE DAY £11.50

Served with wild rice, popadom, our own chutney & spiced onions

BURGER OF THE DAY £11

Served on a brioche bun with rustic chips, salad & onion rings

CHICKEN AND CHORIZO RAGU £11.50

On a bed of tagliatelle with fresh parmesan and garlic bread

10 OZ SCOTTISH SIRLOIN STEAK £23

With rustic chips, salad, balsamic roasted vine tomatoes, onion rings & peppercorn sauce or garlic butter Add 3 langoustine £6

10 OZ POPESEYE RUMP STEAK £18

With rustic chips, salad, balsamic roasted vine tomatoes, onion rings & peppercorn sauce or garlic butter Add 3 langoustine £6

CONFIT CRISPY PORK BELLY £13

With a satay sauce, saffron rice and green beans

ROASTED CHERRY TOMATO RAGU £10

On a bed of tagliatelle served with toasted ciabatta (vegan)

SIDES

RUSTIC SKIN ON CHIPS £3.25

SEASONAL VEGETABLES £3

MIXED LEAF SALAD £3

ONION RINGS £3

2 WARM BREAD ROLLS AND BUTTER £2

GARLIC BREAD £3

SOUND OF JURA DULSE SEAWEED £4.25

SOMETHING SWEET

BANOFFEE PIE £6

KEYLIME PIE £6

With vanilla ice cream

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WARM CHOCOLATE BROWNIE £6

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LEISURE & ENTERTAINMENT

YOUR GUIDE TO WHAT'S ON IN ARGYLL AND LOCHABER

Fab five for Killin fest

by Kathie Griffiths
kgriffiths@obantimes.co.uk



Killin Music Festival celebrated its fifth festival by smashing it for another year running with a top line-up vibe that got the crowd rockin'.

Backed up by a smiling tribe of volunteers from the community, this festival has a big beating heart which is why its followers have such affection for it and are spreading the word.

No doubt after this year's buzzing performances, ticket demand will be even greater next year.

Headliners on the Saturday night, Elephant Sessions, had the main hall jumping after a highly-fuelled trail of other bands who connected with the lively audience.

Kinnaris Quintet were classy and cool, Tom McGuire and The Brassholes hit the spot, while Torridon were kings of banter and sound.



Outside the hall, talent was in abundance in the Portnellan tent – also home of Sunday's open stage competition and,

adding to this big little event's diversity, the churches got in on the festival act, too, with a craft fair and a book sale.

Killin Hotel had a beer and cider festival and there were sessions on the main street. Sunday saw spectators

Kinnaris Quintet rocked the stage on Saturday.

brave the rain to keep up tradition and watch the Doune Pipe Band cross the bridge and spectacular Falls of Dochart, leading the way back to the hall to hear Killin Community and children's choirs entertain crowd.

The community choir has just received National Lottery funding to support a project working with the village school and retirement home that will also see the commissioning of a new piece of music about Killin – something else to look forward to next year.

Roll on Killin Music Festival 2020.

For more photographs from the festival, turn to pages 42 and 43.

Filming in Argyll generates over £1M for economy

For the first time, an entire feature film was shot in Argyll and Bute, bringing in a crew of 200 for a total of six weeks. This was just one of 40 productions filmed in Argyll and Bute from January 2018 to January 2019, bringing in an estimated spend of £1,088,500 to the economy.

In total, over the year, there were 124 enquiries from companies looking for suitable locations in which to film or photograph.

Councillor Aileen Morton, policy lead for economic development, said: 'As well as boosting the local economy through production spend, in the longer term we hope this will boost our tourism based on visitors coming to visit the site of some of their favourite films.'

There has also been an increase in the number of people and community groups wanting to register their property for filming. Visit www.filminargyll.co.uk

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MY ALBA

DIARDAOIN 20 AN T-ÒGMHIOS / THURSDAY 20th JUNE

- 17.00 Prògraman Chloinne
Children's programming
- 19.00 An Ataireachd Bhuan (rpt)
- 19.30 Beul Chainnt (rpt)
- 20.00 An La - News
- 20.30 Leugh Mi (rpt)
- 21.00 The Megantic Outlaw (rpt)
- 22.00 Air an Rathad (rpt)
- 22.30 *NEW* Buffalo Bill
- 23.20 Belladrum - Cridhe Tartan (rpt)
- 23.30 Fonn Fonn Fonn (rpt)

DIHAOINE 21st AN T-ÒGMHIOS / FRIDAY 21st JUNE

- 17.00 Prògraman Chloinne
Children's Programming
- 18.30 *NEW* FilmG - Origami 2019/20
- 18.35 Machair (rpt)
- 19.00 An La - News
- 19.25 Fraochy Bay (rpt)
- 19.30 Prosaig (rpt)
- 20.00 Horo Gheallaidh (rpt)
- 20.30 Dreach Ur S2 (rpt)
- 21.00 A gu U: Glaschu (rpt)
- 22.00 Black Lake (rpt)
- 22.40 Belladrum - Cridhe Tartan (Highlights) (rpt)
- 23.00 Seirm S5 (rpt)

DISATHAIRNE 22 AN T-ÒGMHIOS / SATURDAY 22nd JUNE

- 16.00 Prògraman Chloinne
Children's programming
- 17.45 An Là - News
- 18.00 Sgeul Slainte (rpt)
- 18.15 Farpaisean Chon Chaorach (rpt)
- 19.15 Torcuil's Guide to Being a Gael: Canan (rpt)
- 19.30 Prosaig (rpt)
- 20.00 Machair (rpt)
- 20.25 Fraochy Bay (rpt)
- 20.30 Vets: Gach Creutair Beo (rpt)

- 21.00 Seirm S5 (rpt)
- 22.00 Buffalo Bill (rpt)
- 22.55 Eadar Chluich (rpt)
- 23.00 Cuirm@Celtic - Moving Hearts (rpt)
- 00.00 Belladrum - Cridhe Tartan (Highlights) (rpt)

DIDÒMHNAICH 23 AN T-ÒGMHIOS / SUNDAY 23rd JUNE

- 16.00 Programan Chloinne
Children's Programming
- 18.15 An La - News
- 18.30 Seachd La - News Review
- 19.30 Alleluia! (rpt)
- 20.00 Leugh Mi (rpt)
- 20.30 An t-Eilean/From Skye with Love (rpt)
- 21.00 *San Fhuil/It's In The Blood (rpt)
- 22.00 Seirm S5 (rpt)
- 23.00 Black Lake (rpt)
- 23.45 Belladrum - Cridhe Tartan - Alabama 3 (rpt)

DILUAIN AN 25 AN T-ÒGMHIOS / MONDAY 25th JUNE

- 17.00 Prògraman Chloinne
Children's programming
- 19.00 Na Ceiltich/ Celtic History (rpt)
- 19.25 Earrann Eachdraidh (rpt)
- 19.30 Beul Chainnt (rpt)
- 20.00 An La - News
- 20.30 *NEW* Dreach Ur S2
- 21.00 Trusadh - An Turas Chun ear: Manus's Daibhidh (The Trio East: Magnus & Daibhidh) (rpt)
- 22.00 Ceolmhor@PipingLive! S5 (rpt)
- 22.30 DIY le Donnie (rpt)
- 23.15 Belladrum - Cridhe Tartan (Highlights) (rpt)
- 23.30 Air an Rathad (rpt)

DIMAIRT 26 AN T-ÒGMHIOS / TUESDAY 26th JUNE

- 17.00 Prògraman Chloinne
Children's programming

- 19.00 An Ataireachd Bhuan (rpt)
- 19.30 Beul Chainnt (rpt)
- 20.00 An La - News
- 20.30 Vets: Gach Creutair Beò
- 21.00 *San Fhuil/ It's In The Blood (rpt)
- 22.00 Trusadh - An Turas Chun Ear: Manus's Daibhidh (The Trip East: Magnus & Daibhidh) (rpt)
- 23.00 Horo Gheallaidh/ Celtic Music Sessions (rpt)
- 23.30 Alleluia (rpt)

DICIADAIN 27 AN T-ÒGMHIOS / WEDNESDAY 27th JUNE

- 17.00 Prògraman Chloinne
Children's programming
- 19.00 Na Ceiltich/ Celtic History (rpt)
- 19.25 Earrann Eachdraidh (rpt)
- 19.30 Beul Chainnt (rpt)
- 20.00 An La - News
- 20.30 Turas a' Bhradain (rpt)
- 21.00 DIY le Donnie (rpt)
- 21.45 Belladrum 2016: Cridhe Tartan - Gruff Rhys (rpt)
- 22.00 Fonn Fonn Fonn (rpt)
- 22.30 Ceolmhor@PipingLive! S5 (rpt)
- 23.00 The Megantic Outlaw (rpt)

DIARDAOIN 28 AN T-ÒGMHIOS / THURSDAY 28th JUNE

- 17.00 Prògraman Chloinne
Children's programming
- 19.00 An Ataireachd Bhuan (rpt)
- 19.30 Beul Chainnt (rpt)
- 20.00 An La - News
- 20.30 Leugh Mi (rpt)
- 21.00 Togail Sgeoil (rpt)
- 22.00 Air an Rathad (rpt)
- 22.30 *NEW* Annie Oakley
- 23.25 Eadar Chluich (rpt)
- 23.30 Fonn Fonn Fonn (rpt)



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Left to right are Ross Miller, Joy Dunlop and Jeri Foreman, who will lead the workshops this week

First Fraser Shaw Fèis launches this week

The first Fraser Shaw Fèis will take place in Islay High School, Bowmore, on Saturday and Sunday, June 22 and 23, with tutors Joy Dunlop, Ross Miller and Jeri Foreman.

The weekend will be open to music learners of all ages. Joy Dunlop, an award-winning Gaelic singer and

step dancer from Connel, will be leading Gaelic song workshops.

Jeri Foreman, from Adelaide, Australia, will be teaching fiddle. Jeri plays a wide array of music genres, including Scottish and Irish traditional music, classical, bluegrass and old time music. Ross Miller hails from

Linlithgow, West Lothian, where he is the official town piper.

He studied bagpipes, Scots song and whistle at the Royal Conservatoire of Scotland and was a finalist in the 2019 BBC Radio Scotland Young Traditional Musician of the Year competition.

Children's classes will take

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Glasgow Letter

ROBERT ROBERTSON

robert.d.robertson@hotmail.co.uk



Weekend in Bowmore.

is weekend

place on Saturday starting at 11am. Adults' classes will be on Sunday from 10am.

There will also be a concert at Laphroaig Distillery on Saturday at 7pm, showcasing local talent, as well as performances from the tutors.

Email info@frasershaw-trust.com for more details or to book a spot.

GGs successful fundraising

The GGs have seldom been out of the Glasgow Letter in recent weeks. Last weekend, the choir performed at the Kibble Palace as part of the West End Festival.

Soloists were Gordon McKeeve, Mairi Maclean, Fergus Thomson, Ruairaidh MacIntyre, Evan Matyas and D-I Brown.

A collection was held on the evening to raise money for CLIC Sargent. The choir is in action again this Thursday evening – hosting an informal cèilidh in the Park Bar. All are welcome along for some songs, tunes, and craic.

Care for a Cèilidh continues

The great work of Care for a Cèilidh (Donald MacLeod's scheme for providing traditional Highland cèilidhs for residents of care homes) continues apace. Last week,



Donnie took some singers to Renfrewshire and visited Quarriers Village for the first time.

I hear the performers all got lost on their way there but, once they got going, the residents were on great form. They loved the singing from Norman Mackinnon, the fiddle tunes from Shona Masson, and the piping from Ali Levack.

The impromptu whistle/fiddle duet from Ali and Shona was particularly well

received. It is great to hear Donnie now spends most of his time working on the Isle of Man.

Gaelic Letter competition

Glasgow Life, together with the Gaelic Books Council, has launched Letter to Glasgow: a brand new competition which encourages Gaelic supporters across

Ali Levack, Shona Masson, and Norman MacKinnon perform together at a Care for a Cèilidh in Renfrewshire last week.

Glasgow to pick up their pens and write a letter to their city – one which looks at Gaelic Glasgow, or Glasgow from a Gael's perspective.

The winning entry will not only net £250 prize money for its author, it will also be read live by a professional actor at a special performance during Mòd Ghlaschu 2019 and filmed for online publication. Letter to Glasgow also has an under-18s category, with a £100 prize for the winning entry.

Glasgow Life's Gaelic Arts producer, Rona MacDonald, said: 'Letter to Glasgow is an opportunity for people around the city to explore Gaelic culture – and to contribute to it as well.'

'Tell us what you think about the city, from a Gaelic perspective. The letter can be in any form – a thank you

letter, a breaking-up letter, a poem, a rap, a letter of complaint – or even a love letter! We want to see your creativity – and would love to read entries from people who have never written anything like this before.

'While Gaelic language submissions are especially encouraged, all entries are welcome. Whether you speak, learn or even just support the Gaelic language, this is for you. And if your letter is in English, or partly in English, we will translate it into Gaelic if it is picked as the winner.'

Submissions should be sent to Glasgow Life by 10 July. The winning letter, chosen anonymously by a specially selected panel, will be publicly announced on July 28, at The Merchant City Festival.

Full details can be found at glasgowlife.org.uk/gaelicarts

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Tees White	Pairings By score, with low scores teeing off last
Pairings 3-Ball	
Handicap Max 18	

The Ladies Campbeltown Open will take place on Saturday and the Juniors Drive, Chip & Putt Competition on Sunday. Enjoy entertainment, prizes, and luxurious accommodation packages!

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EMAIL CAMPBELTOWNOPEN@MACHDUNES.COM

WHAT'S ON



In partnership with Oban Town Diary BID4oban.co.uk

THURSDAY 20TH JUNE

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

Oban Health Walks
Oban Congregational Church
10am-12pm

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

Entertainment @ Markie Dans
FREE JUKEBOX EVERY THURSDAY
FRIDAY 21ST JUNE

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

Exploring the 12th Century
Glenmasan Manuscript
Studio Theatre, Corran Halls, 5pm

Benderloch & North Connel Drama
Club - Double Acts
Kilmelford Village Hall, 7.30pm

Entertainment @ Markie Dans
Jono, Open till 2am

SATURDAY 22ND JUNE

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

The Glenmasan Manuscript
Concerto
St John's Cathedral, 2.30pm

Benderloch & North Connel Drama
Club - Double Acts
Victory Hall, Benderloch, 7.30pm

Music & Entertainment @ Markie
Dans
Tartan Paint, Open till 2am

SUNDAY 23RD JUNE

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

Les Trois Blondes
St Conan's Kirk, 3.30pm

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

MONDAY 24TH JUNE

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

Kundalini Yoga with Dirk
The Rockfield Centre, 6pm

TUESDAY 25TH JUNE
8 Week Mindfulness Course
The Rockfield Centre, 12-12:30pm

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

WEDNESDAY 26TH JUNE
Beach Clean
Slip opposite Stafford Street
10:30am-12pm

Slimming World
Glenruitten 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**

WHAT'S ON AT

OBAN PHOENIX CINEMA



MONDAY 24TH JUNE
12:00/16:00/18:15
16:30
19:15
20:30
TOY STORY 4 | U
ALADDIN | PG
ROCKETMAN | 15
JOHN WICK 3 | 15

TUESDAY 25TH JUNE
12:00/16:00 ★/18:15
16:30
19:15
20:30
TOY STORY 4 | U
ALADDIN | PG
JOHN WICK 3 | 15
ROCKETMAN | 15

WEDNESDAY 26TH JUNE
12:00 ★/16:00/18:15
16:30
19:15
TOY STORY 4 | U
ALADDIN | PG
ROCKETMAN | 15

THURSDAY 27TH JUNE
12:00/16:30/19:00
12:30 ★
16:15
19:00
TOY STORY 4 | U
TOLKIEN | 12A
ALADDIN | PG
NT LIVE: SMALL ISLAND | 15

FRIDAY 21ST JUNE
12:30/16:00/18:15
16:30
19:15
20:30
TOY STORY 4 | U
ALADDIN | PG
JOHN WICK 3 | 15
ROCKETMAN | 15

SATURDAY 22ND JUNE
11:30 ★ POKÉMON: DETECTIVE PIKACHU | PG
12:30/15:00/17:30 TOY STORY 4 | U
15:45 THE SECRET LIFE OF PETS 2 | U
17:45 ALADDIN | PG
20:00 ROCKETMAN | 15
20:30 JOHN WICK 3 | 15

SUNDAY 23RD JUNE
11:45 POKÉMON: DETECTIVE PIKACHU | PG
12:00/14:30/17:00 TOY STORY 4 | U
14:00 THE SECRET LIFE OF PETS 2 | PG
18:15 ALADDIN | PG
19:30 JOHN WICK 3 | 15

KIDS CLUB: ★
RELAXED SCREENING: ★
SUBTITLED FOR THE HARD OF HEARING: ★
SILVER SCREEN: ★



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LOCHABER TIMES & OBAN TIMES

Killin festival smash



In keeping with tradition, Doune Pipe Band led the march across the bridge.

OFFERS & competitions

WIN

ONE OF SIX FAMILY PASSES TO GALLOWAY COUNTRY FAIR 2019



Galloway Country Fair returns to the picturesque Drumlanrig Castle and Country Estate in the heart of Dumfries and Galloway on Saturday 17 and Sunday 18 August 2019.

An impressive array of acts will take to the main ring, with quad bike stunt man Paul Hannam secured as the headline act. Attendees on both days will see him in his element, performing breathtaking tricks and jumps as well as precision riding.

There are lots of fair favourites on the line-up – from the comical and educational sheep show and horse whisperer Grant Basin, to Buccleuch's very own David Lisett and Lee Harts conducting the gun dog display. Other activities across the weekend include Elite Falconry displays, Borderlines fishing demos, Stars Dog Agility and Terrier Racing as well as a free kids' activity zone from Team Challenge and countless craft, food and drink trade stalls.

If you'd like a chance to win this amazing prize, answer the following question.
Who is headlining the main ring at Galloway Country Fair 2019?

A family pass entitles one family of four (two adults and two children) entry to the Fair on either 17 or 18 August. Six winners will each receive a family pass worth £32 redeemable on either day of the event.

WIN

A TWO NIGHT BREAK FOR FOUR PEOPLE IN NORTH BERWICK WITH A CATAMARAN CRUISE AND ENTRY TO THE SCOTTISH SEABIRD CENTRE



Enjoy great days out at the seaside with the five-star Scottish Seabird Centre in North Berwick. Control interactive live cameras, experience 3D films, book a seasonal guided boat trip and enjoy lunch with a view in the newly refurbished café.

Over the summer, the islands in the Firth of Forth are home to internationally important breeding colonies of seabirds including puffins, guillemots, razorbills, terns and eiders. Marvel at the 150,000 thousand gannets on the Bass Rock, the world's largest colony of Northern gannets, and speak to their expert staff about the seasonal wildlife on the surrounding islands.

This fabulous prize for four people includes entry to the Scottish Seabird Centre, a Catamaran Cruise around the Bass Rock and Craigleith and two nights stay at Gillsland Park, in a luxury two bedroom holiday home with decking and fantastic views.

If you'd like a chance to win this amazing prize, answer the following question.
How many gannets can be seen on the Bass Rock each year?

Prize must be taken between 01 and 30 September 2019. Bookings must be made in advance and are subject to availability. Scottish Seabird Centre boat trips are subject to suitable weather conditions. See www.seabird.org for full boat trips terms and conditions.

Entrants must be 18 or over. Employees of Scottish Field, the competition promoters, and their direct families are ineligible to enter. No purchase necessary. No cash alternative or alternative prize is available. The winner will be informed by telephone. Usual Scottish Field rules apply. We will protect your personal data. We only gather what we need for the requirements of this competition – your name, address, telephone number and email address. If you wish to receive news and offers from the third party running the competition, then please mark the words "OPT IN" on your postcard entry. If you enter various competitions on one card, you will be opting in for every competition running. Unless you opt in to receive further marketing information, we will only contact you if you win a prize in the competition. Scottish Field (Wyvex Media) will retain your information for a maximum of 3 months after the competition closes and then it will be deleted. If you have opted in to receive third party information, the data you have supplied will be passed to the third party company running the competition. This may be used for the purposes of the third party contacting you regarding new products and services for a period of 3 months, unless you agree to an extension with the third party company at a later date.

To enter, send separate entries (in the same envelope) with your name, address, telephone number and email address to **Scottish Field Competitions, Fettes Park, 496 Ferry Road, Edinburgh EH5 2DL** or enter at www.scottishfield.co.uk. Closing date, unless otherwise stated, is **31 July 2019**. **Winners drawn from all competitions also enter a prize to win a bottle of Whitetail Gin.**

mes best of beat and vibe



Killin Community Choir has received funding for a project that will see a new piece of music commissioned.



The tin church.



Torriford get the crowd rocking.



Festival-goers had a fantastic time.

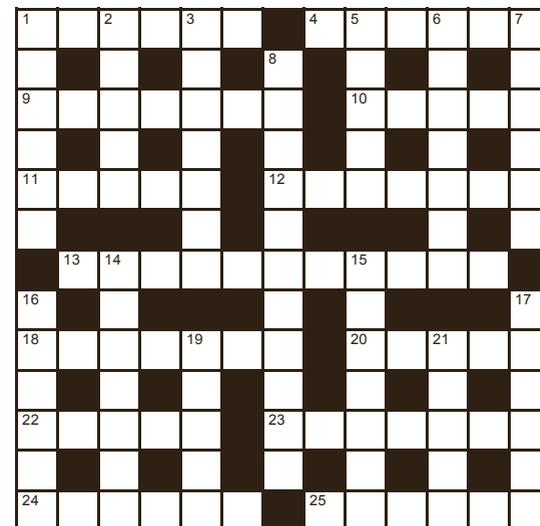
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MONDAY: 08.00 am on Fm, 08.10 breakfast show, 9.00 Monday morning with Stephen, 11.00 Ian Simmonds Monday Mix, 17.00 Drivetime, 19.00 Rosie's Highland fling with Rosie MacColl, 20.00 John McLuckie's show, 21.00 David Cullen show, 23.00 Through the 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.

Crossword



Across

- 1 Ahead (6)
- 4 Of level standing (6)
- 9 Hang out when wet (4-3)
- 10 Holder for a diamond (5)
- 11 Civilian clothes (5)
- 12 Passionate (7)
- 13 Not a believer in God (11)
- 18 Proportionately (3,4)
- 20 Discourage (5)
- 22 Cast out (5)
- 23 Wild (7)
- 24 Guiding to a destination (6)
- 25 Electric generator (6)

LAST WEEK'S SOLUTION



Down

- 1 Swell due to excess fluid (6)
- 2 Smell (5)
- 3 Blushing (7)
- 5 Prohibited (5)
- 6 Rocket launcher (7)
- 7 Sign up (6)
- 8 Energetic (11)
- 14 Element used in alloy steels (7)
- 15 Channel for a current (7)
- 16 Oration (6)
- 17 Quickly (6)
- 19 Had home cooking (3,2)
- 21 Eighth Greek letter (5)

COMMUNITY NOTICEBOARD

Les TROIS BLONDES!

Parisian Accordion
Café Music
St Conan's Kirk,
Lochawe
Sun 23rd June, 3.30pm
£10 (£8 Friends) on door
Under 16s free
Cream Teas

DIE CAST MODEL SHOW

Air Training Corps 252 (OHS) Sqn
**Saturday 29th
& Sunday 30th June**
The Cadet Centre
(old Red Cross centre)
10am - 4pm
Entry Adults £2
Concession/ Child £1
Family ticket £5
Tombola

GREEN SHOOTS OPEN GARDEN DAY

Glencruitten
Walled Garden
**Saturday 22nd June
11am-3pm**
Free Entry but donations welcome
towards activities, plants and produce.
**For more information
contact Catriona Petit.
07775995650**

SCOTLAND'S GARDENS GARDENS OPEN FOR CHARITY

Openings for Marys Meals, Hope Kitchen & Argyll Animal Aid

Dal An Eas, Kilmore, Oban PA34 4XU
Sat & Sun 29th & 30th June 1-6pm

Just 15 minutes from Oban, find a welcoming informal country garden. It aims to increase the biodiversity of native plants and insects. Enjoy the interest, colour and texture provided by trees, shrubs and naturalised perennials. There is a beautiful pond, burn and pool, wildflower meadow with native orchids and vegetable plot. Walk along grassy paths that lead to a magnificent waterfall, views and ancient archaeological sites. Delicious home-made teas and unusual plants for sale. £4.00 in aid of Marys Meals and Kilmore & Kilbride Village Hall. Children free. Dogs on leads.

Maolachys Garden, Dalavich PA35 1HJ
Sat & Sun 29th & 30th June 2-5pm

4 miles from Kilmelford, come to wander along secret paths which wind through magical woodland of native trees and monkey puzzle. Enjoy three bridges which span a tumbling burn and seats to absorb the vista of the glen. Vivid primulas, poppies and summer flowers. Wild flowers, productive veg patch and polytunnel. Plant Stall and scrumptious home-made teas. £4.00 in aid of Hope Kitchen. Children free. Ignore Satnav. Come via Kilmelford A816 and look out for the yellow signs.

Barochreal, Kilninver PA34 4UT

This charming garden has a variety of vibrantly coloured flowering shrubs. Also a rose garden, bee hives, a rockery with water feature, raised vegetable beds, waterfalls and burns. Walking tracks in the fields and to viewpoints.
Open by appointment, call 01852 316151 or email toni@themitchells.co.uk. £3.00 in aid of Argyll Animal Aid. Children free. Ignore Satnav. Drive down A816 towards Kilninver or by bus, use stop at Kilninver School and afterwards a short walk to Barochreal.

Visit www.scotlandsgardens.org for more info & directions.

Film buffs to dive deep into Wes Anderson

Here is an idea to reel in film obsessives.

This month and next (July), Screen Argyll is supporting venues across Argyll, the Highlands and islands to dive deeper into Wes Anderson films.

There are 22 events happening from Oban to Luing and Mull to Campbeltown, funded by BFI Major Programmes.

On Mull, Screen Argyll is screening in partnership with the Tobermory aquarium.

'Those of us who are obsessive about cinema know full well that the medium allows us to delve into our deepest desires and obsessions; the joy and community to be found in pursuing your passion, as well as the cautionary tales that obsessive behaviour can bring,' says Jen Skinner from Screen Argyll.

Films include Rushmore (15) (1998), Wes Anderson's

story of prep-school Max and middle-aged businessman Herman following their friendship, rivalry and affections for a first-grade teacher.

Others are The Life Aquatic With Steve Zissou (15) from

2004 and Fantastic Mr Fox (PG) made in 2009.

Isle of Dogs (PG) follows a boy's odyssey through Japan in search of his faithful hound.

Fantastic Mr Fox is on June

29 at Oban Phoenix Cinema, The Life Aquatic with Steve Zissou is on July 12 at Tobernochy Village Hall on Luing, with Rushmore being screened at the same venue on July 13. Isle of Dogs will be



Film Feels: Obsession has worked with illustrator Louise Lockhart, who has been commissioned to design artwork inspired by *The Life Aquatic*. The image, left, has been risograph printed by Risotto Studio in Glasgow.

showing at CineMorr 77 on July 13 as part of Tیره Music Festival, Fantastic Mr Fox will be at Tobernochy, Luing on July 14, while on the same day Oban Phoenix Cinema will be screening *The Life Aquatic* with Steve Zissou and it will also be shown at Tیره Music Festival.

Mull's An Tobar will be screening both Fantastic Mr Fox and *The Life Aquatic* on July 30.

To find out times and more about Film Feels: Obsession go to filmfeels.co.uk or screenargyll.co.uk/wesfest/



Oban's Kyle hits big time

Former Oban High School pupil Kyle Mckechnie, 22, is taking to the high seas in the biggest break of his career, as a singer on board Marella Celebration, part of the third largest cruise line in the UK.

The full on-board entertainment team, comprising 12 accomplished singers and dancers drawn from all over Europe will present an impressive itinerary of 11 West End-style shows over an 11-month tour of the Mediterranean and the Caribbean.

Kyle said: 'This is an amazing opportunity and I am especially looking forward to performing several solos, as well as travelling to so many new places in the world!'

To follow Kyle's journey on board Marella Celebration visit www.facebook.com/peeltalent or www.instagram.com/peeltalent.

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*At the end of the agreement there are three options: i) pay the optional final payment and own the vehicle; ii) return the vehicle: subject to excess mileage and fair wear and tear, charges may apply; or iii) replace: part exchange the vehicle. With Solutions Personal Contract Plan. 18s+. Subject to availability and status. T&Cs apply. Offer available when ordered by 1 July 2019 from participating retailers. Excludes SE Technology range. †FABIA MPI engines receive £2,500 deposit contribution and FABIA TSI engines receive £1,750. OCTAVIA £2,500 deposit contribution, KODIAQ £2,000 deposit contribution. Indemnities may be required. ^^Service plan covers first two consecutive services limited to 1 x Oil and 1 x Oil and Inspection service. FABIA E99 Service Plan, OCTAVIA and KODIAQ £159 Service Plan. Offers are not available in conjunction with any other offer and may be varied or withdrawn at any time. Accurate at April 2019. Freepost ŠKODA Financial Services.

Official fuel consumption WLTP for the ŠKODA range in mpg (litres/100km): Combined 58.9 (4.8) to 30.1 (9.4). NEDC equivalent CO₂ combined emissions for the ŠKODA range are 167 to 96 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 April 2019. 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.

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Model shown is Yaris Icon Tech Petrol 1.0 VVT-i Manual. Official fuel consumption figures in mpg (1/100km): combined 45.0 (6.3)–48.7 (5.8). Combined CO₂ 107 g/km. Figures are provided for comparability purposes; only compare fuel consumption and CO₂ figures with other cars tested to the same technical procedures. These figures may not reflect real life driving results. Fuel consumption and CO₂ produced varies significantly depending on a number of factors, including the accessories fitted (post-registration), driving style, conditions, speed and vehicle load. All models and grades are certified according to the World Harmonised Light Vehicle Test Procedure (WLTP), which replaces the New European Driving Cycle test procedure (NEDC). All CO₂ figures quoted are NEDC equivalent. This means the CO₂ figures are based on the new WLTP test procedure but calculated (using a standard European calculation method) to allow comparison with the NEDC test procedure and will be used to calculate vehicle tax on first registration. All mpg figures quoted are full WLTP figures. More information can be found by visiting: www.vehicle-certification-agency.gov.uk/fcb/wltp.asp

Model shown is Yaris Icon Tech Petrol 1.0 VVT-i Manual at £16,085 including optional Metallic paint at £515. Additional charges may apply on selected paint colours and finishes. Prices correct at time of being published. 5 year/100,000 mile manufacturer warranty. Terms and conditions apply. *0% APR Representative and £1,250 Finance Deposit Allowance only available on new retail orders of Yaris Conventional (excluding Active grade) between 1st April 2019 and 30th June 2019 and registered and financed through Toyota Financial Services by 30th September 2019 on a 42 month AccessToyota (PCP) plan with 0%-35% deposit. ^Payment shown is based on a 42 month AccessToyota (PCP) contract with £2,753.50 customer deposit and Guaranteed Future Value/Optional Final Payment. Toyota Financial Services is a trading name of Toyota Financial Services (UK) PLC; registered office Great Burgh, Burgh Heath, Epsom, Surrey, KT18 5UZ. Authorised and regulated by the Financial Conduct Authority. Indemnities may be required. Finance subject to status to over 18s. Other finance offers are available but cannot be used in conjunction with this offer. Offer may be varied or withdrawn at any time. 8,000 miles per annum, excess miles over contracted charged at 8p per mile. Toyota Centres are independent of Toyota Financial Services. Participating Toyota Centres. Affordable finance through AccessToyota (PCP). Terms and conditions apply.

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Isuzu UK has been appointed as the official automotive sponsor for the Tough Mudder obstacle course series throughout the UK for the remainder of 2019.

The partnership kicked off with Tough Mudder's high profile Scotland event at Drumlanrig Castle in Dumfriesshire on June 15-16. Isuzu UK Head of Marketing George Wallis said: 'We're really proud to be the official automotive partner with Tough Mudder. It clearly demonstrates the D-Max's position as the most tough and capable 4x4 pick-up on the market. Combining teamwork with fun and accessibility, Tough Mudder is a life-changing challenge which inspires people to be the best they can be. That's what the Isuzu D-Max is all about.'

The award-winning Isuzu D-Max will be found at all the Tough Mudder events this year, so look out for the limited edition Tough Mudder branded vehicles out on the courses.

The most popular obstacle course event series in the UK, Tough Mudder has had more than three million participants since it was founded in 2009 and now offers various obstacle-based challenges designed to inspire participants of all abilities and age ranges across the UK, Germany, North America and globally.

The Isuzu D-Max is the perfect fit for the popular challenge, which needs a tough and reliable pick-up.

The Arctic AT35 and Utah models in the range are ideally suited for the job of supporting hard-working organisers and the hardy participants who tackle obstacle courses that test mental and physical strength.

The Isuzu D-Max has a 3.5-tonne towing capacity, over one tonne payload and provides a quiet, economical driving experience.

The breadth of the Isuzu D-Max range also impresses; with single, extended and double-cab formats available, as well as a wide choice of trim levels.

As per previous D-Max models, shift-on-the-fly 4x4 is a key feature of all 4x4 Isuzu D-Max pick-ups. The rotary dial allows the driver to select four-wheel drive as well as low range gears. Hill descent control and hill start assist are fitted across the 4x4 range.

Coupled with the attractive five-year/125,000-mile warranty package and five years' roadside assistance (in the UK and Europe), the D-Max is built for the rural professionals who use it.

The Isuzu D-Max has already had a successful 2019, picking up five awards. It was crowned Pick-Up of The Year at the 2019

WhatVan? Awards and in the Pick-up and 4x4 Pro Awards 2019; won best model in the 4x4 Magazine awards and Best Working Pick-up

in the Professional Pickup and 4x4 awards; while also collecting Best Workhorse Pick-up Award from Trade Van Driver.



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Scottish property market worth £18.2 billion

Three key figures for 2018-19:

£178,991,

the average price of a residential property in Scotland;

101,628,

the volume of residential property sales in Scotland;

£18.2 billion,

the value of residential property sales in Scotland

The latest statistics from Registers of Scotland's Property Market Report 2018-19 show that the value of residential property sales in the financial year 2018-19 was £18.2 billion, an increase of 1.6 per cent when compared with 2017-18.

The residential sales market has increased by 67 per cent since 2009-10 and reached an 11-year-high in 2018-19, but remains 21 per cent below the pre-financial crisis level in 2007-08 (£23.1 billion).

The Property Market Report is the main statistical compendium publication from Registers of Scotland. It details the major trends in the Scottish land and property market since 2003-04, includes residential and non-residential markets as well as key statistics

on house prices and sale transactions.

The average price of a residential property in Scotland in 2018-19 was £178,991, up 2.2 per cent on 2017-18 and 16 per cent when compared with the pre-financial crash average price of £154,817 in 2007-08. Since 2003-04, the start of RoS house price data, the average residential property price in Scotland has increased by 77 per cent.

The volume of residential property sales in Scotland has risen by 44 per cent since the recent low in 2011-12 to 101,628 sales in 2018-19. The sales volume remains 32 per cent below the pre-financial crisis level peak of 150,455 sales in 2006-07. In the past year, sales have fallen slightly by 0.5 per cent.

The report also looks at the non-residential market. The total market value of all types of non-residential sales in 2018-19 was £4.0 billion. Commercial sales accounted for 81 per cent with the remainder from sales of forestry, agriculture and land.

Accountable Officer Janet Egdeall said: 'The Scottish property market is a significant component of the Scottish economy.'

'In 2018-19, the total value of residential sales continued to rise, largely due to average prices continuing to increase while the volume of sales has levelled off in recent years.'

Further findings from the report include:

- 12 per cent of residential property sales in Scotland in 2018-19 were new-builds, the highest proportion since 2008-09.
- 28 per cent of all residential properties sold in Scotland in 2018-19 were located within one of Scotland's seven cities with most sales in Glasgow.



TO LET

Mid Argyll To Let
Unfurnished three bed roomed cottage, newly carpeted and decorated. It has central heating throughout. £475 PCM + COUNCIL TAX. References Essential. Apply in writing to Box No. 36 c/o The Oban Times, Crannog Lane, Oban, Argyll PA34 4HB

- 69 per cent of residential sales transactions in 2018-19 were with a mortgage, with cash sales accounting for the balance.
- There were 181 residential property sales for more than £1 million in 2018-19, two-thirds of which were in the City of Edinburgh (119 sales).

Further information on trends in cash and mortgage-financed sales volumes, the market within Scotland's seven cities and local authorities, sales of properties within new-build developments and trends by house type can be found in the report and accompanying data tables.

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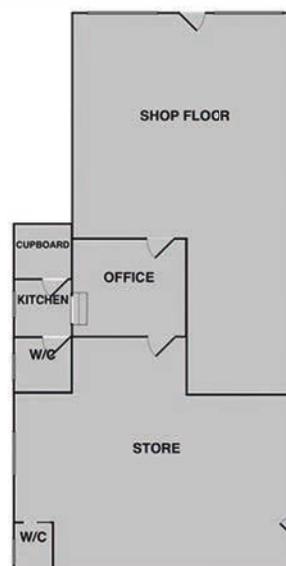
We are delighted to bring this large commercial unit, in a prime location in central Lochgilphead, to the market. Currently the locally well known "Burgh Electrics" shop, this property has huge potential for multiple uses.

The property consists a large shop floor, office, staff kitchen, w/c, large store to the rear along with the courtyard to the front of the property.

Commercial Report Available

OFFERS OVER: £130,000

EPC Rating: F99



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Full time Chef – Glensanda

We currently have a vacancy for an experienced full time Chef based on-site in our Glensanda Quarry accommodation. Working in a close knit team on a week on, week off basis you will be responsible for providing healthy, nutritious meals for up to 80 residents, ordering supplies, and running a modern well equipped kitchen.

A competitive salary is offered with attractive pension and other benefits included, and accommodation is provided on site while on shift.

For further information contact ian.henry@aggregate.com

Applications should be submitted with CV and covering letter by 30th June 2019

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Previous experience would be preferred however training will be given to candidates who can demonstrate the necessary skills and aptitudes.

The successful candidate would be required to commence at the earliest opportunity.

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Farming Support Manager

South Shian (Near Oban) although willing to discuss alternatives for the right candidate.

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We are currently recruiting for a position to support our northern sites in our Mainland Marine region based from South Shian, although we would be willing to discuss alternatives for the right candidate.

The role is designed to provide 1:1 routine mentoring of marine farm managers. Through this function farm managers have access to rapid, informed and influential decision making. They have an experienced practical support to share feedback, promote innovative action and improve planning.

Farming Support staff do not dilute the marine farm manager's responsibility rather they create the opportunity for accountability and stimulate progress. These roles are without parallel in the industry and align with SSF's commitment to coaching our farm managers to express their full potential and maximize their positive impact on the business. Candidates must demonstrate an understanding and track record of excellence in all aspects of Site Management.

To be considered you must ideally already be a highly respected Manager within the aquaculture industry, and be able to demonstrate your commitment in developing a strong safety culture. You will be open, honest and communicate with ease at all levels. Your ability to plan ahead will be matched by close attention to detail. This role forms part of the Regional Production team and will be expected to add value to all aspects of the Mainland business.

In return Scottish Sea Farms will offer, a competitive package, weekend payments, discretionary company bonus, a company car and an attractive relocation package.

We are an equal opportunities employer and we welcome applications from all suitably qualified persons.

To find out more please or to apply please contact Tracy Bryant-Shaw on 07776765575 and/or e-mail tracy.bryant-shaw@scottishseafarms.com

Closing date: Friday 28th June 2019

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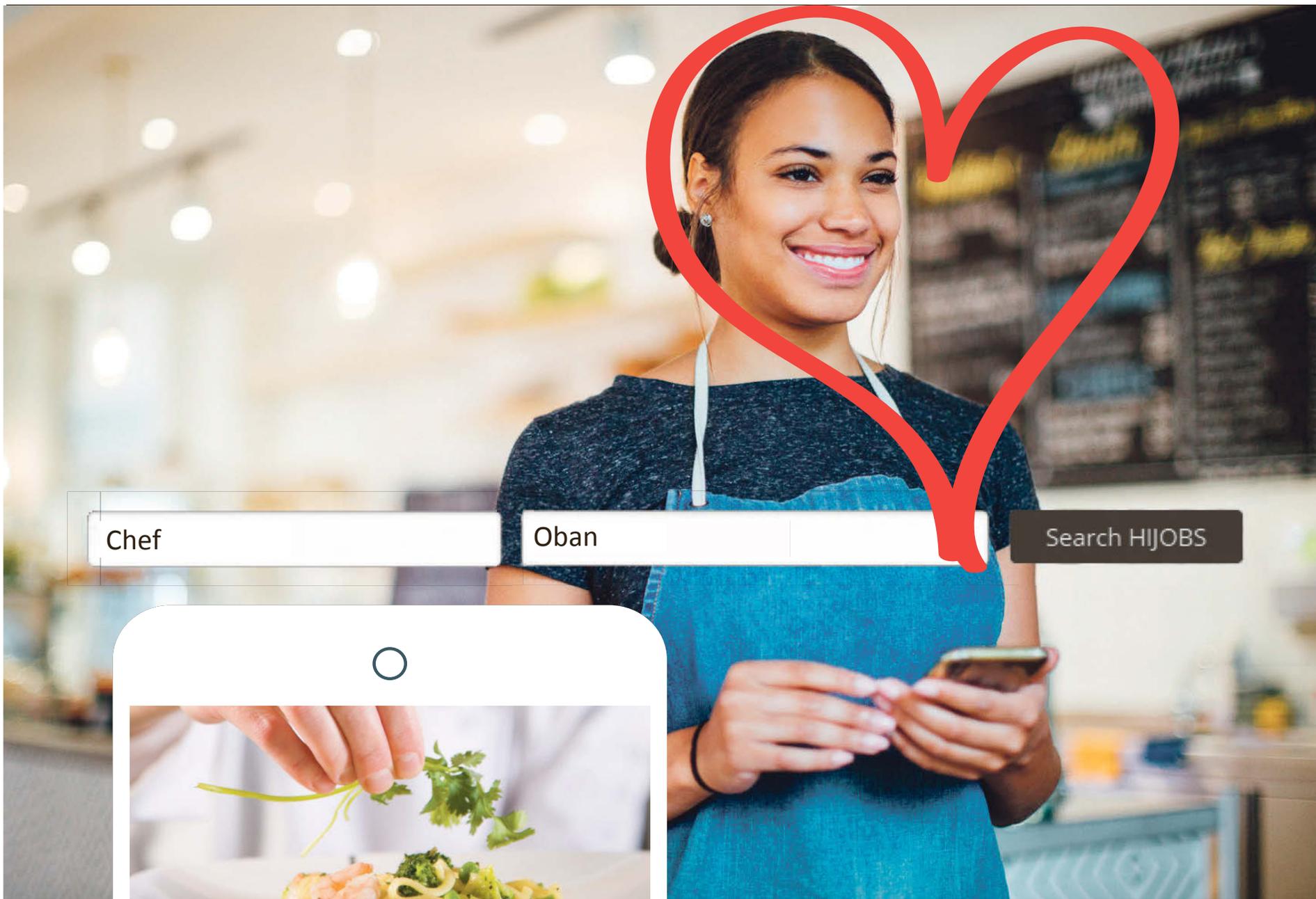
The ideal candidate would have experience operating timber cranes, loading and unloading other vehicles and using their own initiative whilst being able to work as part of a team.

For more information or to apply please call Ian on 07917 792 607 or email ian@d-jcampbell.co.uk

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**TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING (SCOTLAND) ACT 1997
PLANNING (LISTED BUILDING AND CONSERVATION AREAS) (SCOTLAND) ACT 1997**

The applications listed below, along with plans and other documents submitted with them, may be examined 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
19/01893/LBC	Laudale House Ardgour Fort William	Erection of extension to outbuildings to form staff accommodation
19/01992/FUL	Oak Cottage Onich Fort William	Siting of mobile lodge and installation of septic tank and soakaway
19/02579/FUL	Land 320M NE Of Branault House Achateny, Acharacle	Installation of 17.5m high (18.8m to antennae tips) telecommunications mast with associated equipment.
19/02529/PIP	Land At Ceann Traigh Breige 2 Ardery, Strontian	Erection of house
19/02511/FUL	Allanbreck Lettermore Ballachulish	Demolition of existing double garage and siting of 2 pods for holiday letting purposes

Time period for comments is 14 days & 21 days for 19/01893
ePlanning Centre, The Highland Council, Glenurquhart Road, INVERNESS IV3 5NX
Email: eplanning@highland.gov.uk

First Registration of a Croft

Susan MacDonald has registered their croft 7 Bohuntin, Kilmonivaig on the Crofting Register held by the Registers of Scotland.

Any person who wishes to challenge the registration must apply to the Scottish Land Court by 29th February 2020.

Details of the registration can be found at www.crofts.ros.gov.uk/register/home. The croft number is C6031

Proposed Division of a Tenanted Croft

Mr Duncan MacDougall is applying to divide the tenancy of the croft at Sgreadan, Isle of Colonsay, Argyll into two new crofts.

Written comments from those with a relevant interest (which may be made public) to:

Crofting Commission, Leachkin Road, Inverness IV3 8NW, info@crofting.gov.scot within 28 days from the date of this advert.

**CROFTING COMMISSION
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A Macinnes
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Reason – Garden Ground Condition – No conditions

Full details at www.crofting.scotland.gov.uk

First Registration of a Croft

Dugald Cameron has registered their croft 2 Treslaig, Ardgour 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 6th March 2020.

Details of the registration can be found at www.crofts.ros.gov.uk/register/home. The croft registration number is C6035.

First Registration of a Croft.

Alan MacCorquodale has registered their croft Port Ramsay, Lismore and Appin, 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 22nd February 2020. Details of the registration can be found at www.crofts.ros.gov.uk/register/home. The croft registration number is C6030.

First Registration of a Croft

Susan MacDonald has registered their croft 7a Bohuntin, Kilmonivaig 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 22nd February 2020. Details of the registration can be found at www.crofts.ros.gov.uk/register/home. The croft registration number is C5993

**Argyll and Bute Council
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 Lochgilphead 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
19/01167/PPP	Renewal of planning permission in principle reference 16/01508/PPP (Site for erection of dwellinghouse)	6 Heylipol, Isle Of Tiree, Argyll And Bute, PA77 6TY
19/01174/PP	Change of use of land to form aggregate sales, display and stocking area including siting of sales cabin and associated parking area	Rhugarbh Depot, Barcaldine, Oban, Argyll And Bute, PA37 1SE
19/01186/LIB	Internal alterations to facilitate new lift and consulting rooms, external works to include re-decoration of shop front and display of replacement signage and installation of air conditioning unit	70 George Street, Oban, Argyll And Bute, PA34 5NN
19/01117/PPP	Site for the erection of dwellinghouse	Land North East Of Beech Hill View (Plot A), Port Appin, Argyll And Bute, PA38 4DE
19/01100/PPP	Site for the erection of dwellinghouse and outbuilding	Lot 2 Kilchrenan Woodlands, Land North East Of Lower Achachenna, Kilchrenan, Argyll And Bute
19/01161/PP	Erection of dwellinghouse, installation of bio-disc sewage treatment plant and formation of vehicular access	Land North East Of Aspen, Arinagour, Isle Of Coll, Argyll And Bute
19/01118/PPP	Site for the erection of dwellinghouse	Land North East Of Beech Hill View (Plot B), Port Appin, Argyll And Bute, PA38 4DE
19/01101/PP	Installation of scour protection measures to banks and bed of Water of Tulla to protect rail bridge abutments from scour damage	Bridge Over Water Of Tulla, North East Of Bridge Of Orchy, Argyll And Bute
19/01124/PP	Erection of dwellinghouse and formation of vehicular access	Land East Of Tigh Na Mara, Arinagour, Isle Of Coll, Argyll And Bute
19/00925/LIB	Downtakings and modifications of buildings at the Port Ellen Maltings and incorporation into a new distillery facility.	Port Ellen Maltings, Port Ellen, Isle Of Islay, Argyll And Bute, PA42 7AJ
19/00917/PP	Erection of a new distillery at the Diageo Port Ellen Maltings site, including provision of new process and guest experience buildings, modification and downtakings of existing buildings, new site infrastructure and hardstandings, external tankfarm, boilerhouse, water treatment plant and SUD's	Port Ellen Maltings, Port Ellen, Isle Of Islay, Argyll And Bute, PA42 7AJ

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




PUBLIC DROP-IN SESSION

LOCHALINE ALIGNING STRUCTURE REPLACEMENT – LOCHALINE FERRY TERMINAL

Caledonian Maritime Assets Limited (CMAL) will be carrying out work at Lochaline Ferry Terminal to replace the aligning structure, as well as creating extra marshalling space.

A public drop-in session has been arranged to share details of the work and alternative service arrangements during a planned six-week closure period.

Lochaline Village Hall
Wednesday 26th June
3.30pm – 6.30pm

Individuals are welcome to drop in at any time during the session.

Representatives of Caledonian Maritime Assets Limited (CMAL), ferry operator CalMac Ferries Limited (CFL), project manager/engineer Royal Haskoning DHV and the appointed contractor, George Leslie Limited will be available to discuss details of the work, which began in April 2019, with a six-week closure period of 22nd October to 1st December 2019, and the replacement ferry service provision during this period.

www.calmac.co.uk operations@cmassets.co.uk

Oban Times PUBLIC NOTICES



**New Café/Multi-Use Space Facilities
BUILDING WORKS**

MALLAIG POOL & LEISURE will shortly issue tenders for the construction of a new café/multi-use space and modified reception area at Mallaig Pool. This proposed building extension has a floor area of 38.5 sq m and will be situated between the main building & the all-weather pitch on the southerly side. The works are due to start in September/October 2019 for completion by February 2020.

Expressions of interest are invited from reputable experienced contractors wishing to be included in the tender list. This communication should include some information about relevant recent experience, capabilities and resources which could be applied to the Mallaig Pool project.

Expressions of interest must be received by noon on 5th July 2019. Mallaig Pool & Leisure's decision as to the applicants included in the tender list shall be final.

Expressions of interest should be sent in writing to:
Brian O'Rourke, General Manager, Mallaig Pool & Leisure, Fank Brae, Mallaig, PH41 4RG or via email: brianorourke.mdsp@btconnect.com

This building project is grant funded by, and with thanks to, LEADER & HIE.





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BIRTHS

CACACE - Veronica "nee Cumming" and Dario are delighted to announce the birth of their beautiful daughter Daria Stephanie Iliia at the Queen Elizabeth Hospital, Glasgow on May 22, 2019, a wee sister for Lucca.

DEATHS

BEAMISH - Julie, passed away peacefully at home in Kilchrenan, Argyll, on Thursday June 13, 2019. Immensely loved and missed by her husband Jamie, son Tom, grandchildren Teddy and Felix and brothers Stephen, Barry and Andy. The family would like to express its deepest thanks to the district nursing staff of Connel and Taynuilt, Macmillan cancer support, the Beatson Hospital and Glasgow Royal Infirmary who all cared so well for Julie during her illness. Funeral service will take place on Wednesday June 26 at 1.00 pm, at Kilchrenan Church. Family flowers only please but donations gratefully received for Beatson cancer charity.

GRANT - Anne. Peacefully at Rannoch Lodge Nursing Home, on Thursday June 13, 2019. Anne, formerly of Kilchrenan, beloved wife of the late Sandy and much loved sister and aunt. Funeral service to take place at Daldowie Crematorium, Broomhouse, on Thursday June 20, at 12 noon. Family flowers only please.

THOMSON - (Inverness). Peacefully at home on Friday June 14, 2019, in the loving care of his family, Kenneth (Ken), aged 65 years, past president of the Camanachd Association and former director of Inverness Caledonian Thistle F.C. Beloved husband of Tan, proud and devoted dad to Aoom and Arm, dear brother of David, brother-in-law to Chris Ann and a friend to many, will be sorely missed. Funeral service on Tuesday June 25, at 12 noon in the Funeral Home of William T Fraser and Son, Culduthel Road, Inverness, thereafter

to Kilvean Cemetery. All respectfully invited. Family flowers only please. Donations if desired for Macmillan Nurses, Marie Curie and the Camanachd Association can be given at the service or forwarded to the Funeral Directors.

WATSON - Margaret (Formerly of North Connel, Argyll). Peacefully at Orchard House Care Home on 15 June 2019, surrounded by her loving family, aged 84 years. Retired devoted teacher to many and a beloved and cherished aunt to all the family. For Funeral Service details please contact Ian Brown Funeral Directors on 01555-870287.

WHITE - (Portmahomack) - Peacefully in the County Hospital, Invergordon on June 12, 2019, aged 86 years, Ronald "Ronnie" White, 7 Knock Shortie Road, Portmahomack formerly of Rownhams (Hampshire, Taynuilt and Dornoch), beloved husband of Jean, much loved dad of Simon, Samantha and Vanessa, dear granddad and great granddad and loved by all the extended family and friends. Funeral service was held in Inverness Crematorium on Wednesday June 19. All enquiries to Alasdair Rhind, Funeral Directors, Sutherland House, Bank Street, Tain.

MEMORIAL SERVICE

MARRION - Mr Paul Marrion of Benderloch, near Oban, passed away peacefully, on Sunday June 9, 2019. A Memorial Service to be held at St. Modan's Church, Benderloch, near Oban PA37 1QP, at 1.00 pm on Saturday July 6, 2019, to which all friends are respectfully invited.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

AULD - Joan and the family would like to thank all their wonderful friends, for the support they have received over the past few months. Special thanks to Lorn Medical Centre for the first class care Iain received, also his Carers who treated him with kindness and dignity, to Joan and Al at Crossroads

for always making Iain laugh. Thanks to Ian and all at D & A Munn for the articulate professionalism and guidance they gave us all, to Donald MacKinnon for a comforting and uplifting service, to Amanda at the Argyllshire Gathering for a lovely buffet and to Lynette at Petals for beautiful flowers. Thank you also to Billy Taylor for musical accompaniment and to Duncan Forgive for lovely words and funny stories (all of which were true). Huge thanks to Kenneth Pearson for his wonderful recital at the graveside and to Michael McKinnon for amazing piping. Thank you also, to Duncan McMillan (Scally), for being in the right place at the right time. Finally, a huge thank you to the hundreds of friends who attended the service and graveside and for the generous donations which amounted to £1410.66, for the Dove Centre, Oban, which was testament to the high esteem in which Iain held, he was described to us recently as "the main man of Oban", an accolade he would be proud to hold.

Thank you all, Joan.

MACKAY - On behalf of Gary and myself I would like to extend our sincere thanks to both families for their help with everything, even though we are all hurting on the sad loss of my beautiful girl Mary Ann and Gary's mum who we can never replace. Also thanks to Linnie and John from McLellan's Funeral Directors for all the efficient arrangements, nothing was too much trouble. Thanks also to McDonald Brothers Florists, for the beautiful flowers, also the Rev Corbett from Caol Church of Scotland who was a credit to the Church, even not knowing Mary Ann, he gave her an excellent final journey. Thanks also to both our families and special friends you know who you are that keep me going and who continue to help daily. Thanks also to Meg and Liz from the Railway Club for all they did for both families. Sorry, if I have forgotten anyone but from the bottom of my heart I thank you all. James and Gary Donaldson.

MONTGOMERY - Marlene and Donnie would like to thank family, friends and neighbours for their flowers, cards, sympathy and support during Kenny's illness. Thanks to staff at Kinlochleven Surgery, NHS24 and Raigmore and Belford Hospitals for their care. Thanks to our local paramedic, John Banks, for his kindness to Kenny - he thought the world of you. A very special thanks to Rev Gordon Mair and Rev Dr Malcolm Kinnear for a beautiful service and to Rev James Beaton for presenting. Thanks to John McLellan & Co undertakers, Highland Getaway for a lovely tea and to Kinlochleven Fire Brigade for their guard of honour and escort. The fantastic sum of £606 was collected for Lochaber Palliative Care.

MEMORIALS

CAMPBELL - Remembering with love our parents, grandparents and in-laws Angus D. who died on April 27, 1981, Marion L on June 19, 2007 and our sister and aunt Lexy Donaldson on July 27, 1989.

There are no tomorrow's for us to share

But yesterday's memories are always there.

- The families in Bunessan. Mull and away.

FERGUSON - In loving memory of Donnie who died June 26, 2004. A dear husband and dad who is forever in our hearts.

- Ann, John, David and Lorne

KING - In loving memory of Margaret King, who died June 13, 2018. Loving mother-in-law, nana and great-nana.

Always in our thoughts.

Loved and missed every day.

- Love, Rosemary, Michael, Garry, Catherine and Freya.

MACCOLL - In loving memory of Kathie, devoted mum and mum-in-law, who died June 20, 2013.

Those we love don't go away

They walk beside us everyday Unseen, unheard, but always near

Still loved, still missed and very dear.

- Elspeth and Billy.

MACDONALD - Raymond, died June 28 2014.

Missed everyday.

- Laura and Alan.

MACNEIL - Michael, died June 16, 2007.

Always with me.

- Marie.

MACPHEE - Treasured memories of my dear mother Marion Lawrie, who passed away June 21, 1992.

Forever in our hearts you'll stay Loved and remembered everyday.

- Dugald, Janis and family.

REECE - Cherished memories of Alec, devoted husband, dad and pappy, who died June 20, 2002 and Catherine, who died on September 1, 2009.

Greatly missed but our love and memories ever strong and clear.

- Sandy, Kathleen and families.

ROBERTSON - In loving memory of Iain MacKinnon Robertson who died on June 15, 2012 aged 85 years. A dearly loved and sadly missed father of Marion and Niall, grandfather and great-grandfather and dearly beloved husband of the late Mary Simpson.

SINCLAIR - Precious memories of Ronnie, who passed away June 17, 2008. Beloved husband, dad, father-in-law and grampa.

We never part from those we love

No distance can divide

In memories garden day by day

We still walk side by side.

- Inserted by Joan and family.

STEWART - In loving memory of a dear mother and granny, Nan, who died June 25, 2002.

Gone are the days we used to share

But in our hearts you are always there.

- Catherine, Kenneth, Margaret and families.

SUTHERLAND - Ray. In memory of Ray Sutherland, a lovely dad, may have been taken away, but in our hearts he will always stay.

- Love Louise, Lorna and Donna xx



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Obituary: Duncan MacQuarrie

Tobermory-born and educated Duncan MacQuarrie, who has died aged 73, was one of the greatest Gaelic educationalists of the post-war era and a man whose legacy will be evident well beyond the immediate environs of Inverness and Charleston, North Kessock, where he spent most of his family and working life.

Born in 1946 of a notable Mull family, and steeped in the west coast traditions of that famous island, Duncan followed the traditionally perceived paths of exit and opportunity through his formative years in Tobermory and Salen Primary Schools, Tobermory Secondary School (where he was Dux in 1962) and then Oban High School, where he won the Buchanan prize for Gaelic.

He had a distinguished passage through Glasgow University from 1964-68 taking the First Prize in Celtic Studies 1965 and 1966 and added a clutch of educational qualifications as his life evolved, culminating in a Diploma in Public Administration in 1988.

It was almost inevitable

that he would make Gaelic teaching his career and he embarked on that path in 1969-1972 when he became assistant teacher of Gaelic at Inverness Royal Academy. He became principal teacher in 1972, also assuming responsibilities for careers and guidance.

Appointed in 1987 as assistant rector, Inverness Royal Academy, he held a further post at Charleston Academy as assistant rector (1988-1990), then acting depute, before progressing to become HM Inspector of Schools with some national responsibilities for Gaelic in 1990.

In 2001, Duncan became HM Inspector of Education with pan-Scottish responsibility for inspecting, reporting and evaluating all aspects of provision for Gaelic education and related developments, a post he held until April 2006.

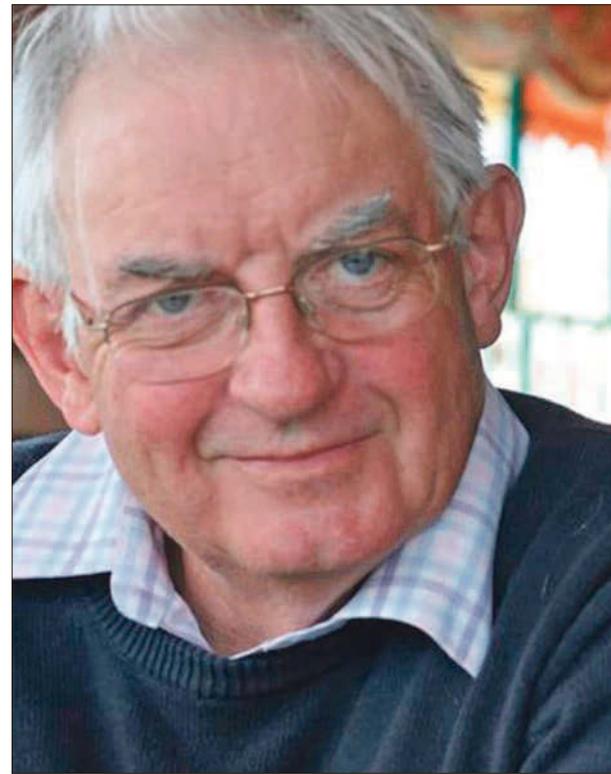
Duncan's service to the public sector and education in particular saw him awarded an MBE for services to Gaelic Education in 1989. In 2001, he received a Commenius Fellowship awarded by the Centre for

Information on Language Teaching and Research for 'distinguished service in the cause of promoting national capability in languages'.

Duncan's finest contribution to the Gaelic world was his continuing interests in the establishment and sustainability of structures and projects which would have a lasting impact.

Having been a singular influence in the establishment of the important report *Cor na Gàidhlig* in 1983 and the subsequent formation of *Comunn na Gàidhlig*, this was never better illustrated than in his many years of commitment to *Sabhal Mòr Ostaig* on Skye where he was, for eight years (1978-85), chairman of trustees/governors *Sabhal Mòr Ostaig* and also as chairman of the Academic Council.

His immense contribution to the college in multifarious roles and positions led to his being awarded the *Sar Ghàidheal Fellowship* in 2013 an annual award given by the college to people who have made exceptional contributions to the Scottish Gaelic Language. Most recently, *Rathad MhicGuair*



(MacQuarrie Road) was named in his honour in 2018 within the new Kilbeg Village development in Skye.

Beyond his bureaucratic and professional life Duncan was, as Arthur Cormack

described him this week 'usal, eirmseach, geur and gleusta' – four outstanding attributes of any Gael, all of which he brought to bear on everything he was involved in. To that can be added

a self-effacing nature and thirst for knowledge which made him the best of company as he expounded on his various interests.

He was also, and especially in recent years, a loving and caring husband, father and grandfather to those who will feel this unimaginable loss as only a close family can.

Duncan is survived by his wife Edith, daughters Gwen, Sarah and Anna, three grandchildren, his brother Kenneth and sister, Fiona.

'S i Ghàidhlig leam cruas na spiorad

'S i Ghàidhlig leam cruas na h-èiginn

'S i Ghàidhlig leam mo thoil inntinn

'S i Ghàidhlig leam mo thoil gàire

'S i Ghàidhlig leam mo theaghlach àlainn

'S i Ghàidhlig leam mo shliabh beatha

'S i Ghàidhlig leam luaidh mo chridhe

'S i Ghàidhlig leam gach ni rim bheò

Mur a b' e i cha bu mhi.

Dr Hugh Dan MacLennan

Oban Parish Church baptises family of eight

The minister Reverend Dugald Cameron had the pleasant duty of baptising eight young people – the family of Stephanie and Robert Wynd (pictured second and fourth from right) in the presence of family and friends, and the regular congregation.

Kian, McKenzie, London, Freya, Kendall, Skylar, Dakota and Piper were given God's blessing and welcomed as members of the congregation.

During the service, dad Robert explained that prior to coming to Oban he had been in the Services and

away from home for long periods, and as a consequence he and his wife Stephanie had never got round to having the children baptised.

Following a visit to Oban they both fell in love with the town and made the decision spend the rest of their lives here. They had become regular visitors to the parish church, with the older children enjoying the Sunday School, where their bright and friendly personalities quickly made them new friends.

Stephanie said: 'It just seemed natural to have the children baptised.'



THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK

My wife and I have just got back from a trip to Salcombe in Devonshire. We were there to celebrate a golden wedding with some of our oldest friends.

It was a wonderful time of reunion and reminiscence. Somehow throughout the 50-odd years we had known one another we were still able to talk the hind leg off a donkey. It was a very special time.

Getting there and back on a 1,000-plus miles round trip, however, was something altogether different. As we drove south, we went through some of the harshest and most terrifying rainstorms that I have witnessed in all my years.

Then, as though some heavenly water tap was turned off, a blazing heat lamp was turned on and out of the muck and mire and whiteout conditions, we began to see the beauty of the countryside through which we had been speeding.

We had it on the way down and the way back a few days later!

My thoughts turned again to the time we had spent with our friends. When we were together, we were able to look at the variety of events and happenings that we had shared over the years – tears and laughter, joys and sorrows!

Because we love and trust one another, we have been able to take the long view and discover God's purposes for our lives, sometimes against our natural inclinations.

This is not to say that we have not had times when we have railed at God, nor are we on some triumphalist kick that says we have everything sorted. But we have often found our peace in what have been called 'thin places' where heaven and earth seem to get close and we can see the landscape more clearly.

It is true to say that the sunshine does not go on for ever, but then neither does the rain.

Ian McFarlane,
Oban Baptist Church.

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Glenurquhart 0
Newtonmore 3

Newtonmore won the cottages.com MacTavish Cup for the fourth successive season after beating Glenurquhart 3-0 in the final at the Bught Park, Inverness.

There was a minute's silence ahead

Fixtures

Saturday June 22
Tulloch Homes Camanachd Cup second round
Glasgow MA v Kinlochshiel
Lachie Wood - 3pm

Second round replay
Lovat v Newtonmore
Andy MacLean

Sutherland Cup semi finals
Lochside Rov v Newtonmore
Ronnie Campbell
At Ballachulish
Glenurquhart v Lovat
John Wood
At Bught Park, Inverness

Mowi Premiership
Inveraray v Kilmallie
Iain Kennedy - 3pm
Oban Caman v Kyles Athletic
Graham Cameron
Lochaber v Kingussie
Des McNulty

Mowi National Division
Bute v Beaulay
Ross Brown
Glenurquhart v Fort William
Martin MacLean
Skye v Strathglass
Brian MacKay - 3pm

Mowi North Division 1
Kingussie v Glengarry
Archie Ritchie
Aberdeen Uni v Inverness
Calum Girvan
Skye v Fort William
Steven MacLachlan - noon

Mowi South Division 1
Glasgow MA v Ballachulish
David Mitchell - noon
Aberdour v Kyles Athletic
Robert Baxter - 3pm
Taynuilt v Col Glen
Alex MacVicar

Mowi North Division 2
Boleskine v Strathspey
Deek Cameron
Inverness v Kilmallie
Callum Duff - noon
Strathglass v Lewis
John Angus Gillies

Mowi South Division 2
Aberdour v Oban Celtic
Neil MacDonald - noon
Glenorchy v Bute
Ewan MacDonald

All throw-ups 2.30pm unless stated.

of throw-up as the shinty community remembered Ken Thomson, former president of the Camanachd Association, who died the previous day. Whilst his club association was mainly with Aberdeen University and Strathglass, Ken Thomson made a major contribution to the game of shinty as Camanachd Association president between 1990 and 1994, coinciding with the Camanachd Association's centenary year in 1993.

Glenurquhart's Connor Golabek and Ewan Brady forced good Kenny Ross saves either side of Stuart MacKintosh doing well to thwart Glen MacKintosh's low effort.

Newtonmore's Conor Jones was forced off with a facial cut so Jamie Robinson took over in midfield.

Efforts from Evan Menzies, Ewan Brady and Oliver Black failed to break the deadlock with Glenurquhart's Connor Golabek having to come off with what appeared to be a hamstring problem. James MacPherson replaced him.

The first half ended scoreless but Newtonmore started to dominate in the second half and Evan Menzies had an effort ruled out for offside before Iain Robinson broke the deadlock on 63 minutes. Michael Russell's corner from the left was knocked down by Evan Menzies into the path of Iain Robinson who crashed the ball into the roof of the net to make it 1-0.

Newtonmore sealed the win late in the match. Michael Russell and Glen MacKintosh combined, before Iain Robinson put Evan Menzies through on goal and he slotted the ball low past advancing keeper Stuart MacKintosh from the edge of the 'D' to make it 2-0 with 85 minutes gone.

Then, in stoppage time, Iain Robinson turned Michael Russell's corner from the right to Glen MacKintosh. MacKintosh's shot was saved with his feet by Stuart MacKintosh but Evan Menzies was quickly in to stroke the rebound home. Newtonmore's Iain Robinson was named man of the match and Newtonmore captain Evan Menzies came forward to accept the MacTavish Cup from Luke Smith representing sponsors cottages.com.



Newtonmore captain Evan Menzies with the MacTavish Cup.



The victorious Newtonmore team with the cottages.com MacTavish Cup

Artemis Macaulay Cup – quarter finals

Oban Camanachd 2
Kyles Athletic 0

Andrew MacCuish scored a goal in each half as Oban Camanachd reached the Artemis Macaulay Cup semi finals with a 2-0 win over Kyles Athletic at Mossfield.

The tie was brought forward to Wednesday June 12 at Kyles Athletic's request as their players had a pre-planned event on the Saturday and Oban Camanachd's largest crowd of the season gathered ahead of the 7pm throw-up.

Oban Camanachd, who opened playing toward the Oban end of the ground with a breeze in their favour, started well.

The game's first real chance came inside the first five minutes when Lorne Dickie played a great diagonal ball from the right wing over the top to Scott MacMillan whose fierce drive was on target. But Kyles' keeper John Whyte turned the ball round the post.

It was a feisty start to the game and the tackles flew in.

Daniel Cameron was next to test the visiting keeper. The Oban Camanachd talisman caught the ball well, but his shot from the penalty spot went straight at Whyte who stopped the ball with his stick before clearing.

Kyles responded and Rupert

Williamson found George Thomson with a diagonal ball but his effort went just over the top.

John Whyte foiled Scott MacMillan for a second time, saving with his foot at the expense of a corner, after the Oban wing centre had been set up by Aidan MacIntyre.

Kyles Athletic's Robbie MacLeod was warned by referee Deek Cameron for a second heavy challenge on Daniel Sloss, with the young defender fortunate he was wearing a protective helmet.

Oban Camanachd gave the home support something to cheer about on 39 minutes. Aidan MacIntyre played in a corner but as Kyles defender Callum Miller tried to clear, Daniel MacVicar nipped in to win the ball and found Andrew MacCuish, whose shot ripped into the roof of the net, giving the keeper no chance.

The hosts took their 1-0 advantage into the break but they made a sluggish start to the second half.

Kyles moved Paul MacArthur to full forward and Oban keeper Cameron Sutherland had to be alert to stop MacArthur's rasping shot down the middle before clearing.

After so much effort in the first half, the standard of hitting dropped and some tired passing crept into the game.

Oban Camanachd switched Daniel Cameron and Andrew MacCuish, with Cameron's free-running asking different questions of full back Callum Miller.

The Oban side doubled their lead on 77 minutes. Garry Lord played the ball to Daniel MacCuish who took a neat touch before releasing a diagonal ball. Daniel Cameron did well to take possession and his persistence paid off as he first beat Callum Miller and then got by keeper John Whyte, who had come off his line. Cameron was at too tight an angle to shoot but spotted Andrew MacCuish in space at the front of the 'D' and MacCuish turned the cut-back into the empty goal to make it 2-0.

Daniel Cameron almost added a third a couple of minutes later when his low snapshot deceived keeper Whyte and came off the face of the post but Andrew King got in quickly

to clear the danger. Kyles were reduced to 11 players on 81 minutes. A looping ball from midfield dropped into the danger area and Cammy Sutherland came out to palm the ball down. Robbie MacLeod rushed in and his swing caught the keeper around the waist with both players ending up in the net. Referee Deek Cameron flashed a red card at the Kyles man which could prove costly as a two-match suspension would see MacLeod miss the Mowi Premiership tussle between the sides at Mossfield on Saturday June 22 and the Scottish Sea Farms Glasgow Celtic Society Cup Final between the teams a week later.

With three minutes remaining, Daniel MacCuish suffered an accidental blow to the hand and was replaced by Ross Campbell. A trip to the hospital followed where MacCuish learned he needed an operation on a dislocated and broken thumb.

He not only now faces a spell on the sidelines but also missed a holiday abroad as he and some of his team mates looked to take advantage of a rare weekend without shinty.

Oban Camanachd will now play Glasgow Mid Argyll in the Artemis Macaulay Cup semi finals with the tie taking place at Mossfield. It is a trophy that is important to the people of Oban. Camanachd have not featured in a Macaulay Cup final since 2012 and last lifted the trophy in 1997.

Speaking after the tie, Oban Camanachd assistant manager Kenny Wotherspoon said: 'It was one of these nights where the players did everything Stephen [Sloss] and I asked of them. They were spot on and executed all the things we had worked on. Kyles had only suffered one defeat this season ahead of this game so it was a good night at the office for us. We'll now let the players rest up ahead of two more big games against Kyles. The only downside was the injury to Daniel MacCuish. He has been doing well for us so it's a blow to be without him.'

Bute 0
Glasgow Mid Argyll 5
Glasgow Mid Argyll also reached the semi finals by beating Bute 5-0 at the Meadows.

Results

Wednesday June 12
Artemis Macaulay Cup second round (South)
Oban Caman 2 v Kyles Athletic 0

Saturday June 15
Cottages.com MacTavish Cup Final
Glenurquhart 0 v Newtonmore 3

Artemis Macaulay Cup second round (South)
Bute 0 v Glasgow Mid Argyll 5

Bullough Cup second round
Glenorchy v Aberdour P
Lochside Rovers 6 v English SA 2
SCOTS Caman v Kyles Ath P
SCOTS unable to field a team.
Walkover to Kyles Athletic

Glasgow Mid Argyll 3 v Inveraray 2

Mowi Premiership
Inveraray 1 v Caberfeidh 3
Lochaber 1 v Kinlochshiel 3
Lovat 2 v Kilmallie 2

Mowi National Division
Skye 2 v Fort William 5
Beaully 3 v Oban Celtic 0

Mowi North Div 1
Caberfeidh 1 v Aberdeen Uni 3
Fort William 1 v Glengarry 3
Kinlochshiel 0 v Skye 4

Mowi South Division 1
Aberdour 5 v Taynuilt 1
Col Glen 4 v Ballachulish 2
Tayforth 3 v Kyles Athletic 5

Mowi North Division 2
Lewis 0 v Beaully 2
Lochcarron 1 v Strathglass 1

Mowi Premiership Lovat 2 Kilmallie 2

Kilmallie collected a valuable point as they drew 2-2 with title hopefuls Lovat in their 1pm throw-up at Balgate.

Kilmallie took the lead on four minutes. The ball was played up the middle to Daniel Stewart who found Craig MacIsaac on the wing. MacIsaac tussled with Graeme MacMillan before shooting low into the net from a tight angle.

Lovat fought back and Lorne MacKay won possession at wing centre and showed great awareness to find Fraser Heath in space in the centre. Heath's long, high ball forward was touched on by Marc MacLachlan to Greg Matheson in space and his daisy-cutter beat Kilmallie keeper Shane Gillies on his left side to make it 1-1 with 13 minutes gone.

Kilmallie regained the lead five minutes before the break. The ball was knocked up to Daniel Stewart who jockeyed with Daniel Grieve

before sending a waist-high shot past Stuart MacDonald in the Lovat goal.

Kilmallie were worth their interval lead, but Lovat made changes at the break with Danny Kelly going from defence to wing centre, Graeme MacMillan moving from defence to attack and Thomas Fraser and Fraser Heath dropping into defence.

Lovat lost Greg Matheson through injury five minutes into the second half with his brother Jamie Matheson coming on.

The hosts drew level for a second time on 68 minutes. Marc MacLachlan collected the ball near the corner on the Lovat left and his cross went over the Kilmallie defence where an unmarked Lewis Tawse ran in to fire the ball low into the net to make it 2-2.

Kilmallie made their only change on 73 minutes when Andrew Mcalister replaced Iain MacIntyre. Liam MacDonald pushed forward with Mcalister going to wing centre as the visitors attempted to win the

Continued on page 60



Oban Camanachd's two-goal hero Andrew 'Papa' MacCuish battles for the ball with Kyles Athletic's Callum Miller during last Wednesday evening's Macaulay Cup tie at Mossfield. Photograph: Kevin McGlynn.

new SPOT THE SHINTY BALL

Win!
THIS WEEK'S JACKPOT
£2850

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:
I Clark
Oban
M Martin
Isle of Mull

Continued from page 59

the game. However, it was Lovat who finished strongly and they came close to a winner when Jamie Matheson showed great skill to get by his marker, playing a one-two with Lewis Tawse, but his shot skimmed the post.

Kilmallie were worthy of their point and now move out of the relegation zone on goal difference at Lochaber's expense having played a game fewer.

Lochaber 1 Kinlochshiel 3

Kinlochshiel go third in shinty's top flight after defeating Lochaber 3-1 at Spean Bridge.

Lochaber's Ryan Johnstone was suspended, whilst Scott Kennedy continued in goal for Kinlochshiel.

Referee Calum Girvan awarded the sides a penalty apiece with Lachlan Campbell converting to put Lochaber ahead on 10 minutes and Keith MacRae doing likewise to level for Kinlochshiel on the half-hour.

Keith MacRae went on to make the difference, scoring on 43 and 55 minutes to complete his hat-trick and give Kinlochshiel both points.

Inveraray 1 Caberfeidh 3

Caberfeidh move three points clear of the relegation zone after beating Inveraray 3-1 at the Winterton.

Mowi National Division

Skye Camanachd 2 Fort William 5

League leaders Fort William made it seven successive league wins, beating third-placed Skye Camanachd 5-2 at Pairc nan Laoch, Portree.

Both teams had chances and it could easily have been 2-2 before Arran MacPhee gave Fort William the lead on 18 minutes. Sean Cruickshank played the ball in from the left and it was flicked on to Arran MacPhee who initially looked to shoot on his left side before taking the ball to his right side and his low shot went by keeper Ryan Morrison's outstretched left foot.

Fort William doubled their lead on 27 minutes. Jack Fraser's corner from the left came into the 'D' where Arran MacPhee's initial effort was blocked by Ryan Morrison but Lewis Clark was quickly in to flick the rebound into the net from close range.

Arran MacPhee got his second a minute before half-time with a fizzing shot from right of centre after Jack Fraser had released Calum Shepherd down the Fort William left.

The goal gave Fort William a 3-0 interval lead and left Skye with an uphill challenge.

Jordan Murchison pulled a goal back for Skye a minute into the second half. Murchison took a ball forward from John Gillies and although he saw his initial effort blocked, he took a touch to control the rebound before scoring.

Murchison gave Skye hope when he got his second to make it 3-2 following a nice passing move on 55 minutes. Iain Nicolson won possession and found Ross Gordon, who played in John Gillies. Gillies pushed forward before delivering the ball to Jordan Murchison on his left and Murchison took a touch to move the ball to his side before finishing well.

Fort William extinguished any thoughts of a Skye comeback on 65 minutes when Lachie Shaw scored the goal of the match. Lewis Morrison played a ball from the left which substitute Victor Smith flicked on. Shaw caught the dropping ball perfectly and hammered it into the roof of the net.

Arran MacPhee rounded off the win when he converted a stoppage time penalty which was blasted over the keeper's shoulder.

Fort William manager Victor Smith spoke immediately after the final whistle: 'We had a good feeling about this game as we had good training sessions on Tuesday and Thursday during the week and that was reflected in our play today.'

When asked if his side were ready for premiership shinty, Smith said: 'We have to get there first. I watched a match between Oban Camanachd and Kyles Athletic during the week and I was very impressed with Oban Camanachd's fitness, attitude and their all-round play and that is what we are aiming for.'

Beaully 3 Oban Celtic 0

Beaully were 3-0 winners against Oban Celtic in their 1pm throw-up at Braeview Park.

Beaully got off to the perfect start on five minutes when Conor Ross floated a ball into the Oban defensive area. Sean Stewart did well to get past his marker before firing a 15 yard shot past keeper Iain MacFarlane.

Oban Celtic had Ally McKerracher back in their side and he came close to levelling on nine minutes but his effort went wide.

From the goal-hit, the ball found Conor Ross in the centre and he picked out Sean Stewart who ran into the 'D' where a clumsy challenge saw him go down.

The goal judge awarded a corner but was over-ruled by referee John Angus Gillies who pointed to the spot and



Scorer of Lochaber's only goal, Lachlan Campbell, pursues Kinlochshiel's Paul MacRae. Photograph: Iain Ferguson, alba. photos

Jack MacDonald crashed the ball high into the net to make it 2-0 with 20 minutes on the clock.

The second half was just three minutes old when Beaully added a third. Angus Renwick sent a high ball looping into the visiting defence and when Jack MacDonald's shot wasn't cleared, Calum Morrison knocked the ball over the line from a yard out.

Oban Celtic tried hard to get back into the game but Beaully saw the match out.

Beaully keeper MacKay Murray had a good game and at times filled-in as if he was still playing at full back. Angus Renwick was commanding at buckshee back, whilst Jack MacDonald was always a handful for the Oban defence.

Oban Celtic had good performances from George MacMillan, young Daniel MacMillan and the effective Ally McKerracher.

Speaking afterwards, Oban Celtic assistant manager Les Kinvig said: 'We were six key players short but were still able to field a good side which we were fairly confident could take something from the game. Obviously, we never did that so we are disappointed.'

'I'm not one for criticising referees but we didn't get much our way, especially in the first half. We had to re-focus the boys at half-time and they did well in the second half.'

Bullough Cup – quarter finals

Lochside Rovers 6 English SA 2

Bullough Cup holders Lochside Rovers reached the semi-finals by beating the English Shinty Association (ESA) 6-2 at Ganavan.

Lochside dominated possession and were denied by spectacular goalkeeping.

As Oban Camanachd were without a fixture, assistant manager Kenny Wotherspoon made his first Lochside appearance in 13 years, coming on after early injuries to Ross Campbell and Aaron McKay. And he had a great game, scoring a hat-trick.

The ESA showed they were not just there to make up the numbers when James Livingston put them ahead on 12 minutes, punishing the Lochside defence for not clearing their lines, although the goal did come against the run of play.

Kenny Wotherspoon released Lewis Buchanan with a through-ball on 17 minutes though and Buchanan drew Lochside level with a great strike.

Wotherspoon gave Lochside some breathing space with left hand drives on 29 and 37 minutes to make it 3-1.

The ESA proved to be stuffy opponents though and James Livingston made things interesting when he cut Lochside's lead to 3-2 on 40 minutes.

Kenny Wotherspoon completed his hat-trick on 51 minutes when, following a great solo run, he produced a neat finish, beating the keeper on his right side.

Michael MacQueen scored a peach of a goal with some superb one-touch shinty on 69 minutes. Lewis Buchanan played the ball up the line to Kenny Wotherspoon. Wotherspoon got a call from Michael MacQueen who was around the penalty spot and MacQueen drilled Wotherspoon's cut-back home on the half-volley to make it 5-2.

Lewis Buchanan rounded off the scoring 10 minutes from time with another good shot from distance.

Lochside manager Brian MacCallum said: 'The game was played in good spirits and the dedication shown by the ESA was amazing. Some

of the lads travelled for 15 hours to play in the game. We have a big match this week against the Newtonmore seconds at Ballachulish in the Sutherland Cup semi finals. Hopefully we will have a full squad available if the lads manage to shake off injuries.'

Elsewhere, the Glasgow Mid Argyll seconds had to battle all the way to beat the Inveraray seconds 3-2 at Yoker.

Glenorchy were given a walk-over when the Aberdour seconds were unable to play their tie and with Forces side SCOTS Camanachd unable to fulfil their tie against the Kyles Athletic reserves, the Tighnabruach side progressed to the last four of the competition where they will face Lochside Rovers in next month's semi finals.

Mowi North Division 1

Fort William 3 Glengarry 3

League leaders Glengarry beat third-placed Fort William colts 3-1 at An Aird.

Raymond Robertson on 10 minutes and Matthew Ross on 25 minutes had Glengarry 2-0 ahead at half-time.

Nick Dalgety added a third a minute into the second half with Greig Kelly giving Fort William some consolation on the hour.

Referee Robert Baxter sent off a player from each team.

Glengarry are now two points ahead of second-placed Lovat colts with both sides having played ten matches.

Elsewhere in the division, Skye won their second team derby against Kinlochshiel 4-0 at Kirkton and Aberdeen University moved off the bottom of the table after overcoming the Caberfeidh seconds 3-1 at Castle Leod.

Mowi South Division 1

Aberdour 5 Taynuilt 1

Mowi South Division 1 pace-setters Aberdour maintained their impressive run this season, beating Taynuilt 5-1 at Silversands to clinch

their ninth successive league victory. David McDougall found space to give Aberdour the lead on eight minutes but Taynuilt shocked their hosts by drawing level through Craig MacIntyre on 33 minutes.

Both sides were reduced to 11 players shortly after when Aberdour's Alex Mitchell and Taynuilt's David Campbell were sent off.

Angus Thorburn restored Aberdour's lead from the penalty spot on 38 minutes and the hosts pulled away in the second half.

David McDougall got his second to make it 3-1 on 54 minutes, whilst David MacKenzie added a fourth with 15 minutes remaining despite Taynuilt having legitimate claims for a 'kick' in the lead up to the goal.

Angus Thorburn got his second on 80 minutes as Aberdour continue their title push.

Elsewhere, second-placed Col Glen continued their good recent form by beating Ballachulish 4-2 at Glendaruel and the Kyles Athletic second team were 5-3 winners against Tayforth at Peffermill.

WCA round-up Mowi Valerie Fraser Camanachd Cup – semi finals

Strathspey 0 Badenoch 16

Holders Badenoch are comfortably through to the Mowi Valerie Fraser Camanachd Cup Final after beating Strathspey 16-0 at the Eilan.

Kirsty Deans scored seven times, Zoe Reid found the net on five occasions, Rhona McIntyre bagged a brace and Rona Stewart and Megan Ralph got the others.

Lochaber 0 Skye Camanachd 10

Skye Camanachd Ladies won through, beating Lochaber Ladies 10-0 at Balgate.

Lorna MacRae netted five times, Sarah Corrigan grabbed a hat-trick and Jenna Beaton and Caitlin MacLean got the others.



Lochaber's Kirsty Delaney, left, and Carla Berardelli close down Skye's Caitlin MacLean during last weekend's Valerie Fraser Camanachd Cup semi-finals. Photograph: Neil Paterson.

Macaulay Sixes

The 2019 Artemis Macaulay Sixes attracted 25 teams.

Held at Mossfield Stadium, Oban, the tournament was played in glorious sunshine.

The main competition, the Ian Cumming Memorial Trophy for P7 and under, was won by Inverlochly with Taynuilt winning the Celtic Shield as runners-up.

The Alastair Campbell Shield for P5 and under was won by Glasgow Gael's Red who defeated Rockfield Raiders in the final.

The Macaulay Development Trophy was won by Rothesay.

PRIMARY SIX-A-SIDES

The boy player of the tournament was Beaul's Liam MacLean, with Nicola Duncan from Park Primary School the girl player of the tournament.

The Macaulay Association thanks Artemis for its continued sponsorship, Tesco, the girls who manned the tuck shop, raffle and teas, the referees who kept things running smoothly, the ground staff for having the pitch in such good condition and Ken Groom for the presentation sticks.



Inverlochly - winners of the Ian Cumming Memorial Trophy.



Rothesay - winners of the Macaulay Development Cup.



Gales Red - winners of the Alastair Campbell Shield.

Learning curve for Helen and Abi at Ladies World Sevens

Rugby stars Helen Nelson and Abi Evans were part of the Scotland Women 7's squad who became the first guest side to record a victory on this year's World Series at the weekend.

The win came in the final match when tries from Megan Gaffney, Lisa Thomson, Rhona Lloyd and Helen, who also added three conversions, led to a 26-14 victory against Ireland.

Helen, from Glencoe, captained the squad who were invited to take part in the tournament following a successful season last year in the Rugby Europe Grand Prix season.

Commenting after the final game, Helen said: 'It's been a great weekend for us.

'Some tough matches, but we've learnt a lot and have improved over the weekend.

'To get a win in our final

WOMEN'S RUGBY

game against Ireland shows a lot of character and fight in the squad. We've all had a great weekend.'

On day one, the Scots were well beaten by New Zealand in their competition opener, losing 44-7, before recovering to draw 24-24 with England then losing 31-15 to Russia.

'It was an amazing experience to test ourselves at the highest level,' said Oban's Abi Evans.

'I feel like I've gained a lot of experience and we got to see how much potential we have as a squad. I am very excited for the future.

USA won the Biarritz tournament which was the last in the 2018/19 HSBC Sevens Series which was won overall by Fiji.



Scotland captain Helen Nelson during a training session prior to the HSBC World Rugby Women's Sevens Series in Biarritz on June 12. Photograph: Mike Lee - KLC fotos for World Rugby.

Martial arts

IAIN RODGER
editor@obantimes.co.uk



Kyokushinkai Karate

The summer grading tests took place last weekend and a full report will be in the next article. New starters are welcome from now until the end of September. This is a perfect time to start. Classes are available for anyone over the age of eight, with no upper limit. Classes continue as normal through the school holidays.

Next week sees club instructor Iain Rodger, along with Sean McQuade, Darryl McLaughlin and Charlie McLaughlin, head south to the Peak District to take part in the National Kyokushinkai training camp with almost two months' worth of normal class time crammed into a weekend.

For further information on Oban Kyokushinkai Karate Club, contact Iain Rodger (6th dan) on 07584 166542 or iain@ikku.co.uk. Alternatively send a message to 'Caledonia Kyokushin' on Facebook.

Kickboxing

Training continues as normal during the school holidays with seniors on Wednesdays from 6pm to 7:30pm; juniors on Wednesdays from 4.30pm to 6pm and Sundays 11am to 1pm. Find the club on Facebook Senshi Do Kickboxing or email shihanwill@gmail.com

Beginners, from aged five years, are always welcome.



Shukokai Karate

Conan Burns, right, and Lewis May, left, with instructor Andrew Lawson after receiving their Junior Black belts. Both boys have worked hard over the years to reach the high standard required.

The clubs take a break during the school holidays and resume in August.

Argyll Shukokai has clubs in Inveraray, Oban and Dalmally. Anyone interested in joining these clubs can get details from Kenny Gray on 07884 183905.

BJJ and MMA

Classes are at 7.30 pm with BJJ on Mondays, Tuesdays and Fridays and MMA on Thursdays.

If you would like to try out BJJ or MMA, Oban BJJ can be found on Facebook or email coogiepots@gmail.com

Wado Kai Karate

The Park Primary School class is now closed until after the school summer holidays. These sessions, for children aged 7 to 10 years, will resume at the Oban school on August 26 at 3.15pm. Contact Mike Faulkner - m.faulkner6@btinternet.com - for more details.

On June 25, the club based at Dunbeg Primary School will be holding its summer grading. Five students are hopeful of achieving success at belts ranging from yellow to purple.

There will be no standard training session that night. Normal training will resume once the August term begins.

For more details contact Chris Bruce at crb999@btinternet.com

Knights Of The Tower - Medieval Combat Oban

If you would like to try out medieval combat just turn up at the class on Sundays from 1.30pm until 4.30pm.

OT

GOLF



Margaret Gallagher.



Jimmy Harris.

Senior Open at Taynuilt

Munro's of Oban sponsored Taynuilt Golf Club's Senior Open played on Wednesday June 12.

Results: Ladies - 1 Margaret Gallagher, Blairmore and Strone Golf Club (GC) 28pts (26); 2 Liz Mudie, Taynuilt GC, 27pts (35); BIH; 3 Mairead Sim, Taynuilt GC, 27pts (18) BIH. Gents: 1 Jimmy Harris, Taynuilt GC, 40pts (23); 2 Richard Bergant,

Taynuilt GC, 38pts (12); 3 Ian MacMillan, Taynuilt GC, 35pts (13) BIH.

Ladies Nearest the Pin at 6th/15th: Lily McKay, Dalmally GC; Ladies Longest Drive at 7th/16th: Mary Phillips, Isle of Seil GC).

Gents Nearest the Pin at 3rd/12th: George Ferguson, Cardross GC; Gents Longest Drive at 1st/10th: Andrew Swan, Lochgilphead GC.

Wilson's long-awaited victory

The twice-delayed golfer/non-golfer tournament was finally played out at Craignure Golf Club last Wednesday afternoon.

This tournament involved the 'golfer' playing the drive and all other shots to within five metres of the green, from where the 'non-golfer' would take over and putt out.

Having won the first hole, Pat and Steve Wilson led from start to finish and held off a late challenge to run out worthy winners.



Barry Whenman presents the trophy to Pat Wilson as Steve Wilson looks on.

Results from Glencruitten

Leading scores from the George Smith first round Senior Championship at Glencruitten on Saturday were: Peter Bain 70 - 13 = 57; George MacKenzie 74 - 14 = 60; Kenny MacLean 70 - 10 = 60 and Alistair MacLean 63 - 1 = 62.

The George Huntly Trophy takes place on Saturday.

RALLYING

Scottish Rally Championship

The KNC Groundworks Scottish Rally Championship (SRC) returns this weekend (June 22) as the series speeds to Argyll and Bute for the Dunoon Presents Argyll Rally.

Since returning to the SRC calendar in 2017, the winner in Argyll has gone on to win the championship, so the omens are in place for the eventual victor on Saturday.

The Dunoon Presents Argyll Rally consists of 42 fantastic stage miles, split into two loops of four stages. Classics such as Glenbranter and Coire Ealt are on the itinerary, as well as a new stage which is poised to test the driver's mettle.

It all gets under way at Dunoon Stadium at 9am, before the winners return to the stadium to spray the champagne after 4pm.

Eventful Catalan GP for McPhee

PETRONAS Sprinta Racing Moto3 rider John McPhee from Oban had an eventful race at the Barcelona-Catalunya Circuit.

Following a great race start, John was in contention for the victory and led the way for several laps, but on the final time around the track - when in fifth place - he took action to avoid a massive highside. Remarkably keeping upright, he crossed the line in 13th place. After the first seven races of the season, McPhee is ninth in the Moto3 World Championship, with 47 points.

The next race for the PETRONAS Sprinta Racing team will be the Dutch GP at Assen from June 28 to 30.

After the race John said: 'I'm a little frustrated with the final result because during the race I gave my all. I felt very comfortable and the team did a fantastic job this weekend, so I have to thank them. I



John McPhee in action at the Catalan Grand Prix in Barcelona.

MOTO3

felt very good throughout the race and was managing my pace well.

'When two or three riders passed me, I quickly recovered those positions. In a race you usually want to lead and be at the front, but you have to be careful on the brakes when there are so many riders in the front group.

'What happened on the last lap was my mistake. It was frustrating, but I have to take away the fact I made the save and that I was consistent all weekend.

'I honestly don't know how I managed to save that highside, but the important thing is that I did, and that I was able to finish the race in the points.

'I'm not happy with the result, but I'm pleased about my pace.

'I'm looking forward to Assen.'

News from Dalmally Golf Club

It's been a busy week at Dalmally. Last Tuesday saw the annual Dalmally v Oban Rotary match. Two teams of eight, playing four, fourball better ball match play slugged it out on a pleasant evening. The course was playing extremely well, thanks in the main to the club's voluntary greens staff, in particular Ewen Groat, the club's voluntary equipment maintenance technician who had restored the fairway cutter to life.

After a close competition, Terry Macnair, captain of the Oban Rotary team announced the match was a draw.

Terry thanked everyone at Dalmally, the players and the

lady members who laid on a great spread for the visitors and the home team.

In reply, club captain Graeme MacKechnie thanked the Rotary Team, who are always welcome guests at Dalmally, and with whom the annual match is always a welcome event on the club's fixture list.

Friday saw the annual Ralph Boon Trophy match. By tradition, this gents fixture is played at an away club, with the match held at Crieff Golf Club this year. Despite an ominous weather forecast, Friday proved a perfect day for golf, with the course in immaculate condition. As ever, the welcome at Crieff



Dalmally golfers with Oban Rotary Club members.

was extremely warm and the hospitality excellent.

The competition, 18 holes Stableford, was fierce, with only two points between the first four players. Tony Graham pipped Terry Macnair, both on 33 points, but Tony with the bih. Third was Graeme MacKechnie on 32 points and fourth, James MacMillan on 31 points.

The day's golf concluded with an excellent meal in the clubhouse along with a quiz and prizegiving. Everyone agreed that Crieff had proved one of the most successful venues for the competition and anticipated an early return.

Coming up at Dalmally on Sunday June 30 is the annual

GOLF

Three Man Team Stableford competition.

There are still a few afternoon and early morning (before 9am) tee times available. As an incentive to enter, here is one of the questions from Crieff quiz. The first team to enter to dalmallygentsgolf@outlook.com with the correct answer will win half price entry - £22.50 instead of £45.

What is the maximum number of Stableford points (theoretically) possible for a scratch golfer to score at one hole?

Answers, along with entries, to dalmallygentsgolf@outlook.com



Tony Graham with the Ralph Boon Trophy.

Cycling APR proves popular



North Argyll Cycle Club line up at the start of last week's APR at Loch Creran.

More than 20 members turned out for North Argyll Cycle Club's Australian Pursuit Race (APR) alongside Loch Creran last Thursday night.

There were lots of new faces and some old ones for the

handicapped event and great riding conditions meant a fast race for everyone.

Duncan Durbin topped the podium with Tim Brand in second and Sam Wood in third.

Fluky conditions for Glencoe's annual regatta

The tricky sailing conditions of Loch Leven were to test those competing at Glencoe Boat Club's (GBC) annual regatta to the limit last Saturday. Battling a course where the wind intermittently died for the fleet, then filled in, the two classes for fast and slow handicap yachts had to concentrate hard to keep momentum. Race officer and former GBC commodore Jill Mills had the unenviable job of setting the courses, but managed three races over the course of the day.

The conditions were in stark contrast to the previous day's feeder race from Oban which saw an exciting roller coaster run from Oban in a strong southerly breeze. Racing only three up, the Chapman family from Oban in their newly acquired X333 Elixir of Lorne, took both line honours at Onich Pier to lift the Peter MacLeod Cup and the Malcolm MacMillan trophy for the passage race on handicap by just ten seconds from Murray MacDonald's Hunter 707 Autism on the Water. Murray was racing his boat in this event for the first time. He uses his racing campaign to increase awareness of autism through sailing. This season he has competed at all the major events on the Clyde and brought his boat north to do the traditional west coast regattas. Third overall was Alison Chadwick's Hot Toddy and Graham and Josephine McCabe won the Ballachullish Ferry Memorial Trophy for first in the restricted sail class.

In the fast class on regatta

day, it was to be GBC member and former commodore Peter Watt who stole the honours overall in the fast class of the regatta with his BB10 Vaila, although Colin Crawford of Oban took the win in the afternoon race with his Dehler 34 Nimrod.

Peter was awarded the Mathew MacInnes Trophy. In the slow class, it was an overall win for Jilly Wilson and Darren Taylor with the SK Blue Fin who had two wins in the morning and took home the Nancy MacLeod trophy. Hamish Loudon of Lochaber Yacht Club, who had towed two Solings down for the event with his

Westerly Fumarole, had his efforts rewarded with a win in the afternoon race.

The Ray Darker Memorial Cup for best overall local boat of the weekend went to Peter Watt.

And the coveted Slate Trophy for the best performance of the weekend was awarded to Murray MacDonald for all his racing and west coast travels to promote 'Autism on the Water'.

Murray said: 'I am shocked and overwhelmed but so highly delighted to receive this coveted trophy. It is particularly fitting since it is the anniversary of my father Kenny MacDonald's passing.

SAILING

Dad was a well-known west coast sailor and Glencoe was his favourite regatta. This was a trophy he always wanted to win so I'm chuffed to have done it for him.'

Commodore Colin Haste thanked all the visitors for coming to the regatta and in particular Jill Mills for the huge effort she had put in to make it happen. He also thanked David Cooper for the prizegiving dinner venue Crafts and Things and Angus Fyfe of the Clan MacDuff Hotel who once again provided the dinner.

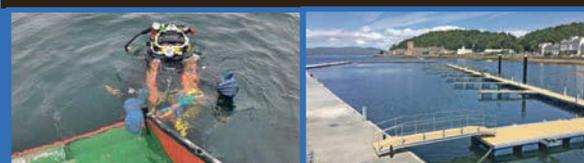


Prizewinners from the Glencoe feeder race and regatta.



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WEATHER

Thursday
Light rain showers and a moderate breeze
Temperatures
8°C to 13°C.

Friday
Sunny intervals and a gentle breeze
Temperatures
9°C to 14°C.

Weekend Outlook

Saturday
Sunny intervals and a gentle breeze

Sunday
Light cloud and a gentle breeze
Temperatures
11°C to 18°C.



FRIDAY

TIDAL INFORMATION

Tide tables for Oban during the week from **Thursday June 20, 2019** are listed below with differences for major ports listed on the right. All times are GMT (add one hour BST)

Thur	01.32	1.1	07.14	3.6
	13.47	1.1	19.38	3.8
Fri	02.12	1.3	07.50	3.5
	14.26	1.2	20.16	3.7
Sat	02.52	1.5	08.28	3.3
	15.06	1.4	20.56	3.5
Sun	03.35	1.6	09.08	3.2
	15.48	1.5	21.39	3.3
Mon	04.23	1.7	09.52	3.0
	16.33	1.7	22.29	3.2
Tues	05.16	1.8	10.46	2.9
	17.23	1.8	23.30	3.1
Wed	06.14	1.9	11.58	2.9
	18.19	1.8	***	**

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.

Fluky conditions
for Glencoe's
annual regatta

Eventful
Catalan GP
for McPhee

District's bowlers battle it out for Ayr final space

by Fiona Scott
fscott@obantimes.co.uk



There were celebrations aplenty at Oban Bowling Club over the weekend as the outfit hosted the Bowls Scotland District 11 Finals for the first time in its 150 year history.

Not only that, on Sunday, the hosts made it through to the prestigious National Finals, played in Ayr at the end of July, in three out of the seven ladies categories up for grabs.

Oban BC matriarch Helen MacLean got the ball rolling with a win in the senior singles (over 55) before the senior four of Lorna Carmichael, Janet Campbell, Rosemary Miller and Anne Stewart also claimed their spot.

Helen, who has appeared in the National Finals more times than she can remember and has also represented Scotland, rounded off a successful afternoon for the host club with a pairs victory alongside Anne Campbell.

It doesn't matter how many times you win through, it's still as exciting as it was the first time,' said Helen.

'Playing at Ayr and getting a Scotland cap are the two things you strive to achieve when you are a bowler and I have had the good fortune to do both.

'I am thrilled to have won through today. I lost my concentration for a while but something just clicked and I ended up playing some of the best bowls I have this season.'



Oban Senior Ladies made it through to the National Finals in Ayr. From left: Rosemary Miller, Anne Stewart, Helen MacLean, Janet Campbell and Lorna Carmichael.

Oban quartet Kirsty and Emma Gargan, Lillian Barrie and Marion Carr were pipped to a finals place in the fours by Lochgilphead.

Taking place last Thursday, the Men's District 11 Finals were also played at the Oban Club. See below for results.

Men's district secretary Ian Allan presented Oban BC president Iain Boyd with a quaich to mark the club's 150th anniversary year and congratulated everyone who took part, adding: 'Thanks to Oban Bowling Club. Your organisation and hospitality was outstanding. Well done. Enjoy the rest of your 150th year.

Fourteen of the 29 District

clubs were represented at the District Finals having battled their way through knock-out stages over the last two months.

The National Finals will take place at Ayr's Northfield greens from July 22 to 27.

2019 Bowls Scotland District 11 Finals Results: Men - Junior Singles: Argyll (G McLachlan) beat Helensburgh (A Air) 21-12; Senior Singles: Tarbert (J McAlpine) beat Helensburgh (G Sneddon) 21-19; Senior Fours: Radnor Park (J Allan, J McDonald, T Rough, D Scott) beat Garelochhead (R McRobbie, J Leishman, R Gall, A Roy) 16-7; Mixed Pairs: Colgrain (N Sharp,

J McBride) beat Renton (S McArdle, S McArdle) 23-14; Singles: Renton (M Keenan) beat Dalmuir (G Sayer) 21-17; Pairs: Vale of Leven (I Barnes, C McIntyre) beat Argyll (K Kerr, G McLachlan); Triples: Old Kilpatrick (C Hughes, A Dunbar, M Hughes) beat Renton (P Donnelly, I McCallum, R O'Malley) 16-12; Fours: Argyll (R Blair, J McCallum, G Graham, M McGuire) beat Colgrain (P Owens, B Harvey, I McKenzie, A Sharp) 14-13.

Ladies - Singles: Campbelltown - Stronvaar (S Bannatyne) beat Eastfield (B Marsland) 21-16; Pairs: Oban (A Campbell, H MacLean) beat Garelochhead

(J McConnell, L Dobrijevic) 18-10; Triples: Colgrain (K Dunbar, A Shaw, S Kennon) beat Garelochhead (H McConnell, S Fleming, A Dobrijevic) 14-7; Fours: Lochgilphead (H Johnson, L Johnson, K McAdam, C MacIndoe) beat Oban (K Gargan, E Gargan, L Barrie, M Carr) 21-11; Junior Singles: Argyll (B Thomson) beat Lochgilphead (H Johnson) 21-14; Senior Singles: Oban (H MacLean) beat Old Kilpatrick (P Kirkpatrick) 21-13; Senior Fours: Oban (L Carmichael, J Campbell, R Miller, A Stewart) beat Buchanan Arms (M Brown; C Crawford, E McQuade, M Gordon)

Oban Saints start up second team

FOOTBALL

Oban Saints will run a second team this season.

The Oban side have entered a team in the Greater Glasgow AFL which will run alongside the first team who are now members of the Central Scottish AFL.

The Greater Glasgow side will be run by Donald Black, assisted by Robbie Johnston and Brian Forgive.

The team were accepted into the GG AFL Third Division and will play against Boswell, Colquhoun United, Ferguslie Star, Glenvale, GSC Amateurs; Kilbarchan Thistle, North Kelvin United, Rannoch, Westcliff and Westerlands GG.

They have been drawn in Section Five of the President's League Cup along with Calderglen, Erskine and Lanraigs.

Club secretary David Buchanan said: 'There is a big gap between the youth set-up at the club and the senior squad so the new team will help bridge that gap.'

'The second string will be run independently but the players will be able to play for both teams, if required.

'There are plenty of good young players in the town who are not getting regular organised football. If they are good enough they will soon move to the seniors.'

New players for the first or second team squads will be more than welcome at pre-season training.



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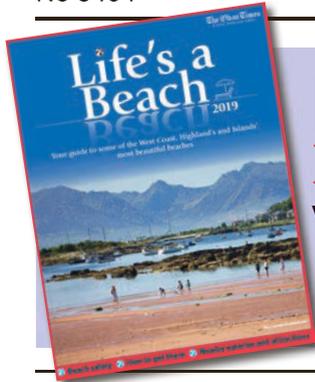
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95p



FREE INSIDE
Life's a Beach
Your guide to the West Highlands and Islands' best beaches

Youngsters hit the right notes at annual event



WIN WIN WIN WIN

North Berwick break with cruise



Family pass to Galloway Country Fair



Partners plan £12m forest holiday cabin development

by Mark Entwistle
mentwistle@obantimes.co.uk

A £12million holiday development would see 50 'eco-cabins' built in Leanachan Forest, close to the slopes of Ben Nevis and Fort William.

The project is a key step in delivering Forestry and Land Scotland's 20-year, £25m Nevis Forest Master Plan, and cabin tourism company Forest Holidays will submit a pre-application notification to Highland Council this week.

Forest Holidays, which operates 10 eco-cabin sites across the UK, is a partner of Forestry and Land Scotland. With two existing locations in Scotland and one recently granted permission at Glentress in the Borders, the business now wants to invest £12m at Leanachan Forest.

The notification will be followed by public consultation and drop-in sessions in mid-July, with the aim of finalising a full planning application for submission to Highland Council

planners later this year. Forest Holidays chief executive Bruce McKendrick said the company's guests have enjoyed visiting its existing locations at Ardgarten in Argyll and Strathyre in the Loch Lomond and Trossachs National Park for many years.

'There is widespread support for the Nevis Master Plan and what Forestry and Land Scotland is aiming to achieve,' he said this week.

'We are pleased to have arrived at this stage, and look forward to meeting and speaking with stakeholders to explain what we are proposing and answer their questions. We have a 45-year history of developing and managing this kind of destination. In our experience, this will bring multiple benefits to the forest and the local and wider community.'

Forest Holidays says its locations typically create more than 50 full-time jobs, buy-in local goods and produce, and welcome guests all year round. On average, each cabin is claimed to generate

£30,000 in annual visitor spend in the surrounding area.

Other elements would follow in later years, through other partnerships, and could include a hotel, camping/glamping, event parking and improvements in recreation and connectivity.

Simon Hodgson, chief executive of Forestry and Land Scotland, welcomed the latest step in the delivery of the master plan.

'We set out to make a positive step-change for Lochaber and create a 'world-class destination' from which all the attractions of Fort William and wider Lochaber region can be explored,' he said.

'Having already invested five years in this project, it's good to see Forest Holidays bringing this element to the planning stage.'

Forestry and Land Scotland is one of two new government agencies, the other being Scottish Forestry, which replaced Forestry Commission Scotland and Forest Enterprise Scotland in April.



'Keep Left' campaign launched

A new campaign to remind foreign drivers to 'keep left' on Highland roads was launched this week. It is hoped to target those driving rental cars and motorhomes. Lochaber MSP Kate Forbes, far right, helped launch the new campaign. Ms Forbes is pictured with, from left: Michael McDonnell, director of Road Safety Scotland, and PC Steve Manson, Superintendent Louise Blakelock and PC Kevin Macleod, all Police Scotland. For full story, turn to page three.



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LT

Oban toddler crowned Bonnie Babies winner

One-year-old Mila McCracken from Oban has been crowned winner of The Oban Times Bonnie Babies competition.

After five rounds of voting, 70 entrants were whittled down to one, with Mila taking home the £500 first prize.

Mila's parents, Victoria Pacitti and Stephen McCracken, said: 'We were really happy to find out she had won as we knew the competition was popular and a lot of people were voting so it means a lot that she won.'

'Thank you to everyone who took the time to vote.

Her money will be put into her savings account to spend when she is older.'

All the entries received huge support from readers with more than 3,000 votes cast.

Two runners-up prizes of £50 each go to Carter Harvey, Oban, and Alba McNicholas Smith from Helensburgh.

'Thanks go to all the parents, grandparents, friends and relatives who voted for their favourites,' said Keith McIntyre, The Oban Times operations director.

'It has been a joy to see all the happy, smiling faces in the newspaper.'



One-year-old Mila McCracken from Oban was crowned the winner of The Oban Times Bonnie Baby competition.

17_t24_BonnieBaby01

A Cry For The Wild

HOLLY GILLIBRAND

fort@obantimes.co.uk



Gardening for wildlife

In the environmental community, there is not a lot of good news.

Many species are endangered and teetering on the edge of extinction, wild spaces are destroyed in favour of new parking spaces and housing and the modern farming practice of using pesticides is sending our pollinating insects – the very things that keep life on this planet from collapsing into chaos – into steep decline.

But there is still hope. Putting out bird feeders in your garden will provide food for charismatic blue tits, social starlings and elegant woodpeckers, to name a few.

Planting borders of bushes and trees will provide homes for birds like house sparrows and blackbirds.

Let your grass grow long or plant wild flowers to encourage pollinating insects that we rely on for our survival.

Even if you only set aside a small corner, the wildlife would really appreciate it.

Picturesque peacocks, elegant red admirals, dainty tortoiseshells, our small fluttering friends and waving wildflowers can light up a garden.

To help hedgehogs, collect leaves under hedgerows and create log piles to provide

our bumbling little garden visitors with a sanctuary where they can hibernate through the winter and nest in summer.

Cut little square holes in your fence to allow hedgehogs to move from garden to garden.

The list of inexpensive, rewarding, wildlife friendly activities is endless.

You could build a pond for frogs, dragonflies and aquatic wild flowers, making sure there is a way out so that land-designed animals, such as hedgehogs, don't fall in and drown.

Put up bird boxes for swifts, house martins, bats, owls and, if you are lucky, a pine marten may take up residence in a specially-made den.

Then sit back and watch the drama unfold.

There is so much a single person can do to help urban and rural wildlife.

Imagine the positive impact we could make if everyone joined together to do a little bit for our wild animals.

Another thing you could do is not use garden chemicals, for example, weedkiller.

Helping our wildlife is so rewarding, entertaining and is even proven to reduce stress.

So get gardening for nature.

Youngsters enjoy rural trust visit

Children from Appin's Under 5s group had a great day at Lochaber Rural Education Trust last week.

They enjoyed a nature walk, finding a frog, meeting chickens and other animals before baking and eating 'Queen' cakes.

In the last year, the trust has welcomed hundreds of children from schools all over Lochaber and further afield to take part in activities showing rural life.

Photograph: Iain Ferguson, alba.photos





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Lasting commemoration of west Lochaber in WW1

A school project by Ardnamurchan and Kinlochleven high schools, with backing from Three Lochs Books and Arts Festival, was one of many activities held last year to commemorate the end of World War I.

With funding from the Heritage Lottery Fund, high school pupils researched stories about life during the war years at home and abroad.

The project included the production of a high quality, hard-back book which is for sale at The Highland Bookshop.

The book includes general information about the impact and changes which took place as a result of the Great War and details about many west Lochaber residents who participated.

Historical data was gleaned from the extensive Oban Times archive and the Three Lochs team thanks it for access to this invaluable resource.

Plans are currently being developed for the next Three Lochs Festival, in 2020. Keep up to date on the website or on Facebook.

Only 65 copies of the book, priced £10, were printed and proceeds will go towards supporting future Three Lochs activities.

Appeal after Glen Nevis break-in

Police in Fort William are appealing for information after a break-in at the Steall Falls hut in Glen Nevis.

The building was discovered damaged by a member of Lochaber Mountaineering Club on Sunday.

This incident is believed to have occurred sometime after Sunday June 9. Entry appears to have been gained to the hut, although nothing is believed to have been stolen.

Sergeant Deborah McCartney said: 'We appreciate the hut is in a remote location but I would ask any walkers or visitors to Glen Nevis who may have seen anything suspicious to let us know. Anyone with information should call police on 101, quoting reference NP1741/19, or call Crimestoppers on 0800 555111.'

GETINTOUCH
email us at fort@obantimes.co.uk
telephone 01397 703003

Drink drive Canna woman veered off road onto beach

A 56-year-old Canna woman, who has driven without a licence or insurance all of her adult life, admitted to driving off-road on the island's shorefront after a lunchtime drinking session.

Passengers waiting to board the ferry from Canna Pier on Friday October 5 2018 watched as Jessica Winnifred

MacKinnon veered off the only road on the island onto the rocky beach as she attempted to give her elderly mother a lift to the pier.

MacKinnon, who has lived on Canna all her life and now resides on the adjoining Sanday island, appeared at Fort William Sheriff Court on Tuesday where she pleaded

guilty to one charge of driving while unfit through drink or drugs and another charge of driving without insurance.

The court heard that in the afternoon of October 5 MacKinnon was called by her house-bound mother, who lives nearby on Canna, requesting a lift. MacKinnon, who had been drinking

around lunchtime, agreed to pick her mother up and made her way along the island's rough single-track road.

With both of them now in the car, MacKinnon attempted a three-point turn just outside her mother's house but ended up coming off the road and driving down on to the shore. Although she continued to drive along the rocky shore, the vehicle eventually came to a standstill after its wheels began spinning and smoke started coming out of it.

Procurator Fiscal Martina Eastwood told the court ferry passengers and the harbour master ran over to assist. MacKinnon was said to have been visibly intoxicated, slurring her words and stumbling as she got out of the car.

The harbour master took the keys off MacKinnon and helped her mother out of the car before returning the keys to MacKinnon. She got into the vehicle, drove back

along the shore, up one of the slipways and back onto road.

Defence solicitor Hamish Melrose told the court: 'On Canna you only need to hold a provisional licence to drive and only have to have third party fire and theft insurance cover. MacKinnon did not have either of these things.'

Sheriff Eilidh MacDonald asked why she did not have these, to which Mr Melrose replied: 'It seems to be quite normal on Canna.'

MacKinnon's mother was airlifted to Belford Hospital, Fort William, after the incident. Mr Melrose said that this was 'a purely precautionary measure' and she was discharged from hospital soon after her arrival.

Sheriff MacDonald told MacKinnon: 'Your behaviour was alarming and particularly difficult, I'm sure, for your mother.' MacKinnon was fined a total of £600 for both charges and disqualified from driving for a year.

New bid to keep drivers left

A new road safety campaign aimed at preventing vehicles driving on the wrong side of Highland roads has been launched.

Spearheaded by Police Scotland and Transport Scotland, the 'drive on the left' initiative aims to tackle driver behaviour ahead of the peak tourist season.

As part of the scheme, which is backed by Lochaber MSP Kate Forbes, leaflets, stickers and wrist bands, to be worn on the left hand of rental drivers with the text 'Drive on the Left', have been produced in English, French,

German, Spanish, Italian, Dutch, Hindi and Chinese and will be given out by car rental companies.

The launch, at Urquhart Castle alongside the busy A82 trunk road, comes a fortnight after two people were seriously injured after an Argentinian architect drove along the wrong side of the road near Spean Bridge and collided head-on with an oncoming car.

Ms Forbes, MSP for Skye, Lochaber and Badenoch, said: 'My constituent, Sharon Anslow, first launched the Keep Left campaign after she

found herself in a traumatic accident. Since then, we have secured the support of so many different parties. Transport Scotland and Police Scotland between them can reach so many drivers and have the best understanding of road safety of anyone.'

'This initiative is the result of a lot of hard work by many people and I hope it will make our roads safer.'



Michael McDonnell, Director of Road Safety Scotland, and Superintendent Louise Blakelock, Deputy Head of Road Policing in Scotland, at the Drive On The Left campaign launch at Urquhart Castle, Inverness. Photograph: Andrew Smith.

WHAT'S ON in Lochaber

Lochaber Sensory Care's (LSC) fundraising Midsummer Ceilidh will be held in the Railway Social Club, Inverlochy, on Friday, June 21, starting at 7.30pm. The event will feature Larry Byrne and Co., a group of great local artistes. It will be a fun night, with song and dance for all ages. Tickets cost £8, which includes tea and biscuits. The club bar will be open and there will be a raffle. All proceeds will help LSC provide its free service for those with sight

and hearing loss. Tickets are available from LSC, the Railway Club and Ben Nevis Book Corner, Monzie Square.

Lochaber Music School presents its annual Summer Concert on Sunday June 23 at 3pm in Lochaber High School hall. A wonderful miscellany of music-making, including orchestras and choirs, featuring nearly 100 music school youngsters will be staged. Adults £5, children free.

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LT

Vigilance plea after Mallaig hive trashed

by Mark Entwistle
mentwistle@obantimes.co.uk

Beekeepers in Mallaig are being warned to be extra vigilant after an apiarist found one of her hives trashed.

Marion Affleck, secretary of Lochaber Beekeepers Association, said it was heartbreaking to discover the damage last Wednesday morning.

And while the matter has been reported to the police, Mrs Affleck is not sure whether the motive would have been theft or vandalism.

'Vandalism or theft? Hard to say, but there were three full brood frames missing and two empty ones left with the nucleus box, which was secured by a ratchet strap and tied down, completely on its side and left open to the elements,' explained Mrs Affleck.

'There were no signs of the three full brood frames



Left: The vandalised hive. Police enquiries into the incident are on-going.

anywhere. I rescued as many bees as I could and fed them to keep them going.'

A friend out walking her dog had noticed the top of the hive had been dislodged

and immediately alerted Mrs Affleck.

'It is a lot of work rearing bees. When you lose some to disease or pests that's very sad, but that is just part of

keeping bees. But when you lose bees because of theft or because someone decided to destroy something for a laugh, that leaves me at a loss for words.'

A lot of beekeepers keep their hives in their gardens, but Mrs Affleck is unable to do that which means her hives are in a more remote location. 'It makes them potentially more vulnerable to this sort of thing, but there are people who live nearby on a croft who keep an eye on them for me.'

Mrs Affleck is urging other beekeepers and people who overlook hives to be vigilant.

'At least the bees I rescued from the grass where they had been spilled out seem to be recovering and there is a positive sign the Queen is still with them.'

A spokesman for Police Scotland told the Lochaber Times this week enquiries into the incident are on-going.



David Sedgwick, centre, with surgeons and trainees and other members of the teaching team in Cambodia earlier this month.

Surgeon hails Cambodia teaching trip a success

A trip to Cambodia to teach surgical skills to medics in the south-east Asian country has been hailed a success by retired Fort William doctor David Sedgwick.

Mr Sedgwick retired from his post at the Belford Hospital, Fort William, five years ago after more than two decades working in the hospital's operating theatres.

For the past five years he has been part of surgical teaching teams visiting Rwanda, East Jerusalem and Gaza.

Earlier this month, he travelled to the Cambodian capital of Phnom Penh as part of a team teaching the Basic Surgical Skills Course (BSSC). At present there is no structured training course in Cambodia and it is hoped the

BSSC could be a foundation for the development of a formal training curriculum.

The Royal College of Surgeons in Edinburgh credentialled the course and Mr Sedgwick, a consultant general surgeon who has been convener of the BSSC for 20 years, was asked to assess its feasibility. After a visit to Phnom Penh in October 2017, when discussions were held with staff at the University of Health Sciences and the Cambodian Surgical Society, a course was proposed.

After arriving home, Mr Sedgwick said: 'We had seven consultants attend the 'Train the Trainers Workshop' and 18 surgical trainees completed the Basic Surgical Skills Course.'

GETINTOUCH
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View from the Chamber

It was fantastic to see the work of the University of the Highlands and Islands (UHI) recognised in the Guardian newspaper's league table for earth and marine sciences this week.

The university was ranked eighth best in the country for the quality of teaching and satisfaction with courses in these subjects, higher than many long-established universities like Glasgow and just behind St Andrews.

Conceived as an innovative and inclusive way for people living in more remote areas to access high-quality learning up to degree level, West Highland College UHI is the academic partner of the university in Lochaber which provides these opportunities for students.

Many courses are delivered using a combination of online learning, video conferencing and tutorials that connect students with each other throughout the Highlands and islands.

Through this approach, courses run by UHI can be



Jessica MacDonald.

available to students at every campus. The flexibility this approach brings has made studying appealing to those combining education with work and/or family life.

Jessica MacDonald, membership and events officer

at Lochaber Chamber of Commerce, has recently finished the taught component of her postgraduate Master of Business Administration (MBA) through UHI.

Jessica was able to combine advanced level studying with her work at the chamber, bringing her business experience to classes and applying her learning in work.

Having the West Highland College UHI in Lochaber is a great benefit for our area, giving local people a huge range of options for study up to degree level, vocational courses and lifelong learning with outstanding support from college staff.

As active and engaged members of Lochaber Chamber of Commerce, West Highland College UHI can tap into the business community to promote the opportunities they offer and to get valuable feedback on business needs in the area.

Why not pop in to find out what they have got going on or visit <https://www.whc.uhi.ac.uk/>

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Fort William learner driver banned after police chase



Pupils and staff from the Gaelic school celebrate receiving the award in Glasgow.

Bun-Sgoil Ghàidhlig Loch Abar wins big at awards

Bun-sgoil Ghàidhlig Loch Abar won the prestigious Gaelic Award at this year's Scottish Education Awards.

Sponsored by Education Scotland and The Daily Record, the award was presented to pupils and staff from the Gaelic school at a ceremony in the Hilton Glasgow Central on Wednesday June 5.

The Gaelic Education Award included three finalists – Bun-Sgoil Ghàidhlig Loch Abar, Sgoil Stafainn and Sgoil Bhaile a' Mhanaich – and recognises the development of a progressive culture and continuous innovation

in relation to Gaelic medium and Gaelic learner education.

'We are thrilled and delighted to have won this award,' said head teacher John Joe MacNeil.

'Four years ago, we set out a vision to ensure our youngsters were learning at the heart of our language, culture and community and I am delighted we are seeing this vision embedded across our school community.

Dedicated staff

'Thank you to our dedicated and hardworking staff who give our youngsters such an array of opportunities using their language skills in and

out of the classroom. Thank you to all our families and partners for their continued support.

'Thank you to our inspirational youngsters who pride themselves in our language and culture every day and are the future of our language.'

Bòrd na Gàidhlig sponsored this category and congratulated Mr MacNeil on the school's success.

Ingrid Henderson, chairwoman of the parent council, added: 'We are very pleased the school has been recognised at a national level for the outstanding work it does for all our children.'

Tribute to hiker killed by lightning

Nevis Hillwalking Club and Lochaber and Lorn Ramblers groups have issued a statement expressing their shock and sadness at the death of member Isobel Bytautas, who died earlier this month after being struck by lightning.

Mrs Bytautas, 55, from Selkirk in the Scottish Borders, had been walking in the Mamore Range, near Kinlochleven, with a party from Linlithgow Ramblers.

The walking clubs said: 'Members from Nevis Hillwalking Club and Lochaber and Lorn Ramblers who walked with Isobel knew her as a keen, strong and enthusiastic hillwalker and a competent, well-trained and trustworthy companion. 'She will be sorely missed. Our thoughts are of her family and friends, especially those who dealt with the horror of this incident.'

Another woman from the

walking group, who was also struck by lightning, was taken to Belford Hospital, Fort William. Police were alerted to the incident at 5.42pm on Saturday June 8 and called in help from HM Coastguard helicopter, Glencoe Mountain Rescue Team, the Scottish Ambulance service Helimed and ambulances. The party was traced on Na Gruagaichean and the two casualties and the rest of their party were airlifted out.

A Fort William man whose driving test practise resulted in a car chase with police has been disqualified from driving and ordered to carry out unpaid work.

Jack Salter, 21, of Lochaber Road, pleaded guilty to driving dangerously when he appeared at Fort William Sheriff Court on Tuesday. He also admitted to failing to stop for police and driving without insurance.

On Tuesday December 11 last year, Salter was driving up Kennedy Road in his white Vauxhall Corsa with a passenger in the front seat when he encountered a police van on a narrow section of the road.

Upon sight of the police, Salter, who held a provisional driving licence at the time, reversed into a side road and started driving back down the hill before taking a left

Twenty-one-year old tried to evade police

into Pine Grove, ending up in a dead end.

The police eventually followed him in there and tried to stop him by turning on the blue lights.

Salter then carried out a three-point turn in Pine Grove before his car collided with the front bumper of the police vehicle.

The court heard Salter then drove along a grassy public embankment in an attempt to evade the police vehicle.

Procurator Fiscal Marina Eastwood said at this point the passenger in Salter's car began to get anxious about his safety.

Salter continued out of Pine Grove and turned on to

Argyll Road but he lost control and spun onto the opposite side of the road where he hit the kerb and damaged his car.

In mitigation, defence solicitor Hamish Melrose said Salter was hoping to sit a driving test and obtain a licence to 'better himself' before this incident took place.

Sheriff Eilidh MacDonald disqualified Salter from driving for 19 months and ordered him to carry out 225 hours of unpaid work within six months.

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A TWO DAY CELEBRATION OF Deirdre of the Sorrows 21st and 22nd June 2019

DAY ONE

Exploring the 12th Century Glenmasan Manuscript
Opening address and welcome by Michael Russell, MSP for Argyll & Bute and Irish Consul General to Scotland Mark Hanniffy.

Lecture by Professor Ruairí Ó hUiginn
Professor of Celtic Studies at Trinity College Dublin

Studio Theatre, Corran Halls • Friday 21st June at 5:00pm
Entry Free – All Welcome

DAY TWO

UK Premiere Performance of The Glenmasan Manuscript
Concerto by Swiss composer Marc Jeanbourquin

St John's Cathedral, Oban • Saturday 22nd June at 2:30pm
Entry Free – All Welcome

There will be an interval during the performance with tea and coffee served in the vestibule.
The Glasgow Wind Band is one of the top Symphonic wind orchestras in the UK.



LT

Mòd Aird nam Murchan



Parker Dawes from Acharacle Primary School took first in the accordion under-13 competition.



Donnie MacAskill was first in chanter two-part march.

The annual Mòd Aird nam Murchan took place at Ardnamurchan High School last Friday.

The committee was delighted it also had competitions running in the newly-opened Strontian Primary School for the first time.

Pupils from Ardnamurchan peninsula's five peninsula primary schools and high school, as well as pupils from Mull, Oban and Fort William, took part in choral, solo singing, traditional singing, instrumental, poetry recitation and conversation competitions in the area's biggest mòd with more than 400 entries.

Unfortunately, just like last year, the sun did not shine but the performances brightened everyone's day.

Adjudicators commented on the high standard of entries and everyone agreed Ardnamurchan High School was a wonderful setting for the mòd.

In the evening, a good crowd heard a range of performances at the prizewinners' concert and watched the trophies being presented.

Youngsters hit the right notes at annual event



Sisters Kara, 7, and Layla Orr-MacIntyre, 11, from Còisir og Loch Àlainn took five first places between them culminating in the highest marks for music and Gaelic.

This year's convenor Fiona Maclean was delighted to announce an additional prize as The Clan Maclean Heritage

Trust has donated the new Lady Maclean of Duart Award.

This is a cash prize of £100,

Right: Salen Primary School's P1/2 pupils performed an action song.

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in memory of the chief's (Sir Lachlan Maclean of Duart and Morvern) first wife Mary Maclean, for the under 18 choir achieving the highest combined mark for Gaelic and music.

This year, it was won by Comunn Gàidhealach Mhuile.

Hard work

Secretary Teresa Bolton told the Lochaber Times: 'The committee was very pleased that after months of hard work by pupils, teachers and tutors everyone performed so well and everyone enjoyed themselves.'

Organisers wished all those competing at the Royal National Mòd in Glasgow later this year the best of luck and said they were looking forward to welcoming everyone back to Ardnamurchan next year.



Archie Johnston from Mull was a medal winner.



Holly Cameron from Ardnamurchan High School got a first in solo singing learners age 13-15.



Laura Robertson from Lochaber High School took first for poem, first equal in prescribed, first in piping and first in traditional.



Alexander Pervan from Acharacle Primary School was among the medal winners this year.



Lily Jane Robertson from Fort William was first in fluent solo singing.



Logie Johnston was first in the whistle for the under-13s.



Rachel Bolton of Coisir og Loch Àlainn won three first places.



David Rodgers from Bun Sgoil Loch Abar won first for his poetry recitation.



Ruaraidh MacLean from Comunn Gàidhealach Mhuile won a first for fluent solo singing.

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Trophy winners

Junior Section - Oral
Cupan Shuardail (Swordle Cup) Local - Learners, for the highest Gaelic mark in poetry under 13 years - Ava Stewart, Kilchoan Primary School.

Mòd Aird nam Murchan Trophy Open - under 13 years, for highest Gaelic mark in poetry - joint winners - Alexander Pervan, Acharacle Primary School and Camryn Nic Ille Mhicheal, Bun Sgoil An t-Sàilein.

Lochaber Gaelic Development Group Cup Local GM Poetry 13-18 years - Maighsi Rough, Ardnamurchan High School.

Caitness Glass Trophy Local - Learners Poetry, 13-18 years - Rachel Bolton, Coisir Og Loch Alainn.

Lochaber Gaelic Development Group Cuach, for Conversation Open 5-8 years - Rachel MacNeil, Bunsgoil Mhalaig.

Lochaber Gaelic Development Group Cuach, for Conversation Open 9-12 years - Alasdair Mackay, Acharacle Primary School.

Charlie MacColl Memorial Shield, for conversation Local Under 18 Learners and GM - Sean MacLellan, Ardnamurchan High School.

Graham Croal Trophy, open Under 18 years for the highest mark attained in any of the competitions - Ava Stewart, Kilchoan Primary School.

Junior Section - Singing

John S Thomson, Glenborrodale Cup Local - Solo, for the highest Gaelic mark attained in any of the competitions 9-under 13 years: joint - Alasdair MacKay, Acharacle Primary School; Layla Orr-MacIntyre, Coisir Og Loch Alainn; Alexander Pervan, Acharacle Primary School.

Peter MacQueen, Ardgor Memorial Cup Local - Solo, for the highest music mark attained in any of the competitions 9-under 13 years: Joint - Alexander Pervan, Acharacle Primary School; Layla Orr-MacIntyre, Coisir Og Loch Alainn.

Mòd Aird nam Murchan Trophy Open for the highest mark attained in music and Gaelic 9-under 13 years: Joint - Alexander Pervan, Acharacle Primary School; Layla Orr-MacIntyre, Coisir Og Loch Alainn.

The Daily Record Cuach for the highest Gaelic mark 5 - 8 years - Kara MacIntyre, Coisir Og Loch Alainn.

Kate Stewart Memorial Cup Local - Solo, for the highest music mark 5-8 years - Kara MacIntyre, Coisir Og Loch Alainn. Mòd Aird nam Murchan Trophy Open, for the highest mark attained in music and Gaelic 5-8 years - Freja Cavaye, Bun-Sgoil

Ghàidhlig Loch Abar.

Scottish Natural Heritage Trophy Solo, for the highest total attained in music and Gaelic 13-18 years - Floriana Lawrence, Coisir Og Loch Alainn.

The Joan Smith Memorial Cup Unison Singing, for the choir attaining the highest mark in Gaelic and music Under 18 years - Coisir Og Mhuile.

The Convenor's Cup Unison Puirt-a-beul, for the choir attaining the highest mark in Gaelic and music under 18 years - Comunn Gàidhealach Mhuile.

The Campbell Memorial Shield 1 Song, for the choir attaining the highest mark in Gaelic and music under 13 years - Coisir Og Loch Alainn.

The Fiunary Cup 1 Song of Lochaber, for the choir attaining the highest mark in Gaelic and music - Coisir Og Loch Alainn.

The Lady Maclean Award £100 Under 18, for the choir achieving the highest combined Gaelic and music mark - Comunn Gàidhealach Mhuile

Special competitions

The Mod Air nam Murchan Shield, Action Song Under 10 years - Acharacle Primary School.

The Iain Ross Cameron ,Drimnin Memorial Cup, Folk Group Under 18 years - Acharacle Primary School.

Instrumental

Iain MacPherson Trophy, Learners Under 13 years, for the highest mark attained in fiddle - Eliza Moffat, Bun-Sgoil Ghàidhlig Loch Abar.

Sunart Oakwoods Trophy, 13-18 years, for the highest mark attained in Fiddle - Jodi MacLennan, Ardnamurchan High School.

Donald Boyd Cuach, local, under 13 years, for the highest mark attained in Fiddle - Nicholas Tait, Strontian Primary School.

Gillespie MacMillan Mod Cup, under 18 years, for the highest mark attained in Accordion: joint winners - Seamus Buchanan, Ardnamurchan High School; Parker Dawes, Acharacle Primary School.

Ardnamurchan Mod Mini Silver Cup, under 18 years, for the highest mark attained in Chanter - Donnie MacAskill, Acharacle Primary School.

Ardnamurchan Mod Shield, under 18 years, for highest mark attained in Piano or Keyboard - Rachel Bolton, Ardnamurchan High School.

Ardnamurchan Mod Clarsach Cup, under 18 years, for the highest mark attained in Clarsach - Frances

MacDonald, Ardnamurchan High School.

Ardnamurchan Mod Guitar Cup, under 18 years, for the highest mark attained in Guitar: joint - Maighsi Rough, Ardnamurchan High School; Alasdair MacKay, Acharacle Primary School.

Ailean Mhica'Phearsain Plaque, under 18 years, for highest mark attained in piping - Laura Robertson, Fort William.



Right: Megan Johnston got a first for solo singing.



Above: Layla Orr MacIntyre of Coisir og Loch Alainn won first in solo singing.



Right: Jodi MacLennan from Ardnamurchan High School was first in fiddle for 13-18 years age group.



The Johnston family made the trip from Mull to compete in various competitions. Back row, from left: Logie, 12, and Archie, 11. Front, from left: Megan, 9, and Seren, 6. Photograph: Abrightside Photography.

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Reverend Morag Muirhead handing over to Reverend Sandy Stoddart from Duror and St Munda's as Moderator for the year 2019/20.



The Reverend Alan Lamb and his wife, Helen Lamb.

Lochaber Presbytery installs new moderator

Lochaber Presbytery has welcomed its new Moderator for 2019/20.

Reverend Sandy Stoddart was installed at a service of worship and communion at Duror Church earlier this month when Reverend Morag Muirhead stepped down as Moderator for 2018/19 and welcomed Sandy into his new role.

There was a buffet at Duror and Kentallen Community Hall after the service, followed by a business meeting. Since the presbytery last

met in March, there have been significant events.

In May, Reverend Dr Malcolm Kinnear, minister at Kinlochleven and Nether Lochaber since 2010, was married in Edinburgh to Reverend Marion Perry.

Reverend Perry joined from Falkirk Presbytery and was welcomed by Reverend Stoddart. This month Reverend Alan Lamb, retired associate minister who has been in Lochaber since 1992, celebrates 60 years since his ordination.

Reverend Lamb has been locum minister in many of the parishes in Lochaber in his 27 years as a member of the presbytery and Reverend Lamb's wife Helen has been involved in the Guild throughout the area as well as nationally.

They are members of North West Lochaber congregation and many of the congregation joined the presbytery in congratulating Reverend Lamb on his ministry, his milestone



Reverend Dr Malcolm Kinnear and Reverend Marion Kinnear, nee Perry.

achievement and contribution during the past 60 years.

At the end of June, Reverend Dr Richard and May Corbett will be retiring to Perth. Reverend Corbett came to be parish minister in Kilmallie in 2005 and both

Reverend and Mrs Corbett will be missed. May has been involved nationally and locally in the Guild. Margaret Antonios from Kilmallie congregation gave a tribute to their ministry on behalf of the congregation.



Reverend Dr Richard Corbett, standing, says his farewells.

Shopmobility awards

Shopmobility Lochaber held its annual Volunteer of the Year presentation during afternoon tea at the Nevis Centre on Friday.

Friend and Shopmobility sponsor Paula MacAskill was delighted to present the Volunteer of the Year shield for 2018 to John Anderson from Corpach and for 2019 to Isobel Gillies from Caol.

This year is the 35th anniversary of Volunteer's Week and Shopmobility Lochaber was proud to be a partner in the national programme.

It is a great time to say 'thank you' to volunteers who help with the smooth running of Shopmobility Lochaber by taking bookings for servicing or repairs by a qualified engineer, taking bookings for wheelchairs and mobility scooters and

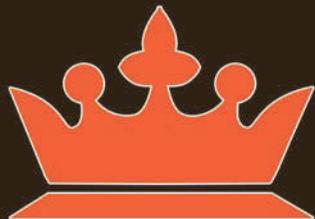
deal with mobility enquiries. Volunteering has been shown to have a positive impact on the well-being of those who volunteer.

Mr Anderson said: 'Coming in to Shopmobility and helping other people makes me feel useful. It's human nature to feel good after helping someone out.'

If anyone is interested in volunteering with Shopmobility, call 01397 700051.

Right: Shopmobility sponsor Paula MacAskill, second left, with Shopmobility manager Janette Cowie, second right, and Volunteer of the Year 2018 John Anderson and Volunteer of the Year 2019 Isobel Gillies.





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New music event to get Caol jumping

The Highlands has long been associated with music of many different kinds.

And tomorrow (Friday) Caol Community Centre is the venue for a new event which organisers hope will

become an annual fixture on Lochaber's music calendar.

FortRockz is the brainchild of I-C-E, an organisation aiming to promote creative education for young people of all ages through music, dance and drama.

Aileen Hornby, a founder member of I-C-E, told the Lochaber Times: 'I-C-E run a rock school at Kinlochleven

High School and a jam session in Ballachulish Village Hall. My eldest son, who is a music student at West Highland College, was also involved in the rock school run by the college. After seeing the show, a few parents said it would be great if there was a platform for young people who have an interest in rock and pop music to perform. And that

is where I-C-E stepped in to help organise this event.'

Tomorrow will see more than 20 young people from Mallaig, Kinlochleven, Fort William and Ballachulish come together in five bands and two solo performances to perform covers and original songs. Doors open at 6.45pm, with the performance beginning at 7pm.

Left: Some of the young musicians set to rock Caol Community Centre tomorrow (Friday) night.



Commando painting gifted to Fort William museum

Three brothers fulfilled the wishes of their late uncle when they travelled to Fort William from the south of England to present one of his paintings to the town's West Highland Museum.

Artist Frank Longley painted his dramatic picture of the Commando Memorial at Spean Bridge with a spectacular red sky out of admiration for the Commandos, which stemmed from a Second World War encounter with the special forces soldiers in the desert. In 1974, he did the

outline of the painting which was presented to the museum, finishing it the following year with the powerful red sky, which he observed while he sketched.

Three of his nephews, from left, Stewart, Michael and Peter Longley, travelled from various locations in England last Friday to hand the painting to West Highland Museum Curator Vanessa Martin, left, on behalf of the family. It will now hang in the display room dedicated to the Commandos.

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Robotics team delivers top class workshop

West Lochaber primary school pupils have been learning about robotics at a special workshop in Acharacle Primary School.

Members of Robotical, the Edinburgh-based company behind the popular educational tool Marty the Robot, delivered the event for youngsters from Acharacle, Kilchoan and Ardgour primary schools.

With the number of Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) subjects at school and university level currently insufficient to fill employment opportunities in a changing workplace, Donald Houston, director of the Ardnamurchan trust, felt compelled to act, given his engineering background and his concerns too many

young people are being put off STEM.

The Ardnamurchan Trust paid for robots for the three schools and a STEM workshop delivered by Robotical staff Tanya Howden, Myles Bax and founder and inventor of Marty, Dr Sandy Enoch.

Dr Enoch, who completed his PhD in Robotics at the University of Edinburgh, also gave a talk on how robots can be a force for good in the world. The students were suitably impressed with ideas ranging from robots that clear up the oceans to robots that can tidy rooms.

Also in attendance was Andrew Johnston of Highlands and Islands Enterprise who is responsible for expanding educational technology across the

Highlands in the form of Norwegian-inspired STEM 'Newton Rooms', designed to provide space for science learners to prepare for future careers.

A great day was had by everyone and James Rawlinson, a teacher at Kilchoan Primary School, said: 'What a fantastic workshop Kilchoan, Acharacle and Ardgour schools had from Robotical staff who introduced us to Marty. We learned how to programme and loved everything we could make the robot do. Huge thanks to Donald Houston and the Ardnamurchan Trust for putting us forward for this initiative and funding the costs.'

Dr Enoch added: 'I was delighted we could bring Marty



Pupils and members of the Robotical team.

the Robot to this beautiful part of Scotland and pleased at how engaged the students were. It is fantastic to see young people having such a fun time while learning STEM subjects. Our goal is to bring the creative and problem solving aspects of engineering to life and to encourage more students to study robotics and computer science as there is already a big skills gap. I hope we inspired a few students.'



Students from Acharacle Primary School, Kilchoan Primary School and Ardgour Primary School took part in a robotics workshop.

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Lochalsh couple in finals of young writers award

A former Plockton High School pupil has been named as a finalist in the National Wicked Young Writer Award in the 18-to-25-year-old category for the third consecutive year.

But this year is particularly special for Anna-Roisin Ullman-Smith, 23, as she has been joined as a finalist with her partner Jack Johnstone, 24, also a former Plockton High School pupil. That makes them the first couple to be chosen as finalists for the Wicked Award.

Not only that, but the pair became first time parents just before the awards were announced in early May.

'It is very exciting to be a finalist again,' said Anna-Roisin. 'Of course nothing compares to the joy of being a parent, but I wrote the story full of pregnancy hormones so this award is in a large part my daughter's too. I am very happy Jack has made it with

me. I suggested he should enter too as he loves to write children's stories. He is very talented and I'm thrilled he got chosen on his first go. Our daughter is going to have all the best stories written for her by her daddy.'

The prestigious Wicked Young Writer Awards, in partnership with National Literacy Trust, were established by the long-running musical WICKED. Since its launch in 2010, there have been more than 20,000 entries to the awards.

Jack added: 'I can't believe I got chosen too. I'm very proud of Anna-Roisin, especially as this is her third year of being selected by the judges.'

Anna-Roisin comes from Auchtertyre in Lochalsh and Jack's family is based in Kyle of Lochalsh. The couple now live in Glasgow, where Anna writes, has a book review web site, The Readers Guide, and is a social media adviser.

Jack is a qualified first years teacher.

Each year, there is a prize-giving at the Apollo Victoria Theatre for all 120 finalists covering the five age categories. The event is attended by the judges, including head judge Cressida Cowell, the WICKED cast and a range of special guests and includes special performances. All finalists also receive a printed copy of their entry as part of the annual Wicked Young Writer Awards Anthology.

However, with a new born baby to look after, Anna-Roisin and Jack said they might not be able to attend the event today (Thursday June 20).

Right: Anna-Roisin and Jack are the first couple to be chosen as finalists for the Wicked award.



New Council Tax figures welcomed

New figures showing 2,160 households in the Western Isles benefited from the SNP Government's Council Tax Reduction Scheme in March have been welcomed by Na h-Eileanan an Iar SNP MSP Alasdair Allan.

The scheme helps to provide financial support to low income households. Every week in March, £25,600 of savings were made to the total Western Isles Council Tax bill. Between 2013/14 and the end of 2018/19, the Scottish Government invested more than £1.4 billion into the Council Tax Reduction Scheme – recently extending the initiative to include higher band households who fall below average earnings up to a maximum of £25,000 net income.

Mr Allan said: 'In the face of huge cuts from the UK Tory government, the SNP has helped almost half a million households every year with their Council Tax bill.'

'I would encourage anyone who thinks they might be eligible for a reduction in their Council Tax to get in touch with their Citizen's Advice Bureau for advice.'

MacPhail

ANGUS MACPHAIL

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I have been trying to track down a boat my father owned for nearly 15 years without success.

She was built as the Moher Maid, coming from County Clare in the West of Ireland near where the cliffs of Moher dominate the coastline.

When dad bought her in 1987 he renamed her the Skipinnis Maid after my mother.

She was the only boat of those he had owned that might still have been in existence.

Thanks to Facebook and some very helpful people, last Saturday she was found!

That day, I posted what is below on the Irish Fishing boat Facebook page through which the information on her was found.

Keeping with the recent celebration of Father's Day, I have included it in this article. It is now nearly 20 years since my father died and despite the time that has elapsed, he was still on that boat with me on Saturday.

I travelled over to Cork and then on to Fenit today and stood on board this boat for the first time in over 25 years. Huge thanks to William Kelly

for the detective work, transport, hospitality and good company.

Also massive thanks to Leighton, the boat's current owner, for being so welcoming and having me on board. I had pretty much given up hope of this boat still being in existence. It is difficult to explain the strength of connection to boats but today was a very, very powerful day for me.'

Another aspect of my trip to Kerry that added significantly to the sense of a completing circle was the calibre of those who I met when there, the warm hospitality I was shown and the sense I felt of being at home among them.

When dad bought the boat in October of 1987, on his passage home the conditions were poor and he was weather bound in various ports up the West of Ireland.

He talked for many years afterwards about the warm welcome he received from the people in all these harbours.

Willie Kelly of KK Hydraulics, Tralee, who found the boat and was the main lynch pin in the positive outcome – who up until last Wednesday I had never met

or heard of – collected me at Cork Airport and welcomed me to his house like an old friend. Leighton James of Ballyheige the current owner of the boat welcomed me on board and understood exactly what the boat and the trip meant to me.

In Leighton, his brother Brent and their late father Patrick there were many other close parallels that added to the completing circle.

These men, their families and the many others I met were exactly the same type of people as dad described meeting while taking the boat home nearly 32 years ago.

The closing circles of boats and human connections of last weekend made the journey one of the most emotional and deeply enjoyable I have ever experienced.

A poem I wrote a few years after dad passed away goes some way to explain how the experience of finding the boat felt.

To read it, visit www.obantimes.co.uk

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Trial shift of seabed control

Control of the Outer Hebrides foreshore and seabed, currently in the hands of The Crown Estate, is to return to the community on a trial basis, following decades of campaigning by Comhairle nan Eilean Siar and its partners.

The new Crown Estate (Scotland) Act 2019 makes provision for management of the foreshore and seabed to be devolved to local organ-

isations and, in a joint bid to Crown Estate Scotland, the comhairle and Galson Estate Trust are seeking these powers.

Crown Estate Scotland and Scottish Ministers have awarded the comhairle/Galson trust bid preferred project status meaning, subject to the conclusion of negotiation around detailed points, the Outer Hebrides proposal can move towards

implementation in the near future.

Under the proposal, an Outer Hebrides Marine Development Partnership, comprising representatives of all agencies and regulators with an interest in the Hebridean seas, will assess applications for foreshore or seabed leases before making a recommendation to Galson trust for renewable energy developments in the Galson

trust sea area – out to 12nm – and a committee of elected comhairle members for all other developments across the Hebrides marine region – out to 12nm.

Comhairle convener Norman A Macdonald said: ‘The comhairle and its partners have lobbied vigorously over many years for a greater say in the administration of our islands’ foreshore and seabed.

‘Historically, these areas have been managed by The Crown Estate with little local involvement in decision making. This pilot project allows local people and experts to decide what is best for the sea area and, for the first time, there will be a particular focus on securing socio-economic benefit for the community from any commercial activity in the sea around our islands. ‘Although this pilot is

restricted to managing foreshore and seabed assets, we continue to press Scottish Ministers on the return of revenues from these leases to the communities hosting the developments and we are making good progress on this.

‘Through partnership with Galson trust, the comhairle is reversing a long history of external control and is empowering our communities.’



The successful partnership between west coast ferry operator CalMac and City of Glasgow College was recognised in the Training and Employee Retention category of the CIS Excellence Awards.

CalMac's commitment to training recognised

West coast ferries operator CalMac has won a prestigious hospitality award for its innovative Modern Apprenticeship partnership with City of Glasgow College.

The partnership picked up the top prize in the Training and Employee Retention category at the CIS Excellence Awards.

The awards recognise creativity, innovation and excellence in the Scottish hospitality, catering and tourism sectors.

This category specifically rewards companies which prioritise the training, engagement and retention of staff and which regard continuous professional development as the mainstay of a successful business.

‘Our partnership with City of Glasgow College continues to go from strength to strength producing a pipeline of recruits keen to spend a long career with the company,’ said CalMac’s director of human resources Christine

Roberts. ‘This award is recognition of the value we place on our staff.

‘CalMac is all about providing first class customer service and I’m delighted the efforts we make to ensure staff are continuously developed to ensure our high standards are maintained has been rewarded.’

CalMac and City of Glasgow College created a Maritime Hospitality Modern Apprenticeship in 2016, the first in the UK, after recog-

nising there was no formal training path for retail crew to get started in the industry.

Now in its fourth year, the programme has trained and retained 35 crew from across the company’s communities.

Trainees follow a 12-month programme where they learn every aspect of the hospitality industry from customer care, to food hygiene and licensing law as well as the duties required to safely sail the vessel including passenger evacuation and fire fighting.

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Island swimmer Colin makes it across the Minch



Island endurance swimmer Colin MacLeod has become the first man to swim solo across the Big Minch between the mainland and Lewis.

And Na h-Eileanan an Iar SNP MSP Alasdair Allan has put down a motion in the Scottish Parliament congratulating him on his success.

Colin completed the crossing in 21 hours, setting off from Gairloch just after 4am on June 10, arriving in Lemreway, South Lochs, just after 1am the following day, having swum 33 miles.

He has so far raised more than £7,500 for Cancer Research UK, smashing his original target of £5,000.

The first person to complete a similar solo swim was Colleen Blair in July last year.

Mr Allan said: 'This is a fantastic achievement for Colin, who had been preparing for this for some time.'

'Along with many others, I was following the steady

'After a no-finish last year, I was determined to get the job done this time.'

progress he was making throughout the day on Monday tackling his amazing 33-mile swim.

'In conquering the Minch, Colin has put in an incredible feat of endurance to raise thousands of pounds for charity. I hope he is now enjoying some well-earned rest.'

Colin told the Lochaber Times: 'I'm really pleased to get the Big Minch channel under my swim cap now.'

'After a no-finish last year, I was determined to get the job done this time.'

'I had a fantastic support squad beside me. I couldn't have done the swim without them. And there was great

Main photograph: A curious Minke whale pops up to check out the support kayak. Top left: Colin keeps ploughing through the cold waters of The Minch. Above left: Colin grabs a welcome drink during the swim. Right: Colin cuts a lonely spectacle as he makes the crossing.

support too on land, especially from my wife Donna.

'Family and friends had a late night watching my progress via the satellite tracker, just over 31 miles in 21 hours from Gairloch, mainland Scotland, to Lemreway, Isle of Lewis. Thanks also to TalkTalk for sponsoring the swim. My good friend Paul Finnegan will be having his attempt within the next couple of months and I wish him all the best for it.'

People can donate to Colin's chosen charity, Cancer Research UK, via his JustGiving page at www.justgiving.com/fundraising/theminchswims

Interconnector concerns continue

Business Secretary Greg Clark MP has agreed to look at concerns raised by Isles MP Angus MacNeil regarding the position of Ofgem on plans for an interconnector for the Hebrides.

Speaking in the House of Commons in response to last week's announcement of a new Government plan to tackle climate change, Mr MacNeil said approval of the 600MW interconnector would help to achieve the goal of cutting greenhouse gas emissions to almost zero by 2050.

Mr MacNeil told the Commons: 'A practical step to help cut greenhouse gas emissions would be building a 600MW interconnector to the Hebrides, rather than a 450MW interconnector.'

'Given the statement today, will he make sure Ofgem can see the bigger picture and give the 600MW interconnector the green light?'

'If Ofgem keep the current blinkered formula, it won't be 650MW, it won't be 450MW but will be net MW zero as a result of their policies.'

In response, Mr Clark said

he would follow up on Mr MacNeil's concerns regarding Ofgem's position.

He also recalled his visit to Stornoway during which he had had discussions with Mr MacNeil on plans to make it possible for 'remote islands' to benefit from wind energy.

Earlier this year, Ofgem stated its position was to favour a 450MW interconnector rather than a 600MW connection.

It is currently considering a final decision on the Needs Case following further consultation.

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LETTERS

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Mòd Aird nam Murchan 2019 is huge success

A huge round of applause for everyone involved in this year's Mòd Aird nam Murchan, which took place at Ardnamurchan High School last Friday.

Pupils from Ardnamurchan peninsula's five peninsula primary schools and high school, as well as pupils from Mull, Oban and Fort William, took part in choral, solo singing, traditional singing, instrumental, poetry recitation and conversation competitions in the area's biggest mòd with well over 400 entries.

For the first time this year competitions were also running in the newly-opened Stronian Primary School.

The competition had an additional prize this year as The Clan Maclean Heritage Trust donated the new Lady Maclean of Duart Award for the under-18 choir achieving the highest combined mark for Gaelic and music.

Well done to Comunn Gàidhealach Mhuile, who won it this year.

Congratulations to all those involved in organising the annual event. The huge amount of hard work is much appreciated.

Trashing of Mallaig beehive is shameful

The news that someone or a number of people deliberately trashed a beehive in Mallaig is sickening.

Marion Affleck, secretary of Lochaber Beekeepers Association, who owns the hive said: 'When you lose bees because of theft or because someone decided to destroy something for a laugh, that leaves me at a loss for words.' She is not the only one.

The worst aspect of all of this is the death of bees. Whoever did this should be ashamed of themselves. We would encourage anyone who knows anything to speak out.

MICT committed to helping parents with childcare issues

The letter from Argyll and Bute Council regarding childcare in last week's edition was prompted by an article about pre-school arrangements on Mull from August 2020, but referred back to a pre-school pilot initiated in 2015.

It stated that MICT made assurances about delivery of wraparound care as part of the pilot and then failed to deliver. In fact, MICT was not consulted about the pilot nor the application to the Scottish Government to fund it. The application committed MICT as a partner without our knowledge or agreement, and we were only informed once funding was granted and the pilot announced. As such, false promises or assurances could not have been made.

Despite concerns from MICT trustees about the circumstances, we made every effort to support the pilot as it aligned with our aims to improve childcare. We were as disappointed as the council when we could not find staff for the temporary, holiday-working positions, leaving us unable to finalise our Care Inspectorate registration.

Regarding the more recent MICT project for a nursery at Aros, the council was supportive then unexpectedly announced in September 2018 that it would not provide funding from its budget to extend pre-school hours. Those involved were aware the project was dependent on this investment. We were forced to delay while we sought meetings to clarify the council's plans.

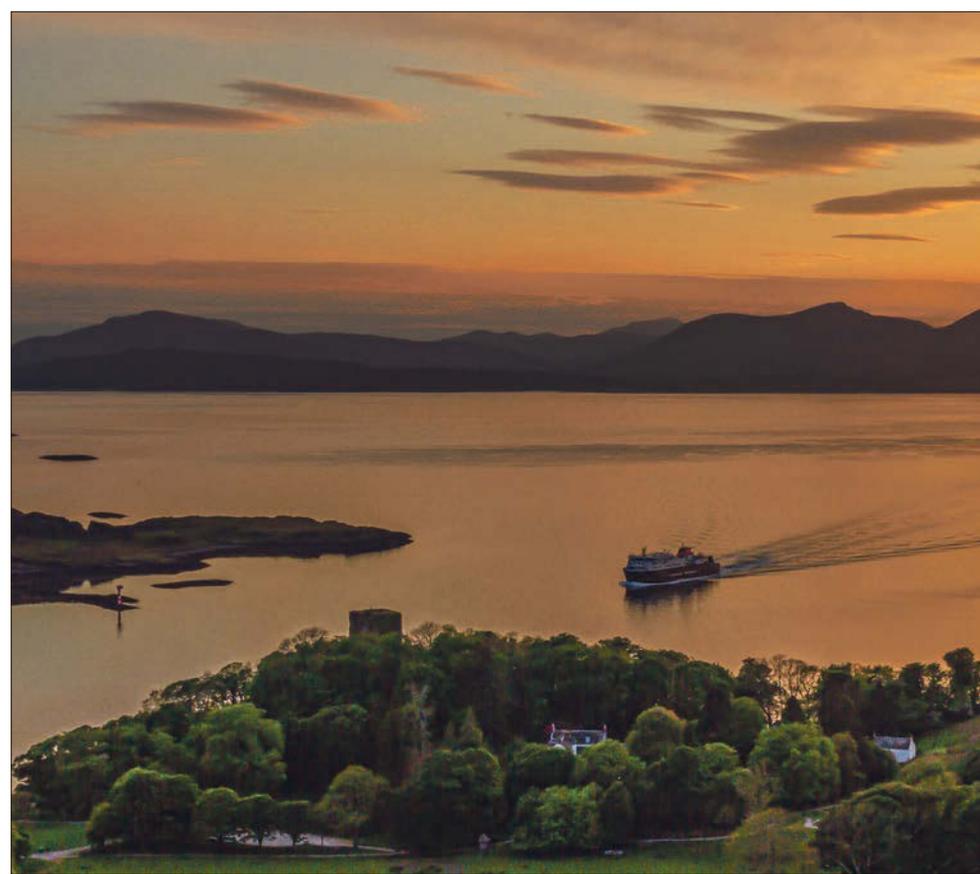
At the Salen meeting last month we learned, alongside staff and parents, about plans to provide the increased pre-school hours at the school.

The council reiterated that council policy not to invest in non-council property prevented them from investing in our project, as we have been told, so we were surprised to read in the letter that the decision was instead due to a lack of preparedness on our behalf.

We are committed to helping parents on Mull who struggle to work due to the lack of childcare. We need to find other ways of doing so now the council intends to deliver extended pre-school hours in isolation rather than as part of a broader childcare facility, but hope to work productively together on any plans we take forward.

Moray Finch and the Board of MICT.

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.

Village surgeries on Islay

I was recently out and about in Islay visiting local businesses, hearing from my constituents and checking up on the progress being made with road and pavement repairs.

At my latest Port Ellen surgery I heard numerous concerns from residents.

These included the continuing poor condition of Mansfield Road and flooding on Charlotte Street due to drainage issues.

I have raised these matters with our roads

department directly and have also raised them at MAKI area meetings. Even with the welcome investment in our roads network clearly more needs to be done.

Availability of ferry spaces or lack thereof is being brought to my attention by ever increasing numbers.

With the terrific economic and industrial expansion we are seeing, particularly on the south side of the island, and the huge growth in tourism to both Islay and Jura, CalMac's management and Transport Scotland must



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DISTRICT NEWS

FORT WILLIAM

Well-known Fort William pub and restaurant for sale

One of Fort William's best known pub/restaurants is for sale.

Brothers Edward and Guy Daynes are selling the business after 25 years to further develop their hospitality business in Glencoe.

With an asking price of £825,000 for the freehold going concern, The Grog and Gruel, on the town's High Street, comprises a ground floor lounge bar, a restaurant on the first floor, a beer garden to the rear and a fully fitted commercial kitchen.

In a statement, Edward and Guy Daynes said: 'Food and drink in the Highlands looked different 25 years ago and we set out with a 10-year plan to showcase Scottish products in a relaxed environment and we got carried away with things. A quarter of a century later, we think it's time to let someone else take The Grog and Gruel to the next level, in an exciting and dynamic market.'

Stuart Drysdale, director at Christie & Co's Edinburgh office who is handling the sale, added: 'The Grog and Gruel has recorded steady levels of turnover and profitability in recent years and requires little capital expenditure.'

'Given the business's central location within the town's pub and restaurant circuit, The Grog and Gruel presents a terrific opportunity for an experienced operator to begin trading immediately and take the business to the next level.'



The Grog and Gruel.



St John's children make first Holy Communion

Children of St John's Parish Church, Caol, Fort William, after they made their first Holy Communion. Also pictured is Violet Smith, head teacher of St Columba's Primary School, and Father Roddy McAuley who gave the children their First Holy Communion.

The children were filmed for a BBC Scotland hour-long documentary on First Holy Communion, with the children given cameras to capture their thoughts during their lessons leading up to the day of their First Holy Communion.



Members of Lochaber Sensory Care's social group cut their fifth birthday cake in the Alexandra Hotel, Fort William. Photograph: Iain Ferguson, alba.photos

Lochaber Sensory Care celebrates fifth birthday

Members of Lochaber Sensory Care's social group recently enjoyed music, cake and good company as they celebrated the organisation's fifth birthday.

Lochaber Sensory Care maintains hearing aids and equipment for visually challenged people and members of its social group have regular outings to venues across Lochaber and beyond.

To mark the group's fifth anniversary, members gathered in the Alexandra Hotel, Fort William, where entertainer Paula MacAskill played music and sang for them, while hotel staff presented them with a specially-made birthday cake.



Summer fete fun at Lundavra Primary School

Youngsters enjoyed Lundavra Primary School's annual summer fete in the sunshine last week. From face-painting and a bouncy castle, to jumble sales and raffles, there was something for everyone at the school in Upper Achintore. There was even a visit from Minnie and Mickey Mouse. Photograph: A Brightside Photography.

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Inverlochy primary pupils aim for a waste-free world

Inverlochy Primary School pupils were among a group of young people brought together in Edinburgh this month for the launch of a display about their work on waste-free products for a sustainable world.

Around 100 Scottish school-children gathered at the National Museum of Scotland to celebrate their work to design environmental-friendly products.

As part of the Making Circles project, the primary and secondary students worked with professional designers to come up with imaginative concepts and prototypes for sustainable goods.

Ideas included a wallet made from tyre inner tubes and goggles with a mini wind turbine that powered a light to help see in the dark.

A variety of bags included a backpack with a solar phone charger, one with straps to adapt to the growth of a child and another with a variety of looks to suit different uses and occasions.

The event marked the culmination of Making Circles and featured the

launch of posters showing some of the designs and products and explaining more about the project.

Mary Michel of Edinburgh-based organisation Ostrero, which is behind Making Circles, said: 'Young people need to be empowered to change the world in a positive way so they have the knowledge and skills to design and create sustainable products.'

'That's why we wanted them to work with professional designers and makers and to have good-quality materials.'

'They found the idea of transforming waste into high-value goods inspirational.'

'The ideas they came up with were wonderful. Some, like the backpack with a solar panel for phone charging, were practical. Others were a bit more 'out there' like a trampoline for gerbils to generate renewable energy.'

The Making Circles display is in the Learning Centre at the National Museum of Scotland (Edinburgh) until Wednesday July 31.



The carers on Aonach Mor. Photograph: Iain Ferguson, alba.photos

Carers enjoy cake while on Aonach Mor

A group which supports unpaid carers treated some of the people it helps in Lochaber to a high-level outing.

The trip, organised by Connecting Carers, was held to mark Carers Week, which

highlights the unseen work done by unpaid carers.

The carers were treated to a gondola trip up Aonach Mor where they enjoyed tea and cake at 4,000 feet. This fitted in well with this year's theme of 'nature and

the benefits of getting outside'.

Organiser Lisa MacGillivray said: 'It was a great trip.'

'Everyone really enjoyed the company and had a great chat over tea and cakes, while enjoying great views.'

Update sought over A82 Telford Bridge

Spean Bridge, Roy Bridge and Achnacarry Community Council has asked BEAR Scotland for an update on the Telford Bridge parapet and drainage on the A82 north of Spean Bridge.

Alan Robinson's complaint about the culvert adjacent to Leanachan Crossroads is still unresolved so

the community council has asked if BEAR would extend the culvert to allow Highland Council to infill a space to create a passing place.

The following office bearers were elected at the annual general meeting of Spean Bridge, Roy Bridge and Achnacarry Community Council: chairman, John Fotheringham; vice chairman, Ian Langley; secretary, Dana MacLennan; and treasurer, Ross MacLennan.

Mallaig council elects office-bearers at AGM

Mallaig Community Council held its annual general meeting in Mallaig and Morar Community Centre on Thursday June 13 when the following office-bearers were elected unopposed: chairman, Rick Schaback; vice chairman, Nancy McLean; treasurer, Audrey McKay and secretary, Nick Murray.



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Alan wins charity singles



The Charity Singles two-day tournament sponsored by David Smillie of the Volunteer Bar, Fort William, was won by Alan Lawrie of Kinlochleven, left, with runner-up Brian Moffat, Fort William.

Photo: Anthony MacMillan Photography.

McFall triple event winners



Jamie Manson, left, of Mike McFall Funeral Directors, presents the trophy for their triples competition at the Fort William Railway Bowling Club, Inverlochty, to Wilson Thain, Agnes Boyle, Gus Fraser with runners-up, back second left, Peter Black, Wilma Fraser, second right and Bob Lawson.

Photo: Anthony MacMillan Photography

LOTTERY

Lochaber lottery numbers

Balachulish Shinty Lottery numbers for June 16 were 5, 11 and 15. There are still no winners so there is £1,200 up for grabs next week.

Caol Community Centre bingo club lotto numbers for June 16 were 5, 10 and 11. The winner was S Lamont. £100 will be in the pot next week.

Caol Regeneration Lotto numbers for June 13 were 1, 4 and 19. The winner was Ian Adams, who scooped the £600 jackpot. There is £100 for tonight's (June 20) draw.

Fort William Golf Club Lotto drawn for June 13 saw the numbers 6, 12 and 18 out the hat. There were no winners, so £800 is available for tonight's (June 20) draw.

FOOTBALL

Saints start up second team

Oban Saints will run a second team this season.

The Oban side have entered a team in the Greater Glasgow AFL, which will run alongside the first team who are now members of the Central Scottish AFL.

Club secretary David Buchanan said: 'There was a big gap between the youth set-up at the club and the senior team so the new team will help bridge that gap.'

'The second team will run independently but players will be able to play for both teams. There are plenty of good young players in the town, who are not getting to play regular organised football, so this will be a great asset to the club.'

Primary stars shine



The best girl award went to Kirsteen Dodds.



In the primary 3-4 section the fair play award went to Tyler MacNeil.



Most improved player in the primary 3-4 section Aaron Laverty.



Top goalscorer in the primary 3-4 section was Kerr MacKinnon.



The fair play award for the Primary 5-7 group went to Jack Stephen.

PRIMARY FOOTBALL

There was junior footballing talent galore on show at Claggan Park in Fort William at the weekend, with the last round of games in the Highland League Primary Stars.

A total of 15 teams took part, made up of players in the primary three-four and primary five-seven age groups.

The main organiser was Linda Laverty, with assistance from husband Kenny and Willie Edwards from Fort William Football Club, who said organisers were delighted with the way the event, and the season, went.

'The league has gone very well, with a great turn-out every week.

'The children have all done amazingly well.

'There was only one point between first and second places and one point between second and third in the older group,' said Linda.

The primary three-four games had five teams taking part, with the results as follows:

1 Caol A; 2 Caol B; 3 Inverlochty A; 4 Inverlochty B;



The Caol A team which won the Primary 5-7 competition.

Picture: Abrightside Photography.

5 Banavie.

In the Primary Five-Seven games, a total of nine teams took part with the results as follows:

1 Caol A; 2 St Columba's; 3 Inverlochty; 4 Banavie; 5 BSGLA; 6 Caol B; 7 Caol Girls; 8 Lundavra B; 9 Acharacle.

Eventful Catalan Grand Prix for John McPhee

PETRONAS Sprinta Racing Moto3 rider John McPhee from Oban had an eventful race at the Barcelona-Catalunya Circuit.

Following a great race start, John was in contention for the victory and led the way for several laps, but on the final time around the track – when in fifth place – he took action to avoid a massive highside. Remarkably keeping upright, he crossed the line in 13th place. After the first seven races of the season, McPhee is ninth in the Moto3 World Championship, with 47 points.

The next race for the PETRONAS Sprinta Racing team will be the Dutch GP at Assen from June 28 to 30.

After the race John said: 'I'm a little frustrated with the final result because during the race I gave my all. I felt very comfortable and the team did a fantastic job this weekend, so I have to thank them. I



John McPhee in action at the Catalan Grand Prix in Barcelona.

MOTO3

felt very good throughout the race and was managing my pace well.

'When two or three riders passed me, I quickly recovered those positions. In a race you usually want to lead and be at the front, but you have to be careful on the brakes when there are so many riders in the front group.

'What happened on the last lap was my mistake. It was frustrating, but I have to take away the fact I made the save and that I was consistent all weekend.

'I honestly don't know how I managed to save that highside, but the important thing is that I did, and that I was able to finish the race in the points.

'I'm not happy with the result, but I'm pleased about my pace.

'I'm looking forward to Assen.'

e in league event



Primary 3-4 league winners were Caol A.



Most improved girl Stevie Leigh Love.



Primary 5-7 top goalscorer Owen MacRaild.



Primary 5-7 player of the tournament Ross Dempster.



Travis Colyer was the best goalie in the Primary 3-4 league.

Fluky conditions for Glencoe's annual regatta

The tricky sailing conditions of Loch Leven last Saturday were to test to the limit those competing at Glencoe Boat Club's (GBC) annual regatta.

Battling a course where the wind intermittently died for the fleet, then filled in, the two classes for fast and slow handicap yachts had to concentrate hard to keep momentum. Race officer and former GBC commodore Jill Mills had the unenviable job of setting the courses but managed three races over the course of the day.

The conditions were in stark contrast to the previous day's feeder race from Oban which saw an exciting roller coaster run from Oban in a strong southerly breeze. Racing only three up, the Chapman family from Oban in their newly acquired X333 Elixir of Lorne, took both line honours at Onich Pier to lift the Peter MacLeod Cup and also the Malcolm MacMillan trophy for the passage race on handicap by just 10 seconds from Murray MacDonald's Hunter 707 Autism on the Water.

Murray was racing his boat in this event for the first time and uses his racing campaign to increase awareness of autism through sailing. This

season he has competed at all the major events on the Clyde and brought his boat north to do the traditional west coast regattas. Third overall was Alison Chadwick's Hot Toddy and Graham and Josephine McCabe won the Ballachullish Ferry memorial trophy for first in the restricted sail class.

In the fast class on regatta day, it was to be GBC member, and also a former commodore, Peter Watt who stole the honours overall in the fast class of the Regatta with his BB10 Vaila, although

Colin Crawford of Oban took the win in the afternoon race with his Dehler 34 Nimrod.

Peter was awarded the Mathew MacInnes trophy.

In the slow class it was an overall win for Jilly Wilson and Darren Taylor with the SK Blue Fin, who took two wins in the morning and they took home the Nancy MacLeod trophy. Hamish Loudon of Lochaber Yacht Club, who had towed two Solings down for the event with his Westerly Fumarole, had his efforts rewarded with a win in the afternoon race.



Prizewinners from the Glencoe feeder race and regatta.

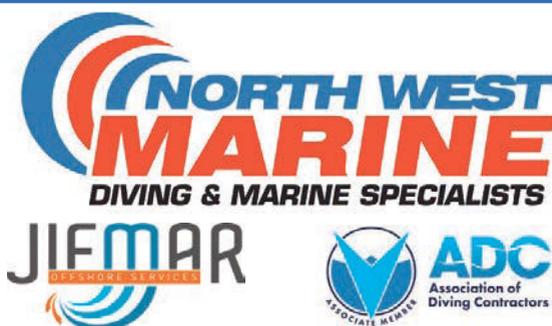
SAILING

The Ray Darker Memorial Cup for the best overall local boat of the weekend went to Peter Watt.

And the coveted Slate Trophy for the best performance of the weekend was awarded to Murray MacDonald for all his racing and west coast travels to promote Autism on the Water.

Murray said: 'I am shocked and overwhelmed but so highly delighted to receive this coveted trophy. It is particularly fitting since it is the anniversary of my father Kenny MacDonald's passing. Dad was a well-known west coast sailor and Glencoe was his favourite regatta. This was a trophy he always wanted to win so I'm very chuffed to have done it for him.'

Commodore Colin Haste thanked all the visitors for coming to the regatta and in particular Jill Mills for the huge effort she had put in to make it happen. He also thanked David Cooper for the prize-giving dinner venue Crafts and Things and Angus Fyfe of the Clan MacDuff hotel, who once again provided the food for the dinner.



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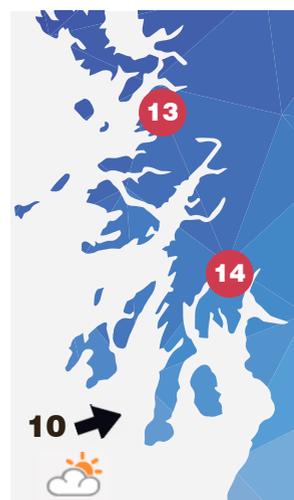
WEATHER

Thursday
Light rain showers and a moderate breeze
Temperatures
8°C to 13°C.

Friday
Sunny intervals and a gentle breeze
Temperatures
9°C to 14°C.

Weekend Outlook

Saturday
Sunny intervals and a gentle breeze
Sunday
Light cloud and a gentle breeze
Temperatures
11°C to 18°C.



FRIDAY

TIDAL INFORMATION

Tide tables for Oban during the week from **Thursday June 20, 2019** are listed below with differences for major ports listed on the right. All times are GMT (add one hour BST)

	01.32	1.1	07.14	3.6
Thur	13.47	1.1	19.38	3.8
Fri	02.12	1.3	07.50	3.5
	14.26	1.2	20.16	3.7
Sat	02.52	1.5	08.28	3.3
	15.06	1.4	20.56	3.5
Sun	03.35	1.6	09.08	3.2
	15.48	1.5	21.39	3.3
Mon	04.23	1.7	09.52	3.0
	16.33	1.7	22.29	3.2
Tues	05.16	1.8	10.46	2.9
	17.23	1.8	23.30	3.1
Wed	06.14	1.9	11.58	2.9
	18.19	1.8	***	**

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.

Learning curve at
ladies' World Sevens for
Nelson and Evans

Primary stars
shine in
league event

A positive attitude builds at Claggan Park

'On a number of occasions last season I would say that we came very close to a win, but luck was just not with us'

by Iain Ferguson
fort@obantimes.co.uk

Enthusiasm for the coming season is already building at Fort William Football Club with training sessions underway and a series of friendlies lined up.

Manager Russell Macmorran implemented team training immediately on his permanent appointment at the end of May to make an early start on preparations on improving Highland League performances.

After a spell as 'caretaker' manager towards the end of last season he is more than aware of weaknesses which must be addressed.

Overall fitness levels are high on Macmorran's list and the first few sessions at Claggan Park have concentrated on building stamina and ensure staying power over a full 90 minutes.

Players are responding well, with a double figure turnout every time and a real buzz of excitement as they run in re-lays around the pitch, battling through rain and midges in turn but with no thought of giving in to either.

Macmorran has a vision for the team and the way they work together on and off the pitch, never for a moment

forgetting the tremendous commitment of everyone who puts on the Fort shirt in turning out week after week, even when results are consistently going against them.

'On a number of occasions last season I would say that we came very close to a win, but luck was just not with us,' he said.

'What I want to avoid this season is us putting in a tremendous effort with strong performances well into the second half, then we start

mind set on and off the pitch.

Links to the junior teams are also being forged to ensure not only a steady stream of new players coming forward but also show the youngsters that there are places for them in the first team - a positive step for the future.

Positive is certainly the word with which Macmorran will be dominant in all aspects of club, with his 'encouragement rather than criticism' management style.

He was also heartened towards the end of last season to see not only an increasing home gate, but also their support for the guys on the pitch, even gathering around the dressing room to applaud them at the last match of the season against Wick.

He said: 'We are working hard in pre-season and plan to really push ahead, learning and building skills at every game. We are certainly aiming for a good start and will keep fighting for success with a positive attitude.'

'Things are coming together within the club with close working relationships across the teams, committee and fans. Last year we became world famous as the under-dogs. Let's add to that story as we notch up a few successes - and I am positive we will.'



to get tired, leading to silly mistakes that needn't happen and cost us goals.

'This is why I have started on fitness levels, moving on to football skills and working together on the pitch which is also vitally important.'

Another important factor highlighted by the manager is maintaining a regular squad so that a strong relationship between players can develop which will lead to consistent



**Summer
SIZZLER**

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