

No 8468

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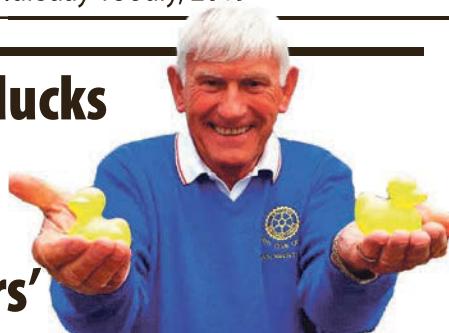
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95p



West Highland Yachting Week 2019 preview see page 31

Rotary ducks send Oban 'quackers'



Distillery raises a dram to MacLean family



Dad battles with GPs over son's future

by Kathie Griffiths
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Devastated dad Ian Johnstone says GPs at Connell Surgery are letting his adoptive son down.

Ambulance technician Mr Johnstone says the doctors at the surgery where his son has been registered for years are collectively refusing to carry out an essential capacity assessment and report that would secure him guardianship.

Eighteen-year-old Daniel, who has learning difficulties as well as Asperger's, autism and epilepsy, which means he needs one-to-one care and support, is unable to survive by himself, according to Mr Johnstone.

And unless the GPs change their minds by tomorrow (July 19) and his application can be lodged, the legal process of getting guardianship will go back to square one.

Two assessments and reports already completed by a clinical psychologist and mental health officer, neither of whom had met Daniel

before, will have to be repeated – costing the NHS more money – because the three sets of reports all have to be done within a 30-day period.

Mr Johnstone said the surgery had two months' notice when an appointment was made for the assessment to be carried out, but just a couple of hours before it was due to go ahead, the practice manager rang to cancel it.

Mr Johnstone told The Oban Times: 'They said the GP felt they were not experienced enough to do it. The practice manager said she would arrange for it to be done with another doctor. I reminded her of the timescale and she said it was fine. One week later I was told the GPs collectively didn't feel experienced enough to do it.'

'These are qualified doctors; surely one of them could do it.'

'There are about 10 of them working from there. Apparently they are used to doing such assessments on the elderly but not for someone so young.'

'My lawyer has been trying

to find an alternative, go private, but the bottom line is Connell Surgery is where Daniel is registered.'

Mr Johnstone added: 'It is very clear to anyone meeting Daniel that he does not have the capacity to deal with rents, contracts and banks. He has a very basic understanding. Developmentally and educationally he's about eight.'

By refusing to assess Daniel, Mr Johnstone said the GPs are failing in their duty of care towards his son.

In an email sent to the surgery, and forwarded to MSP Michael Russell and The Oban Times, he told them: 'Shame on all of you for holding this young man's future to ransom.'

Mr Russell has now contacted the NHS, telling The Oban Times: 'There needs to be an assessment so that Daniel can get the help and support he really needs.'

He added: 'I am sure the NHS can devise some way of ensuring this happens

Turn to page four

Tenth Tiree festival a triumph



Martin Gillespie, member of the band Skerryvore and one of the organisers of the Tiree Music Festival, hailed this year's special tenth anniversary as one of the best. Despite ferry disruptions, revellers made it to the island to enjoy a weekend of scorching tunes and sunny weather. Full report, page 12. Photograph: Alan Peebles

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Sheriff rules breach of bail case not proven

The case against a man accused of breaching bail conditions and communicating with an Oban councillor has been found not proven.

Kenneth McLennan, of Cadderlie, Crannaig-a-Mhinisher, Pulpit Hill, Oban, was given 12 months to be of good behavior in April for making a sexual gesture at Julie McKenzie while she was a witness in court.

The 70-year-old was given strict conditions not to approach, contact or communicate with Councillor McKenzie.

McLennan was charged on May 15 for breaching his bail



Oban Sheriff Court.

after an encounter in a local supermarket.

McLennan pleaded not guilty and, during a trial in Oban Sheriff Court on Monday July 15, it was revealed that the incident took place after he turned a corner

in the store and said 'oops' or 'oh', followed by 'hi' or 'hello' to Councillor McKenzie.

While giving evidence, Councillor McKenzie said she 'panicked and rushed past him' before leaving the store, leaving her items and contacted the police.

McLennan said his 'oh' or 'oops' comment was made after avoiding a collision of trolleys and said 'hi' or 'hello' to be courteous.

Procurator fiscal Laura Mundell argued: 'The essence of the offence is the part of the accused's comment to Mrs McKenzie that it was a greeting. At some point he

has recognised her and as a courtesy he says hello or hi. I would submit there has been a breach here and it has been the attempt by the accused to say hello or hi to the complainant.'

Edward Thornton said: 'The defence is one of reasonable excuse. It was quite clear this was a chance meeting and what was said by Mr McLennan seems to have been an exclamation and a one-word greeting. It was an inadvertent comment. This is not a case of him knowing Julie McKenzie was there and approaching her.'

Mr Thornton said his client

knew his bail conditions and was 'well aware that she would call the police and cause trouble for him'.

Sheriff Patrick Hughes said: 'This was unplanned and took place within a relatively small place within a short period – in fact, the period could not have been more than a minute.'

'The correct thing for the accused to have done would have been to say nothing.'

However, 'given the spontaneous manner of this event', the sheriff was satisfied it took place with reasonable excuse and found the charge not proven.

POLICE FILES

■ Between June 28 and July 5 a black Saracen Sportline mountain bike was stolen from a back garden at Corran Brae, Oban. Police are investigating and are appealing for any witness.

■ About 11.15am on Monday July 8, at Stevenson Street, Oban, a 37-year-old man was searched and found to be in possession of cannabis. The man was issued with a recorded police warning.

■ About 1.30pm on Monday July 8, a 50-year-old man stole a quantity of alcohol from Lidl, Soroba Road, Oban. Police attended and the man was charged with the theft and issued with a recorded police warning.

■ About 2.15pm on July 8, in High Street, Oban, a silver Vauxhall Meriva car was damaged by having both door mirrors smashed. Police are investigating.

■ About 1am on July 11, in Victoria Crescent, Oban, a man aged 30 was arrested for behaving in an abusive manner. The man was charged and issued with a recorded police warning.

■ At about 4.20pm on July 13, on the A85 at Pennyfuir, Oban, a man, 47, was searched and was allegedly found to be in possession of cocaine. The man was charged, held for court and a report was submitted to the procurator fiscal.

■ If anyone has information on any incident, they can call police on 101, or anonymously on Crimestoppers on 0800 555 111.

Appin Parish Church congregation takes steps to raise upkeep funds

Worshippers at Appin Parish Church are taking fundraising in their stride.

On Saturday, some of the congregation set off on a sponsored five-mile walk to Creagan and back to raise money for their 128-year-old church's upkeep.

The church, which has just been fitted with new lights, costs a lot to maintain.

The walk was the idea of Margaret Ross, who thanked everyone who took part and supported the event.

'We'll be very happy with whatever we make,' she said.

Those who took part and helped at the weekend included Mrs Ross, Jessie MacKenzie, Alison MacCorquodale, Sheila Appleby, Helen Downie,

Ellen MacCorquodale, Linda Macleod, Barbara Carmichael and Dale the dog, Catrina Mackenzie, Colin Malone, Chrissie Malone and the Reverend Dr Iain Barclay.

The next fundraiser in aid of the parish church will be a country dance at Appin Hall on Friday August 30 at 7pm. Tickets at the door.



From left: Helen Downie, Jessie MacKenzie, Alison MacCorquodale, Margaret Ross and the Reverend Dr Iain Barclay. 16_T29appinwalk

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Call for ferry shake up after disruptions

by Fiona Scott
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A former Scottish Office minister has called for an independent review of current and future issues affecting west coast ferry services following another weekend of disruption.

Brian Wilson, who lives on the Isle of Lewis and is chairman for one of the island's largest employers, Harris Tweed Hebrides, said: 'This is now a case of the whole being bigger than the sum of the parts.'

'It is completely unfair on CalMac Ferries and the people who work for them that they are at the sharp end of every crisis while the causes are largely outside their control.'

Mr Wilson believes the review should take place 'outside the political arena'.

The call came amidst renewed concerns over ferry cancellations as the overstretched CalMac fleet struggled to cope following a breakdown of the MV Isle of Lewis last weekend.

'Lifeline' services were ar-



Tiree Music Festival goers made the most of last Friday's ferry delays.

ranged but the disruption saw a wedding on Barra under threat, with the bride-to-be on the island and the band, catering and flowers left stranded in Oban.

The wedding was on Saturday but family members and guests were booked on Friday's ferry – which would have been the last sailing before the ceremony.

It was feared they would not make it in time but CalMac scheduled the MV Isle of Mull to make the journey at 6.30pm on Friday night.

Hundreds of passengers sailing to Tiree Music Festival

were also affected. Their sailing had been due to leave Oban at 6.15am on Friday but went at noon instead.

The Scottish Government quango, Caledonian Marine Assets Ltd (CMAL), which is responsible for procuring piers and vessels, is locked in a £1 million legal dispute with Ferguson shipyard on the Clyde over two unfinished ferries which are desperately needed to augment the CalMac fleet.

Mr Wilson continued: 'These problems are now so urgent and interwoven that the only sensible way to

proceed is through a general review of what has gone wrong, how it is going to be addressed over the next few years and how much it is going to cost.'

'Making and mending on a daily basis repeatedly puts the ball back in CalMac's court though they now have no involvement in procurement or design of vessels, or even capacity.'

'Maybe, for example, CMAL should be scrapped and an integrated approach restored. The split between operations and infrastructure was supposedly demanded by the EU, so that could be one quick gain if we come out.'

'This is so important for all island communities and every business dependent on reliable communications.'

'We need an authoritative look at all these issues, outside the political arena, in order to find a way forward.'

Distillery raises a dram to three generations of MacLean family

Three generations of a family who have helped make Oban whisky are being celebrated in a special edition bottle – 3,960 of them to be exact, writes Kathie Griffiths.

Since Teddy MacLean started working at the distillery as a stillman in 1953, his son, also called Teddy, got a job there and when he retired in March 2017 his son Derek joined, keeping up a long family tradition.

The single malt, aptly called 'Old Teddy', goes on sale on Sunday July 21 for £150. Teddy says it will 'fly off the shelves'.

Sherry-finished, the whisky has flavours of spice, fruit, vanilla and is lightly smokey.

Derek was given a say in what the finished result should be and now it is set to be snapped up by whisky enthusiasts.

'My dad would have loved it. What a legacy to have a whisky named after us. It makes me feel very proud. Three generations having worked



Derek and Teddy MacLean with a bottle of Old Teddy outside Oban Distillery.

here is worth celebrating. I'd like to think there might be a fourth generation one day!' said Teddy.

After 'old' Teddy retired after 37 years, he could not keep away and returned as the distillery's janitor. 'I know how he felt. I feel welcome to come back anytime to see the old place. It's still very much part of the family,' said Teddy.

who notched up 32 years of service.

This Saturday, July 20, will see a special launch of the exclusive product at the Stafford Street distillery, 'a small affair for a big achievement' according to Diageo brand home lead guide Deirdre Henderson.

Family and past and present operators will be invited.

Driver was more than three times over limit

A 46-year-old man has been disqualified from driving for 15 months and fined £350 for drink driving.

Andrew McKillop, of 10 The Grove, Auchterarder, admitted to being more than three times over the limit when he appeared at Oban Sheriff Court on Monday July 15.

Procurator fiscal Laura Mundell said: 'The time of the offence was 1am. It was a busy Easter weekend.'

'The accused's vehicle came to the attention of the police officers as the vehicle was slowing down and swerving. They turned their vehicle around and saw the accused carry on at high speed. They activated their blue lights and initially the accused failed to stop.'

Officers followed the accused until his car came to a stop on Soroba Road.

'They approached the ac-

cused,' Mrs Mundell added. 'They spoke to him and noted a strong smell of alcohol.'

McKillop provided a positive sample and was taken to Oban Police Station.

In his defence, his solicitor said that he had not intended to drive that night.

'He appreciates he has failed to exercise good judgement and it is not an experience he wishes to repeat.'

Sheriff Patrick Hughes said: 'This is a serious matter and it was a high reading and it is one that has exposed other road users to considerable risk as well as others who were in your car.'

Sheriff Hughes disqualified McKillop for 15 months and fined him £350.

His disqualification will be reduced by three months if he completes the drink driver's rehabilitation scheme.

Broken down RIB sparks launch of lifeboat

Oban lifeboat was launched on Monday July 15 to assist a RIB that had broken down between Lismore and Oban. The vessel had two people and two dogs on board. On arrival, a crew member was able to rectify the issue with the engine.

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Driver, 42, jailed for dangerous driving

A disqualified driver has been jailed for a total of 36 weeks after colliding with another car while under the influence of drugs.

Derek Darrah, of Ardenaiseig Hotel, Kilchrenan, was sentenced on Monday July 15 at Oban Sheriff Court.

The 42-year-old admitted driving dangerously, driving while unfit through drink or drugs and driving without a licence or insurance.

He was given two 18-week custodial sentences, which will run consecutively, as well as being disqualified from driving for three years and 18 weeks.

The incident took place on June 15 2019 on the A819.

Procurator fiscal Laura Mundell said that at around 3pm, the accused collided with another vehicle, which was heading towards Dalmally.

Mrs Mundell said another vehicle arrived on scene and witnesses confirmed the accused had been driving erratically. They also noted him to be unsteady on his feet.

On the way to the scene,

police stopped Darrah. 'It was apparent he could not walk in a straight line,' Mrs Mundell said. 'His speech was slurred and he was pale and sweating. The roadside breath test was negative.' He said he swallowed 37 Valium tablets when he saw the police coming to the crash, but stated: 'I did not take any while driving.'

His solicitor, Edward Thornton, said on the day of the incident Darrah had organised a lift, which fell through so he decided to drive. Mr Thornton said that although his client has an 'appalling record', there has been a noticeable slow down since 2015, when Darrah took steps to address his struggle with drugs. He said Darrah suffers with pain in his left leg and has been taking Valium in the evening to get to sleep.

However, on the day in question, he did take some as he was off work and did not expect to drive.

Sheriff Patrick Hughes said the primary concern of the court is to protect the public and labelled the offences 'deeply disturbing'.

Gin fans were in high spirits in Oban last weekend.

Hundreds of people attended the Ginfall gin festival at the Corran Halls on Saturday to try out 50 different types of the tasty tipple and liqueurs. There were also more than 12 rums from all over the world to choose from.

Organiser Damien Higgins said more than 400 people attended last year's festival and he was hoping to beat it on Saturday, bringing an extra attraction to the town.

Next on the gin festival tour is Greenock, with other

dates in Perth and Glasgow. On September 20 it is Campbeltown's turn.

Stuart McVicar was back again with a Biggar Gin Company stand.

Last year's event saw him link up with Oban's Etive Restaurant and The Perle Hotel.

'It was definitely good for business last year. I'm hoping this year will be the same,' he said.

Stuart McVicar, right, from The Biggar Gin Company was happy to be back in Oban.



Top left: Friends full of good cheer at Oban's gin festival in the Corran Halls at the weekend. 16_T29_ginfestival01-friends



Above: Jennifer Gordon and Allison Black raise a glass to the Ginfall festival. 16_T29_ginfestival04

Festival sees town full of good spirits



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Continued from page one

without any further delay or difficulty.'

Daniel has been registered at Connel Surgery for a number of years but has not needed much contact before this as he is in good health. When he has had an appointment, he has rarely been seen by the same GP, said Mr Johnstone.

'I do not believe this is sufficient reason for the surgery to decline to carry out this assessment. I believe some GPs felt they were too inexperienced to carry out such an assessment. This is simply unjustifiable.'

'If they are qualified they should be able to do all the functionality that's required of a GP.'

'But I've been reminded by the surgery that the GPs are self-employed and can decide what they are going to do or not going to do. I was floored by that,' he said.

He added: 'If you have people adopting challenging kids then the structure and framework should respond appropriately and be there



Ian Johnstone.

when needed. I adopted Daniel because I could offer him love, support, warmth and opportunity. He's a lovely, charming, funny young man with a lot of challenges. All he needs is a little bit of support, but we are having to fight for it with tooth and nail.'

'I can't believe out of 10 GPs there's not one that can sit down with Danny. He is not capable of surviving in life without a guardian. For them to say they can't do his assessment is a disgrace. Shame on them.'

'They are totally negating

their duty of care to Danny. They are really letting the lad down and are costing the NHS money. If they fail to provide their support we will have to start the process all over again. The reports all cost.'

The Oban Times put a series of questions to Connel Surgery via the Health and Social Care Partnership, including, if a surgery is not able to provide a service needed by their registered patient, should they not make efforts to recommend/refer that patient to another GP/practice that can help?

A spokesperson for Argyll and Bute Health and Social Care Partnership (HSCP) replied that due to patient confidentiality it cannot comment on individual cases, adding: 'GPs in Argyll and Bute are contracted to provide Primary Medical Services under the terms of the General Medical Services Contract and are professionally supported by a broad range of specialist healthcare experts, including psychiatric services.'

Cautious welcome for new health contract

by Kathie Griffiths
kgriffiths@obantimes.co.uk

News of a new medical services contract for Mull and Iona has been welcomed with cautious optimism.

Argyll and Bute Health and Social Care Partnership (HSCP) this week announced that Oban-based Lorn Medical Centre has been awarded the General Medical Services contract for the Mull and Iona Medical Group with surgeries in Tobermory, Salen and Bunessan and a branch on Iona.

The contract includes primary medical services, out of hours GP cover and GP care in hospital.

The HSCP says there will be a transition period to allow for the recruitment of permanent GPs on Mull to provide more continuity of care but it will keep communities updated.



Tobermory's GP surgery is one of the practices that will come under the care of Lorn Medical Centre, Oban.

Donald Watt, acting head of adult services (west) for the HSCP, said: 'This is good news for communities across Mull and Iona.'

'I thank them for their patience as we have sought to put in place a permanent service for the practice. We will continue to work with the communities over the coming months to ensure

they are kept up-to-date as things progress.' The Mull and Iona Medical Group is made up of Tobermory Surgery, Salen Surgery and Bunessan Surgery and a surgery on Iona.

An extensive tendering process was carried out for the contract and candidates were interviewed by a panel including public representatives

from Mull. Mull and Iona Community Trust general manager Moray Finch said: 'We welcome the announcement and are cautiously optimistic it will at last give people some continuity of care and the option of seeing the same GP more than once. We will do everything we can to support the process.'

Mr Finch added thanks

to Billy McClymont and Fiona Brown from Mull Community Council and Councillor Mary-Jean Devon who, he said, have been 'working tirelessly for several years to sort this problem' so people can have a permanent service.

Councillor Devon said: 'Lorn Medical Centre will have to employ GPs now. If they are of the same calibre and commitment of the GPs who serve the busy Oban practice, then that will be good. We need someone permanent, although I appreciate not all the Mull hours will be covered by permanent people.'

'We look forward to restoring confidence in the GP service on Mull.'

'The last few years that confidence has been knocked and we need to build that back up. We have been getting regular locums and that's been the start of a turn.'



Oban Rotary Club president Ian MacIntyre with two of the 500 ducks.

Rotary ducks send Oban 'quackers'

Oban will be going 'quackers' on Saturday when 500 ducks are let loose.

The event is Oban Rotary Club's annual duck race which raises money for good causes.

The race starts from Combie Street Bridge at 3pm on July 20 when the ducks will be dropped over the side. The first to reach the sea is the winner. All the ducks will be captured at the finishing point.

If you haven't bought your duck yet, get there before the start on Saturday.



Are you up for swimming across Loch Awe?

Take the plunge in sponsored loch swim

Organisers of a sponsored swim across Loch Awe are looking for more people to take the plunge.

The challenge is to swim 580 yards from the Portsonachan Hotel to the Taychreggan Hotel - and back for those who want to do more.

The event will be held on Saturday August 31, starting at 2pm from the Taychreggan Hotel side, to raise funds for the Kilchrenan, Inverinan and Dalavich (KIDs) Coastal Rowing Club.

Organiser June Raven says it is a fun event giving swimmers the chance to get sponsorship for their favourite charity. It is not a race.

The Taychreggan Hotel will be welcoming swimmers and spectators, much to the

rowing club's appreciation. The event was last held in 2004 and proved to be a colourful spectacle with swimmers, rescue craft and kayaks out on the water. The boat people will be watchful of the swimmers, said Mrs Raven.

Most people who take part will be regular open water swimmers.

They will need to sign an indemnity form and there is a £20 registration fee that will go towards KIDs. The fee includes a burger from the barbecue once everyone is safely ashore.

Any competent kayakers and swimmers interested in taking part are welcome and can find out more details from the president of KIDs rowing club Gordon Leveratt on 01866 833425.

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New group fights for climate justice

by Kathie Griffiths
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Oban is getting together to take action on climate breakdown through a new Extinction Rebellion group.

About 40 'rebels' from as far as Lochgilphead and Kilchrenan met at the group's first meeting at the Rockfield Centre last week.

The organisation's national co-ordinator for Scotland, Guy Bowen, joined the meeting via screen link from Glasgow to answer questions and for a lively discussion on Extinction Rebellion's demands, visions and framework.

The next meeting will be on Thursday July 25 at 6.30pm in Oban. The venue, still to be confirmed, will be published on the group's Facebook page.

Mairi Stones, one of the meeting's organisers, said:



Just some of the 40 people who were at Oban's first Extinction Rebellion meeting last week. 16_T29_extinctionrebellion

'It's been really heartening to see so many people come along to our first meeting because it's so necessary we take action now.'

'Our government is not doing what's necessary to

mitigate the impact of the breakdown we are facing.'

So far about 70 people have attended a talk and the first meeting combined.

'Everyone is welcome at our meetings and everyone will

'It's been really heartening to see so many people come along to our first meeting'

have a say in how the group moves forward and what actions we will be taking,' added Mairi.

Lismore Bunkhouse and Campsite is inviting people to come and camp for free on Thursday August 1 to hear an Extinction Rebellion talk in the evening on heading for extinction and what to do about it.

The talk is suitable for over-12s. It will be followed by another talk by The Woodland Trust.

Anyone interested in going along needs to call 077209 75433.



Kevin Irvine, Andrew Duncan, Kevin Smith and Andy Bruce will be undertaking the challenge with friends Aaron Fortson and Paul Storr, not in the photograph.

Oban musicians to scale Ben Nevis for charity

This weekend sees a group of friends climb Ben Nevis in memory of Scott Hutchison, the front man of Selkirk band Frightened Rabbit who took his own life last year.

Andrew Duncan, Kevin Smith, Kevin Irvine, Andy Bruce, Aaron Fortson and Paul Storr will be raising money for three mental health charities: Martyn's Monday Club, CALM and Tiny Changes, a charity set up by Scott's family to provide support for children and young people with mental health issues.

The musicians – weather permitting – plan to

carry their guitars up the mountain and perform the Frightened Rabbit song Head Rolls Off, which includes the line 'while I'm alive, I'll make tiny changes to earth', which has been the friends' mantra as they have prepared for the climb.

Organiser Kevin Smith said: 'Our aim is to raise £3,000 to split equally between the three charities. We have done incredibly well so far and are almost at our target.'

You can donate on the group's Justgiving page <https://justgiving.com/crowdfunding/masheightorganfight>.

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Thankful for our caring community

Around Oban

KAY MCDONALD

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Some of you may know that our family suffered a bereavement last week which is why you didn't hear from me.

As many will know it is a strange and traumatic time where you veer from tears to laughter in seconds and you reflect on what's happened with those around you.

My reflections were mostly focused on the people who were around to help my family in the last year as we struggled through a difficult time and once again it brought me to the conclusion that I'm really lucky to live in a place like Oban.

The care and support that our family received, not just the patient, was amazing, from the doctors in Lorn Medical Centre who were so compassionate to the district nurses who called on a regular basis and kept

everything ticking over and cheery. We were also lucky enough to have the support of two lovely MacMillan nurses who helped everyone, phoning often just to check we were OK and to see what we needed, and not forgetting the ambulance teams who turned up quickly and were so professional when we needed them.

For myself, I had the fantastic people at North Argyll Carers Centre who kept me going and made sure I didn't get overwhelmed by all that was happening, and in the last week we also had the guidance and help of wonderful undertakers who took much of the worry from us and got us through the organisation of the funeral and all that goes with it.

The medical services in Oban were there when we needed them and went above and beyond what was expected for which I am so grateful, and on top of that

WHERE IS THIS?



the community of family and friends, even people I didn't know before did all they could to help and support us, which made everything so much more bearable.

We may have our problems in Oban but in times of trouble we have a community who rise to the challenge and help where they can, which is something to be grateful for and proud of, which I am.

On a lighter note, the photograph published last time was of the postbox as you go up Glencruitten Road towards Mossfield and this week, at Purdie's request, it's a much easier one.

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Kerrera ferry fares slashed

by Fiona Scott
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Cuts to ferry fares for visitors to Kerrera were welcomed last week but the island's Development Trust says it will continue to work towards an overall price reduction which will benefit members of the community also.

On a visit last Tuesday, Minister for Energy, Connectivity and the Islands Paul Wheelhouse announced the significant cuts which are aimed at encouraging more people to visit the island.

Fares for non-residents will be brought into line with those for residents, with the new system coming into effect as soon as possible.

'This fare cut will make Kerrera more attractive for visitors and tourism companies and will boost the economy of the island,' he said. 'It will also make it cheaper for the friends and families of island residents to make the trip.'

The reduction is being brought in following consultation with the local community.



From left: ALIenergy manager Lynda Mitchell; Paul Wheelhouse MSP; Carole Shellcock, ALIenergy business development officer; Jenny McLeish, affordable warmth adviser, ALIenergy; and Ian Macfarlane, chairman of ALIenergy.

'It builds on our previous investment of over £3 million in the service, including the upgrade of berthing facilities, the introduction of a new vessel on the route and our support for the long-term future of the service by bringing it into the Clyde and Hebrides Ferry Services network.

I look forward to more people making the trip across the Sound of Kerrera.'

The proposed new fares will see a 50 per cent reduction on an adult single trip, from £3.20 to £1.60. An adult return has been slashed by 33 per cent from £4.80 to £3.20. Child singles and returns have been

cut 25 per cent (£1.10/80p) and 26 per cent (£2.15/£1.60) respectively. Resident children will continue to travel for free.

Isle of Kerrera Development Trust (IKDT) chairman Martin Shields said the decision was 'a step in the right direction' but more needed to be done to help residents.

'IKDT has been working closely with Transport Scotland and CalMac for many years with the main aim of ensuring the best possible lifeline service for the residents of Kerrera.'

'The fares decision will directly benefit residents who have family and friends visiting as well as the increasing number of people who travel to Kerrera for work.'

'We will continue to lobby for timetable improvements and look forward to hearing the results of the ongoing study into RET, where we hope that we can see overall fares reduce in line with other similar routes.'

Following his visit to Kerrera, Mr Wheelhouse returned to the mainland where he paid a visit to Dunstaffnage-based sustainable energy charity ALIenergy.

Manager Lynda Mitchell, business development officer Carole Shellcock, and affordable warmth adviser Jenny McLeish gave presentations showcasing some of ALIenergy's award-winning projects.

These include the innovative ENBIO (Energy and the Bioeconomy) Project with partner Xanthella Ltd, which is developing the innovative use of intermittent locally-owned renewable energy generation to produce algal products for use as superfoods or in the aquaculture industry.

ALIenergy operates a team of five affordable warmth advisers operating across the whole of Argyll and Bute, who are available for home visits to assist anyone who is struggling with paying their energy bills.

'Fuel poverty is a huge problem in rural Scotland,' said Ms Mitchell. 'It affects over 40 per cent of households in Argyll and Bute, where we face multiple challenges, including poorly insulated housing, bad weather, low income and elderly households, and lack of mains gas across the majority of the area leading to more expensive heating systems.'

The group then went on to discuss the various challenges of funding and operating these activities in our rural and island communities.

Hundreds of local families are hit by 'two-child' benefit cap

A total of 745 families and more than 2,450 children across Argyll and Bute could be affected by the two-child cap, according to new research, prompting more calls for the UK government to scrap the 'heartless' policy.

In total, some 3,500 families and almost 13,000 children across the Highlands and Islands in total would be hit, according to Kate Forbes, MSP for Skye, Lochaber and Badenoch.

The Westminster government's 'two-child' policy allows low-income families to claim child tax credits or universal credit for their first two children only.

New research from the Child Poverty Action Group (CPAG) has revealed that 160,000 families have had their income slashed by the two-child limit to date.

The charity estimates that more than 3,000,000 children could eventually be affected by the benefit cap.

Ms Forbes said: 'Social security should be a safety net for all of us, but the two-child limit is having a staggering impact upon families up and down the country, with



MSP Kate Forbes says the two-child limit is hammering local families.

almost 13,000 children across the Highlands and Islands set to be affected by it.

'All families are valuable and worthy of support, but this heartless policy turns people away when they most need support, and leaves children to grow up in hardship - which can have lifelong consequences for their health and wellbeing.'

'The next Tory Prime Minister should make it a priority to tackle poverty and enable children to thrive, starting with reversing the two-child limit and horrendous "rape clause".'

mitigate callous Tory welfare policies.

'In addition, it is introducing a Scottish Child Payment to tackle child poverty. Without the two-child cap, this payment could go so much further.'

'The next Tory Prime Minister should make it a priority to tackle poverty and enable children to thrive, starting with reversing the two-child limit and horrendous "rape clause".'

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OT

Waverley cash appeal builds head of steam

by Fiona Scott
fscott@obantimes.co.uk

Two new steam boilers have been ordered for the Paddle Steamer Waverley following the decision two months ago to withdraw the iconic steamship from service.

Following the shock announcement in May that the steamer, a regular visitor to Oban and the Western Isles, needed the equipment to sail again, a major appeal was officially launched to raise the required £2.3 million.

Thanks to the initial donations, an order has now been placed and a deposit paid.

Waverley Excursions general manager Paul Semple said: 'This is just the first vital step in returning Waverley to steam and I am extremely grateful to everyone who has donated to the appeal so far as they have allowed us to progress plans quickly.'



The Waverley boiler appeal launch in June. Photograph: Hugh Dougherty.

'The new boilers will be manufactured by Cochran Ltd at their Newbie Works in Annan for delivery early in 2020.'

Several other components in the boiler room, including

electrical generators, will also be replaced as part of the major investment in Waverley to ensure that she can sail on for at least another 20 years. The work required includes re-

moving the ship's famous red, white and black funnels as well as a large section of deck and will take several months to complete if funding can be secured.

Mr Semple added: 'We will only be able to install the new boilers if we continue to receive donations and support from a variety of sources.'

'The response to the appeal so far has demonstrated that many people around the UK and beyond wish to see the last sea-going paddle steamer saved.'

'Our vision is to see a rejuvenated Waverley return next season to help celebrate the Scottish Year of Coasts and Waters 2020. However, we will require ongoing help and support to achieve that vision.'

Donations to the Boiler Refit Appeal can be made online at waverleyexcursions.co.uk or by calling 0141 243 2224 or by texting STEAM £20 to 70085.

All donations made directly to Waverley Excursions will be recorded on a donor wall on board Waverley.'

Parking tickets up, income down in Argyll and Bute

The number of parking tickets issued in Argyll and Bute increased by almost 1,000 between 2017 and 2018. Research by car insurance comparison website Confused.com found that despite the vast increase, the area's income from parking tickets fell in the same period.

The survey showed that 6,818 parking tickets, were issued in Argyll and Bute during 2018, bringing in £191,031. That compares to income of £207,989 in 2017, despite almost 1,000 fewer tickets – 5,826 – being issued during that year.

An Argyll and Bute Council spokesperson said: 'Income generated from parking is reinvested in frontline services including car parks and road maintenance. The income from PCNs can depend on how soon the fines are paid. A fine can cost either £30, £60 or £90 – with a discount applied for early payment.'



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Letter from America 'delivered' after 22 years

A message in a bottle thrown into the ocean off north-east America more than two decades ago has turned up on a remote Scottish beach, writes Fiona Russell.

It was 1997 when 12-year-old Matt Rhoades wrote a simple message on a scrap of paper: 'Hello, my name is Matt Rhoades, Please write back. Salem NH 35 Colleen Drive USA.'

Then he pushed it into a small plastic bottle and tossed it into the Atlantic from Moody Beach in the town of Wells, Maine, where he was holidaying with his parents.

Matt thought nothing more of it until last Monday (July 8) when a message on Twitter attracted his attention.

The bottle had been discovered on a pebble beach in North Uist by a family on holiday on the Outer Hebridean island.



Alexander Bolam with the message his father Mike found in the plastic bottle on a pebble beach in North Uist.

Mike Bolam, who lives near Dalbeattie, Dumfries and Galloway, tweeted: 'Hey Twitter, do you think we can let young Matt Rhoades from Colleen Drive Salem NH USA know his message in a bottle has been found on the other side of the Atlantic Ocean on the Island of North Uist.'

Just four hours later, Matt, now 34 and a musician, replied: 'This is wild! That is 100% my handwriting and my former address.'

The bottle had travelled many thousands of miles (2,850 miles as the crow flies shore to shore) and was still watertight after 22 years in

the sea. Seeing photographs of the bottle in Scotland, Matt, from Massachusetts, said: 'It's insane to think how far the bottle has gone and the length of time it has been in the ocean.'

'This was a cool moment to reflect on what I have done in my life since I sent this message off.'

But Matt was also shocked by the discovery. He said: 'I'm baffled by the condition of the bottle. It was something I did without much thought as a boy but now I am aware there is a lesson to be learned about non-biodegradable plastic in our oceans.'

'The awesome dude who found it has let me know that he will be recycling the bottle, which makes me feel better.'

Mike, who had just arrived on North Uist for a holiday with his partner Dawn and their three children, Katy, 15, Lily, 12, and 10-year-old

Alexander, said: 'We were all out for a stroll on a beach near where we are staying in north-west North Uist.'

'I saw a few plastic bottles but then I spotted the one with the message almost immediately, right up at the top of the shore.'

'The kids came running over with great excitement when I shouted what I'd found.'

'I couldn't get the lid off as it seemed to have been glued on but we could see writing on the piece of paper so a quick skelp with a stone set it free.'

Mike, a photographer, took the opportunity to give his children an environmental lesson.

He said: 'The only reason the message was found was due to plastic and the fact it lasts in the environment for hundreds of years.'

'I am happy to report this bottle is now in recycling.'

Public urged to take part in police survey

Members of the public, community groups, elected representatives and other interested parties are being urged to take part in an online questionnaire about the operation of the organisation which oversees policing in Scotland.

The questionnaire has been launched to let people pass comment on how the Scottish Police Authority (SPA) is fulfilling its core role.

The information received by HM Inspectorate of Constabulary in Scotland via this questionnaire will be used to inform the statutory inspection of the SPA, which it is currently undertaking.

The questionnaire is available now at www.response.questback.com and people will be able to submit their comments any time until midnight tomorrow (Friday July 19).

All responses will be treated in confidence and will not be shared with any other organisation.

Nominations for popular rural awards now open

Nominations for the Scottish Rural Awards 2020, organised by Scottish Field magazine and the Scottish Countryside Alliance, will open on Monday July 15.

Small- and medium-sized Scottish businesses are being invited to either self-nominate or be nominated by a friend, family member, customer or member of the public for a Scottish Rural Award 2020. The deadline for entries is Monday November 4.

Organisers Scottish Field Magazine and the Scottish Countryside Alliance have announced the new award titles for the 2020 Scottish Rural Awards are as follows:

- Best Scottish Artisan Food Award
- Best Scottish Artisan Drink Award
- Rural Business Diversification Award
- Best Rural Business Start-Up Award
- Best Farming Business Award
- Best Rural Employer Award
- Rural Hospitality Award
- Best Rural Innovation



Sir Ian Grant wins Lifetime Achievement Award at the Scottish Rural Awards 2019.

Award

- Best Rural Skills Educator Award
- Most Sustainable Rural Business Award
- Best Rural Tourism Initiative Award
- Rural Hero Award
- Lifetime Achievement Award
- New for 2020: Best Countryside Digital Innovator Award

There is also an extra category for the 2020 awards: Best Countryside Digital Innovator. The winner of this award will have

successfully championed digital projects and products across the agricultural, rural and tourism sectors in Scotland.

The awards mark the culmination of five extremely successful years of rewarding local heroes, innovative businesses and enterprising community projects which make the Scottish Rural Awards the most sought-after rural awards in Scotland.

Finalists will be invited to attend a black-tie, three-course dinner held in spring 2020. Last year's awards were presented by Dougie Vipond and were held at Dynamic Earth, Edinburgh. Among the winners were Donna Ker-Ramsay (Rural Hero), Island Bakery Organics Ltd (Artisan Food) and Fishing for Litter - Kimo UK (Conservation and the Environment).

The full criteria and online registration form can be found at www.scottishruralawards.org

As an added bonus, every nominee will receive a free copy of Scottish Field magazine.

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Coll and Tiree linkspan closure dates

Caledonian Maritime Assets Limited (CMAL) has confirmed the dates for the closure of the linkspans at Coll and Tiree ferry terminals as part of a replacement programme.

The linkspan decks are reaching the end of their serviceable life and are being replaced as part of CMAL's programme of harbour upgrades and improvements.

During the linkspan closure periods, vehicles will be unable to travel to and from the islands.

The Coll linkspan will be out of service from Monday October 28 until Thursday November 21. The Tiree linkspan will be out of service from Monday February 24 until Tuesday March 17.

Throughout this period,

CalMac will operate a passenger-only service, supplemented by a third party freight vessel service for transportation of essential goods.

More details of the alternative services will be issued by CalMac in due course.

Brian Sydney, senior civil engineer at CMAL, said: 'Each replacement will require a linkspan closure of three to four weeks to complete the works, subject to weather conditions. If we can reduce the timescale, we will.'

'Essentially, the islands remain open for business, but vehicles will be unable to travel to or off the islands during this time.'

'We understand the vital and lifeline link the ferry service provides to these islands

and our aim is to minimise the disruption as much as possible.'

'Working with CalMac, we reviewed capacity numbers and selected the periods of lowest traffic to minimise the impact of the linkspan closures.'

CalMac director of service delivery David Gibson added:

'While we will be making alternative arrangements for essential freight items, I would urge communities to proactively plan freight deliveries and encourage anyone on the islands planning major construction projects to think about avoiding this period. We will try to accommodate all requests for freight movements, but there may be restrictions in what can be carried.'

MacPhail

ANGUS MACPHAIL

angusmacphail@yahoo.co.uk



Around New Year, I covered in this column thoughts of my 2019 resolution to free up days to visit and spend time with people whose company and friendship I have enjoyed, valued and found inspirational over the years.

The drudgery and debris of the insignificant clutter of everyday existence often prevents us from spending our time doing things that are truly important to us. Such was the case with most of the year so far. With the new album and all that entailed and preparation for the Skipinnish 20th anniversary concerts, we had to keep the throttle down and none of my good intentions were acted upon.

Having recently turned 40, the band turning 20, it being 20 years since my father died and many friends passing away, I have felt compelled to act on these intentions and last weekend we did. I am writing this on Tuesday morning aboard our boat, St Olave, as we pass south of the Gunna Sound bound for Ardmore Point, down the

Sound of Mull and back to the mainland. I am down in the accommodation and filled with the magic of these past six days – the places we have been, the tunes we have had and the people with whom we have spent time.

The first leg of the voyage when we left Loch Lomond and came down the canal on Thursday morning set the tone for the rest of the trip. On board were Andrew's father, David, and two of his friends. Of all the multi-faceted and indefinable factors that have allowed Andrew and I to maintain a good working partnership coupled with a close friendship in our 20 years of adventures together, his parents have played an important role in that.

David is not one to enjoy praise so I expect a good ear-bashing for writing this, but one of the best things about having the boat is getting the chance to spend time with him. I'll go no further on that other than to say his help in many things and his influence over years is hugely appreciated.

The next day, from Dunstaffnage, I continued alone up to Tobermory where Andrew was joining me on Saturday. Entering Tobermory Bay always fills me with nostalgia and memories of childhood trips across here, music festivals over the years and my first year living away from home were flooding through my mind.

The presence of the remains of dad's boat, the Alice Robert, lying below the sea by Calve Island was powerful as I headed for the new pontoons. That night the crack and stories were excellent with a lot of them filled with reference to dad and his times in Tobermory.

Andrew came aboard the next morning and we headed westward. Next week, I'll continue on the voyage.

We missed many friends whom we had hoped to see but the enjoyable trip has given me an even stronger impetus to make more time to enjoy the human connections that have been the making of our characters and the fibres of our lives.

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Cafe has second-hand rows

by Fiona Scott
fscott@obantimes.co.uk

A community cafe is enjoying a bright new look following support from Revolve-certified store Lorn and Oban Reuse Initiative (LORI).

Situated beside picturesque Loch Tay, Kenmore-based cafe The Paper Boat is the latest local food and drink retailer to pursue innovative ways of reducing costs and increasing sustainability.

Rather than buying new, the start-up cafe decided to re-use and upcycle a variety of quality second-hand furniture from LORI.

Founded in 2009, LORI, an initiative of the GRAB Trust, aims to recycle furniture and household goods and provide them with new homes before their disposal to reduce waste.

With help from LORI, the cafe opened its doors earlier this year and has recycled more than 50 items, including wooden dining tables and chairs.



Bridget Woolnough and her mum Jo worked for six weeks to upcycle items suitable for the rigours of cafe life.

Owner Bridget Woolnough worked alongside her mother Jo, who lives in Oban, for six weeks to recycle the items to match the interior theme and be ready for the rigours of cafe life.

'Using re-used and upcycled goods wasn't only a money-saving option. I found it so rewarding to revamp items that made my vision of a Scandi-Scottish cafe come to life,' said Bridget, a former

Oban High School pupil. 'It was a joy to bring the furniture a new life.'

The Revolve kitemark awarded to LORI by Zero Waste Scotland, the organisation behind Revolve, guarantees customers high quality products, which conform to safety standards, as well as offering good value for money, fantastic store layout and great customer service. Currently, there are



149 Revolve-certified stores nationwide offering a wide range of pre-loved items from clothes and furniture to white goods and bikes.

Graham Love, general manager of the GRAB Trust, said: 'LORI is a fantastic community resource. Our staff and volunteers are committed to keeping pre-loved goods in use and out of landfill.'

'I am struck by the generosity of those who donate and

the creativity of our customers who can see the quality and potential in vintage items looking for a second life.'

'Having conversations and helping customers to realise their dreams and ambitions through our reuse service is hugely rewarding.'

Iain Gulland, chief executive of Zero Waste Scotland, added: 'Revolve is always aiming to help the environment and it's even

'Using upcycled goods wasn't only a money-saving option. I found it so rewarding to revamp items that made my vision of a Scandi-Scottish cafe come to life.'

better when we can support a local business as well as the wider community. The Revolve certification means our customers always know they're going to find great, top-quality items in the store and save money, as well as do something positive for the environment.'

Zero Waste Scotland exists to create a society where resources are valued and nothing is wasted, with the goal of helping Scotland realise the economic, environmental and social benefits of making best use of the world's limited natural resources.



Members of the Easdale branch of the Royal British Legion with Squadron Leader, the Reverend Neil Galloway, who opened last year's sale.

British Legion president to visit Seil

The president of Royal British Legion Scotland will visit Seil next month to officially open the Easdale branch's annual sale, writes Kathie Griffiths.

The event is on Saturday August 24 from noon to 3pm at Seil Island Hall. General Sir Alastair Irwin will be doing the honours.

Branch secretary Jean Alexander said: 'Our little branch has done so well

over the last few years, raising funds for the Veterans Charities and Poppy Scotland, that he wanted to meet us and has agreed to open the sale.'

'We raised £2,500 last year which has been distributed between five charities and £1,599 was collected for Poppy Scotland last November. Where other Legion branches are closing down, we are going from strength to strength with the great support we receive from the community.'

Branch members have restarted regular meetings at the Tigh an Truish on Seil, the first time for two years as the pub was being refurbished.

'The branch has met in the Tigh an Truish for many, many years, and it is good to be back,' added Mrs Alexander.

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OT

Scorching tunes at TMF 2019

Tiree lived up to its reputation as Hawaii of the North at the weekend, with sunny celebrations and electric performances from some of the best acts on the Scottish folk, indie and pop scene marking 10 years of Tiree Music Festival (TMF).

A capacity crowd of 600 attended the very first TMF which has since flourished, selling out every year to an increased 2,100 – three times the population of the island.

Buddha and the Band got the party started at the Elevate stage on Friday afternoon to a thrilled crowd who also enjoyed the first Thursday night opening party, featuring performances from young Argyll folk band Rhuvaal and festival favourites Jam Sandwich.

Friday at The Big Top saw knock-out performances from the mighty trad-rock outfit Mànran and Tiree band Trail West, who made it a full sweep having gotten crowds jumping at every festival since it began.

Some of Scotland's best upcoming talent graced the Elevate stage, including



singer-songwriter sensation Callum Beattie, who wowed crowds with a memorable headline set before flying off to London to support Robbie Williams at Hyde Park.

Launched last year and funded by Creative Scotland, the outdoor Elevate stage showcases the best young talent on the Scottish music scene.

Saturday saw Sandi Thom, Face The West and Tide Lines

all take to The Big Top, while the final day saw a unique collaboration. Waiting on a Sunny Day: TMF's Tribute to The Boss was a collective performance from artists on the Scottish folk scene who have been inspired by the one and only Bruce Springsteen. The title is also a nod to the unpredictable weather the festival has had over the past few years, with TMF using the hashtag #waitingona-

sunnyday for this year's festival. Niteworks performed their unique fusion of electronica and Scottish traditional music to an energetic crowd before Skerryvore brought the TMF10 celebrations to a spectacular close on Sunday night with their mighty sound blending folk, trad, rock and Americana.

Daniel Gillespie, artistic director for Tiree Music Festival, said: '2019 was a



Revellers soaked up the music, the vibe and the sunshine at this year's special anniversary Tiree Music Festival.

huge milestone for the festival as we celebrated our 10th year putting on this special party on the Isle of Tiree. The sun has been shining down on us as we mark our birthday in style and we're proud of the friendly, community vibe that you can always feel at TMF. There's nothing else like it and it feels particularly magical as we celebrate 10 years.

'We've had some fantastic performances and impromptu ceilidhs, as well as wonderful workshops and musical sessions for kids,

with everyone getting involved. It's been the best TMF yet and has been great to see the crowds enjoying the best folk and pop acts on the scene today.'

The festival offers a diverse programme with a mixture of genres, including folk, pop and indie. Artists across the years have included The Fratellis, Dougie MacLean, Sharon Shannon, The Levellers, Capercaillie, Sandi Thom and Eddi Reader.

For more photographs from the weekend, visit www.obantimes.co.uk.

Joy in Jesus at Argyll Convention

Advertiser



It is attracting an increasing number of tourists as well as people from Oban and Lorn. The Argyll Convention is our own local Bible gathering where anyone can come and take part – and not only Christians.

It's a chance to hear Christ speaking, learn Christ's teaching, and practise Christ's living. Meet with Christians active in society, engage with some of the best teachers and join together in worship.

This year's theme is 'Joy in Jesus'. Alasdair Paine, author and vicar from Cambridge, leads a study from a New Testament letter, while pastor and songwriter Alex

MacDonald speaks from the Gospels about people who had 'Encounters with Jesus'.

Reviews of books combine with contributions from people involved in such fields as poverty relief, political action, and care for families. It is a rich and varied three-day diet.

Now in its sixth year, it has brought in speakers of international standing. As part of the Keswick Fellowship, it benefits from a wide range of contacts but it is local and independent. Its organisers and supporters span the denominations.

This year The Argyll Convention takes place in the Corran Halls, Oban, from

August 6 to 8. The times are: 10:00 prayer; 11:00 Alasdair Paine; 14:00 various; 19:30 Alex MacDonald. Come to as many as you wish. There is no need to register, and there is no charge – it is a donation event.

There is also a musical taster on the evening of Saturday August 3 when Alex MacDonald and his band produce 'Into the Light'. Venue for that is Oban Baptist Church at 7:30. The final item is an evening Songs of Praise on Friday August 9 in St John's Cathedral.

For other information, check out Eventbrite, Facebook, or the website on www.argyllconvention.org.

The Argyll Convention

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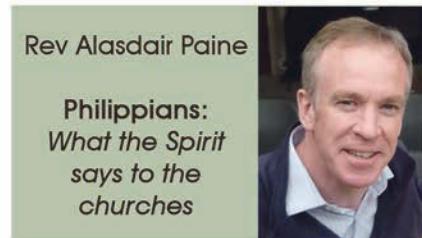
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Daily Programme

Prayer - 10am

Main Sessions 11am/2pm/7.30pm

Songs of Praise: St John's Cathedral,
George Street, Oban, Friday 9th August 7.30pm

Argyll Convention 2019 is a 'donation only' event. No charge or registration is required

For further details see: www.argyllconvention.com

Email: argyllconvention@gmail.com facebook: @argyllconvention

The Argyll Convention (SCO44282) is part of the Keswick Fellowship



Safer Communities Safer Scotland

in association with



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!

Safety at home Electrical safety

RoSPA and Electrical Safety First offers some tips to help you stay safe at home. Many accidents and fatalities involve electricity - it must be treated with respect.

- Have your wiring checked at least every ten years, or if you move into a new property, by a registered electrician. Private rented homes should be checked every five years. To find a registered electrician in your area, or to check out the credentials of a recommended tradesperson, go to www.certificationregister.co.uk
- Check the cables of your appliances to make sure they're in good condition with the cable securely attached to the appliance and the plug. Cuts, damage or signs of excessive wear and tear mean that the lead or plug might need replacing.
- Never bring mains-powered portable electrical appliances, such as hairdryers, heaters or radios, into a bathroom.
- Have electric blankets serviced and checked regularly. Don't use a hot water bottle at the

same time as using your electrical blanket and make sure not to touch the blanket with wet hands or feet.

- Check your fusebox for RCDs: An RCD (Residual Current Device) is a life-saving device that cuts out power if there's an accident and can prevent you from receiving a fatal electric shock. To check whether you have an RCD press the 'Test' or 'T' button. If you do have one then pressing it will switch off the power to the areas of the home that it protects. If you don't have an RCD in your fusebox, or it's not working, then you should use plug-in RCDs for all the sockets in your home.
- If you suspect a product is dangerous to use, or that it is a fake copy of a well known brand, you should contact your local Trading Standards office or Citizens Advice straight away. If you have any suspicions about the product's safety, or if you think it's a fake, do not use it.
- Don't rely on a CE mark alone as a guarantee of safety when you buy electrical equipment. A CE mark on a product is simply a declaration by the manufacturer that the product meets all the requirements of European law and is safe to use. It can also be faked! Also look for the BEAB mark, the BSI Kitemark or British Standard number when you buy electrical equipment.



Our Safer Scotland – Safer Communities booklet produced by Neighbourhood Watch Scotland contains a wide range of information on what to look out for along with a useful range of organisations and contacts for further information and advice. Look out locally for copies of Safer Scotland – Safer Communities or alternatively have a look online at www.neighbourhood-watchscotland.co.uk/security-advice/our-safer-scotland-booklet/

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BUSINESS NEWS

Strong results for Argyll and Bute business support service

Fresh from celebrating its 10-year anniversary, Business Gateway has recently reported its results for the past year.

Argyll and Bute Council's Business Gateway supported 116 new start-up businesses in 2018-19, up seven per cent on the previous year. Of these, 53 per cent were female-led businesses, compared to a national average for Business Gateway of 50 per cent.

The supported start-up businesses had a combined projected turnover of nearly £4.2 million and projected creating 137 jobs. Of these, 14 per cent were in the food and drink sector, 11 per cent in tourism, 10 per cent in financial and business services and six per cent in the creative industries.

The survival rate of start-ups supported by Business Gateway was high, with 90 per cent still trading after 12 months.

As well as assisting new starts, Business Gateway also helped 209 existing businesses with business adviser support.

Councillor Aileen Morton, leader of Argyll and Bute Council, said: 'Our Business Gateway team does exceptional work in helping to launch new businesses and grow existing enterprises.'

'This year's figures show real growth, with the team supporting 116 new start-up businesses in Argyll and Bute in 2018/19. This is very encouraging – a growing, thriving business sector is a key element of attracting more people to live and work here in Argyll and Bute, as well as boosting the tourism trade that is vital to our area.'

Customer satisfaction with the service remained high, with 91 per cent of users rating themselves satisfied



Jamie Munro with his family's Whitetail gin.

Just the tonic for Mull gin distillery

Award-winning gin distillery Whitetail Spirits has launched the Isle of Mull's first on-island distillery in 220 years.

The historic move comes as the company is set to meet its ambitious growth objectives, following support from Business Gateway Argyll and Bute.

Business Gateway helped Whitetail Spirits access funding from the Business Gateway Local Growth Accelerator Programme, which is funded by Argyll and Bute Council and the European Regional Development Fund.

This support helped Whitetail Spirits purchase essential equipment and move its gin production

in-house from London to Tiroran. A new still will be used to produce smaller bottles and a diversified flavour range, giving Whitetail Spirits the capacity to produce 250 bottles a day.

Jamie Munro, founder of Whitetail Spirits, said: 'The funding support provided through Business Gateway gave us the incentive to proceed with the investment required to purchase our micro-still and grow our business.'

'Thanks to their support, we are looking forward to increasing and diversifying our product range.'

'More generally, we are excited to establish Mull's first on-island distillery in more than 200 years and

move our production from London back to our family home.'

The business is based next to the whitetailed eagle's nest at Tiroran Forest on the Isle of Mull. The distillery recently won a silver at the World Gin Awards 2019 and a silver at the International Spirits Challenge 2019.

Angela Vernel, an adviser with Business Gateway, said: 'Whitetail's expansion is a great indicator of the strength of demand for Scottish gin. Jamie had already tapped into this market but by recognising Business Gateway could help him with funding options for his growth business, he has been able to expand production.'

compared to a national average of 86 per cent.

Business Gateway Argyll and Bute has a team of experienced business advisers on hand to help both existing businesses and those looking to make the move into self-employment. In 2018-19, more than 580 business adviser meetings took place, making it the busiest year for the advisers since 2015.

With a large geographical area and a dispersed population to cover, the team try to make the service as accessible as possible, with 32 meet the adviser sessions and workshops held on islands. Advisers are also available regularly in Helensburgh, Oban, Dunoon, Campbeltown and Lochgilphead.

To find out more about how Business Gateway can help you set up or develop your business call 01546 808363 or visit www.bgateway.com.

Last year 67 free workshops took place in Argyll and Bute, with a combined total of 569 attendees. A wide range of topics was covered, aimed at businesses at all stages of development.

Workshops already scheduled for September include the business start-up workshop in Helensburgh and Oban and book-keeping in Dunoon. To book a place visit bgateway.com/events.

Businesses with growth ambitions were supported by the Business Gateway Local Growth Accelerator Programme, which provided grant funding and specialist advice to help support growth.

In its first phase from 2016-18, the programme supported 72 growing businesses in Argyll and Bute, via 92 grants and 31 specialist advice sessions.

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Majestic Line adds a fourth ship to its fleet

Argyll-based small-ship cruising company The Majestic Line has welcomed its fourth boat, the MV Glen Shiel, to the fleet in Oban, writes Fiona Scott.

Glen Shiel has been built in response to the increase in demand for small-ship cruising to the Hebrides and the west coast of Scotland.

The company's first two vessels, Glen Massan and Glen Tarsan, are converted fishing boats.

Glen Shiel is the second vessel that the company has had built on the Clyde by Ardmaleish Boatbuilding Ltd based on the Isle of Bute, the first being the Glen Etive.

Ken Grant, chairman of The Majestic Line, said: 'We are delighted to be adding the fourth boat to our fleet, and that we have been able to use local companies and tradesmen to make this happen. Glen Shiel is a great addition and this season's cruises on her have been booked out since last year.'



The Glen Shiel set sail on her first cruise from Oban last week.

She sailed on her first cruise from Oban last week.

The addition of the Glen Shiel to the fleet is indicative of the growth in the small-ship cruising sector.

When the company began 15 years ago with a single boat, there were very few other operators, but now there are at least seven companies offering small-ship cruising. The Majestic Line

has been at the forefront of what is now an established and growing element in Scottish tourism.

This is particularly pertinent with 2020 being the Year of Coasts and Waters.

Scottish Salmon Co considers sale

The Scottish Salmon Company is considering offers to buy part or all of the company.

The possible sale is part of an ongoing review to maximise value for shareholders and it is expected to be completed in September.

In a statement, the Oslo-listed SSC, which has its base in Edinburgh, said: 'Among the options being considered within the framework of the review are several formal, non-binding expressions of interest to purchase part or all of the company.'

'No assurance can be given that any specific outcome will be proposed or completed as a result of this process.'

The firm has about 60 sites in Scotland, with more than 600 employees. Last year, the SSC was Scotland's second biggest producer, harvesting almost 30,000 tonnes of salmon and reporting record revenue and operating profit.

Last month, CEO Craig Anderson, who has been in the post for six years, told Fish Farmer, which is owned by The Oban Times' parent company, that they spent more than £112 million with more than 650 Scottish suppliers last year.



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More questions than answers to family history

People researching their family history can often find clues by searching through local newspapers.

And that is exactly what happened to one gentleman while reading The Oban Times online.

James Duncan contacted us about a photograph we ran on these pages a year ago, saying: 'I noticed a picture in The Oban Times online edition dated July 19, 2018, under the heading Down Memory Lane. The picture was underlined with a question, "Does anyone remember Rodger's restaurant on Fort William High Street?"'

'The picture in question is directly linked to me, as the young lady is my mother Elizabeth Duncan (nee Rodger), and the elderly gentleman is her father (my grandfather), Robert Rodger.'

'I was born and brought up in Fort William, then joined the army. Now retired, I have the time to work on my family history, which will be given to my grandchildren, and pass onto future generations.'

'In the valuation rolls for Fort William, I found that Robert Rodger's mother Isabella (my great-grandmother) ran the tearooms/confectioners prior to him and his wife Joan.'

'Have you had any response, and could you put me in touch with the person(s) concerned?'

Anyone who has information about the tearoom/confectioners in Fort William, can contact Mr Duncan by emailing: dunparry15@btinternet.com.



Elizabeth Duncan outside the family business with her father Robert Rodger.

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Near the head of Loch nan Uamh (Loch of the Caves) between the sea and the A830 which winds its way from Fort William to Mallaig, there is a simple grey cairn with a bronze plaque standing on a rocky headland.

It isn't a big grand cairn as memorials go. Blink and you will miss it, which would be a pity as it has become part of Highland history. For here, in 1746, Charles Edward Stewart, the Jacobite prince of the '45, stepped into a little boat that took him out to a frigate which carried him off to France and away from Scotland forever.

There is no written record of the exact spot where the Prince embarked from; it was left to the tradition bearers of the area to remember and pass on to a local historian, and Jacobite to make sure it was not lost. That man was Francis Cameron-Head of Inverailort, whose family had fought along with the Prince at Culloden.

Mr Cameron-Head, who died in 1957, was an active and enthusiastic member of the 1745 Association – a non-political body, whose objectives were, and still are, to record and preserve the memory of those who actively participated in, or who had connections with the '45, to mark the appropriate historical sites and to endeavour to safeguard the Jacobite heritage.

Up until around the time of the Second World War, there were still many people living in the area who were well versed in the oral traditions of Arisaig, Moidart and Morar, and could go back with ease to the time of the '45 and beyond.

One of them was James MacDonald, whose family had lived for many centuries on the nearby Ardnish peninsula and at Ghaoidheil overlooking Loch nan Uamh. James MacDonald, or Seumas Ruadh as he was known on account of his red hair, had no doubts about the location as his stories of the prince had been handed down from father to son.

It was from him that Francis Cameron-Head passed on the information to others in the 1745 Association who decided that a cairn be raised to mark the historic headland. At noon on October 4, 1956, after several years of



research, fundraising and planning, the cairn was unveiled.

Throughout the previous night, fierce winds and hail storms lashed the west coast of Scotland. The next morning the first snow of the year lay on the surrounding hills and a brisk north-westerly icy wind whipped up the waters of the loch. Shortly after 11am, however, 200 people were taking their place.

They came from across Scotland, England, Kentucky USA and Lochaber.

On the summit of the promontory stood the cairn, draped in the St Andrew's Cross and the flags of loyal clans. Shortly after noon, the skies darkened and the heavens opened. A savage hail shower swept through as the pipes heralded the arrival of the Hon President of the 1745 Association, the Countess of Erroll, 28th Hereditary Lord High Constable of Scotland, descendant of Lord Kilmarnock, who was beheaded in 1746 on Tower Hill, London, for supporting the Stewart kings.

Escorted by her husband, Captain Iain

Moncrieffe of Easter Moncrieffe, Unicorn Pursuivant of Arms, and by Donald Cameron of Lochiel, direct descendant of the Gentle Lochiel, Lady Erroll took her place by the cairn. There she was received by Francis Cameron-Head of Inverailort, a descendant of the Camerons of Glen Dessary, and by Seton Gordon, the well-known author and naturalist.

In his opening remarks, Cameron-Head spoke of the strongly royalist principles of the Jacobites of today and their loyalty to the Queen. The Countess of Erroll said that it gave her much pleasure to unveil the cairn in memory of Prince Charlie and all who were loyal to his cause.

Under her hand, the saltire fell away. The beautiful silk banners of the clans were lifted off the cairn and planted in the ground round the monument. A bouquet of white and blue flowers (the colours of the saltire), were presented to Lady Erroll by 10-year-old Simona Howie, Lochailort.

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Que royal cairn



Unveiling of the cairn on October 4, 1956. Left to right: Lachlan Gillies, Morroch, Arisaig; Angus Macpherson, Invershin; Alan Cameron, owner and editor of The Oban Times; Francis Cameron-Head of Inverailort; the Countess of Erroll; and Archibald MacKellaig, Glenfinnan (Photograph: Scottish Field); and, inset, Iain MacGillivray replaying in May this year some of the pipe tunes heard at the unveiling. (Photograph: Iain Thornber)

composed at the time of the Prince's departure known only to his family and preserved by them which, until today, had not been heard in public for 210 years. He said: 'My mother used to play it by ear on the piano, and later I made a pipe setting. I have been keeping it for just such an occasion as this.'

Seton Gordon, in thanking the Countess of Erroll, recalled the title of Hereditary Lord High Constable of Scotland had been given to her ancestor by Robert the Bruce at Bannockburn. There were those, Seton Gordon said, who had no sympathy with Prince Charlie or with the Jacobites. But this cairn was raised to the memory of those who were ready to die for a cause which seemed good to them, and who would not have betrayed the prince for a reward which, in the present currency, would amount to £100,000.

A local choir sang Will Ye No Come Back Again? in Gaelic. Hail, wind and rain returned, sweeping the promontory but, far from complaining, the crowd seemed exhilarated, as though the harshness of the weather gave them the opportunity to realise, and almost in some sense share, the hardships of the '45.

Lochiel, in thanking Francis Cameron-Head, paid high tribute to him and to the splendid part he had played in promoting and organising such a unique and moving ceremony. The choir again sang in Gaelic, this time God Save the Queen and then along with the crowd began to disperse across the hill to Inverailort Castle to have lunch with Mr and Mrs Cameron-Head.

John Mackinnon from Arisaig, the builder of the cairn, was present but one man was missing, James MacDonald the crofter from Borrodale who had started it all, died two weeks before the unveiling. History though has a nice habit of repeating itself and last week his grandson, James J MacDonald, now living in Skye and a well-known stonemason, returned to undertake some urgent repairs to the cairn.

Angus Macpherson, Invershin, Hon Piper to the association and a descendant of James Macpherson, piper to Cluny of the '45 and from a long line of renowned pipers, stepped forward to play his part in the ceremony. A grave and dignified figure, he paced slowly in front of the cairn, playing first the groundwork of the piobaireachd, My King has Landed in Moidart, followed by The Prince's Salute, ending with a special setting of Lochaber No More, taught to him by his father Malcolm Macpherson, 70 years before.

It was said that the clear, full, bell-like notes, rising above the sound of the waves, proclaimed not only a master of his art, but a spirit in tune with the great days of the past. As the music of the pipes swelled, chiming and reverberating through the silent company, the rain stopped and weak sunshine briefly illuminated the scene.

When Mr Macpherson had finished, Cameron-Head announced that he would play Prince Charlie's Farewell to Moidart, a tune

DOWN MEMORY LANE

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



We go back to 1995 this week and a sporty photograph which comes with the caption: 'Not all the teams in the football were boys. The Inter-Shape girls, coached by Tina Gillies, took part. They are, back row, left to right, Stacey Sneddon, Marion MacNeil, Siobhan Jackson; front row, Linda McGhee, Donna Mackay and Charlene Gillies. It was a busy day for Stacey, as she was in the dancing competition as well.'



We have John Hay of Taynuilt to thank for this week's photograph. He said: 'With the 150th Taynuilt Highland Games this weekend, I wondered if you might be interested in printing this photograph which was purchased from The Oban Times back in the early eighties - 1982, I think.' Can anyone tell us who the people in it are?

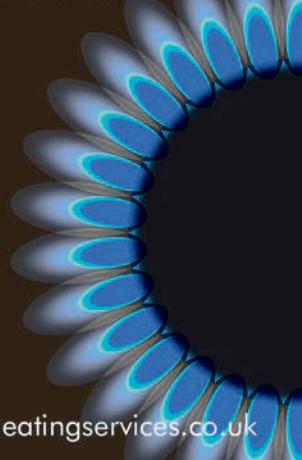
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LETTERS

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Pontoons bring definite economic benefit to Oban

We are pleased to able to report this week on the increase in numbers of boats and sailors using the North Pier pontoons in Oban.

The numbers of vessels recorded using the pontoons in June last year has more than trebled this year.

With in excess of 2,100 people stepping ashore this June (compared with 1,335 in 2018), the town's economy is the major beneficiary.

The sailors in question will have spent their hard-earned money in town centre shops, cafe, restaurants and pubs.

Argyll and Bute Council leader Aileen Morton was quite justified in trumpeting the local authority's role in the installation of the North Pier pontoons.

It constituted a substantial investment by the council but the development has proved to be worth every penny.

Review of ferry services is required urgently

The weekend just passed was notable for many reasons, one of which was the degree of disruption to ferry services.

The cause was identified as a breakdown for the MV Isle of Lewis, which resulted in the CalMac fleet being overstretched.

Now Brian Wilson, the former Scottish Office minister, is calling for an independent review of current and future issues affecting west coast ferry services.

Mr Wilson was quick to exonerate CalMac and its staff as, he said, 'the causes are largely outside their control'.

He added: 'Making and mending on a daily basis repeatedly puts the ball back in CalMac's court though they now have no involvement in procurement or design of vessels, or even capacity.'

We support the call for a review.

Airbnb short-term lets benefit the local economy

I write in reference to last week's Lochaber Times front page, with one of the main themes being family evictions from privately rented properties which are then used for Airbnb purposes.

Shocking, indeed. The Private Housing (Tenancies) Act (Scotland) 2016 states that responsible tenants in rented properties in Scotland can only be asked to leave if the landlord intends to move into the property himself or if s/he intends to sell it.

Therefore, forcing families out is illegal. I would be interested to see how many local families this has affected and if there were other factors involved, such as rent arrears or not looking after the property.

Families or tenants who find themselves in a position like this have every right to take their landlords to task and I think this is something you should have included in your article. However, instead it suggests that Airbnb is damaging our community.

I agree, wholeheartedly, that short-term let hosts should adhere to certain rules, they should not be antisocial, they should comply with legalisation in terms of fire regulations and so on, and they should certainly be paying tax.

I would like to see you include in your newspaper information on how short-term lets are improving our locality. They provide employment for people with young families, who otherwise can't really afford to work, given the cost of childcare, and they ensure money is kept and circulated in our community, thus hugely improving the local economy.

I would bet that short-term rentals have improved more Lochaber lives than they have ruined. What a lovely, feelgood, community-spirited story to publish. After all, it's lovely to see a community prosper and even nicer to see that in the local paper.

And, yes, I am a responsible and community-minded Airbnb host who wouldn't dream of evicting anyone for my own gain.

Siobhan Maclean, by email.

Airbnb has brought about long-term pain already

Your editorial notes that there may be a conundrum over Airbnb suggesting that short-term gain will result in long-term pain.

YOUR PICTURES



We are experiencing the pain already. I was pleased to see the matter being raised by the Fort William Community Council and the Fort William Accommodation Marketing Group (FWAMG).

As members of the Chamber of Commerce ourselves, I do feel they need to take a firmer line than regarding Airbnb as simply 'a new route to market'; the economy and most of their members must already be affected adversely.

The situation regarding short-term lets in

Edinburgh is well documented with their council leading the calls for regulation. But their Chamber is similarly anodyne, 'wanting to work in partnership to promote responsible home-sharing which empowers families to make life more affordable'.

Last year VisitScotland launched a strategic partnership with Airbnb and estimated short-term lets account for around five per cent of tourist accommodation. (Should VisitScotland be in a partnership with an unregulated sector when it runs the main quality

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Beachd Ailein

ALLAN CAMPBELL

editor@obantimes.co.uk



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, 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. This week's photograph was sent in by Antoinette Mitchell from Kilninver, who said: 'My husband Nigel took this last week of three of the four red squirrels we constantly have on the nut feeders outside our conservatory. This is breakfast time. Three at the same time is worthy of your consideration for printing. We open our gardens at Barochreal, under the Scottish Garden Scheme, from May until September so visitors are bound to see one or two squirrels. We open by arrangement and can be contacted on 01852 31651.'

Students understandably want to come to this prime area in Scotland for our unique degrees in Adventure Tourism Management, Adventure Education, Marine and Coastal Tourism and the like, yet especially in places like Broadford in Skye frequently cannot take up the offer of a place on finding that they cannot get accommodation.

While accommodation was tight prior to Airbnb, hosts were usually glad of the long-term (lower) rents. Attracting staff, too, is difficult, with folk having to move frequently as landlords change their rental priorities to Airbnb.

The shortage of accommodation for incoming staff results in major employers such as MOWI being forced to bring forward planning applications for accommodation units in locations such as Annat Industrial Estate.

This isn't what industrial estates are for so, it's sound that the Kilmallie CC has objected to such inappropriate land use; I hope the council's Planning Committee sees it the same way.

We need the Chamber of Commerce, the Highland Council and HIE to be active and outspoken on this matter. Airbnb should not be endorsed as simply 'a new route to market'; it's actually a serious impediment to the development of the whole West Highland area, makes it difficult to retain young folk and hampers things like HIE's talent attraction campaign. The need for regulation is palpable.

John C Hutchison, chairman,
West Highland College UHI.

Holyrood, not Westminster, is responsible for ferries

I thank Colin Morrison for his response to my letter – sorry 'diatribe' – about ferry difficulties in the west (The Oban Times, June 27).

He omits to mention which of the isles he is based on from where he can write with such equanimity on the backlog of traffic caused by the shortfall in the fleet.

He rails at my use of the word 'sabotage' but goes on to concede that there is incompetence (sabotage by indifference, rather than intent) at play – the result is the same.

He prefers to blame Westminster for the incompetence, and more strength to his elbow, but this matter is governed from Holyrood and he tells us that he is content because 'it could be worse'.

My view is it could be better.
Peter Isaacson, Coll.

Thug caochladh thacharrasan air an t-seachdain seo chaith orm beachdachaidh air ruith nam bliadhnaichean agus air na cuimhneachain a th' agaunn air feadhainn a b' aithne dhuinn.

Disathairne seo chaith bha sinn aig cuirm ann an sgire Obair Dheathain a' comharrachadh gun robh caraidean dhuinn air a bhith pòsta leth-cheud bliadhna. Mar a bhiódh dùil 's e cruinneachadh dòigheil a bh' ann agus bha e smaoineachail sealtainn air ais air mar a bha sinn uile a' coimhead air an latha thaitneach ud ann an 1969! Bha feadhainn agaunn nas lugh na tha sinn a-nise, ach theagamh nach còir cus a ràdh mun sin! Toiseach na bliadhna, nuair a thuirt iad rinn an latha a chumail saor ma choinneamh na curime tha cuimhn' agam mar a thuirt ar caraid-ean mu cho beag 's a bha air fhàgail den fheadhainn a bh' air a' bhanais aca, agus gu cinnteach bha taibhsean an làthair Disathairne ann an cuimhne chuid againn.

Aghaidhean a' nochdadh nar mac-meannmhainn làn spòrs agus coibhneis,

cuimhneachain bhlàtha à "talla nan laoch nach beò"!

Air an t-seachdain a chaith cuideachd chaith iarraidh orm beagan aithris a thoirt mu àm strì an fhearrainn ann an Gleann Dail airson sleath de phrògraman ùra rèdio, agus ann a bhith a' smaoineachadh air an eachdraidh sin bha mi a' beachdachadh air an dileab a dh'fhàg na daoine a bh' ann agus air cho beag aithne's a th' ann dhaibh.

Ann an 1905, nuair a ghabh 147 croitear ri taigse

iasaidh bhon Riaghaltas gus Oighreachd Ghlinn Dail a ghabhail thairis bha iad a' gabhail ceum cho dàna agus

cho eagallach 's a ghabh

croitearan riamh roimhe.

Bha iad uile beò ann am bochdainn agus tha fhios gun robh smaoointinn air an teaghlach a chur ann am fiachan fad chaogad bliadhna na chuis uamhais dhaibh, agus gu dearbh bha cuid nach do ghabh ris a' chothrom idir agus a ghluais às an àite. Ach bha daoine air tighinn tro fhichead bliadhna de dh'iomairt aimhreiteach an 'Land League'; bha uachdarain agus Riaghaltas air bàtaichean

cogaidh agus saighdearan is poileas a chur nan aghaidh; agus bha cuid den cuid cheannardan air priosan fhulang air sgàth a bhith seasamh an càraichean. Nuair a chaith bonn-stèidh na h-Oighreachd a dhealbh dhaibh's iad oifigearan bhon riaghaltas sa mhòr-chuid a bha gan cuideachadh oir cha b' urrainn dhaibhsan luchd-lagha fhastadh.

Dh'fhàg cruth a' bhùinn-stèidh gum bheil e air leth doirbh iomairtean adhartais a dhèanamh agus canaidean cuij, le gliocas an latha 'n-diugh, gum bheil an oighreachd seo na h-eisim-pleir as còir a sheachnad. Ach ghabh croitearan Ghlinn Dail ceum treun dhan dorchadas agus tha iad airidh air urram agus cuimhne nach d' fhuair iad fhathast!

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

Allan Campbell is president of An Comunn Gaidhealach, organisers of the Royal National Mod, and a member of Bòrd na Gàidhlig.



For press freedom
with responsibility

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DISTRICT NEWS

APPIN

Appin Parish Church is holding a fundraising event to raise money for the church fabric this Saturday (July 13).

The event will take the form of a sponsored walk from the church to the Creagan Inn along the cycle track.

Anyone wishing to join in can sign in at the church vestry from 1.30pm. Sponsorship forms are available from M Ross.

There will be a nice tea in the vestry awaiting walkers on their return.

HELENSBURGH

A group campaigning for Helensburgh's Duchess Wood has called for talks to take place as soon as possible on the local nature reserve's future.

The Friends of Duchess Wood are anxious for a meeting of the wood's local nature reserve committee to take place at the earliest opportunity following its recent closure on safety grounds by Argyll and Bute Council.

The next meeting of the local nature reserve committee, chaired by Councillor Lorna Douglas, is not due to take place until Tuesday August 20.

In an open letter, the Friends also hit out at what they view as a lack of transparency over the wood's closure, which was enforced on Tuesday June 18.

The council is due to stop managing the wood next year under the terms of its agreement to do so.

There is still no clarity as to when it will reopen, with the final version of a report by external consultants awaited after a draft recommended it was closed.

OBAN

Oban and Lorn Riding For The Disabled group is holding an open day tomorrow (Friday July 19) at Achinalarig Stables, Glencruitten.

As well as pony rides (11am-12.45pm and 1.45pm-2.45pm), there will be a raffle, homebaking, tea and coffee, burgers and hot dogs, a



Ron Hetherington, organiser of the Seil Scarecrow Week.

Scare up some tickets for a dance on Seil

Tickets for Seil's Scarecrow Dance on Saturday August 3 will be on sale at a craft fair in Seil Island hall on Sunday July 21. Tickets are also on sale for a pot luck supper, as part of the island's Scarecrow Week celebrations starting on Saturday July 27. The supper is on Wednesday July 31 at 6.30pm at the Island Hall. There will be a cold buffet and fantastic desserts to enjoy. Tickets are available from Balvicar Stores and anyone willing to donate a dish should get in touch. The event will be BYOB (bring your own bottle). Entry is £5 for adults and £2.50 for children. Funds are in aid of hall improvements.

table-top sale and much more. Children under the age of 12 must be accompanied by an adult and all dogs must be on leads.

Tesco customers in Oban are being invited to cast their votes to help community projects bag thousands of pounds this summer. The supermarket is marking its centenary with two special Bags of Help funding rounds, run in partnership with greenspace scotland.

Customer voting in the first of these special rounds will begin this month and will concentrate

on groups delivering health and wellbeing benefits, with a particular focus on groups tackling cancer, heart disease and diabetes, in line with Tesco's National Health Partnership.

In Oban, customers will cast their votes for shortlisted groups Cardiac Risk in the Young, CLAN Cancer Support and Maggie's Centres using blue tokens handed out at check-outs. Grants of £25,000, £15,000 and £10,000 are up for grabs.

Anyone can nominate a project for Bags of Help, and organisations and groups looking to find out more or

apply should visit www.tesco.com/bagsofhelp.

ISLAY

A new all-weather pitch to be installed at Islay High School has been welcomed by local politicians as representing a significant benefit for the community.

Highlands and Islands MSP Donald Cameron commented: 'As we all know, Islay has more than its fair share of weather, so having a purpose-built, all-weather pitch will significantly increase the opportu-

nities for local people to participate in sport all year round.'

'This is very good news indeed as participation in sport can be very beneficial for keeping us fit and healthy, not to mention helping to develop the sporting prowess of our young people.'

I am particularly pleased that this facility is coming to Islay because sometimes there is a feeling that people living in smaller or more remote communities miss out on opportunities which are available in the larger towns and cities.'

Also adding his support is Councillor Alastair Redman, who said: 'This is a significant investment and one which local people have been hoping would come to the island for several years.'

'Our thanks should go to everyone who has worked for this and I am very pleased indeed that Argyll and Bute Council, despite its straitened finances, continues to aspire to support our island communities.'

DUNOON

Pupils at Dunoon Grammar recently took part in the school's 31st German exchange visit.

Thirty-five pupils returned to Dunoon Grammar School from a 10-day trip to Germany, laden with not only gifts and dirty washing for parents but with many magical memories that will last a lifetime.

The pupils, accompanied by six staff, visited Hardenberg Gymnasium in Furth, Bavaria.

This marked the final German exchange for three staff from Dunoon Grammar - Mrs Clark, Miss McKillop and Mr Campbell.

Mrs Clark and Miss McKillop founded the exchange and have worked tirelessly to enhance the experience over the past three decades.

Both teachers have now retired from Dunoon Grammar School and, along with Mr Campbell who has been involved in the exchange for 19 years, have packed their exchange travel bags for the final time.

During the trip, the Dunoon pupils were fully immersed in Bavarian life and culture.

1362

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At random

MARTIN LAING

mlaing@obantimes.co.uk



Welcome ferry move

As we report elsewhere this week, the Scottish Government has announced a pretty significant cut to ferry fares between Gallanach and Kerrera.

It is a very welcome reduction that should go a fair way to helping the island's fragile economy.

Scottish minister Paul Wheelhouse made the announcement during a visit to Oban. He said: 'This fare cut will make Kerrera more attractive for visitors and tourism companies and will boost the economy of the island.'

Indeed.

Last year I took the wee ferry Carvoran over to Kerrera and enjoyed the stunning walk down to the southern tip at Gylen to view the castle there. We lunched extremely well at the Kerrera Tea Garden, a delightful wee cafe that is open only seasonally.

We had a brilliant day out. The only downside for me was the cost of making the very short crossing at nearly £10 return for two of us.

Now that the fare has been slashed, I'll certainly be going over more frequently and I would heartily recommend it for anyone else.

Pup grub

It has long been known for its pub grub but the Lorne bar in Stevenson Street is now making a name for itself because of its 'pup' grub.

The Oban hostelry recently featured in a national publication by The Herald newspaper showcasing Scotland's most canine friendly places because it has its own dogs' menu.

The Lorne, though, was not the only establishment in the West Highlands to be singled out. Also recognised were, among others, the Grog and Gruel in the High Street in Fort William, Saucy Mary's Pub at Kyleakin on the Isle of Skye and the Clachaig Inn, near Ballachulish.

The dogs' menu idea has certainly been a talking point, especially among visitors, as I've witnessed for myself in recent times.

Hats off to landlord Declan and his team for an initiative that has helped to put Oban on the dog-lovers' map.

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.



Volunteers from the previous dig at Tigh Mor, Stronmilchan.

Dig this! Dalmally time team looks for volunteers



Collecting samples for carbon dating at Tigh Mor.

Organisers of an archaeological dig at Dalmally are giving people the chance to get hands on and join in, writes Kathie Griffiths.

Next week sees the next exciting stage of a dig exploring 13th-century remains on Tigh Mor at Stronmilchan, overlooking Loch Awe.

The idea to uncover what lies hidden came from Clan Gregor, who are said to have had a settlement up there.

In the past, Clan Gregor, Dalmally Historical Association (DHA) and experts from Glasgow University's archaeological department teamed up and discovered bits of pottery and signs of a fire there.

Steve Beesley, who is DHA's new chairman, said: 'There's a structure on the hill. It could be a dwelling or a livestock pen. There are lots of question marks

about it but we've also found elements that have carbon dated back to 1280.'

Dalmally Primary School will also be getting involved in the next dig experience running from July 22 to 27.

Saturday July 27 has been set aside as a special day for

parents and children to take part. Anyone else wanting to get involved during the dig week can choose between helping out for half a day, two days or the whole week. It is free.

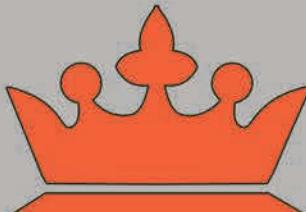
On Friday July 26, there will be a presentation at Dalmally Community Centre about what

has been discovered during the week. At the previous dig, about two years ago, some late medieval Scottish redware pottery was found and there are hopes of inviting a potter back to reproduce a piece that would have been similar.

'We're looking for volunteers to come along during that week and join us – anyone who fancies a slice of Time Team just needs to get in touch. The site is in a beautiful position overlooking Kilchurn Castle and Loch Awe,' added Mr Beesley.

Funding behind the project has come from Green Power Carraig Gheal Wind Farm Community Benefit Fund as well as Dalmally Community Company and Clan Gregor.

To lend a hand and find out more, call 01838 200915 or email dalmally.historical@gmail.com


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 REHAU

OUTDOORS

First Eurasian crane chick born at wildlife park

The first ever Eurasian crane chick to be born at the Royal Zoological Society of Scotland's Highland Wildlife Park, near Aviemore, has been out and about last week.

The now one-month-old chick hatched on Tuesday June 11 to parents Leela and Hugh following around 30 days of incubation on the nest.

Vickie Larkin, Highland Wildlife Park senior animal keeper, said: 'We were really excited to welcome our Eurasian crane chick as it is the first one ever to be born at Highland Wildlife Park.'

'After hatching in June, the chick is growing fast and will be named once we find out the sex by testing its feathers.'

Leela and Hugh were introduced at Highland Wildlife Park and laid an egg for the first time in 2018 but it did not hatch.

The chick will fledge at around two to three months old and take up to four years to mature.

Eurasian crane breeding pairs are monogamous and courtship involves coordinated calls and dancing displays.



The Eurasian crane chick will be named once its gender is known.

Rare resident found again after 12 years

The Tiree Twist (*Periclepsis cinctana*) is a small, colourful, day-flying moth with a wing span of just 14-18mm.

Despite its small size, the moth is a distinctive creamy white with a contrasting brown head, shoulders and band across the wing.

It formerly occurred in the UK in Kent but has not been seen there since around 1950 and is now believed to be extinct. Remarkably, in 1984, it was found on Tiree and the island remains its sole location in the UK.

However, the moth had not been seen on the island since 2007, so concerns were growing as to whether it was still present or had also become extinct.

On Wednesday June 26, a party of six from Butterfly Conservation Scotland boarded the ferry to Tiree with the sole mission of finding the moth. The group were ably joined on the island by an elite group comprising Tiree ranger Stephanie Cope, John Bowler, the RSPB's man on the island, Anne Stanley, the island's vet, along with a visiting school group from Wilder Ways in Fife.

The group gathered on Balephetrish Hill, the site where the Tiree Twist was first discovered and the location where it was last sighted.

After a quick briefing, the search began. In less than an hour, the first Twist was found and the mission was declared a success.

The sighting of others soon followed with a total of six to 10 adults being seen at the base of a rocky outcrop. They were all in pristine condition showing that they had only recently emerged indicating the start of their flight season.

Now that it is known that the moth is still alive and well on the island, the next step is to see how widespread it is.

The adult moths are on the wing from around mid-June to mid or possibly late July. So islanders and visitors are asked to keep their eyes peeled for this rare and beautiful moth.

It is thought to be associated with areas of



Above, the search begins for the Tiree Twist (photograph: Stephanie Cope), which is notable for its distinctive colouring, below (photograph: Anne Stanley).

Dark Hornblende, a mineral that is found in some of the rocks on the island. Areas rich in outcrops of Dark Hornblende are likely locations to search.

The ultimate quest will be to find the caterpillars, which have never been found in the wild in Britain and probably live within a silken tube or tent and feed on kidney vetch, bird's-foot trefoil and other low-growing plants.

Now plans for another quest are being hatched. For more information about the Tiree Twist, contact Tom Prescott, Butterfly Conservation Scotland, by emailing: tprescott@butterfly-conservation.org or call: 01540 661469.



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Lara and Tomas Crossley have already been getting creative ahead of the Climate Crisis workshops.

Students take stance on climate change

Children on Mull are going to be turning up the heat on the climate crisis front over the next few months.

Since November 2018, more than a million young people across the world have been striking every month in protest over their governments' lack of action on the Paris Agreement, signed in 2016, to deal with greenhouse gas emissions.

On Friday September 20, three days before world leaders meet in New York for the UN Emergency Climate Summit, school strikers, together with friends, communities and families will be holding the biggest global climate strike yet.

The children and young people of Mull, supported by friends and family will be joining them.

To learn more about the climate crisis and the student climate days

of action, a drop-in session for young people has been organised for Friday July 26 from noon to 4pm in the An Tobar art room in Tobermory, and at a venue (to be confirmed) in Bunessan.

Information about the global climate strike will be available and the opportunity for the young participants to create statements about how they feel about the climate crisis.

The young participants' statements will form an exhibition – Climate Crisis and Me – opening on Friday August 16 from 5.30–6.30pm at An Tobar, Tobermory, to which all are welcome.

At this stage, a number of adults are supporting the young people with the aim of them forming a group which they will name themselves. One adult, Sarah Darling,

told us: 'It is important the student days of action are led by young people.'

'A number of school students have been taking part in the climate strikes across Scotland, but I am not aware of there being any other school student strikes in Argyll and Bute and it's great that the youngsters on Mull want to lead the way.'

'The children are going to try to encourage local businesses to shut their doors for a few hours on September 20 too.'

More workshops will be held across the island after the start of the new school year.

To find out more visit the Facebook page 'CLIMATE CHANGE and ME – Mull and Surrounding Islands' – www.facebook.com/groups/392087041429821/

This week's walks

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.

Saturday July 20, Cona Glen, Argour.

A walk by the Cona river in a lovely glen. The landscape is varied, with many pools and waterfalls and some 700-year-old trees.

Start at the estate road entrance at NN021686, where parking is available. Follow the estate road, turn left at the junction and head NW on the track into Cona Glen to reach Corlarach Bothy, NM958720. Return by the same route.

Grade: L. Distance: 16km. Height to climb: 140m. Maps: LR 40/41 EX 391

Meet at: Corran Ferry slip NN021635 for 0945 sailing. Start of walk at 1010 Leader: Sally Cameron 07810 464994.

Thursday July 25: Cam Chreag and Beinn Chaorach, Tyndrum

There are five splendid Corbetts here, all of which may be done in one long summer's day. In mid winter two of them will make a good day out.

Start on the Auch estate road about 100m SE of its junction with the A82, NN317353, where limited parking is available. Further parking may be found on the verge of the A82, just south of the turning to Auch and 700m further S at a forest road entrance.

Follow the estate road to Auch and continue past the farm and over the bridge. Cross WHW and stay on the track to reach the railway viaduct. Turn right and follow the track leading SE up Glen Coralan.

When the track ends, continue a rising traverse up Glen Coralan, curving NE to reach the watershed on the boundary line, identified by a fence. Turn E and climb steeply to reach the crest of the NW ridge of Cam Chreag and follow it to the summit, 884m.

Descend SW to a col, 638m, then climb to the summit of Beinn Chaorach, 818m. Descend S on a long sloping ridge to reach a track at about 350m alt.

Follow it downhill, turning S to reach the CP at Auchtertyre. Transport required, 10 minutes from start.

Grade: M+. Distance: 14km. Height to climb: 860m. Map(s): LR50, EX377

Meet at: Glencoe Village CP NN098587 at 0850, Longdale CP Oban NM862307 at 0840. Start of walk at 0930. Leader: Andrew Gilbert.

NEVIS HILLWALKING CLUB

Full walk details at www.nevishillwalking.club. If anyone would like to go on a walk, contact club secretary Suzanne Theobald on 01397 701783 or email enquiries@nevishillwalking.club.

Saturday and Sunday, July 20 and 21, Cairngorm expedition

Monadh Mor (1119m, Munro) – Big hill. Beinn Bhrotain (1157m, Munro) – Hill of the mastiff. The Devil's Point (1004m, Munro) – Bod an deamhain. Cairn Toul (1291m, Munro) – Hill of the barn. Sgor an Lochan Uaine (1258m, Munro) – Peak of the little green loch. Mullach Clach a' Bhlaire (1019m, Munro) – Summit of the stone of the plain.

The intention is to do these hills with an overnight camp. These hills can each be reached by a long walk-in in a single day, but there is limited time to do more than one or two. An overnight camp should allow us to do at least five Munros without too much effort. Since this is a short trip, then if weather permits, the minimum amount of gear is required.

Start from the CP 900m N of Auchlean at NN850985. Walk S to end of road and then turn E and follow path through the forest and uphill to a point just S of the summit of Carn Ban Mor. Descend SE on the path until it joins a track near the 957m summit. Descend E along track and cross the Allt Sgairich. Continue E for another 1.5km and camp by the Allt Luineag at about NN925957. There should still be plenty of time to do Monadh Mor and Beinn Bhrotain before returning to campsite.

Next morning head out for the Devil's point, Cairn Toul and Sgor an Lochain Uaine. Return to the campsite. Pack up and return to Glen Feshie, either by the approach route, or if energy levels permit, via the track to Mullach Clach a' Bhlaire. Glen Feshie to campsite: 8km, 750m ascent.

Return to Glen Feshie: 200m ascent Suggested and coordinated by Gavin Theobald

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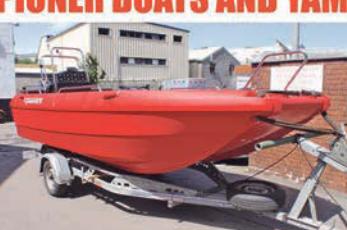
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Action needed to reduce farm and croft deaths

More needs to be done across Scotland to tackle the death rate in agriculture, after 13 people died last year on Scotland's farms and crofts.

This is five more deaths than in 2017/2018 – the highest average increase across the UK during this period.

To mark the start of the annual Farm Safety Week campaign on Monday July 15, the Health and Safety Executive released its latest Fatal Injuries in Agriculture, Forestry and Fishing for Great Britain 2018/2019 report, which shows that agriculture has the worst rate of worker fatal injuries (per 100,000): 18 times as high as the average rate across all industries.

It is hoped Farm Safety Week will inspire farmers to look after their physical and mental wellbeing and reduce

the number of life-changing and life-ending accidents on our farms.

Commenting on the statistics, NFU Scotland chief executive Scott Walker said: 'One death is disappointing but to hear 13 people died on Scotland's farms and crofts in 2018 is heart-breaking.'

'It is concerning that while a conscious effort has been made by many to prioritise safety on farms and crofts in recent years, this number continues to increase. The fact that three of the five ATV deaths in the UK happened in Scotland is a stark reminder that everyone using a quad bike should be wearing a helmet.'

'Farm safety is everyone's place and we need action to be taken to reduce the death and injury toll on Scotland's farms and crofts.'

MP hears of Islay farm challenges

NFU Scotland's Islay members welcomed the de facto Deputy Prime Minister, the Rt Hon David Lidington CBE MP, on a farm on Islay impressing upon him challenges faced by agricultural on island communities.

Tom and Robert Epps, of Ardnave Farm, Loch Gruinart, hosted the visit on Friday July 12 where Mr Lidington viewed the high-value livestock and environmental schemes undertaken on the unit.

As a senior member of the UK cabinet, Mr Lidington is responsible for advising the



Rt Hon David Lidington spent time on Islay.

Prime Minister on developing UK government policy.

During the visit, members from Islay impressed on the minister the importance of the UK government committing to long-term financial and policy support for Scottish farming and crofting if governments wish to reap rewards in terms of growing the food and drinks industry as well as delivering on public goods.

In addition, they stressed the importance of retaining tariff-free trade with Europe, and the protection of domestic agricultural standards in any future trade deals.

Members also highlighted

the challenges faced by agriculture on island communities, and in particular the immediate challenges facing Scotland's less favoured areas.

Gill Johnstone, Islay branch chairwoman, said: 'NFU Scotland was pleased the minister took the time to see and hear directly from farmers and crofters on Islay.'

'This provided a critical opportunity at what is a very challenging time for all of Scottish agriculture to leave an impression on the minister about what agriculture can deliver if it is valued by our policy-makers.'

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DINGWALL AND HIGHLAND MARTS LTD, July 16:

13 prime cattle were sold. Prime Bullocks (2) averaged 205.0p (+8.0p) and sold to 205.0p per kg for a 555kg Limousin cross and 205.0p per kg and £1,209.50 gross for a 590kg Simmental cross both from Raffin, Tore selling to Messrs John M Munro Ltd, Dingwall.

Prime heifers (11) averaged 198.2p (-2.4p) and sold to 207.0p per kg for a 550kg Limousin cross and £1,310.00 gross for a 655kg Limousin cross both from Bridgend Farm, Dingwall selling to Messrs John M. Munro Ltd, Dingwall.

Other leading prices per kg:

Heifers: Bridgend Farm, (LimX), 203.0p, 202.0p twice, 200.0p four times.

Other leading prices per head:

Heifers: Bridgend Farm, (LimX), £1,295.00, £1,280.00, £1,260.00.

Also sold 304 prime sheep.

New season lambs (265) averaged 176.8p (-3.6p) and sold to 193p per kg and £83 gross for a pen of 43kg Texel crosses from Docharty Farm, Dingwall selling to Messrs Fraser Brothers Butchers, Dingwall.

SQX 36.5kg to 45.5kg (244) averaged 177.7p per kg.

Ewes & Feeding sheep (39) sold to £79.50 gross for a Cross ewe from Comar, Beauly.

Other leading prices per head and kg:

New season lambs: TexX – Woodside Croft, Ardersier, £81.50, Pithogarty, Tain, 183.3p;

Cross – 18 Camultmuir, Beauly, £80.50, Achnagairn, Kirkhill, 177.4p; SuffX – Glasstullich Farm, Tain, £79. 18 Torgormack,

cattle and 124 breeding sheep. Bullocks (166) – averaged 198.16p to 229.50p per kg for a 305kg CHX from Drumoider, and to £1170 for a 591kg CHX from Gillmill.

B & W Bullocks (12) – averaged 121.98p to 126.30p per kg for a 566kg HO/HFX from Mains, and £715 for a 566kg HO/HFX from Mains.

Heifers (98) – averaged 193.40p to 223.00p per kg for a 291kg BAX from Gateside, and to £1030 for a 516kg LimX from Auchnotteroch.

Beef Cows (155) – averaged 127.28p to 157.10p per kg for a LimX from Clatto, and to £1250 for a LimX from Easter Greenhill.

Dairy Cows (21) – averaged 104.70p to 145.80p per kg for a HFX from Rossiebank, and to £895 for a BFX from Craigend.

Bullocks: 251-300kgs- Hilton of Aldie £620, 223.00p; 301-350kgs- Newpark £740, Drumoider 229.50p; 351-400kgs- Wester Clunie £790, 220.70p;

401-450kgs- Wester Clunie £890, 212.90p; 451-500kgs- Holm of Daltallochan £1020, 213.40p; 501-551kgs- Gillmill £1150,

209.90p ; 552-601kgs- Gillmill £1170, 199.30p; 602-651kgs- Mains £1140, Ardgate 179.30p.

Heifers: 251-300kgs- Gateside £650, 223p; 301-350kgs- Gateside £700, Hilton of Aldie 212.90p; 351-400kgs- Wester

Clunie £780, Hilton of Aldie 200p ; 401-450kgs- Balsaggart £895, Clonrae 212.70p;

451-500kgs- Wester Clunie £1010, 208p; 501-551kgs- Auch-

notteroch £1030, 199.60p; 552-601kgs- Ardgate £995, 175.80p

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LEISURE & ENTERTAINMENT

YOUR GUIDE TO WHAT'S ON IN ARGYLL AND LOCHABER

Oban Gaelic Choir on song in Estonia

Oban Gaelic Choir visited Estonia from July 3 to July 7 at the invitation of the Hopneri Chamber Choir based in Tallinn.

The choirs first met at the Verona International Choral Festival in 2016 and their friendships have continued, showing the strength of relationships within the global choral community.

The visit was a fantastic opportunity for the choir to represent and promote Oban, Argyll and Gaelic culture and tradition. It also gave members the chance to continue to develop as a group and learn from other musical traditions.

Highlights of the visit included a visit to a centre celebrating the work of one of Estonia's greatest classical composers, Arvo Pärt, which saw the choir having the honour of singing Gleann Bhaile Chaoil on stage in the centre's auditorium.



Sileas Sinclair conducts Oban Gaelic Choir and Hopneri Chamber Choir at the Holy Ghost Church concert July 4.

It also included a concert with the Hopneri Chamber Choir in the 13th-century Holy Ghost Church in Tallinn's historic old town. Oban Gaelic Choir performed Gaelic songs before the choirs sang two songs together in Italian and Estonian: Signore delle Cime, which they had sung together when the choirs

first met, followed by Sanctus, a beautiful Estonian hymn.

Ceilidh

There was also a cross-cultural ceilidh celebrating Estonian and Gaelic music, song and dance and the opening concert of the Estonian Song Festival in Tallinn which was celebrating its 150th anniversary.

The festival takes place every five years with a procession of choirs followed by an outdoor massed choir concert of more than 30,000 singers watched by an audience of more than 100,000.

There was a great amount of warmth and kindness shown by the Hopneri Chamber Choir and their musical director Karin Rööp.

It is hoped the Estonian choir will visit Oban in the near future. Oban Gaelic Choir thanks everyone who helped fundraise for the visit and Oban Common Good Fund, Argyll and Bute Council Supporting Communities Fund and Highland Titles for supporting the choir in their plans.

Sileas Sinclair, Oban Gaelic Choir musical director, said: 'What a trip. Just amazing. The Hopneri Choir are the loveliest and warmest people. Can't wait to show them Scotland.'

Skye festival launches with murder mystery

The 2019 Skye Festival, Feis an Eilein, kicked off on Saturday with a spectacular murder mystery evening at a house in Ord.

The event launched SEALL's popular summer festival which runs to August 20 and includes top quality performing arts events featuring the best in Scottish traditional music, jazz, theatre and literature.

Other highlights include classical drama with A Company of Wolves' brilliant Achilles on July 23; music from the NYOS Jazz Orchestra on July 18; Alasdair Fraser's fiddle night on July 26; trad and Americana from Minginish Hall celebrates a decade of service to its communities with a week-long programme of family activities beginning on Saturday July 20 with a concert by one of the most sought-after bands on the Scots trad scene, the electrifying Breabach,

Continued on page 26.

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MY ALBA

DIARDAOIN 18 AN T-IUCHAR
THURSDAY 18 JULY

17.00 Prògraman Chloinne – Children's programming
19.00 Na Dròbhairean (rpt)
19.30 Speaking our Language (rpt)
19.55 Binneas – Na Trads – The Shee (rpt)
20.00 An Là – News
20.30 Dealbhan Fraoch (rpt)
21.00 Highlands – Scotland's Wild Heart (rpt)
22.00 Air an Rathad (rpt)
22.30 Slighean Sgoile an t-Saoghal (rpt)
23.20 Eadar Chluich (rpt)
23.25 Belladrum – Cridhe Tartan Highlights 2018 (rpt)
23.30 Seòid a' Chidsin (rpt)

DIHAOINE 19 AN T-IUCHAR
FRIDAY 19 JULY

17.00 Programan Chloinne – Children's Programming
18.35 Machair (rpt)
19.00 An Là – News
19.25 Fraochy Bay (rpt)
19.30 Prosbag (rpt)
20.00 Horo Gheallaidh (rpt)
20.30 DIY le Donnie – An Dùbhlann (rpt)
21.00 ÙR/NEW: TRNSMT Highlights 2019
23.00 ÙR/NEW: Black Lake 52
23.45 Belladrum 2016: Cridhe Tartan – Bwani Junction (rpt)

DILUAIN 22 AN T-IUCHAR
MONDAY 22 JULY

17.00 Prògraman Chloinne – Children's programming
19.00 Na Ceàilich (rpt)
19.25 Earrann Eachdraidh (rpt)
19.30 Speaking our Language (rpt)
19.55 Binneas – Na Trads – The Halton Quartet (rpt)
20.00 An Là – News
20.30 Turas a' Bharain (rpt)
21.00 Gruth is Uachdar (rpt)
22.00 Seòid a' Chidsin (rpt)
22.30 Port – Dùn Èideann (rpt)
23.00 Highlands – Scotland's Wild Heart (rpt)

DIMÀIRT 23 AN T-IUCHAR
TUESDAY 23 JULY

17.00 Prògraman Chloinne – Children's programming
19.00 Na Dròbhairean (rpt)
19.25 Earrann Eachdraidh (rpt)
19.30 Speaking our Language (rpt)
19.55 Binneas – Na Trads – The Halton Quartet (rpt)
20.00 An Là – News
20.30 DIY le Donnie – An Dùbhlann (rpt)
21.00 Trusadh – Bairteas na Beàrt (rpt)
22.00 Port – Dùn Èideann (rpt)
22.30 Gruth is Uachdar (rpt)
23.00 Air an Rathad (rpt)

DIARDAOIN 25 AN T-IUCHAR
THURSDAY 25 JUNE

17.00 Prògraman Chloinne – Children's programming
19.00 Na Dròbhairean (rpt)
19.25 Earrann Eachdraidh (rpt)
19.30 Speaking our Language (rpt)
19.55 Binneas – Na Trads (rpt)
20.00 An Là – News
20.30 Dealbhan Fraoch (rpt)
21.00 Air an Rathad – Railidh na Trealaich (rpt)
22.00 FUNC (rpt)
22.30 Slighean Sgoile an t-Saoghal (rpt)
23.20 Eadar Chluich (rpt)
23.25 Fraochy Bay (rpt)
23.30 Seòid a' Chidsin (rpt)

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Last year's scarecrow winner at the Ross of Mull and Iona Gala was this upcycled dragon.

Scarecrows line up for gala fun

Pretty pick-ups, tarted-up trucks and lovely lorries will be joining tomorrow's float parade through Fionnphort at the start of this year's Ross of Mull and Iona gala.

Anyone without wheels is invited to don fancy dress and join in on foot when the parade sets off at 7pm.

Children's entertainers and circus act supremos Funky Chicken will kick off the fun. The Creel hut beside the ferry to Iona is putting on 'Chips and Choons' and there will be live music and a barbecue at the Keel Row Restaurant.

Visitors heading to the celebrations will also be able to go scarecrow-spotting.

So far there are about 40 of them listed on what could possibly be the UK's longest

scarecrow trail starting at Tioran in Ardmeanach and ending about 20 miles away on Iona.

The idea of retired teacher Jack Degan, the gala, now in its fifth year, features two weeks of fun and entertainment for islanders and visitors.

'We think we're possibly the longest scarecrow trail in the UK.'

'There's going to be lots for people to do during the two weeks regardless of any inclement weather,' said Mr Degan.

Activities include Mull-based theatre and filmmaker Alasdair Satchel running a two-day filmmaking workshop for older primary and secondary school children

sponsored by Mull Eagle Watch. Gala programmes, including details of the scarecrow trail, are on sale in shops and garages.

Other events include food events, beach games, sandcastle building, The Ross of Mull Art Exhibition, art and craft workshops, guided wildlife walks and more.

Businesses have been generously supporting the grand raffle for this year with excellent prizes, said Mr Degan.

The winners will be drawn at this year's Bunessan Show bringing the gala fortnight to an end on August 2 with a dance that night in Bunessan Hall.

The gala has its own Facebook page to keep everyone updated.

Skye festival launches with murder mystery

Continued from page 25.
supported by the Skye Festival.

SEALL's programme of Live Literature continues during the festival with a talk and readings on August 17 from Scottish author and historian Maggie Craig who will be discussing the men and women of the 1745 Jacobite Uprising. On the same day, historical novelist Barbara Henderson will lead a workshop for writers on capturing time and place in writing.

There is a talk and reading by Italian Scots poet Anne Pia at the Bog Myrtle Café on July 21 and Broadford-based Astronomer Royal for Scotland, Professor John Brown, and renowned Scots poet Rab Wilson will give a talk and readings on their new collaboration Oor Big Braw Cosmos on August 16.

A rare opportunity to

experience the extraordinary talents of award-winning multi-instrumentalist Innes Watson performing music from his first studio album

comes to the Feis on August 13; Finnish all-female choir Forakören will perform on August 19 and Adam Sutherland brings the hugely popular Cask Strength Ceilidh band on August 20.

There will be craft, theatre and dance workshops and cèilidhs throughout the festival and a lively fringe includes cafes, exhibitions, house concerts, Gaelic language classes, sessions and summer fun,

and SEALL will be holding a charity cafe on July 25 at Ardvasar Hall from 11am to 2pm to raise funds for its children and young persons' programmes.

Proceeds will go towards delivering free performances and workshops to school

children and developing the organisation's young musicians programme.

Festival producer Marie Lewis said: 'We have another great programme planned for the summer. We had a disappointment with our first event. The South African dancers of Njobo Productions had trouble with their visas and had to cancel at the eleventh hour. We spent Wednesday morning refunding bookings and reservations and notifying people on digital channels.'

'Despite this unfortunate setback, the show goes on and we have so many great events in store over the next five weeks.'

Printed programmes are available across the island. For tickets, to download a digital programme and further information, visit www.skyefestival.scot

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Gaelic bard celebrated at Oban book launch

A rummage in an attic was the start of a photographic and literary project paying homage to Gaelic bard Sorley Maclean.

Photographer Alastair Jackson partnered up his brooding black and white images of Skye and Raasay landscapes with words from Seil poet Kenneth Steven to bring out a new book - The Spirit of the Hebrides.

Alastair, originally from Skye, was sorting through his granny's attic when he found an old vinyl of Sorley reading some of his work. He contacted Kenneth Steven, whose work he admired, and the two joined forces.

The pair were at the Oban branch of Waterstones last week to launch the result of their work that was three years in the making. All the poems were already written, with Alastair 'cherry-picking' ones he felt most reflected what he wanted to say about his landscapes.

Glasgow Letter

ROBERT ROBERTSON

robert.d.robertson@hotmail.co.uk



Care for a Ceilidh celebrates 250th

Renfrew Care Home was the setting of the recent 250th Care for a Cèilidh as the residents were entertained by Mòd Gold Medal winner Darren Maclean, award-winning Seann Nos singer Roisin Chambers, fiddler Sally Simpson from HEISK, and Ceitidh Martindale and her Highland dancers.

Many people are looking forward to this series after the resounding success of the first, which featured a Gaelic-speaking Donald Trump, a group of walking and talking Callanish stones, and a sketch from Stornoway airport where the attendant asks for a passenger named MacLeod to stand up and the whole departure lounge gets to their feet.

The point behind these screenings is to record the audience's laughter to be used on the series. If the comedy is of the same standard as the first, they will need to turn the microphones down because the laughter will be so loud.

New series of FUNC

This week, in the Grosvenor Cinema on Ashton Lane, there have been two exclusive first screenings of the second series of BBC Alba's latest comedy series, FUNC.

The fact this was the 250th event just proves how much this voluntary idea of Donald MacLeod's has flourished over the past few years, bringing so much joy to so many people in homes across the country.

Donnie himself was commanding the stage at Tiree Music Festival last weekend where he was the MC alongside Tiree man Arthur Donald. While he was on the island, though, he made time to visit the Tigh a Rubha care home where he sang and told stories with the residents - no doubt bringing them a bit of the cheer from the festival.

Keep your eye on BBC Alba for word about when this series will be released. I don't think it will disappoint.



A new series of FUNC looks to be coming soon to BBC Alba.

A great weekend at TMF10

I do not suppose that Tiree

Music Festival is strictly the correct subject matter for the Glasgow Letter, but such are the numbers of Glasgow Gaels who flock to the island that particular weekend that every year I deem it worth a mention.

The festival's 10th anniversary year (TMF10) brought a very special atmosphere as people reminisced about festivals over the past decade in a sunny field full of friendly

faces. We got the lucky break in the weather that the festival has been so badly in need of and the line-up did not disappoint.

I am writing this in Glasgow - shattered - as I reflect on a memorable few days.

It started for us on Friday with a journey down to Ely Folk Festival in Cambridgeshire. As soon as we came off stage there, we started the 505-mile journey to Oban - stopping only for three hours in Leeds. It was not as unpleasant as it sounds because we knew TMF10 would be worth it.

I now definitely feel more than a hint of sadness that such a heavily anticipated weekend is over. Just as well I am off to HebCelt in Stornoway tomorrow morning so that should take my mind off the blues.

We are headlining Thursday night in the main arena before heading off down to England for a couple of shows at the weekend. I can't wait.

And, after having been away the length of the country for the past week or so, I'm off to wash pants and socks, and hope they dry in time for us setting off to Lewis tomorrow. I shall report back next week.

WHAT'S YOUR FAVOURITE RECIPE?

Fish, Slimming World chips and peas



Serves 4

Syns per serving: 2

Ingredients

- 3 slices old bread
- 800g potatoes, peeled and cut into thick chips
- Low calorie cooking spray
- Sea salt and freshly ground black pepper
- 4 x 170g skinless and boneless cod fillets
- 2 eggs
- 2 tbsp beer
- Fresh parsley, finely chopped, to garnish
- Canned mushy peas
- Lemon wedges, to serve

Method

1. Preheat your oven to 220°C/Fan 200°C/Gas 7. Line two baking trays with baking paper. Whizz the bread in a food processor until crumbed, then transfer to a plate.
2. Boil the chips in lightly salted boiling water for 4-5 minutes, then drain well, return to the pan and cover. Lightly shake to roughen up the chips' edges, then arrange on one of the baking trays in a single layer. Spray with low calorie cooking spray, season and bake for 15-20 minutes, or until golden.
3. Meanwhile, season the cod. In a shallow bowl, beat together the eggs and beer. Dip the fish in the egg mixture, then coat with the breadcrumbs. Transfer to the second baking sheet. Repeat with the remaining fillets and bake for 15-20 minutes, or until cooked through and lightly browned.
4. Sprinkle the parsley over the fish and serve with the chips, plenty of mushy peas, plus lemon wedges for squeezing over.

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FRIDAY 19TH JULY

The Lion King | PG
Toy Story 4 | U
Sometimes Always Never | 12A
Gloria Bell | 15

SATURDAY 20TH JULY

Spy Cat | U
The Lion King | PG
Toy Story 4 | U
MIB: International | 12A
Gloria Bell | 15
Sometimes Always Never | 12A

SUNDAY 21ST JULY

The Lion King | PG
Toy Story 4 | U
X-Men: Dark Phoenix | 12A
Sometimes Always Never | 12A
Gloria Bell | 15

MONDAY 22ND JULY

The Isle | 15

TUESDAY 23RD JULY

The Lion King | PG
Toy Story 4 | U
Sometimes Always Never | 12A
Gloria Bell | 15

WEDNESDAY 24TH JULY

The Isle | 15

THURSDAY 25TH JULY

The Lion King | PG
Late Night | 15
Toy Story 4 | U
Sometimes Always Never | 12A
NT Live: The Lehman Trilogy | 12A
Gloria Bell | 15

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YESTERDAY

SPIDER-MAN: FAR FROM HOME

ANDRÉ RIEU 2019 MAASTRICHT CONCERT: SHALL WE DANCE

Local Honeys look to create a buzz on Mull

From the rolling hills of the Bluegrass and the foothills of the Appalachian Mountains, Local Honeys will bring the folk music of Kentucky to Mull next week.

Two exceptionally talented young women, Montana Hobbs and Linda Jean Stokley, arrive on UK shores this week for a string of festivals, including Latitude and SummerTyne.

Being the first women to graduate from their state university's degree programme in traditional 'hillbilly' music, The Local Honeys have gone on to win numerous songwriting accolades including the prestigious Chris



Austin Songwriting Award at MerleFest - also awarded to Gillian Welch at the beginning of her career.

The duo have dedicated themselves to the preservation of old music and the creation of new music. Their song writing often reflects subject matter that little girls

ought not talk about. This element played a strong impact in the production and creation of their acclaimed debut album Little Girls Actin' like Men released in 2016.

The duo will perform at An Tobar on Tuesday July 23 and Bunessan Town Hall on Wednesday July 24.

Bookends Festival will be another page-turner

Authors lined up for this year's Bookends Festival in Benderloch's Victory Hall make a good read.

Now in its fourth year, the cosy literary event is ready to spread the love of reading again.

From the first men on the moon to artificial intelligence and historical adventure, festival founder Joy Cameron says there will be a chapter for everyone to get stuck into.

This year's dates are Saturday September 21 to Saturday September 28 with a preview night on Friday September 20 with a live link - fingers crossed - to a radio station in Canada.

Adrian Nation will put on a gig featuring his Benderloch Stone song, inspired by Creaguen Beach telling the story of a growing friendship between folk of Argyll and Alberta and the connections felt for a group of friends we are yet to meet.

A reading blanket decorated by Bookends' goers hands will be presented to Adrian on the night for him to take over to Canada when he next goes there to give personally to a Scots radio presenter who festival organisers are hoping will be able to say hello via

the airwaves on the preview night.

Joy said: 'People have asked us before if we are going to have a theme for the festival but we've never had to think of that because we think it's the variety that appeals most to folk.'

'We have not had to go and seek out authors, they have been coming to us. Word spreads among them, which is great. We've already got some lined up for 2020.'

'This year we have everything from historical adventure to first men on the moon and artificial intelligence. The idea of Bookends was to make sure there is something for everyone and we've achieved that again.'

Among this year's authors will be Scottish radio broadcaster, activist and journalist Lesley Riddoch and Inveraray's Ken MacTaggart who wrote the Haynes Astronaut Manual, essential reading for space enthusiasts and anyone interested in learning about what it takes to become a spaceman.'

Historical fiction writer Liz MacRae Shaw will be there with her second novel No Safe Anchorage telling the tale of Tom Masters, a 19th century

naval officer who jumps ship in search of a captivating stranger.

His adventures, interwoven with the life of a young Robert Louis Stevenson, take Tom from Skye to Canada.

Angus Peter Campbell will also be in Benderloch with his psychological fiction book Memory And Straw, winner of the Saltire Society Fiction Book of the year award 2017.

Outreach sessions to Oban High School and Lochnell Primary School are being funded by the Scottish Book Trust and Taynuilt Medical Practice and Seil published poet Kenneth Steven will be running a workshop on Monday September 23. He will be inviting writers to submit their own poems before the festival and will arrange to meet on a one-to-one basis to give individual feedback followed by the poetry workshop for everyone.

A film night at Oban's Phoenix Cinema, puppetry from Alison Clark's Triple Aspect, Wurdplay open mic, a quiz and theatre from Tobermory are just some of the other events in the offing. The reading room will also be open throughout the week for people to browse the shelves.

South Pacific

Sunday 28th July at 5pm

www.obanphoenix.com

MONTLY MUSICAL

Keir launches single with eyes wide open

Eyes Wide, the debut single from Fort William's Keir Gibson, is a statement of intent – announcing the arrival of his unique brand of alternative pop.

Borne out of the Highlands, the 18-year-old's music demonstrates a love of production, akin to the likes of Maggie Rogers, Julia Michaels and Lauv, while his lyrics show a natural talent for honest and engaging storytelling.

Set for release the day before he takes to the Belladrum stage for the second year running, Eyes Wide gives audiences a glimpse of what is to come.

Keir grew up surrounded by his family's love of traditional Scottish music. His music, however, is distinctly contemporary, fusing electronica, pop and folk with emotional lyrics and a powerful voice to create something that is romantic, escapist and full of energy.

In December 2018, Keir swapped his Highland family croft for the city, spending the week writing with London production duo The Nocturns (Charlie Martin and Joe Housley). It



Fort William's Keir Gibson.

'It finally felt like the right time to get into the studio and work on my first release.'

have the chance to experiment with different sounds and to realise the kind of music I want to keep making, namely a unique brand of alternative pop that you might

was an experience that finally allowed Keir to translate the dynamic and lively sounds he had envisaged into the track, Eyes Wide.

The single was sent to LA for mixing and mastering by Grammy-nominated mixer Matty Green and Grammy award-winning mastering engineer Joe LaPorta.

Keir said: 'I've been writing songs since I was 12 years old at home in Fort William with my guitar and it finally felt like the right time to get into the studio and work on my first release.'

'It was important for me to

not expect to hear coming out of the Scottish Highlands. I've been going to Belladrum with my family for years, so the festival has special memories for me. It's somewhere I've always wanted to play.

'Last year was such a brilliant atmosphere so launching my debut single during this year's festival means a lot to me. Hopefully people like it and want to hear more.'

An independent release, Eyes Wide is inspired by the sleepless nights of a breakup, exploring the manic nature of a toxic relationship and the exhausting chase to match someone's ever-changing whims.

With brilliantly received support slots for Northampton singer-songwriter Billy Lockett at King Tut's and The View's Kyle Falconer at The Ironworks, Inverness, under his belt, and a spot on the Hit The Road and Belladrum line-ups in 2018 to his name, Keir is just getting started. As well as appearing at Belladrum 2019, he plays XpoNorth and HebCelt in July.

Eyes Wide will be available to download and stream on Friday August 2.

Your local radio listings

Tune in to 103.3Fm or listen live at www.obanfm.com or on the Tuneln app. For requests, competitions or questions please call us on 01631 570057 or email: studio@obanfm.org.uk



Christine's collection, 21.00 Ann's Ceilidh, 22.00 Margo till midnight then Through the night with Clyde 2.

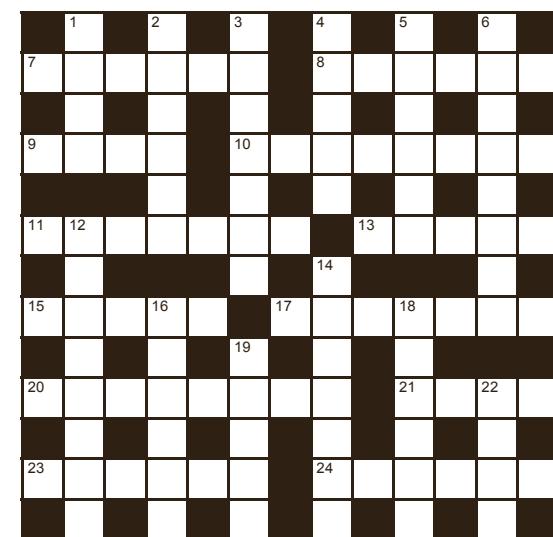
FRIDAY: 08.00 breakfast show with Laura, 10.00 Teeny and Tiny aka Harry, Janet, and Anna, 17.00 Drivetime with Jim Lynch, 18.45 Sports View, 19.00 Country meets Country with Jackie Craig, 21.00 Peter Rannnie 12.00 Midnight through the night with Clyde 2.

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 MacKinnie, 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.

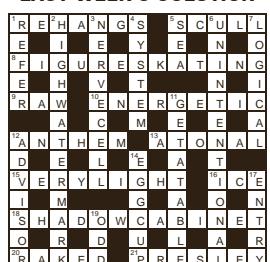
Crossword



Across

- 7 Safety hat (6)
- 8 Release (6)
- 9 Press Backspace (4)
- 10 Madness (8)
- 11 Dimensional (7)
- 13 Oblique (5)
- 15 Squirrel away (5)
- 17 Facing (7)
- 20 Where the neighbour lives (4,4)
- 21 Nippy (4)
- 23 Relating to magic (6)
- 24 Request sweetener (6)

Last week's solution



Down

- 1 Style (4)
- 2 Duty (6)
- 3 Upright (7)
- 4 Not hold it in (5)
- 5 Complain (6)
- 6 One after the other (3-2-3)
- 12 It's a virtue! (8)
- 14 Bent (7)
- 16 Undertake (3,3)
- 18 Part of a stamen (6)
- 19 Airy (5)
- 22 Compulsive (4)

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Screen Machine

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Tobermory
Strontian
Thu 18 - Sat 20 July
Sun 21 - Mon 22 July

Rocketman (15) 121 mins
18/07 at 5.30pm, 20/07 at 8.30pm, 22/07 at 8.30pm

Diego Maradona (12A) 129 mins
From the director of **Senna** and **Amy**, fascinating doc about the footballer's Napoli years. Part of the Film Feels: Obsession UK wide cinema season. **18/07 at 8.30pm**

Toy Story 4 (U) 100 mins
19/07 at 5.30pm, 20/07 at 2pm, 21/07 at 5.30pm

Wild Rose (15) 100 mins
Would-be country singer, Rose Lynn, wants to swap Glasgow for Nashville. **19/07 at 8.30pm, 22/07 at 5.30pm**

Films We Love: Old Boys (12A) 93 mins (£5/£3)
Charming 'Cyrano de Bergerac' style teenage romance, set in a boys' boarding school **20/07 at 5.30pm**

Avengers: Endgame (12A) 181 mins
"prepare to be wowed" Rolling Stone **21/07 at 8.30pm**

Before **Wild Rose** we will screen a free photo presentation of work by Arpita Shah, produced in collaboration with Streetlevel Photography, Glasgow.

Book at www.screenmachine.co.uk. Tickets also at the cinema 30 mins before screenings. Cash only, no cards. £7.50 Adults, £5.50 concs. Fully accessible for wheelchair users.

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WHAT'S ON IN OBAN

In partnership with Oban Town Diary BID4oban.co.uk

THURSDAY 18TH JULY

Slimming World
Salvation Army Hall, Fort William
9:30am, 11:30am, 3:00pm, 5:00pm
& 7:00pm
Tel; Gillian 07796 040803

Design your own T-shirt

Oban Library
10:30am - 12:30pm

Oban Health Walks

Oban Congregational Church
10am-12pm

Recovery Cafe

New Hope Kitchen. 12:30pm

Live Music & Entertainment @

Markie Dans
FREE JUKEBOX EVERY THURSDAY

FRIDAY 19TH JULY

Hope Kitchen Music Group
Salvation Army Hall. 1pm-4pm

Parsley's Cat Cafe

New Hope Kitchen. 2pm

Live Music & Entertainment @

Markie Dans
El Carousel. Open till 2am

SATURDAY 20TH JULY

Hill Walks

Glen Feshie, Kingussie

All day

Cearcall Comhraidh (Gaelic Conversation Group)

Furan Gaelic Centre, Oban

12noon- 1:30pm

RNLI Coffee Morning

Glencruitten Church Centre, Oban

12pm

Live Music & Entertainment @

Markie Dans

Gregor Coleman. Open till 2am

SUNDAY 21ST JULY

Hill Walks

Glen Feshie, Kingussie. All day

Hill Walks

Dalwhinnie

All day

Live Music & Entertainment @

Markie Dans

QUIZ NIGHT at 9:30pm

£1 per person, max of 6 per team

Win £20 bar voucher

MONDAY 22ND JULY

Fellowship Meeting

New Hope Kitchen. 2pm

Slimming World

Glencruitten Church Hall, Oban

9:30am, 11:30am, 5:30pm & 7:30pm

Tel; Gillian 07796 040803

Martyn's Monday Club

New Hope Kitchen

7pm - 9pm

Drumming and Music Making

Taynuilt Sports Pavilion

6:30pm - 7:30pm

TUESDAY 23RD JULY

Carers Coffee Morning

North Argyll Carers Centre, Oban

10:30am - 12pm

Knitting Group

New Hope Kitchen. 2pm

Martyn's Monday Club Ladies

New Hope Kitchen

7pm - 9pm

WEDNESDAY 24TH JULY

Hope Kitchen Beach Clean

Slip opposite Stafford Street

10:30am - 12pm

Open Day

Greenshoots Garden

10:30am - 3:30pm

Slimming World

Glencruitten Church Hall, Oban

9:30am, 11:30am, 5:30pm & 7:30pm

Tel; Gillian 07796 040803

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



Frankie Boyle will perform his new stand-up show Full Power at the Corran Halls, Oban.

Stand-up Frankie Boyle to play Oban

Frankie Boyle is back touring Scotland with a new stand-up show being filmed for the BBC.

The Scottish Comic has announced dates including the Corran Halls on Monday September 2, as well as others in Aberdeen, Glasgow and Edinburgh.

Anyone thinking of buying tickets is being told the Oban show will be filmed for the BBC, so people who object should not book.

Tickets are on sale now but

come with a warning there will be strong language and adult content so it is only suitable for 16s and overs.

Glaswegian Frankie is best known by many TV viewers for his time on Mock the Week, where many of his controversial gags hit headlines, and his latest New World Order show on BBC Two.

It is the first time the comedian has 'properly' toured his homeland for more than a decade, say his promoters.

In Full Power, Frankie pre-

sents his sense of mounting horror in the form of stand-up comedy, including some of the best bits from his recent Prometheus albums.

The show is the product of many work-in-progress dates that Frankie has been testing across the UK. Other dates are: His Majesty's Theatre, Aberdeen, on Tuesday August 27; Edinburgh Playhouse on Thursday September 12 and Friday September 13 and the King's Theatre, Glasgow, on Tuesday October 1.

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WEST HIGHLAND YACHTING WEEK

CRAOBH, OBAN AND TOBERMORY
27TH JULY TO 2ND AUGUST 2019



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WEST Highland Yachting Week takes place from July 27 to August 2 2019 with Tunnock's as front line sponsors.

This year marks the 72nd birthday of the event run under the auspices of the Royal Highland Yacht Club and Oban Sailing Club. For many sailors, it's the 'must do' regatta' in the Scottish sailing calendar.

Set in the stunning surroundings of the Argyll coast, WHYW is a leading international yachting event and offers a winning combination of round the buoys and passage racing complemented by an excellent après sail social programme.

The format of a 'moving regatta' with passage races linking three ports of call – Craobh, Oban and Tobermory and a day's racing from each port has always been at the heart of the WHYW success story. This harks back to the history of the event when Oban Sailing Club, Western Isles Yacht Club and Royal Highland Yacht Club merged their individual regattas to give a one week long spectacular event. Most uniquely, the event gives the opportunity for all the family to take part, either in the restricted sail classes –The Argyll Fleet - or for those seeking on the edge competition in the spinnaker classes – The Tunnock's Fleet

Over the seventy one years of the event WHYW has always offered something for everyone. From highly competitive racing with a full Points Series, to the opportunity to take part for just a day or two, the event appeals across the board. It attracts seasoned racing campaigners, families and those who just enjoy passage sailing or sailors who want to try competitive racing for the first time all bound together by a special camaraderie which is still being enjoyed by some three generations on.

Beppo Buchanan-Smith is once again chairman of the Joint Regatta Committee (JRC) that runs the regatta. Beppo said: 'After the success of WHYW in 2018, the 2019 programme will have a similar format and an increased social programme following the fleet from Craobh to Oban to Tobermory

Following the retirement of Malcolm MacGregor as Race Officer, the JRC is once again delighted to be led by Principal Race Officer Johnnie Readman. Johnnie has taken part as a competitor in WHYW for well over 30 years and is a well known face amongst competitors.

JRC chairman Beppo Buchanan Smith said: 'We are delighted that Johnnie Readman has volunteered to lead the Race Team as the PRO once again. As a long term participant and experienced sailor he promises us all a hectic, competitive but above all fun and enjoyable week on the water.'

The event kicks off with 'feeder' races from Gigha and Oban to Craobh Marina to muster for the start of the regatta. This gives the chance for boats from the north and south to compete in separate races to Craobh. Scottish Canals is offering a WHYW discount for outward and return passages for through the Crinan Canal and Caledonian Canal for all entries.

Craobh set to welcome WHYW fleet

The fleet spend two nights in Craobh and marina manager Alastair Spence said: 'We are all very much looking forward to accommodating the fleet for the opening two nights of WHYW.'

'Holt Leisure Parks and the Craobh Marina team welcome both regular competitors as well as those new to the event to our friendly marina and the wide range of facilities on offer. We are also on hand if anyone requires any kind of assistance or has any special requirements so let us know and we will endeavour to fulfil these. We wish everyone fair winds and good sailing for the event.'

Facilities for yachts before and after the regatta are also available at nearby Kilmelford Yacht Haven, Ardfearn Yacht Centre and Crinan.

West Highland Yachting Week

Craobh, Oban and Tobermory
27th July to 2nd August 2019



Oban Marina, the North Pier pontoons, Oban Bay Community Berthing and Dunstaffnage Marina

Oban Marina on the Isle of Kerrera and Dunstaffnage Marina have long played host to the visiting fleet when in Oban as well as the visitor moorings and landing stage at Dungallan Parks under run by Oban Community Berthing. Newly installed for WHYW last year, the Oban North Pier pontoons are also a welcome addition for the fleet.

See websites for information and facilities - www.obanmarina.com, www.northpierpontoons.com, dunstaffnagemarina.co.uk and obanbayberthing.co.uk

When the fleet is in Oban please note new buoyage in place and adhere to Oban

Bay Code of Safe Navigation See www.obanharbour.scot/navigation-marine-safety/navigation

Tobermory has new North Pontoon in place

Tobermory Harbour Association (THA) has installed a new 80m heavy duty deep water pontoon known as the North Arm. Berthing on the new facility is by arrangement only and dedicated mostly to light commercial craft. Mary MacGregor of THA aid: 'The North Arm will hopefully make WHYW better by taking the committee and larger boats on to the new facility and freeing up space for other yachts on pontoons. We would urge WHYW participants to follow instruction from our marine staff when they approach the pontoons as they are not the same as last year.'

See website: <https://www.tobermoryharbour.co.uk/pontoons>

Tunnock's head up WHYW 72

Once again West Highland Yachting Week has Tunnock's, the famous Scottish biscuit manufacturers, as the major sponsor with the spinnaker classes known as The Tunnock's Fleet.

Sir Boyd Tunnock, grandson of the founder Thomas Tunnock who heads up the renowned teacake and biscuit confectioners based at Uddingston, has been a regular and successful WHYW competitor in his Moody 38 Lemerc. He said: 'Tunnock's is delighted to be involved with this famous regatta once again. We have been supporting the event for well over a decade now and feel it's a good partnership. The team on Lemerc enjoy

the racing and the social scene and we're looking forward to competing in 2019.'

He added that each boat would receive a top up 'Tunnock's Survival Pack' of their products – something that each competitor should not consider racing without!

Sponsorship and support is also forthcoming this year from Scottish Seafarms, Dunstaffnage Marina, Owen Sails, Tobermory Harbour Association, Argyll and Bute Council, Nerabus Gin, Tobermory Distillery, Webcraft Design and Coastal Connection. All these organisations help to make the event both possible and successful.



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Sailing Programme

Sunday 28th July

Craobh Races

The Craobh Races mark the start of the Points Series for the week and all yachts race off Craobh in Loch Melfort. The Tunnock's Fleet enjoys two Round the Buoys races to the south whilst The Argyll Fleet will race in the vicinity of Loch Melfort and Loch Shuna.

Monday 29th July

Craobh to Oban Passage Race sponsored by Owen Sails

This passage race must rate as one of the most scenic in the world over the 20 mile course taking in a mix of island and mainland scenery including the tidal races between Fladda and Luing. The finish is to the north of the island of Kerrera.

Tuesday 30th July August

Firth of Lorn Races sponsored by Scottish Sea Farms

Fleets race off Oban with two courses for the Tunnock's Fleet and an inshore race for the white sail Argyll Fleet.

Wednesday 31st July

Oban to Tobermory Race

The Oban to Tobermory passage race is probably the most popular race of the week. Tobermory is an iconic destination for sailors offering renowned hospitality for WHYW competitors. Stunning scenery complements the racing against the backdrop of the island of Mull and the Morvern peninsula.

Thursday 1st August

Sound of Mull Races

The Tunnock's Fleet race two Olympic style courses in an area bounded by Rubha nan Gall and Mingary Bay while The Argyll Fleet race out to Kilchoan, Ardmore, Quinish Point and Ardnacross Bay before sailing south to the Green Isle and back to Tobermory Bay.

Friday 2nd August

Tobermory to Oban Race sponsored by Thomas Tunnock Ltd

The final day's racing marks the end of the regatta with the fleet heading to Oban down the Sound of Mull. This race is the final one to decide the Points Series for the week.



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Nerabus Gin and Food from Argyll to launch WHYW

New this year on the social scene is a WHYW marquee at Craobh which will host a skippers' briefing on Saturday evening. This will be followed by a welcoming reception for all participants sponsored by Nerabus Gin from Islay which will include a 'wee sample'.

Beppo Buchanan Smith said: 'I am sure this will be an excellent way to launch WHYW 2019. This will be accompanied by Food from Argyll providing an opportunity to provision boats from local providers or simply dine out on local produce on the Saturday.'

From the après sail social programme that extends its appeal to all ages across the week, a variety of activities is on offer from ceilidhs to barbecues, music in a range of venues, family swimming in Oban's Atlantis Leisure Centre and general boat to

boat socialising. It makes WHYW as alive off the water as it is during the day's racing activities.

This year's event will have two midweek prizegivings. A prize-giving barbecue and dance at Dunstaffnage will be held on Tuesday evening supported by Dunstaffnage Marina.

And, after a few years of missing the Tobermory prizegiving event, the JRC is reintroducing the prize-giving on Thursday evening at Tobermory Distillery which will be followed by a dance.

A simple prize-giving on Friday at Oban Sailing Club immediately following racing concludes the event allowing boats to head off to catch tides before the weekend.

SEE FULL SOCIAL PROGRAMME FOR DETAILS.

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Entries on the start line.....

Familiar names are showing with the entries for the week as The Oban Times went to press.

John Stanley-Whyte brings his J109 Blue Jay back again in Class 1 for CYCA handicaps 10 mins and below and has been performing well on the RC 35 circuit this season. The Lawson's J122 Moonstruck Too is also back to contend this highly competitive class as is

Rod Stuart's well sailed Eos alongside the First 40.7s Luna of Clyde and Pippa V1 as well as Giggle, the Elan 40 of Phil Davis from Royal Ulster Yacht Club.

Scott Chalmers and his Sigma 400 Sunrise moves to Class 1 this year from restricted sail Class 2 where he and his family have been worthy winners several times and were in contention on points last year for WHYW

overall so he will add to the close competition in this class.

Scratch boat in restricted sail Class 2 is Angus Cartwright's First 47.7 Golden Fox, runner up to Sunrise on points last year and McGarry & Perratt's Grand Cru also returns. Firestarter, the Bavaria Match 35, is also a Class 2 contender as is Wookie 2, the Dufour 40p of Jim Fraser. Ian Donald's Hanse 400

Tioram has been a stalwart of this class for many years and returns once again for 2019.

Overall 2018 WHYW winner Jim Dick with his Elan GT5 Reflection starts the line up in Class 3 with former series winner Roddy Angus and team set for battle with More Misjif, their Sunfast 37. Alan Moore's Delinquent is another regular entrant as is Nick Marshall's J92 Satisfaction who will also



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be on the starting line in Class 3.

In restricted sail Class 4, Anne and Andrew Campbell's Ajax and Gavin Marshall's Celerity line up alongside the famous Contessa 35 Gumdrop, now raced by Hugh Wallace in Class 4. Gumdrop famously competed in the Capetown to Rio Race in 1976 and is back on the circuit recently competing in the Round Mull Race. Richard Gray's Leomaris of Clyde is a regular competitor in this class adding to the first entries to date.

Oban's Graham Anderson and his Hanse 371 Lucky Ned Pepper is a Class 5 entry and will be up alongside the evergreen Nicholson 43 Magdaleyne of Michael Petticrew from Ireland who was class winner and overall series winner in 2017.

Tangle O'The Isles

Steven Forteith sailing his father's Shadowfax is always a strong contender, being also a former class and series winner, but there will be competition from Eric and Irena Chapman's newly acquired X332 Elixir of Lorn, formerly 2Extreme. John Rose and Insatiable are long time campaigners in this class as is Philip Green's Dehler 32 Dealanach and Wallace Cuthbertson's Elan 333 Delta Blue. Seasoned campaigner Joey Gough and his First 32s5 Tangle O'The Isles who won restricted sail class 6 last year is not only contending the class but spreading awareness of his campaign this November to race continuously around the Isle of Mull in aid of Children in Need.

Add another First 31.7, Firststar and the Sigma contingent which includes early entries of Mayrise and Sea-Pie of Cultra and this will be a close class to call.

Stephen Owen's Oceanis 361 Halcyon is making the trip back from Denmark to compete in restricted sail Class 6 and will be facing close competition as ever from regular competitor Brian Young and his beautiful Mylne Ketch Glenafton as well as Stuart MacDonald's Dehler 34 Fraoch.

RHYC commodore Stephen Quaile brings his Halberg Rassy 36 to this class. Returning stalwarts include Jim Shields with his Sigma 33 Meka and this year will see the Westerly GK 34 Prodigal line up too.

Nicholson 43's line up

Class 7 sees the beautiful Nicholson 43s Sarah and Tidechaser racing against each other and proving good competition in this class. The clash of the Moody 336 'Titans' will see last year's class winner Craig Corson and Salamander XX11 alongside Craig Anderson's Cool Bandit 2 also former class and series

winners. Sir Boyd Tunnoch's Moody 38 Lemercier is also expected to be on the start line in this class. Murray MacDonald's Hunter 707 Autism on the Water will take on the might of this class as will Kirsty Brown's Sadler 34 Whisper Two and the Paterson's Sunlight 30 Dignity. The legendary Ian Nicolson returns with St Bridget and Windthrift, the lovely SHE 36 will also be on the start line for the series. Recent overall winner of the Round Mull Race, Brian Wiseman and team on his Westerly Storm, Sorr of Appin may cause the most upset in this class with a strong performance to date on the regatta circuit.

And although the Dehler 34 Nimrod is entered under Colin Crawford's name, the boat is due to be under new ownership when WHYW kicks off. Colin will be travelling south to pick up a new and much bigger Dehler 41 and plans to be back next year with his new boat for WHYW 20.

Boys from the North

Ruairidh Campbell was the first entry in Class 8 with his Oyster 26 Banshee, followed by Caol of Largs, the Westerly Consort of Graham Stewart but regular stalwarts like Alastair Pugh and his Contessa 32 Marisca, the Fyfe family's Popcorn, Hot Toddy and Findlay Clark's Tarragona will also be up there.

The 'boys from the north' in their Contessa 32 Circe are welcomed back making the long journey south through the Caledonian Canal from their home port of North Kessock and this will see great competition with Marisca. Possible late entries who raced last year are Ben Shelley's Extrovert Lady Ex, and Andrew Wallace and family in their Nic 35 Jane Waterman who are expected to be on the starting line for this popular and keenly contested class. However Marian Austin and her beautiful classic Northney 34 Scintilla is taking a year out and will not be lining up in Class 8 this year. Scintilla will be sorely missed in 2019.

Restricted sail class 9 has previous class winner Seonaid Reid and her team in the beautiful Malindi of Lorne alongside the well sailed Oystercatcher with Murray Caldwell and team. Add to this the Scott's Jeanneau SO 32i Torridon, the McPhee family's Moody s31 White Lady that won the family prize last year, Nick Fuller's Contest 40S Arabella, Robin Wills' Malo 38 Cantata II and David Lyon's First 29 Voila and this will be a close class to call and very much dependent on weather conditions with such a wide range of boats competing.

NB Class divisions may change before start of event.



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Where to see the fleet

Saturday

Craobh Marina—with the mass of yachts mustered for WHYW's grand opening party

Sunday

Watch the fleet head out from Craobh Marina from 0900hrs from the end of the causeway to the start off Craobh and racing in Loch Melfort.

Monday

See the fleet starting off from Craobh from 10.30hrs onwards and sailing down Loch Melfort. Cullipool, Easdale Island and Ellenabeich offer good vantage points to see the racing where the fleet comes together.

When in Oban, the fleet berths at Oban Marina, Kerrera, Oban's North Pier pontoons, Oban Bay Community Berthing off Oban Sailing Club, Oban Esplanade or Dunstaffnage Marina.

Tuesday

Fleet starts off the north entrance to Oban Bay and Dunstaffnage for racing off Oban for the Tunnock's fleet and racing to the south of the Firth for the Argyll fleet. The fleet head out from Oban and Dunstaffnage Marina from 0900hrs. See the racing from Ganavan for both fleets.

Wednesday

Views from Oban Esplanade, Dunollie Point, from 0930 hrs to see the yachts start on passage to Tobermory. Also Dunstaffnage Marina and Dunstaffnage Castle headland for the yachts departing for the start of the race at 10.30 hrs. Passengers aboard the CalMac ferry to Craignure at this time gain a bird's eye view through the Firth of Lorn and the entrance to the Sound by Lismore Light. The fleet musters in Tobermory Bay.

Thursday

Boats leave Tobermory from 0900-0930. Head to Rubha nan Gall Lighthouse or Ardmore Point to see the fleets racing at the north entrance to the Sound of Mull.

Friday

Watch from Tobermory Bay at 9.30 as the boats head down the Sound of Mull to Oban. Viewing from the east coast of Mull – the road from Tobermory to Craignure and the Cal Mac ferry from Craignure back to Oban.

Information and results of each day's racing are posted on the website www.whyw.co.uk

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Photographs of WHYW 72 from Yachting Images

RON and Graeme Cowan, the well known yachting photographers of Yachting Images, will once again be at West Highland Yachting Week for the event.

Selections of their photographs from last year are on www.yachtingimages.co.uk as well as www.whyw.co.uk

Ron & Graeme have covered the event since 2009 and also produce a series of short videos of each day's racing.

If you have a particular query about your boat picture contact Ron or Graeme either via the website or Ronald M. Cowan ABIP, Incorporated Photographer, 85 Eastwoodmains

Road, Clarkston GLASGOW G76 7HG
For further details, please contact ron@yachtingimages.co.uk

Full information on WHYW 71 on www.whyw.co.uk and www.facebook.com/WestHighlandYachtingWeek



Wishing the 2019 West Highland Yachting Week every success



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Joey sets a sailing challenge to raise funds for Children in Need

ONE West Highland Yachting Week yacht cutting a mark with a difference will be Tangle O'The Isles.

Raced by Joey Gough, Tangle - a First 32s5 - will not only be competing in Class 5 but raising awareness of a forthcoming challenge and fund-raising for a great cause. The graphics on Tangle's hull outline the aim of the challenge – sailing continuously Round Mull for a period in November.

Joey Gough, a member of Oban Sailing Club and Royal Highland Yacht Club is an experienced Argyll sailor having raced all over the world. He has enlisted four similarly experienced local sailors to raise funds for BBC Children in Need 2019 and plans to sail non-stop around the island of Mull coinciding with the fund-raising spectacular in November.

The Tangle team will start when the BBC Children's Rickshaw Challenge commences and circumnavigate the island non-stop till the end of the Rickshaw Challenge on November 15.

The current start date is assumed to be November 10 but will be

decided by the BBC in September.

Joey said: 'No-one sails on the west of Scotland in November for fun and especially not at night. These are tricky waters to navigate and the weather can be extremely challenging at this time, potentially cold, wet and uncomfortable. This is going to be a tough six or so days and nights. Despite the experience of the crew, or perhaps because of the experience of the crew we know this will be a real challenge. But we're doing it to earn your sponsorship – and every penny will go to Children in Need, which is such a worthwhile cause. Please give generously – we have a JustGiving site set up via our web page www.tangleotheisles.com'

Joey added: 'We have already decided on the upper limits of extreme weather where we would shelter as required. The boat is fully kitted out for offshore sailing and the sailing challenge will be carried out with safety uppermost in our minds.'

During the Challenge, the team will be regularly streaming video

reports accessible via the website and Tangle o'the Isles will be trackable on AIS.

A raft of supporter has already given help in kind to get the challenge off the ground. Oban based Pole Position has built the website and will offer software support, CGL (Oban) has printed posters and flyers advertising the challenge and Navigators and General are supporting with an Insurance extension. Creran Marine has donated an additional launch and recovery and Dunstaffnage Marina will provide free berthing before and after the event.

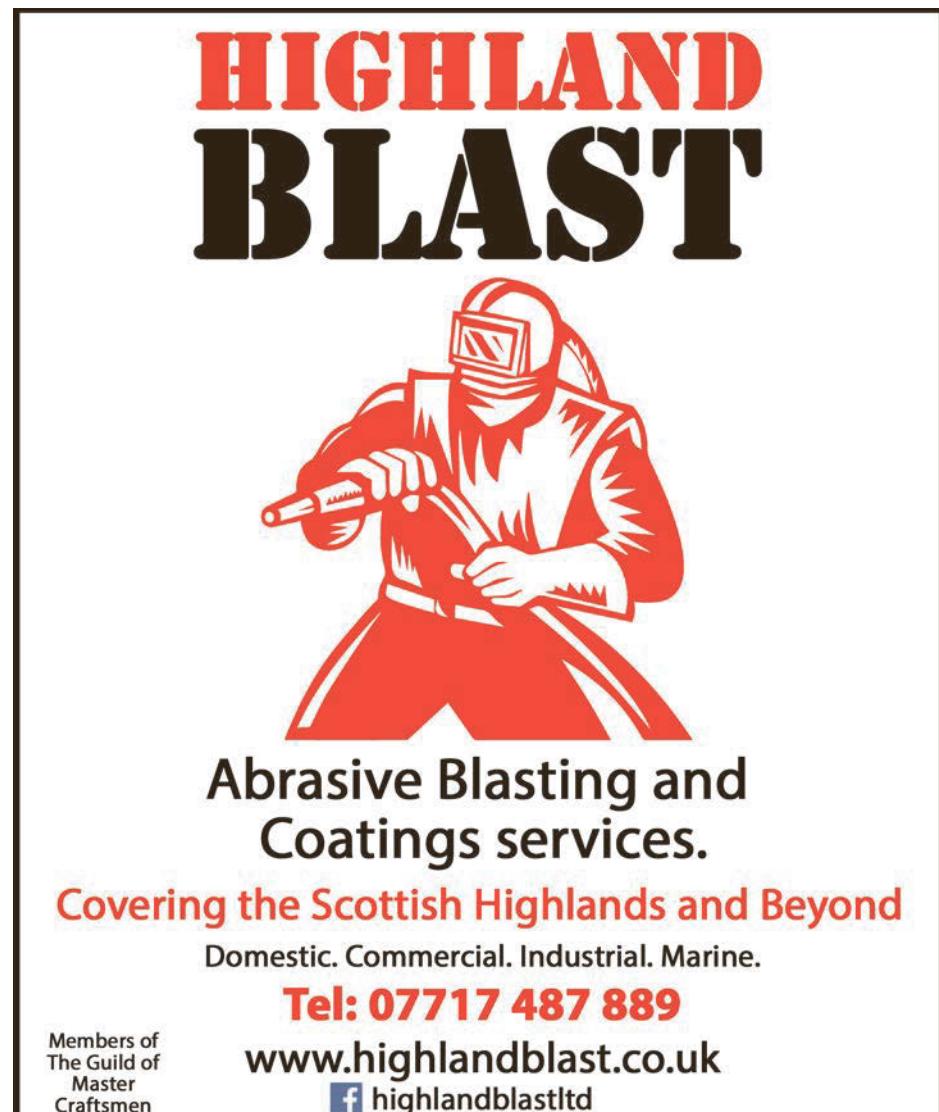
Oban based Art and Sea donated by providing the graphics on Tangle outlining the challenge details and PFM Pictures have given free use of photographs for publicity purposes. Finally the Bank of Scotland has provided a free of charge account for the Challenge to use.

There is more information at www.tangleotheisles.com where you can sponsor and a Facebook page to follow progress on the challenge. For any individual queries contact the team at rickshaw-sailingchallenge@tangleotheisles.com.



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West Highland Yachting

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<https://www.facebook.com/Lordoftheisles1/>

Saturday 27th July

Craobh Haven

WHYW Marquee- Adjacent to LOTI
18.45- Skippers Race Briefing
19.00- Nerabus Gin Welcoming Reception for all Crew

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Sunday 28th July

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Monday 29th July

Oban

Oban Sailing Club:
Early evening Barbeque party - Burger and Bar at Oban Sailing Club 18.30-20.30

Oban Marina Waypoint Bar and Grill open 18.00-20.00
<https://www.obanmarina.com/restaurant>
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@ObanMarina
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The View- 34 George Street Oban-
<https://www.obanview.com/>
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Week Social Scene 2019

Tuesday 30th July

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 Tickets include-Supper by Dolce Vita and Marina Punch!
 Doors open at 19.00 followed by prizegiving at 19.30.
 Beach Party Dancing from 20.00-23.00– dress accordingly!
 'Dun Mor' Ceilidh Band 19.00-21.30
 1st Midweek prizegiving at 19.30
 "Big Daves" Beach Party- 21.30-23.00

Wednesday 31st July

Tobermory

Full list of facilities
<https://mull.co/tobermory-restaurants-shops>
 The Mishnish
<http://themishnish.co.uk>
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<https://www.facebook.com/themishnishhotel>

Thursday 1st August

Tobermory Mull Prizegiving
 Tobermory Distillery Courtyard
 18.30-19.00

Friday 2nd August

Oban Final Prizegiving
 Oban Sailing Club Gallanach Park
 1hour after the final race finish



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Chips £3 Single fish £6	Grilled Salmon and chips
Soft drinks £1	served with coleslaw, garden peas and all your sauces are free
Coffee or tea £1	All your sauces are free





Dining Out Guide WHYV

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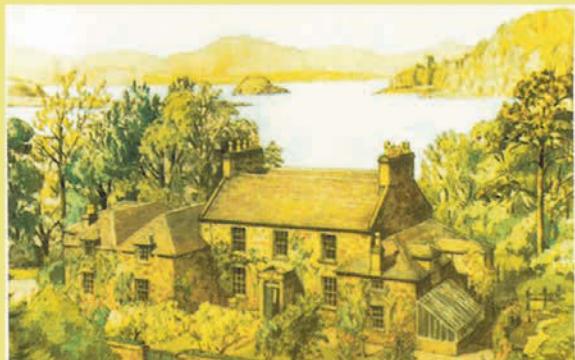
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West Highland Yachting Week Young Journalist Competition

2019 marks both Year of the Young Person and the 72nd year of West Highland Yachting Week (WHYW)

To mark this occasion the organisers of WHYW will be running a competition to find the best young Writer/Budding Journalist in the fleet and at the end of the week the overall most informative and enjoyable entry will be awarded a prize.

Unlike many other events, WHYW encourages competitors to enter for individual races if they do not want to take part in the whole Series. Some choose to enter only for the passage races, or just one race – or even a feeder race before going off on a cruise. In addition to spinnaker classes, restricted sail classes are offered which attract skippers with limited experience, crew or equipment. Whilst these classes also suit the yachts with small children aboard, some of the most competitive crew members are the children themselves!

The regatta moves from place to place during the week, a week which will see yachts passing many miles of different coastline. They will see great numbers

of islands, mountains, lochs, castles and wildlife, all providing a spectacular backdrop to the close and varied racing. Many of our competitors are infrequent racers, often first timers – the Committee is always delighted to encourage those dipping a toe into racing waters for the first time.

How to enter: Each day the committee asks any young crew member aboard competing yachts to file race reports, by 6 pm each evening, in Word format of no more than 500 words describing the action and conditions enjoyed by the boats in their class. Each evening we will post the best entry and at the end of the week the overall most informative and enjoyable entry will be awarded the West Highland Yachting Week Young Journalist Award and their entry will be published.

Simply send the completed article with your name, age and boat name to: office@whyw.co.uk by 6 pm on the evening of the race. You can add images if you wish or we can assign one from our daily selection captured by Yachting Images on the water.



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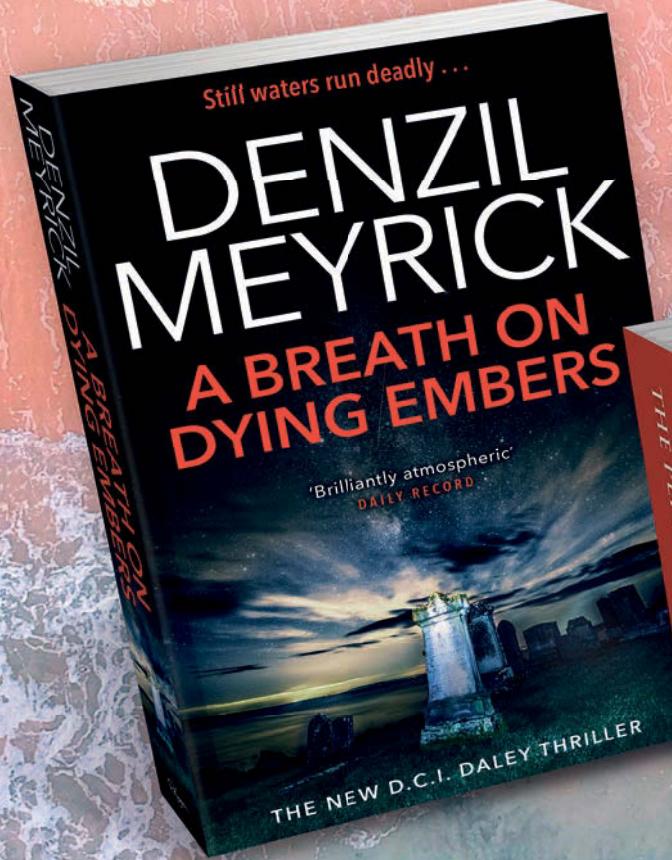
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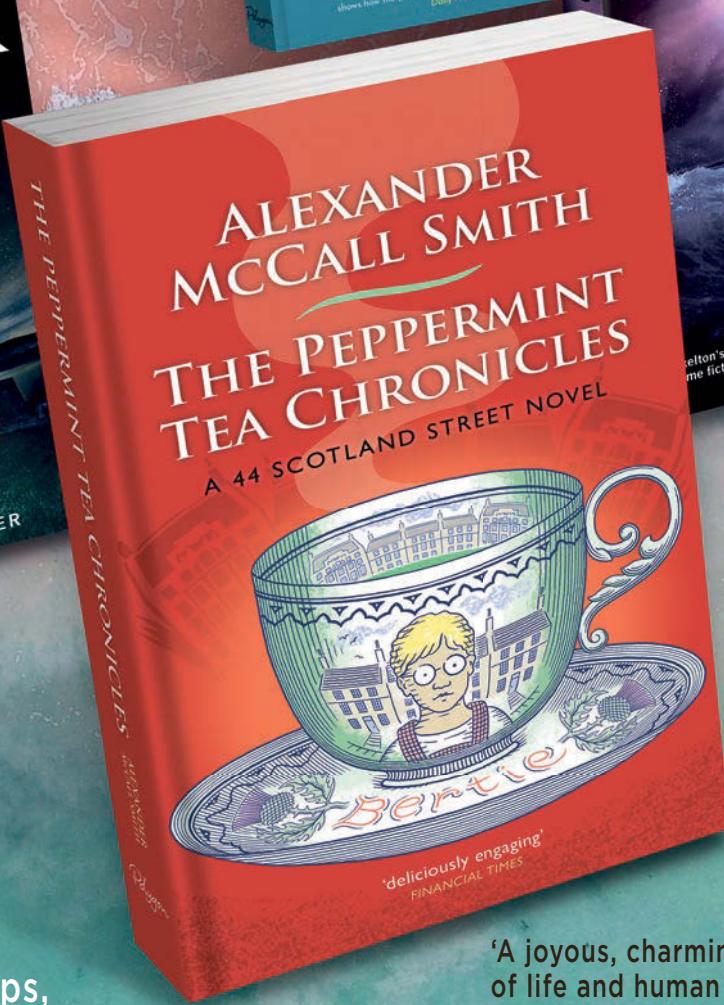


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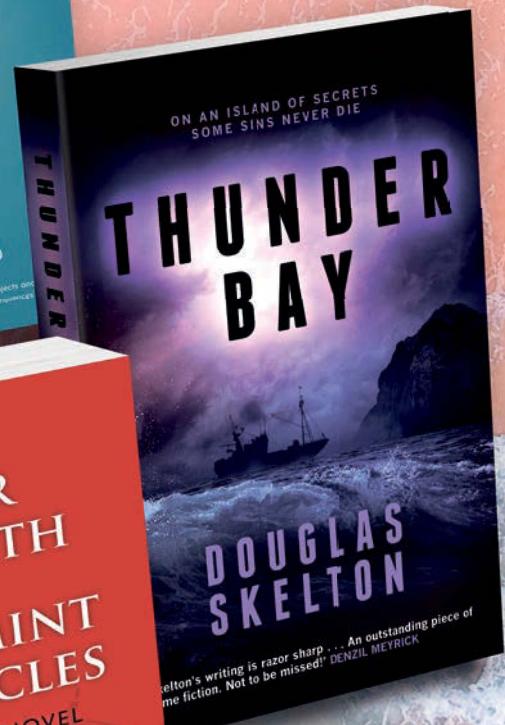
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www.wdsemple.com
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Tel.01499 302150
Lochgilphead
Highbank Park
01546 606767 / 606272



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WYVEX MEDIA

Based in our Fort William office, The Oban Times has an opportunity for a bright, passionate and hungry reporter to join our busy team.

The person we are looking for will have passed their NCTJ Prelims, including shorthand, be multi-media literate, and unafraid of hard work.

They will be bursting with ideas on where to look for stories, understand the importance of fostering great contacts and knowing their patch, and be capable of working on their own initiative as well as part of a team.

They should also hold a full driving licence.

As digital plays an increasingly important part in our news coverage, ideally you will be confident in the use of social media and digital storytelling techniques. You will also be required to take the occasional photograph.

In return for all this we offer a competitive salary,

great experience and training and an enhanced pension.

Please apply by email, sending your CV, plus a covering letter and some examples of your work
to: Fiona Bennett, fiona@wyvexmedia.co.uk

WYVEX MEDIA Production Assistant

Wyvex Media are looking for a production assistant to help in the day to day production of their newspapers and magazine titles. Previous experience is not essential but candidates should be comfortable in the use of PCs.

A good eye for detail and the ability to work neatly and consistently under pressure are essential. Good spelling and use of English is also a desirable quality.

This is a full time position - 35 hours, Monday through Friday with good career advancement opportunities. Based in our Oban office. In return for all this we offer a competitive salary, great experience and training and an enhanced pension.

Please apply by email, sending your CV, plus a covering letter to: Fiona Bennett, abruce@obantimes.co.uk

WYVEX MEDIA Accounts Assistant

A position has arisen in our Oban office for an Accounts Assistant for our busy accounts department.

Experience of working in an accounts department will be advantageous, as will the ability to work on your own initiative. Computer literacy and careful attention to detail will be crucial for this role.

This role will involve extensive customer care with outbound contact with our customer base and a pleasant telephone manner will also be important.

This role is full time but flexible part time may be considered.

In addition to salary, we offer group personal pension plan and life insurance.

If you feel the above is you, please email your CV and covering letter to George Graham, Wyvex Media Ltd, Crannog Lane, Oban, Argyll, PA34 4HB or email: ggraham@wyvexmedia.co.uk.

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ISLE OF MULL

SALARY UP TO £24,137.00, PLUS 1:3 WEEKEND PAYMENTS (£4K ANNUALLY)

Scottish Sea Farms are a recognised employer within remote areas of the Scottish Highlands and Islands. We pride ourselves on working to make a positive change to our employees and the local community.

Providing industry leading personal learning and development, our aim is to nurture and encourage our employees to build professional career paths. So, if you are committed to developing our industry and are driven to put your strengths to work, we would very much like to hear from you.

We are currently recruiting for Husbandry staff at our **Marine Farms** on the Isle of Mull.

The Husbandry role is crucial to our success in ensuring the best management of our superior quality Scottish Salmon. We want people to lead on fish health, to lead on health and safety, to drive change and to be entrepreneurial, to lead on feed and performance, to stretch us and themselves, and in doing so, gain industry-leading rewards. Husbandry is a goal-led, continuous improvement and highly creative role and we want the very best experts to deliver for our fish.

Experienced applicants should have at least 2 years' practical salmon husbandry experience and will demonstrate strong leadership and competence across a wide range of fish-farming disciplines with a keen interest in developing knowledge and skill in feeding and net management. **Above all**, you should have the drive and ambition to further your career through training and development. A formal boat qualification would be desirable.

Looking for a career change? We would also welcome applications from candidates looking to begin their career in the Aquaculture sector.

Trainee Husbandry Staff: Starting salary £18,771.00, plus 1:3 weekend payments (£4k annually).

We are looking for ambitious individuals who are team players, proactive in health & safety and who have high expectations for themselves and of their employer.

In return, we offer an attractive salary dependant on experience, crop bonus, discretionary company bonus, pension scheme, life insurance cover, occupational health support, structured training plan, subsidised gym membership and cycle to work scheme.

A current driving licence is essential. We are an equal opportunities employer and we welcome applications from all suitably qualified persons; however you must be able to provide documentation of your right to work in the UK.

To apply, please visit the careers page on our website: www.scottishseafarms.com/our-people/careers.

Closing date for applications is: **Wednesday 31st July 2019**.

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CHANDLERY ADMINISTRATOR/RETAIL ASSISTANT

FULL TIME OR PART TIME CONSIDERED

(Competitive salary depending on qualifications and experience)

We require an administrator/retail assistant to join our busy marina, boatyard and chandlery office near Lochgilphead in Mid Argyll.

The ideal candidate will have strong organisational skills, be numerically capable and computer literate with an eye for detail, as well as having excellent oral and written communication skills.

Reporting to the managing director and marina manager, this varied and 'customer facing' role will see the right candidate serving customers at the till, dealing with deliveries, booking in stock, answering phones, stocktaking, carrying out pontoon and mooring checks and recording electric meter readings, among other key office tasks.

Experience in retail or an interest in boating/water sports along with familiarity of Microsoft Office packages would be an advantage.

Some weekend working will be required for the role on a rota system.

Please apply in writing for an application form and full job description to Andrew Ashton, Managing Director, Ardfern Yacht Centre Ltd, Ardfern, Lochgilphead, Argyll, PA31 8QN, or via email to andrew@ardfern yacht.co.uk before the closing date of Monday 22nd July. Interviews will be held at Ardfern w/c 5th August.

University of the Highlands and Islands
West Highland CollegeOilthigh na Gàidhealtachd
agus nan Eilean
Colaiste na Gàidhealtachd an lar**Course Leader – Construction and the Built Environment**

West Highland College UHI is seeking to recruit an experienced Course Leader to lead the Construction and Built Environment curriculum area.

This post is aimed at a current professional teacher within the Further or Higher Education sector or a practising professional in Construction, Civil Engineering, Architectural Design, Building Surveying, Site Management or Planning. We will support new entrants into this position and welcome a discussion with applicants also looking for a new challenge and a career change. This is a key role for the College as it seeks to realise its ambitious plans for a new Centre for Science and Technology and delivery of its STEM strategy.

The purpose of this post is to lead course teams and achieve key performance measures in relation to student enrolment, satisfaction and achievement. This role will focus on development and quality enhancement to ensure effective course design. Leading the delivery of flexible, high quality learning, teaching and assessment combined with excellent support for learners are key components of this role.

The successful candidate will be qualified to SCQF level 10 in a relevant discipline and have completed a teaching qualification or hold current and relevant industry qualifications, have at least 5 years relevant sector work experience or at least 2 years demonstrable experience of delivering, assessing and quality assuring in an education/training context.

They will have experience of curriculum planning, materials design and development, ability to lead and motivate others, quality assurance/enhancement and supporting student success.

Applicants wishing further details about the job role are encouraged to email the Project Director – STEM at Alan.Ogg.whc@uhi.ac.uk Location: Fort William Salary: Pay will be on our teaching salary scale Point 3-5 £37,514 - £41,526 per annum (prorata), with placement depending on qualifications + Course Leader enhancement of £1,537.65

Working Hours: Full-time 35 hours per week. Permanent, remission from teaching duties TBA (62 days annual leave)

Closing Date: 09th Aug 2019

How to Apply: For an application form and further details visit our website www.whc.uhi.ac.uk or email hr.whc@uhi.ac.uk

Ref No: WHC CL CBE 01

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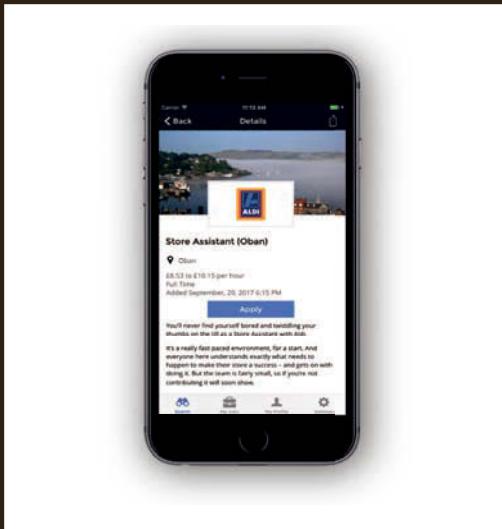
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Which award will you win?

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- Rural Business Diversification Award
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- Best Farming Business Award
- Best Rural Employer Award
- Rural Hospitality Award
- Best Rural Innovation Award
- Best Rural Skills Educator Award
- Most Sustainable Rural Business Award
- Best Rural Tourism Initiative Award
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Offer ends 31st August 2019

**CONDITIONS OF
ACCEPTANCE FOR
ADVERTISEMENTS**

YOUR attention is drawn to the following terms and conditions which relate to the placing of advertisements in all publications owned by Wyvex Media Limited. Parties to this agreement are the Publisher, Wyvex Media Limited Limited on the one part and the Advertiser on the other part. The Publisher publishes newspapers, magazines, books and provides advertising space therein or provides for the delivery of advertising materials to the public within these publications.

1 Advertising copy shall be legal, decent, honest and truthful and comply with the British Code of Advertising Practice and all other codes.

2 The Publisher does not guarantee the insertion of any particular advertisement.

3 The Publisher reserves the right to cancel or alter the advertisement by giving reasonable notice.

4 An order for an advertisement shall be deemed to be made on acceptance of the advertisers' order by the Publisher whether placed by telephone, mail, fax or in person.

5 Cancellation of display advertising must be received by the Publisher before the publishing deadline, failing which, the publisher reserves the right to invoice the customer in full for the whole cost of the advertisement.

6 The parties submit to the jurisdiction of the Scottish Courts and Scots Law. In the event of any dispute or action by the Publisher to recover

payment from an advertiser, it is agreed that matters will be settled in the Oban, Argyll Sheriff Court or such other Court as the Publisher may choose.

7 The Publisher shall not be liable for any loss or damage occasioned by any total or partial failure (however caused) of publication or distribution of any newspaper or edition in which any advertisement is scheduled to appear. In the event of any error, misprint or omission in the printing of an advertisement or part of an advertisement, the Publisher will either re-insert the advertisement or relevant part of the advertisement, as the case may be, or make reasonable refund or adjustment to the cost. No re-insertion, refund or adjustment will be made where the error, misprint or omission does not materially detract from the advertisement.

8 Errors must be notified to the Publisher in writing within fourteen days of publication. In no circumstances shall the total liability of the Publisher for any error, misprint or omission exceed the amount of a full refund of any price paid to the Publisher for the particular advertisement in connection with which liability arose or the cost of a further or corrective advertisement of a type and standard reasonably comparable to that in connection with which liability arose.

9 The Advertiser/Advertising Agency agrees to indemnify the Publisher in respect of all costs, damages or other

charges falling upon the publication as the result of legal actions or threatened legal actions arising from the publication of the advertisement in any one or more of a series of advertisements published in accordance with copy instructions supplied to the publication in pursuance of the Advertiser/Advertising Agency order.

10 Adverts under the value of £75 must be paid on acceptance of order by the Publisher. All advertising on a credit basis must be agreed with the Publisher in advance.

11 Payment of any invoice raised by the Publisher will be due 15 days from the date of invoice or as otherwise directed on the invoice. In the event of non-payment the Publisher may charge late payment interest at a rate of 2% and this is chargeable on a daily basis from the due date until the bill is paid. In addition the Publisher may charge a late payment levy of £10 as an administration fee. In the event of late payment the Publisher reserves the right to disallow any discounts given and to raise an additional invoice for the discount which will be treated as though it has been raised with the original invoice.

12 A request to insert an advertisement assumes acceptance of our conditions.

Published by Wyvex Media Limited, P.O. Box 1, Oban, PA34 4HB, Tel: (01631) 568000

www.obantimes.co.uk and registered as a newspaper at the Post Office. <http://termsandconditions.wyvexmedia.co.uk>

**First Registration
of a Croft**

Helen Kennedy has registered their croft 12 Mallaig, Mallaig, Glenelg, 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 24th March 2020.

Details of the registration can be found at www.crofts.ros.gov.uk/register/home. The croft registration number is C6109.

**CROFTING
COMMISSION
COIMISEAN NA
CROITEARACHD
DECROFTING
APPLICATIONS**

DM Colthart
4 Ardconnel, Kilmore & Kilbride
0.19 ha - Site for a dwelling house
99598

Mansefield J G Ltd
4 Port Ellen, Kildatton & Oa
0.4223 ha - Site for housing development
98671

Written comments from any member of the crofting community within the locality of the croft and any expressions of demand for the croft (which may be made public), may be sent to the Crofting Commission by 16/08/19. Crofting Commission, Great Glen House, Leachkin Road, Inverness IV3 8NW - info@crofting.gov.scot

Our privacy notice is available at www.crofting.scotland.gov.uk/privacy-policy or on request.

**DECROFTING
DIRECTIONS ISSUED**

NM MacLean
1 Ballymeanach,
Kilchoman
98902
0.034 ha
Reason - Existing croft house site & garden ground
Condition - No conditions

I MacDougall
Kilfinichen & Kilvickeon
94947
0.075 ha
Reason - Proposed New Development
Condition - With fencing and use conditions

Full details at www.crofting.scotland.gov.uk

www.highland.gov.uk



**TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING (SCOTLAND) ACT 1997
PLANNING (LISTED BUILDING AND CONSERVATION AREAS) (SCOTLAND) ACT 1997**

The applications listed below, along with plans and other documents submitted with them, may be examined online at <http://wam.highland.gov.uk>; electronically at the AREA PLANNING AND BUILDING STANDARDS OFFICE, CHARLES KENNEDY BUILDING, ACHINTORE ROAD, FORT WILLIAM, PH33 6RQ; or electronically at your nearest Council Service Point. You can find your nearest Service Point via the following link https://www.highland.gov.uk/directory/16/a_to_z

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

Reference Number	Development Address	Proposal Description
19/02946/FUL	Mallaig Swimming Pool Mallaig	Alterations, refurbishment and extension to pool and leisure facilities (Phase 1) (amended proposals to planning permission 18/04260/FUL)
19/02004/FUL	10 Loch Nevis Terrace Mallaig	Change of use of part of garage to form holiday let accommodation
19/03013/FUL	Land 70M SE Of Old Station House Gairlochy	Infill bridge with stone and foamed concrete, and install drainage pipes
19/02910/FUL	Balnagowan Islandm Duror	Installation of pontoon
19/02767/FUL	Land 110M NE Of Lorien Hostel Brae, Foyers Road, Kinlochleven	Siting of cabin and formation of car park
19/02695/FUL	Glennoch, Tigh A Phuirt, Ballachulish	Erection of holiday lodge.
19/02988/FUL	1 Banff Crescent Upper Achintore, Fort William	Proposed Holiday Pod

Time period for comments is 14 days

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

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.ayrshire-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
19/01381/PPP	Site for the erection of 3 dwellinghouses	Land South of Arla Craig, Aros, Isle of Mull, Argyll and Bute
19/01013/PP	Installation of replacement windows	Eadar Glinn, Drummore Road, Oban, Argyll and Bute, PA34 4JL
19/01012/LIB	Installation of replacement windows	Eadar Glinn, Drummore Road, Oban, Argyll and Bute, PA34 4JL
19/01133/PP	Removal of existing pontoon system and installation of replacement pontoon	Isle Of Eriska Hotel, Isle of Eriska, Benderloch, Oban, Argyll and Bute, PA37 1SD
19/00613/PP	Installation of external condenser unit and flue (retrospective)	38 George Street, Oban, Argyll and Bute
19/01376/PPP	Renewal of planning permission in principle 16/02743/PPP (Site for the erection of dwellinghouse)	Creag Mhor Croft, Upper Kilchattan, Isle of Colonsay, Argyll and Bute, PA61 7YR
19/01280/PPP	Site for the erection of dwellinghouse	(Plot 1) Land North of Glenmachrie, Glenegedale, Isle of Islay, Argyll and Bute
19/01236/PP	Demolition of conservatory, erection of replacement single storey extension with first floor balcony, installation of 4 rooflights, new air source heat pump. Replace timber framed windows with uPVC to match existing. Alteration to kitchen window to form french doors. Formation of deck area to front of property.	1 Queen Street, Portnahaven, Isle of Islay, Argyll and Bute, PA47 7SJ
19/01282/PPP	Site for the erection of dwellinghouse	(Plot 3) Land North of Glenmachrie, Glenegedale, Isle of Islay, Argyll and Bute
19/01284/PPP	Site for the erection of dwellinghouse	(Plot 5) Land North of Glenmachrie, Glenegedale, Isle of Islay, Argyll and Bute
19/01281/PPP	Site for the erection of dwellinghouse	(Plot 2) Land North of Glenmachrie, Glenegedale, Isle of Islay, Argyll and Bute
19/01283/PPP	Site for the erection of dwellinghouse	(Plot 4) Land North of Glenmachrie, Glenegedale, Isle of Islay, Argyll and Bute

Written comments can be made to the above address or submitted online <http://www.ayrshire-bute.gov.uk/planning-and-environment/find-and-comment-applications> within 21 days of this advert. Please quote the reference number in any correspondence. Any letter of representation the Council receives is considered a public document and will be published on our website. Anonymous or marked confidential correspondence will not be considered. A weekly list of all applications can be viewed at all Area Offices, Council Libraries and on the Councils website.

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

Comhairle Earra - Ghàidheal agus Bhòid



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**Oban Times
PUBLIC NOTICES**

**Oban and
Lorn Dementia
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ANNUAL
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MEETING**
Tuesday 30th July 2019
7:15pm
Carers Centre, Albany
Street, Oban
All welcome

CO-OPERATIVE AND COMMUNITY BENEFIT SOCIETIES ACT 2014
Notice of Cancellation pursuant to section 5 of the Act.
Notice is hereby given that the Authority has, pursuant to the Co-operative and Community Benefit Societies Act 2014, this day cancelled the registration of Tarbert-Argyll Fishermen Limited (Registered no. 1631 RS) the registered office of which is at Cragfoot Harbour Street, TARBERT, Argyll, PA29 6UD. The grounds of the cancellation are that the society has wilfully violated section 89 of the Co-operative and Community Benefit Societies Act 2014 by not submitting to the Authority any annual returns acceptable for filing since that submitted for the society's financial year ending 2006 to 2017. The society ceases to enjoy the privileges of a registered society, but without prejudice to any liability incurred by the society, which may be enforced against it as if such cancellation had not taken place.
Date: 24 June 2019

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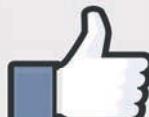
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Anniversary

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Iain & Hilda Donn



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Oban Times PRIVATE CLASSIFIED

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GOLDEN WEDDING

KILL - CAMPBELL - On July 24, 1969 at Appin Parish Church, Lesley to Mary.

Loving parents and grandparents of Alan and Sharon, Aileen, Lily, Calum and Mason.

DEATHS

DONNELLY - At home with her family, following a long illness, on July 12, 2019, aged 81 years, Helen (Eleanor) Donnelly, beloved wife of the late Joe, loving mum of Lorna, Alison and Colin, a much loved mother-in-law, gran, sister and aunt. A celebration of her life will take place from The Argyllshire Gathering Halls, Breadalbane Street, Oban on Monday, July 22 at 12.00 noon, thereafter to Pennyfuir Cemetery. Family flowers only please. Donations if desired for Macmillan Cancer Support and The Dove Centre, Oban.

MACDONALD - Peacefully on Friday, July 12, 2019, under the attentive care of Urray House and surrounded by her loving family, Irene MacDonald (née Georgeson), Grant Crescent, Maryburgh, aged 84 years. Beloved wife of Duncan, loving mother of Ruth, Marion, Martin and the late Corina and a doting Nana. Funeral service on Tuesday, July 23 at 1.00 p.m. in Ferintosh Church of Scotland, Conon Bridge, thereafter to Fodderty Cemetery. All welcome. Family flowers only. Donations if desired to Friends of Urray House may be given at the service or please forward to William T. Fraser and Son, Culduthel Road, Inverness.

MACKINNON - Peacefully on July 10, 2019 in the Royal Infirmary, Edinburgh. Donald, aged 86 years, beloved husband of Christina (Chrissie) née MacCalman formerly of Clachan, Islay. Funeral service to be held in Bowmore Round Church, Islay on July 19, 2019 at 11.30 am and thereafter interred in Kilchoman Cemetery.

MACLUCAS - Peacefully at Lorn and Islands Hospital, Oban on July 11, 2019, aged 75 years, Douglas MacLucas, dear husband of Helen and father of Gavin and Nigel. Funeral will take place from St. Modan's Church, Benderloch on Friday, July 19 at 1.00 pm, thereafter to Achnaba Cemetery. Family flowers only please. Retiring collection/donations if desired for Diabetes UK.

MEMORIAMS

DOHERTY - In loving memory of my dear friend, Gerry who passed away July 20, 2014. I miss you every day. - Mary

GILLIES - Treasured memories of a much loved husband Donnie, father and grandad, who passed away on July 16, 1992 and loved ones gone before and since. Time and years slip slowly by But love and memories never die

- Jean and family, 47 Drumfada Terrace, Corpach.

HAMILL - In everlasting memory of Margaret Hamill who passed away on July 23, 2014, much loved mum and nanna.

Loved with a love beyond all telling Missed with a grief beyond all tears

- Isobel, Nicholas and Ryan.

MACDONALD - In loving memory of Caroline who passed away July 20, 2015.

Memories of you are fondly kept Someone too special to ever forget.

- Ken, Iona and Catherine.

MACDONALD -

Your life was a blessing Your memory is a treasure You are loved beyond words And missed beyond measure Forever in our thoughts Kayla our precious girl. Love and miss you more than words can say.

- Mum, Ruairidh and Ronnie xxxxxxxx

MACDONALD - In loving memory of our beautiful princess Kayla Mary MacDonald. You were a very special gift who for 8 short years brought sparkle to our lives with your love, laughter, beauty and kindness.

Then two years ago you were taken away but we love and miss you more and more each day.

For now Kk we are apart but until we hold you in our arms we will hold you in our hearts. Love you forever our beautiful girl.

- Gaga and uncle Ewen xx

MACDONALD - (Our girl) xxxxx xxxx

Kayla, we hope you are happy wherever you are, Wherever it is it's always too far

We know you are with us every step of the way And we miss you more each and every day

To our darling granddaughter Kayla xxxx xxxx

Love you always

- Grampa and Lorraine.

MACDONALD - A million times

We've needed you

A million times we've cried

If love alone

Could have saved you

You never would've died

In life we loved you dearly

In death we love you still

In our hearts you hold a place

No one else can ever fill

It broke our hearts to lose you

But you didn't go alone

Part of us went with you

The day God took you home

Loved and missed so much

- Uncle Ewen, auntie Caitlin

and uncle William xxxx xxxx

MACDONALD - Treasured memories of our gorgeous niece and cousin Kayla, taken far too soon on July, 23 2017. Of all the little girls in life, however great or small, to have you as our niece and cousin was the greatest gift of all.

Loved and remembered always.

- Big Dougie, Diane, Lauren and wee Dougie xxxxxx

MACKICHAN - In loving memory of my much beloved and adored husband Cameron, who passed away July 24, 2014. Dearly loved father, stepfather, granddad and great-granddad.

A smile for all, a heart of gold One of the best this world could hold

Those we love don't go away They walk beside us every day

- Your loving wife Ann, Erskine.

MACKINNON - 10th Anniversary.

Treasured memories of Jean, a loving mum, mother-in-law and granny, who passed away on July 19, 2009

Our lives go on without you But nothing is the same We have to hide our heartache When someone speaks your name

Sad are the hearts that love you

Silent are the tears that fall

Living here without you

Is the hardest part of all.

Loved and remembered every day.

- The MacKinnon family xxx

McCANN - In loving memory of our parents, John, July 23, 1994 and Lizzie, August 1, 2010.

You left us beautiful memories Your love is still our guide And though we cannot see you

You're always at our side.

- From all the family.

SWAINSON - Cherished memories of a precious daddy Tony Swainson.

Back in mammy's arms

Heavenly father hear our prayer

Guide our daddy with tender care

Love him in Heaven

As we did at home

The dearest daddy this world could hold

You always had a smile to share

Time to give and time to care
A loving nature kind and true
Is the way we'll remember you.

Please take care of Paul, daddy.
Love and miss you so much.

- Jacqueline and Marie xxx.

THOMSON - Loving memories of Irene, who died July 16, 1966, age 3 years.

I only have a picture now

A frozen piece of time
To remind me of how it was

When you were here and mine

You should have had so many years

To watch your life unfold

And in the midst of this
Watch me your mum grow old.

- Mum and Frankie.

TRAYNOR - Treasured memories of our beloved parents and grandparents, mother Jessie, who passed away July 16, 2013 and father John, on November 22, 1994. Always and forever in our hearts and thoughts.

- Violet, Iain, Janette, Jennifer and families.

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Highland minister gets an honorary doctorate

A minister who completed a year as Moderator of the Church of Scotland General Assembly and who has married high profile couples has been awarded an honorary doctorate by the University of the Highlands and Islands.

The Very Reverend Susan Brown was presented with the title at the Highland Theological College UHI graduation ceremony in Dingwall on Tuesday July 2, alongside 40 graduating students. The award recognises her contribution to the church and to the communities of the Highlands and Islands.

Very Reverend Brown has been a minister in the Highlands for more than 30 years. Originally from Penicuik near Edinburgh, she moved to the Highlands in 1985 to serve at Killearn Church on the Black Isle. After 13 years, she moved to Dornoch, where she became the first woman to take charge of a cathedral in the UK.

In her role at Dornoch Cathedral, Very Reverend Brown conducted marriage ceremonies for Madonna and Guy Ritchie as well as for technology entrepreneur Elon Musk and actress Tallulah Riley.

She was appointed as a chaplain to the Queen in 2011 and completed a term as the Moderator of the Church of Scotland's General Assembly in May 2019. The post allowed her to meet people from across Scotland



The Very Reverend Susan Brown accepts her doctorate.

and to travel to Argentina, Uruguay, India and Pakistan to discuss issues, including mental health, domestic abuse and interfaith relations.

Very Reverend Brown was presented with her honorary doctorate by the university's chief operating officer and secretary, Fiona Larg.

Ms Larg explained: 'I am delighted that the university has conferred an honorary doctorate to the Very Reverend Susan Brown. Her career has included many firsts and she is characterised by her sense of humour, approachability and her down to earth, practical ways of

helping and inspiring all she meets.' Very Reverend Brown said: 'I am deeply touched to be considered for such an honour and humbled to receive it. For me, the University of the Highlands and Islands does what the Highlands does best, in offering creative, imaginative, welcoming ways for people to grow and flourish.'

The Reverend Hector Morrison, principal of Highland Theological College UHI, added: 'It's appropriate that Susan's local university should recognise and honour her distinguished achievements as well as her decades of service to her Highland parishioners in this way and we are delighted that our graduation provides the context of a "community of faith and scholarship" in which the university can do that.'

'It is particularly appropriate on a day in which we see so many of our graduates moving into ministry in a variety of denominations, not least in the Church of Scotland.'

Highland Theological College UHI, established 25 years ago, trains students for Christian work, including pastoral ministry, across a variety of denominations.

Within the Church of Scotland, the college has become the foremost academic training provider, being responsible for training more Church of Scotland ministers than other Scottish universities.

THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK

Staying on Islay recently, I took a day to explore neighbouring Jura.

There were some doubts, driving towards the ferry at Port Askaig in miserable, pouring rain, but determinedly I pressed on.

Crossing over to Jura, it wasn't a lot better. With incessant rain and low cloud, I could see almost nothing. As I drove up the east side of the island, it felt as if the car was covered with a blanket. Far from seeing the island, I could hardly see the sides of road.

Feeling that the whole day was a washout and a waste of time, I drove back down into Craighouse, when something caught my attention in the water. I saw a little head, swimming towards shore.

Realising it was an otter, I watched as it climbed onto a rock. Once on the seaweed, it was almost invisible until it moved. For 30 minutes I stood transfixed, watching it play, clean itself and climb in and out of the water.

For most of the day, there was nothing to see, and then suddenly there was a magical moment when everything changed, and the true wonder of what was around me became apparent.

The Genesis creation story tells us God looked at everything He had made and saw that it was very good. It's tempting to add all sorts of 'buts' after that. It was good, but people damaged it with their greed and selfishness, or with their failure to protect their environment.

It was good, but thinking they knew better, people messed things up.

Those additions might be true, but at least for today, they aren't the point.

For most of my day on Jura, I couldn't even see God's creation, let alone appreciate it. But at least for a little while, when the cloud lifted, I could not help but notice that it was good. It was very good.

Richard Baxter,
Fort William: Duncansburgh
MacIntosh and Kilmonivaig.

Argyll and Bute Council issues appeal for new foster carers

Could you offer a child a home in a secure, loving environment? If so, Argyll and Bute Council is looking for you to come forward and apply to become a foster carer.

There are always a number of young people looking for foster

carers in Argyll and Bute for a variety of reasons, either on a temporary basis while plans are made for their future, or for an extended period if they are unable to go back to their family.

Policy lead for social care,

Councillor Kieron Green, said: 'There are a number of reasons why children and young people can't remain with their own families and need to be looked after and accommodated. We need more foster carers to provide these young

people with the caring, stable environment they deserve.'

For information, visit www.arryll-bute.gov.uk/social-care-and-health/fostering, email FPduty@arryll-bute.gov.uk or call 01546 605 517 to talk to someone.

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GRADUATIONS



ARRAN MACPHEE

Youngest son of Duncan and Rosemary MacPhee, Fort William, and grand nephew of Monsignor Thomas Wynne, graduated M.Eng, Civil Engineering, Design and Management from University of Dundee.

Oban and Kyles reach Cam Cup semi finals

Tulloch Homes Camanachd Cup – quarter finals

Kinlochshiel 1
Oban Camanachd 2

Oban Camanachd extended their winning run to a remarkable 11 matches - 12 including their cup walk-over against Col Glen - as they won through to the Tulloch Homes Camanachd Cup semi-finals after beating Kinlochshiel 2-1 in their 3pm throw-up at Kirkton.

Oban Camanachd opened the scoring on 14 minutes. Full centre Lorne Dickie came deep to win the ball in the defensive corner area and sent the ball forward to Scott MacMillan who was fouled in midfield. MacMillan picked himself up to take the free-hit, launching the ball to Andrew MacCuish who tussled with Paul MacRae. MacCuish took a couple of swings at the ball and as he turned, the ball fell kindly for him and from point-black range he beat the keeper to make it 1-0.

There was a worry in the Oban camp when Daniel Cameron suffered an accidental knee injury midway through the half. He was able to continue but went to full forward, with Andrew MacCuish dropping back to half forward.

Oban Camanachd claimed for a penalty on 26 minutes. Lorne Dickie found Willie Neilson who knocked

the ball on to Daniel Cameron who evaded a tackle but, as he was falling, he sent the ball goalwards with pace. Scott Kennedy got a foot to the ball and the goal judge flagged for a 'kick'. Referee Calum Girvan stopped play but, after a discussion between the officials, play restarted with a throw-up outside the 'D'.

Duncan Matheson's pace was causing the Oban defence problems and Finlay MacRae hit a great drive from distance which dipped just over the bar.

Scott MacMillan was carrying on where he left off with his man of the match performance from the Celtic Society Final and had a great battle with Duncan 'WD' MacRae. MacMillan, aided by Lorne Dickie and Keith MacMillan, started to control the midfield, ensuring the Oban forward line had plenty possession.

A strong Daniel MacVicar run just before half-time saw him find Daniel Cameron and his cut-back found Andrew MacCuish who hit the ball wide of the keeper's right post.

The red and blacks came close to extending their lead on 48 minutes. Good play from Daniel MacVicar and Daniel Cameron saw the ball spread to Andrew MacCuish and his cut-back came to Willie Neilson whose shot rebounded from the keeper's right post before being scrambled clear. The ball was played straight back into the danger area and there was a nasty collision be-

tween Andrew MacCuish and Scott Kennedy at the edge of the 'D'. There was a three-minute break in play to allow keeper Kennedy to receive treatment.

Keith MacMillan played the resultant corner to the back post where Andrew MacCuish took the ball down and shifted it to his left side around 18 yards out and, with Paul MacRae racing out to block, MacCuish delivered a devastating drive into the top corner of the net to make it 2-0 with 51 minutes played.

Kinlochshiel picked themselves up and a shot at goal took a wicked deflection, almost wrong-footing Oban Camanachd keeper Cameron Sutherland but he readjusted and kept the ball out with his chest.

Kinlochshiel kept pressing and although the visiting defenders were clearing their lines, the ball kept coming back at them.

One such clearance came to Donald Nixon on 62 minutes and his superb 25-yard shot went through a crowded goal area and dipped past the unsighted keeper, going high into the net to make it 2-1.

Oban Camanachd manager Stephen Sloss brought Chrissie MacMillan on for Willie Neilson and put him up against Conor Cormack.

Chrissie MacMillan played the ball out wide to Andrew MacCuish who returned the possession to MacMillan but he didn't strike the ball cleanly and the chance was gone.

Lorne Dickie then played the ball wide to Daniel MacVicar. Andrew MacCuish dummied MacVicar's pass and the ball came to Chrissie MacMillan on the angle at the back post but his half-swing went wide of target.

The Oban Camanachd defence of Daniel Madej, Daniel Sloss, Malcolm Clark and Garry Lord dealt very well with the Kinlochshiel attacks but they had to rely on



Oban Camanachd two-goal hero Andrew 'Papa' MacCuish tries to get away from Kinlochshiel's Paul Macrae during last Saturday's Camanachd Cup semi-final. Photograph: Neil Paterson.

keeper Cameron Sutherland when Ali Nixon ran onto a ball into the goal area and his shot on the run was saved with his feet and turned away for a corner by Sutherland.

Andrew MacCuish continued to prove his worth and went on a mazy run, beating Paul MacRae and getting past keeper Scott Kennedy but, just as he was about to finish, keeper Kennedy stretched in to touch the ball out for a corner.

The final whistle saw Oban Camanachd progress as they continue to contest all competitions this season.

Oban Camanachd now play Glasgow Mid Argyll in the Artemis Macaulay Cup semi-finals at Mossfield this Saturday. GMA have agreed to a noon throw-up so the Oban squad can head for the Sutherland Cup Final between Lochside Rovers and the Lovat second team at Canal Parks which throws up at 4pm.

Newtonmore meet Kingussie in the other semi-final at Braeview Park, Beauly.

After the match, Oban Camanachd assistant manager Kenny Wotherpoon said: 'We're delighted with

how the squad has remained focussed after the Celtic Society Cup win and then the free week. We've kept this good run going.'

'Kirkton is a hard place to come and secure such a confident win and we had to adjust our game with the tight pitch.'

'It's GMA next in the Macaulay semi-finals. We'll need to assess injuries to Daniel Cameron, Willie Neilson and Aidan MacIntyre through the week.'

Kyles Athletic 2 Kingussie 2

After extra-time Kyles won 4-3 on penalties Kyles Athletic eventually saw off Kingussie on penalties following their 2-2 draw in their Tulloch Homes Camanachd Cup quarter-final replay at Tighnabruaich.

Savio Genini's late leveller cancelled out Colin MacDonald's opener as the sides drew 1-1 at the Dell a week earlier.

Kingussie suffered an early blow when James Hutchison had to leave the field on eight minutes with a suspected broken finger.

Just as he did a week earlier, Kyles captain Colin MacDonald gave his side the lead. The ball came in from the Kyles' right and was missed at the edge of the 'D' by the Kingussie defence and MacDonald stole in, losing his marker, and poked the ball over the line to make it 1-0 after 12 minutes.

Kyles player/manager Dunky Kerr made it 2-0 on 24 minutes when he got on the end of Robbie MacLeod's hit-in to the back post and flicked the ball into the net.

Kingussie introduced forward Roddy Young early in the second half as they tried to get back in the tie.

Both sides hit the frame of the goal over the course of the match. Ross MacRae hit the post for Kyles, whilst Kingussie's Roddy Young struck the



Kinlochshiel's Paul Macrae, right, attempts to block Oban Camanachd's Daniel Cameron. Photograph: Neil Paterson.

Fixtures



Thursday July 18

Mowi South Division 1
Inveraray v Kyles Athletic
Alex MacVicar

Saturday July 20

Artemis Macaulay Cup
semi-finals
Glasgow MA v Oban Camanachd
Robert Baxter - noon -
at Mossfield Park
Kingussie v Newtonmore
Deek Cameron,
at Braeview, Beauly

HIS Sutherland Cup Final

Lovat v Lochside Rovers
Andy MacLean - 4pm -
at Canal Parks, Caol

Mowi Premiership

Caberfeidh v Kyles Athletic
Calum Girvan - 3pm
Lochaber v Inveraray
John Angus Gillies

Mowi National Division

Glenurquhart v Skye
Graham Cameron
Bute v Strathglass
Lachie Wood

Mowi North Division 1

Fort William v Kinlochshiel
Graham Fisher
Skye v Glenurquhart
Brian MacKay - 3pm
Newtonmore v Inverness
Des McNulty
Caberfeidh v Glengarry
Callum Duff - noon

Mowi South Division 1

Ballachulish v Tayforth
Ewan MacDonald
Glasgow Mid Argyll v Aberdour
Ross Brown

Mowi North Division 2

Strathglass v Boleskine
Steven MacLachlan

Mowi South Division 2
Glenorchy v Aberdour
David Mitchell
Oban Celtic v Bute
Iain Kennedy
All throw-ups 2.30pm unless stated.

anachd



Results

Saturday July 13
Tulloch Homes Camanachd Cup quarter-final
Kinlochshiel 1 v 2 Oban Camanachd

Quarter-final replay
Kyles Athletic 2 v 2 Kingussie
Kyles won 4-3 on penalties

Liberty British Aluminium Ballimore Cup semi-finals
Strathglass 0 v 3 Glasgow Mid Argyll
Fort William 4 v 1 Glenurquhart

Mowi Premiership
Caberfeidh 6 v 0 Inveraray
Newtonmore 1 v 1 Lovat

bar, but it remained 2-0 until four minutes from time.

Savio Genini got his side back into it as he got onto a ball played through from the centre line and rounded his marker to go one-on-one with keeper John Whyte and slipped the ball home.

Kingussie threw everything at Kyles and found the leveller on 88 minutes. The ball was played down the left side where Ruaridh Anderson let it run by him down the line. Roddy Young went out wide to collect possession and squared the ball to Savio Genini who held it up as Ruaridh Anderson ran across the pitch to the back post. Genini found Anderson who took the ball first time, connecting well on his forearm from around 13 yards, and the ball went into the top left corner of the net to make it 2-2.

Extra-time failed to separate the sides so, with no further scoring, referee Lachie Wood took the tie to a penalty shoot-out. Grant Irvine, Paul MacArthur and Roddy Macdonald all converted for Kyles, with home keeper John Whyte twice saving from the spot, before Robbie

Mowi National Division
Skye 4 v 0 Bute

Mowi North Division 1
Glenurquhart P v P Aberdeen
To be rescheduled
Caberfeidh 3 v 2 Kingussie
Fort William 5 v 0 Skye
Glengarry 2 v 2 Lovat
Kinlochshiel 1 v 6 Newtonmore

Mowi South Division 1
Col Glen 1 v 1 Kyles Athletic
Glasgow MA 0 v 6 Lochside Rovers
Inveraray 7 v 2 Aberdour
Tayforth 3 v 2 Taynuilt

Mowi North Division 2
Beaulieu 0 v 5 Lochcarron
Boleskine 2 v 1 Strathglass
Strathspey 4 v 2 Inverness
Lewis 0 v 6 Kilmallie

Mowi South Division 2
Ardnamurchan P v P Kilmory
To be rescheduled

MacLeod kept his nerve to score from the fifth penalty. Kyles will now play Oban Camanachd in the Tulloch Homes Camanachd Cup semi-finals with the tie scheduled for Saturday August 10.

Mowi Premiership

Newtonmore 1

Lovat 1

Reigning champions Newtonmore missed the chance to move up to second place in the division when they drew 1-1 with Lovat at the Eilan.

Lovat threatened on seven minutes but Newtonmore keeper Kenny Ross dived in as Calum MacAulay looked set to score. Ross blocked the ball, forcing MacAulay to run away from goal to retrieve the rebound and his effort went past the post.

Lovat keeper Stuart MacDonald seemed uncomfortable with what looked like a back problem and Daniel Grieve took over with goal-hitting duties.

Newtonmore won possession in midfield following a hit-out and

Continued on page 60



Inveraray's Hamish MacLellan and Caberfeidh's Gavin MacLauchlan during their Mowi Premiership match at the Winterton.

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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 Campbeltown Courier, Main Street, Campbeltown; 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 Wyvern 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:

A Cameron
Spean Bridge
D Mitchell
Tarbert

Continued from page 59

the ball was delivered to Glen MacKintosh who saw his powerful shot saved with his legs by Stuart MacDonald.

Ewen Fraser and Iain Robinson both raced in on the rebound with Fraser scoring to make it 1-0 with 14 minutes on the clock.

Newtonmore went on to enjoy a period of pressure where they could have added to their score on three occasions.

Daniel Grieve tried to cut out Iain Robinson's ball to Glen MacKintosh on 18 minutes and MacKintosh's rocket-shot clattered off the outside of the post.

Conor Jones, who had been pushed up front, and Ewen Fraser both passed up chances as Newtonmore finished the half the better team.

Lovat brought former Ballachulish player Lewis Bryson on for Chris Johnston at the interval. Bryson joined the attack, with Duncan Davidson going to wing centre.

Lovat fielded Greg Matheson in the other wing centre position, where he was very effective, and Matheson made it 1-1 on 55 minutes. Calum MacAulay's ball from the right was only cleared as far as Matheson and his shot from more than 30 yards out beat the keeper although he did get a hand to the ball.

Newtonmore had introduced David MacLean in midfield, whilst Andy MacKintosh came on for Owen Fraser to try and nullify Greg Matheson's threat.

Both managers continued to make changes throughout the half as they tried to give their respective sides the edge.

Jamie Robinson replaced a limping Glen MacKintosh at full forward and he hit the bar with six minutes remaining.

Caberfeidh 6
Inveraray 0

Caberfeidh pulled away from the relegation zone as they scored three times in each half to beat bottom side Inveraray 6-0 in their 3pm throw-up at Castle Leod.

Two goals in two minutes gave the home support plenty to cheer as Craig Morrison netted on 12 minutes, with Jamie MacKintosh scoring straight after.

Kevin Bartlett added a third on 22 minutes and it remained that way until the break.

Jamie MacKintosh got his second on 55 minutes, whilst Craig Morrison completed his hat-trick with strikes on 60 and 64 minutes.

Inveraray's Ruairidh Graham was sent off by referee Andy MacLean.

Liberty British Aluminium Balliemore Cup – semi-finals

Fort William 4

Glenurquhart 1

Fort William reached the Liberty British Aluminium Balliemore Cup Final after coming from behind to beat Glenurquhart 4-1 at Spean Bridge.

Glenurquhart struck first as Ewan Brady gave them the lead on 24 minutes with what was to be the only goal of the first half.

Fort William equalised four minutes into the second half. The ball was played across the 'D' and a defensive mistake resulted in the ball being flicked up into the air. Lachie Shaw was first to react with a volley which went into the bottom corner of the net.

Shaw completed his hat-trick with goals on 61 and 63 minutes. First, Fort William won a free hit 20 yards back from the penalty spot. Jack



Fort William's Arran MacPhee, left, deflects the ball away from Glenurquhart's John Barr. Photograph: Iain Ferguson.

Fraser played the ball to the left side of the 'D' and Lachie Shaw struck a back-hand shot which went through the keeper's legs.

Then, a low ball in from a Padraig McNeil corner was stopped at the penalty spot by Shaw and, with his back to goal, he turned and fired into the bottom left corner of the goal.

Padraig McNeil rounded off the 4-1 win a minute from time. Victor Smith's shot was well saved by Glenurquhart keeper Stuart MacKintosh but McNeil was first to react to the loose ball, slotting it home from inside the 'D'.

Strathglass 0

Glasgow Mid Argyll 3

Glasgow Mid Argyll scored three times in the first third of their match against Strathglass to win 3-0 at the Dell.

GMA did the damage early in this game with Iain Luke scoring on 12 and 14 minutes and Calum McLay making it 3-0 on 32 minutes.

Referee Graham Cameron sent off Strathglass player Scott Douglas.

The 2019 Liberty British

The hosts fell behind to a Raymond Rennie goal on 10 minutes.

Dylan MacCulloch added a second five minutes after the re-start.

Nick Dalgety pulled a goal back on 55 minutes and the former Lochcarron player got his second to make it 2-2 with 15 minutes remaining.

Glengarry's Shaun Sloggie was sent off by referee John Barr.

Fort William 5

Skye Camanachd 0

The Fort William colts stay second, now only behind Glengarry on goal difference, after beating the Skye Camanachd colts 5-0 at An Aird.

Grant Disher gave Fort William the lead on seven minutes and it was an advantage they doubled through Dean Williamson on the stroke of half-time.

Grant Disher got his second on 70 minutes and late goals from Alan Knox on 85 minutes and a third from Grant Disher on 90 minutes put gloss on the win.

Elsewhere in the division, the Caberfeidh reserves saw off a fight back from the Kingussie reserves to win 3-2 at Castle Leod and Craig MacLeod scored four times as the Newtonmore second team were 6-1 victors over the Kinlochshiel second team in at Kirkton. The game between the Glenurquhart colts and Aberdeen University at Blairbeg will be rescheduled.

Mowi South Division 1

Skye Camanachd 4

Bute 0

Two of shinty's island sides, Skye Camanachd and Bute, clashed at Pairc nan Laoch, Portree, with the hosts winning 4-0.

Skye made the breakthrough on 14 minutes following some lovely one-touch shinty down the left wing when Daniel Morrison exchanged passes with Iain MacLellan before flicking the ball low into the net.

Skye scored a second a couple of minutes later. Sam MacPhee found Daniel Morrison on the right and played in Ross Gordon whose shot went in off the leg of the unsighted keeper.

Jordan Murchison darted into the 'D' to get on the end of Daniel Morrison's cut-back from the right but his lofted effort came off the keeper's left post.

Skye added a third on 19 minutes when Iain MacLellan took Ross Gordon's pass and beat the keeper with a fierce waist-high shot which went in on the goalie's left side.

Skye made it 4-0 with 10 minutes remaining as Iain MacLellan grabbed his second goal of the game. Martin Pringle won the ball in midfield, holding off a couple of challenges, to set up the move and when Ross Gordon juggled a ball from Jordan Murchison into MacLellan's path, he drove home.

Mowi North Division 1

Glengarry 2

Lovat 2

League leaders Glengarry came from two goals down to draw 2-2 with third-placed Lovat seconds at Craigard.

Tayforth 3

Taynuilt 2

Tayforth came from behind to beat Taynuilt 3-2 at Peffermill.

Tayforth's Niall MacPhee and Taynuilt's Sandy Leiper sat this one out through suspension but Jamie MacFarlane was free of his ban for the visitors.

After a scoreless first half, Zander Kilmurray put Taynuilt ahead a couple of minutes into the second half.

Neil Arnott made it 1-1 on 53 minutes and Donnie Forbes put the home side ahead for the first time on 58 minutes.

Neil Arnott got his second on 64 minutes and although Zander Kilmurray got his second five minutes later, Tayforth stayed in front to take the points.

Elsewhere in the division, Col Glen drew 1-1 with the Kyles Athletic reserves at Glendaruel, whilst league leaders Aberdour suffered their first league defeat of the season, going down 7-2 to the Inveraray seconds at the Winterton.

Mowi North Division 2

Lewis Camanachd 0

Kilmallie 6

The Kilmallie reserves returned from Shawbost with both points after beating Lewis Camanachd 6-0.

Kilmallie had Michael Rodger in their side and he opened the scoring on five minutes.

A quick-fire Kilmallie double from Andrew Gibb on 16 minutes and Brian MacKinnon on 17 minutes made it 3-0 before Michael Rodger got his second on 20 minutes to make it 4-0 at the break.

Andrew Gibb got his second on 62 minutes, whilst Ross MacKenzie rounded off the 7-0 victory on 71 minutes.

The win lifts Kilmallie to third in the table, two points behind second-placed Strathspey with a game in hand.

Elsewhere in the division, league leaders Lochcarron beat the Beauly second team 5-0 at Braevue Park, Strathspey Camanachd saw off the Inverness seconds 4-1 at Grantown Grammar School and Boleskine came from behind to defeat the Strathglass colts 2-0 at Smith Park.

Mowi South Division 2

Ardnamurchan P

Kilmory P

The match between Ardnamurchan and Kilmory will be rescheduled.

Sutherland Cup final: Lochside Rovers v Lovat seconds

Lochside Rovers and the Lovat second team meet in the HIS Sutherland Cup Final at Canal Parks on Saturday July 20.

Having already reached the Bullough Cup Final, and being ten points adrift in South 1 but with four matches in hand on leaders Aberdour, Lochside are fighting on three fronts this term.

After getting an opening round bye, the Oban side reached the Sutherland Final by beating the Skye seconds 2-0 in Portree followed by a 3-0 home win over Boleskine in the quarters and a 4-1 victory over holders Newtonmore seconds in the semi-finals.

Manager Brian MacCallum has a number of selection options. Speaking after the weekend win over the Glasgow Mid Argyll seconds, he said: 'It would have been nice to have fielded the full squad against

GMA but player unavailability meant we couldn't do that.'

'We have a solid back five though and I certainly have selection options in midfield and up front.'

The Lovat second team beat their Fort William counter-parts 5-2 in the first round of the competition.

They followed that up by winning 7-1 at Glasgow Mid Argyll seconds and 9-2 at home to the Beauly reserves. Lovat edged out the Glenurquhart reserves 4-3 in the semi-finals.

Lovat played in North 2 last season but with Jamie Matheson leading the side, and full forward Raymond Rennie hitting the scoring charts most weeks, they will be a force to be reckoned with.

Throw-up is at 4pm and Andy MacLean is the match referee.

Mowi North Division 1

Glengarry 2

Lovat 2

League leaders Glengarry came from two goals down to draw 2-2 with third-placed Lovat seconds at Craigard.

Oban bowlers get set for Ayr raid



Oban Bowling Club's Senior Fours, from left: Lorna Carmichael, Janet Campbell, Rosemary Miller and Anne Stewart.

A sextet of Oban Bowling Club ladies are setting off for Ayr this weekend to compete in the knock-out stages of the Bowls Scotland National Finals.



Helen MacLean will team up with Anne Campbell for the pairs.

Two tight finishes for Oban cricketers

A busy two weeks for Oban Cricket Club saw two home games against Glasgow Accies and Yorkshire travelling club The Drones, who made their annual visit to Oban.

Both fixtures were played at Taynuilt in glorious weather and each game had a close finish.

Against Glasgow Accies, Oban batted first and posted a decent total of 201 for 8 in their 40 overs. The Glasgow side were a mixture of youth and experienced players and provided a stern test with tight bowling and fielding.

Tristan Carre and Mark Parry top scored for Oban, both making 41.

In reply, Glasgow started brightly and looked as if they would make the total easily before Oban's bowlers started to make inroads and peg back

the visitors. In the end though Glasgow made it over the line, reaching 202 with only one wicket in hand.

Scores: Oban 201-8; Glasgow Accies 202-9.

The following week, Drones Cricket Club from Doncaster were the visitors and batted first in warm conditions. David Orme and George Castro both passed 50 and, although Oban took wickets later in the innings, a total of 234-7 from 30 overs always looked a difficult ask for Oban.

This looked the case when Oban replied as Andrew Leach fell early for 11, victim of a low ball.

Further wickets fell after this and, at 75 for 6, Oban's run chase was in danger of collapsing. However, Mark Lambson joined Ronnie

Kelly at the wicket and they put on a tremendous counter attacking partnership of 132 before Kelly was run out for 72 in the last over. Roger Ashforth joined Lambson with eight runs needed to win and helped take the score to 233. Lambson faced the last ball with two runs needed to win and top edged it for four to see Oban home in an improbable run chase against a big total.

Thanks are due to Iain Darling Butchers for providing food for the after match barbecue.

Scores: Drones 234-7 (Orme 85); Oban 237-7 (Lambson 77 not out; Kelly 72).

Next game for Oban is away to Vale of Leven on Sunday July 28.

CRICKET

Senshi Do Kick Boxing is on throughout the school holidays on a Wednesday at 4.30pm and a Sunday at 11am. Youngsters are guaranteed a fun-filled workout which will take the edge off their energy levels. The first session is free.

Find the club on Facebook Senshi Do Kickboxing or email shihanwill@gmail.com

Martial arts

IAIN RODGER

editor@obantimes.co.uk



Camp Scotland Crew who travelled to the National Training Camp in the Peak District, left to right: Charlie McLaughlin, Mhairi Weldon, Donna Whyte, Dave Sellick, Darryl McLaughlin, Iain Rodger, Sean McQuade, Paul Jamieson and James Dawson.

Kyokushinkai Karate

Members of the Kyokushinkai clubs in Scotland headed to the Peak District on June 28 for a national training camp. The training was tough but enjoyable and everyone came back with new ideas to improve their training.

Back home after his successful grading to 2nd dan, Paul Mackay received his new belt and certificate last week.

Classes continue through the school holidays and beginners are welcome from now until the end of September.

For further information on the Oban Kyokushinkai Karate club contact Iain Rodger (6th dan) on 07584 166542 or iain@ikk.co.uk. Alternatively send a message to 'Caledonia Kyokushin' on Facebook.



Camp instructors, left to right, Tom Smith, 5th dan England; Alan Cleary, 6th dan England; Paul Evans, 5th dan Wales; and Iain Rodger, 6th dan Scotland.



Paul Mackay with his new belt and certificate.

Kickboxing

Senshi Do Kick Boxing is on throughout the school holidays on a Wednesday at 4.30pm and a Sunday at 11am. Youngsters are guaranteed a fun-filled workout which will take the edge off their energy levels. The first session is free.

Find the club on Facebook Senshi Do Kickboxing or email shihanwill@gmail.com

Beginners aged five years and over are always welcome.

Shukokai Karate

The clubs take a break during the school holidays and resume in August.

Argyll Shukokai has clubs in Inveraray, Oban and Dalmally. Anyone interested



Oban MMA, left to right, Calum Weir, Coogie Potter, Marco Canha, Ewan Weir, Drew MacCallum, Mateusz Grabiec, Marcos Nardini, Rafal Warzecha and Pawel Sczencia.

in joining those clubs can get details from Kenny Gray on 07884 183905.

BJJ & MMA

Members of Oban MMA travelled to Glasgow on Saturday July 6 to learn from Marco Canha, the multi-time Brazilian BJJ champion and head of the Check Mat BJJ team in the UK.

The two-hour seminar covered defending in half guard and setting up counter attacks from this position. The seminar was well attended with around 60 other practitioners eager to take advantage of learning from such a decorated coach.

Coach Coogie Potter said: 'Classes in Oban have been covering setting up the cross guard and lasso guard with Monday's class becoming a nogi sparring hour which is proving popular.'

'The Friday class is always looking for new members. It is taught at a slower pace to make sure folk are retaining the fundamentals.'

Classes are all 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 class held in Park Primary School is now closed until after the school summer holidays.

These sessions, for children aged 7 to 10 years will resume on August 26 at 3.15pm. Contact Mike Faulkner on m.faulkner6@btinternet.com for more details.

Normal training will resume once the August term begins. For more details contact Chris Bruce on crb999@btinternet.com for more details.

Knights Of The Tower - Medieval Combat Oban

If you would like to try out medieval combat, classes are held on Sundays from 1.30pm until 4.30pm.

OT

GOLF



Rory McIlroy, Rickie Fowler and Bob march down the fairway at the Scottish Open. Photo: Kevin McGlynn

Bob prepares for The Open

Oban golfer Bob MacIntyre was determined not to be overawed when he fulfilled his 'dream' by playing at the Aberdeen Standard Investments Scottish Open at The Renaissance Club last week.

Bob's playing partners in the first two rounds at North Berwick were two of the world's top golfers - four time Major Champion Rory McIlroy and 2015 Scottish Open winner Rickie Fowler.

Unfortunately Bob, who had a big support down from Oban to cheer him on, narrowly failed to make the cut by just one stroke. The Glencruitten golfer carded a 68 in the first round and a 70 in the second for a four under par total of 138.

The 22-year-old recorded top 15 finishes in just his third and fourth European Tour appearances - at the South African Open hosted by the City of Johannesburg and Alfred Dunhill Championship respectively - before coming even closer to a first title in May.

He finished tied for second at the Betfred British Masters before sealing a solo runner-up spot the following week at the Made in Denmark presented by FREJA to cap a stellar start to his rookie campaign.

Bob now heads for the biggest tournament of his short professional career - The Open Championship - which starts today (Thursday) at the Dunluce Links Course in Royal Portrush, Northern Ireland where he will compete against some of the best golfers in the world. Bob starts his first round at 8.36am and is partnered by Kyle Stanley and Andrew 'Beef' Johnston.

No play for Dalmally ladies

On Wednesday July 10 the Ladies Section of Dalmally Golf Club held their annual Lady Captain's Day.

Unfortunately, the weather meant that no golf was played but the ladies enjoyed a delicious meal in the clubhouse, there was a raffle of eatable, drinkable and growable donations and a very sociable afternoon was enjoyed by 21 members.

The money raised will go to a local charity, the Dalmally Car Sharing Scheme.

Abi and Helen are selected

Oban's Abi Evans and Helen Nelson, from Glencoe, have been named in the Scotland Sevens squad that will travel to the second leg of the Rugby Europe Grand Prix Series in Kharkiv, Ukraine, this weekend.

Nelson, centre, will continue as captain and will be joined by winger Evans, Megan Gaffney, Lisa Thomson, Jenny Maxwell, Chloe Rollie, Hannah Smith, Rachel McLachlan, Liz Musgrave and Rhona Lloyd, all of whom played in Marcoussis last month.

At the first leg in Marcoussis in June, Scotland came sixth. The result means that they are the highest ranked non-World Series core nation going into the second leg this weekend.

If Scotland finish the Grand Prix as a top three non-World Series core nation, they will be invited to the World Rugby Women's Sevens Series qualifiers in 2020. If they are the top non-World Series core nation, they will be invited again to the last leg of the World Rugby Women's Sevens Series in France in 2020.

Head coach Scott Forrest said: 'We are going into leg two of the Rugby Europe Grand Prix in a positive place thanks to our finish last month.'

For the second leg of the Grand Prix, Scotland have been placed in pool A with France, Poland and Ukraine.

Late goal wins Accies

Continued from page 64
deadlock in the dying seconds.

Having weathered almost incessant pressure from Accies, a late breakaway won a throw-in for the Ants deep in Accies territory. Kris Littler's long throw gave the Ants a chance to pile bodies into the Accies box and, after an almighty scramble, the ball finally nestled in the net with Fraser Williams getting the decisive touch.

Alloa Athletic 1 Dundee United 1

Cup-holders Dundee United began the defence of their trophy with a share of the points at the rugby club against Alloa Athletic.

After a goalless first half, the Wasps opened the scoring with a fantastic jinking run and crisp left foot finish from Calum Murray.

The lead, however, lasted barely 60 seconds as a free-kick from the United right was headed home at the back post by Jake Davidson.

Dundee United 2 South Lochaber Thistle 0

Holders United got their first win of the day against the amateurs from Kinlochleven who, despite the result,

acquitted themselves well. Player of the tournament Declan Glass opened the scoring before Shaun Brown netted the first of his two goals to boost Arab hopes of a fifth tournament success.

Oban Saints 0 Hamilton Academical 3

For the third year in succession, Accies put three past the tournament hosts without reply. After a good start, Saints shot themselves in the foot in the 12th minute when young Kenneth Black headed a left-wing Accies header past a static Ben Pollock in the Saints goal.

Ross Cunningham added a second for Accies before the half-time interval, nipping in at the back post after the Saints rearguard had failed to deal with a right-wing throw-in level with 18-yard line.

Saints started the second half brightly with another promising youngster, Aaron McKay, making good ground on the left before swinging the ball into the box for Craig MacEwan. Unfortunately, the Saints marksman couldn't get over the ball and sent his header looping into the keeper's gloves.

As Saints committed numbers forward in search of a

way back into the game they were picked off on the break by a swift counter-attack rounded off by a right-foot strike from Liam Harris.

Dundee United 2 St Anthony's 1

Dundee United brought St Anthony's winning streak to an end racing into a two-goal first-half lead through Lennon Walker and Shaun Brown.

The Ants struck back immediately after the restart with Fraser Williams, who regularly chips in with goals from the Ants midfield, knocking home from close range after good work from former Alba Thistle duo Connor Milne and Johnny McKay.

South Lochaber Thistle 1 Hamilton Academical 4

Hamilton Accies did their goal difference no harm at all with another big win on pitch two at the rugby club. A successfully converted Regan Mimnaugh penalty kick set the ball rolling, with Jay Blair adding a second before the interval.

Erik Tot pulled one back for the Jags in the 23rd minute. However, any hopes of a comeback were quickly extinguished when Regan Mimnaugh netted his second of the game straight from the restart.

With the clock ticking down, there was still time for that veteran of many pre-season fixtures, triallist, to add a fourth for the Accies.

Oban Saints 1 Alloa Athletic 2

The young Alloa Athletic side, led by reserve team coach Mark McAuley and head of youth Derek Nicholson recorded their only victory of the day, edging out the hosts by the odd goal in three.

Saints opened the scoring early in the proceedings with Jamie Graham and David Beaton combining well on the



The Oban Saints squad pictured before the game.

left before Aaron McKay teed up Cammy Hill for another cool finish from the big man.

The Wasps equalised when Liam Evans pounced on a slip by Graham Douglas, who dropped a bouncing free-kick at the striker's feet.

James Ford continued to impress in the wide areas and, after tricking his way past three players on the right, set up Fraser MacFarlane for a curling left foot effort just wide of target.

In the 23rd minute, a long clearance from Wasps' keeper Young deceived Saints central defensive pairing of Jamie Graham and Steven MacLeod allowing Liam Evans to race through unchallenged and drill the ball low past Graham Douglas to double his and the Wasps' tally.

St Anthony's 2 South Lochaber Thistle 0

Over on pitch two, St Anthony's kept themselves firmly in the trophy hunt with a two-goal victory over South Lochaber Thistle whose small squad were feeling the pace of their third game on the trot.

A brace from Kamil Leszczynski either side of the half-time interval meant it was still all to play for when the Ants would face the hosts in their final fixture.

Hamilton Academical 0 Alloa Athletic 0

As the large crowd basked in the warm sunshine at Mossfield, Hamilton Academical and Alloa Athletic played out the only goalless match of the day.

Dundee United 1 Oban Saints 0

Holders Dundee United remained firmly on course to retain their title after a



Saints striker Cammy Hill in action against Alloa Athletic.



Saints keeper Ben Pollock collects this cross in the game against Dundee United.

ies the silverware



fore the D&K Cup tournament. Report and photos: Derek Black

narrow win over Saints on pitch two. A bright start from the hosts was undone when a clumsy challenge from Kenneth Black saw referee Pat O'Donnell point to the penalty spot.

Player of the tournament Declan Glass gave Saints keeper Ben Pollock no chance with his precise low strike from 12 yards which gave the Arabs the lead on the stroke of half-time.

It was Glass against Pollock once again in the 21st minute. However, this time, with the added protection of a four-man wall, Pollock was able to parry the United man's effort from 25 yards before completing a double save to deny Robert Ward on the rebound.

Dean Smith and Daniel Croarkin both had efforts wide of the goal frame as Saints searched in vain for the equaliser before Mr O'Donnell blew the full-time whistle.

St Anthony's 2 Oban Saints 3

Saints crossed to Mossfield for the third of their three games in a row against a St Anthony's side who knew a victory in their final match would afford them 'leader in the clubhouse' status.

Co-manager Donald Campbell continued his quest for a return to full fitness with another 30-minute run-out and the added bonus of a crisp 22-yard strike which flew into the Ants net to give Saints a third minute lead.

An injudicious challenge by Steven MacLeod on Gary McGarrock two yards inside the Saints box saw referee Jimmy Litster award a penalty kick to the green and white hoops which former Renfrew Juniors striker McGarrock

tucked into the bottom corner away from Graham Douglas.

At the other end, Cammy Hill drew a smart save from the Ants keeper as Saints looked to regain the advantage.

It was, however, the Ants who were next to strike with a thumping 14th minute Fraser Williams finish from the corner of the Saints box which fizzed past Graham Douglas into the roof of the net.

Spurred on by Steven MacLeod's desire to make up for conceding a penalty kick Saints began the second period in adventurous style, pressing forward on the right where MacLeod and James Ford combined to set up Craig MacEwan for an overhead kick which looped inches over the crossbar.

The Ants seemed content to hold on to what they had and allowed Saints to come on to them which Saints ultimately capitalised on in the closing minutes.

Hamilton Accies 1 Dundee United 0

St Anthony's failure to take anything from their final fixture against Saints left the destination of the 2019 D&K Lafferty Cup finely balanced and entirely dependent on the result of the final match between Hamilton Academical and Dundee United.

Sixty seconds later, the turnaround was completed when an excellent turn in the box from Lewis Cameron brought the Ants goal into full view for last season's top scorer who found the bottom corner to end the day on a high note for Saints and shatter the Ants hopes of clinching the trophy.

Alloa Athletic 1

South Lochaber Thistle 3

In the growing heat, the third game in a row for the young Alloa Athletic proved a bridge



Celebrations after Lewis Cameron hits the winning goal against St Anthony's.

too far against a reinvigorated South Lochaber Thistle.

Andrew McLean put the Jags ahead early in the proceedings with David Forbes adding a second before the half-time interval. A successfully converted Calum MacDonald penalty kick gave the Wasps a lifeline but a second goal from Andrew McLean sealed victory for the Kinlochleven men.

their mission of keeping a clean sheet until a moment of late drama.

In the final minute, a deep cross from the right wing was hooked left-footed past United keeper Josh Donaldson by an Accies trialist to confirm a fifth tournament win for Hamilton.

After the conclusion of the final game, tournament organiser David Buchanan thanked the visiting teams for their continued support of the tournament and congratulated winners Hamilton Academical and player of the tournament Declan Glass of Dundee United on their success.

David also thanked the spectators, many of whom had travelled considerable distances to be there; the Argyll and Bute Council grounds staff who had prepared the two pitches well in testing circumstances; and finally the match officials Donnie Brooks, Jimmy Litster, Pat O'Donnell, Jim Pearson and Martin Rae, without whom the event couldn't take place.

David then called upon Councillor Jim Lynch to present the winning team with their individual trophies and the winning captain Leon McCann with the D&K Lafferty Cup.



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WEATHER

Thursday
Light rain showers and a moderate breeze
Temperatures 12°C to 16°C.

Friday
Light rain and a gentle breeze
Temperatures 12°C to 17°C.

Weekend Outlook

Saturday
Sunny intervals and a gentle breeze

Sunday
Light rain showers and a gentle breeze
Temperatures 13°C to 18°C.



FRIDAY

TIDAL INFORMATION

Tide tables for Oban during the week from Thursday July 11, 2019 are listed below with differences for major ports listed on the right. All times are GMT (add one hour BST)

Thur	00.37	1.1	06.26	3.6
	12.53	1.0	18.47	3.9
Fri	01.16	1.2	07.01	3.6
	13.29	1.0	19.23	3.9
Sat	01.53	1.2	07.35	3.6
	14.04	1.1	19.58	3.8
Sun	02.29	1.3	08.08	3.5
	14.38	1.3	20.33	3.7
Mon	03.06	1.5	08.41	3.4
	15.11	1.4	21.08	3.5
Tues	03.43	1.6	09.15	3.3
	15.46	1.6	21.45	3.4
Wed	04.26	1.7	09.54	3.1
	16.26	1.7	22.28	3.2

Tidal Constants: (Add or deduct from High Water at Oban)

Ardrishaig	-5.35	Mallaig	+0.25
Campbeltown	-5.30	Portree	+0.55
Crinan	-0.47	Tobermory	+0.16
Islay Port Ellen	2.00	Dover	+5.30
Lochboisdale	+0.30		

Ferry Crossings/Sea States

Oban to Barra/South Uist	Moderate
Oban to Coll/Tiree	Moderate
Kennacraig to Islay	Moderate

Chain, shackles and buoys all available to purchase.

INSIDE THIS WEEK:

Oban bowlers
get set for
Ayr raid

Oban and Kyles
reach Camanachd
Cup semi finals

NORTH WEST MARINE
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AND TIDES - SEE PAGE 63

Hamilton win D&K Cup

Oban Saints got their preparations for the 2019-20 season under way last Saturday in traditional style with the 26th playing of their annual tournament kindly sponsored by D&K Lafferty Contractors Ltd.

Once again the tournament, played in glorious sunshine, attracted top quality participants in the form of regulars Alloa Athletic, Hamilton Academical and trophy holders Dundee United.

Joining Saints in representing the amateur side of the game were South Lochaber Thistle, who were making their second appearance at the tournament. Representing the junior ranks and also making their second appearance were St Anthony's.

Due mainly to their early involvement in the SPFL Betfred Cup, Alloa Athletic, Dundee United and Hamilton Academical were represented by players from their development squads giving the large crowd a glimpse of some of the senior clubs' stars of the future.

Saints got in on the act by augmenting an experienced squad with the inclusion of



James Ford turns on the style against Alloa. The Saints winger was impressive all day.

youngsters Kenneth Black, Gavin Forgrieve, Cammy Hill, Ruaridh Horne and Aaron McKay, who would all go on to acquitted themselves well in considerably more experienced company.

An interested spectator at the tournament was former Queens Park Rangers, Aston Villa, Dundee, Falkirk and Ayr United player Simon Stainrod, now a football agent, who was running his eye over young talent on show.

Oban Saints 2

South Lochaber Thistle 1

Saints and fellow amateurs South Lochaber Thistle got proceedings under way at Mossfield and it was the Kinlochleven men who were first to threaten. The Greater Glasgow Premier Amateur Football League Division Two champions drew two early saves from Saints keeper Graham Douglas before striker Andrew McLean sent an excellent chance inches wide of the target.

Against the run of play Saints opened the scoring in the ninth minute through wide man James Ford. The tricky winger took up a more central position to receive a Cammy Hill pass from the left and, after neatly turning away from his marker, drilled a low right foot shot into the bottom corner.

Five minutes into the second 15-minute period, Saints doubled their advantage. Thistle cleared a Saints free-kick from the left but Myles McAuley broke up the Jags' counter-attack and played the ball up to Craig MacEwan on the edge of the box. MacEwan flicked the ball on to Cammy Hill, who glided into the left



Hamilton Accies pictured with the D&K Cup.

Report and photos: Derek Black

of the Jags' box and beat the keeper from a tight angle.

Straight from the restart, Jags' skipper Martin Munro pulled one back with a low 18-yard right foot shot into the bottom corner past Graham Douglas's right hand.

Neither keeper was seriously tested in the remaining eight minutes or so and Saints took the honours in the battle of the amateurs.

Alloa Athletic 0

St Anthony's 2

Over at the rugby club, reserve team coach Mark McAuley's young Alloa Athletic side were the first victims of St Anthony's, whose impressive start placed them among the early favourites to lift the handsome trophy.

The Ants took a first half lead through Kamil Leszczynski before an inspired substitution from manager John Kelly saw the lead doubled.

Kelly replaced goalscorer Kamil Leszczynski with brother Pawel whose first touch was to rifle a 25-yard thunderbolt into the top corner to mark a memorable Ants debut.

St Anthony's 1

Hamilton Academical 0

The Ants crossed to Mossfield where they met four-time winners Hamilton Academical who were making their 16th consecutive tournament appearance. The young Accies side were under the supervision of academy director George Cairns and coach Dougie Imrie but it was the semi-professionals from Govan who came out on top.

The Accies were left cursing the lack of VAR, which they feel would have seen their two dismissed penalty kick appeals overturned before the Ants finally broke the

Continued on page 62



Paul Carmichael and Daniel Croarkin in action against Hamilton Accies.



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**West Highland
Yachting Week
2019 preview
see page 31**

**Fort cinema
on track for
May 2020
opening**



**Sun
shines for
Invernevis
party**



Anger as locals sidelined in Glen Etive hydro talks

by Mark Entwistle
markentwistle@obantimes.co.uk

Anger has been voiced after a seminar held in Edinburgh this month to discuss the recent approval of seven hydro schemes in Glen Etive failed to hear from any representatives from the local community.

Hosted by journalist Rob Edwards, the event saw global outdoor clothing brand Patagonia bring together conservation campaign groups to talk about the situation.

Patagonia recently released a new film entitled Save the Blue Heart, which documents the opposition to hydro schemes across the Balkans.

But despite widespread opposition from across the UK to the Glen Etive hydro schemes, Highland Council gave approval.

Among the groups taking part in the Edinburgh seminar were Save Glen Etive, Save Our Rivers, Parkswatch Scotland and the John Muir Trust, with the latter taking the view that any potential

gains being claimed for these hydro schemes would be far outweighed by the loss of the wild land involved.

But resident and chairwoman of Glencoe and Glen Etive Community Company Victoria Sutherland says there is local support for the hydro schemes as the resulting community benefit would allow problems to be tackled, such as litter discarded by a growing number of visitors and the lack of public toilets.

She says it is ludicrous the people who actually live in Glen Etive were not represented at the seminar.

'In spite of several references to a need to connect with local communities and numerous quotes from my letter written in March on this matter - which was printed in The Herald and in The Oban Times - they still did not think to include the people who are most affected by any decisions about how to tackle the distressing state of Glen Etive today,' Mrs Sutherland told the Lochaber Times this week.

'The reason for this omission is clear to me - the SOS Save Glen Etive Facebook page has more than 35,000 followers and with those numbers - all potential members to be recruited to groups like the John Muir Trust - why would they bother with the opinions of the tiny Glen Etive community?

'I am not for a moment disputing the fact that with this money they do a lot of good work, but the first thing that needs to be taken into account in this instance is the wellbeing of the residents of a glen who daily live with the problem of the numbers of people who use their glen.'

'One hundred and six tents were counted the other day and we are only just at the beginning of the summer season. Some clear up after themselves, but most do not and there are no toilets.'

'Glen Etive, together with several other beauty spots in Scotland, is in real danger and, if we don't get a grip of this soon, these iconic places

Turn to page nine

River gives up Jacobite 'treasure'



Paul Rigby with the cannon he discovered in a river near Spean Bridge recently which may have been used by Bonnie Prince Charlie's Jacobite soldiers in the 1745 rising. For full story, turn to page five. Photograph: Iain Ferguson, The Write Image.

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Nominations open for prestigious rural awards

Nominations for the Scottish Rural Awards 2020, organised by Scottish Field magazine and the Scottish Countryside Alliance, opened on Monday July 15.

Small- and medium-sized Scottish businesses can either self-nominate or be nominated by a friend, family member, customer or member of the public for a Scottish Rural Award 2020. The deadline for entries will be Monday November 4.

This year, awards include:

- Best Scottish Artisan Food Award
- Best Scottish Artisan Drink Award
- Rural Business Diversification Award
- Best Rural Business Start-Up Award
- Best Farming Business Award
- Best Rural Employer Award
- Rural Hospitality Award
- Best Rural Innovation Award
- Best Rural Skills Educator Award
- Most Sustainable Rural Business Award
- Best Rural Tourism Initiative Award
- Rural Hero Award
- Lifetime Achievement Award
- New for 2020: Best Countryside Digital Innovator Award

There is also an extra category this year: Best Countryside Digital Innovator. The winner will be crowned for suc-



Sir Ian Grant wins Lifetime Achievement Award at the Scottish Rural Awards 2019.

cessfully championing digital projects and products across the agricultural, rural and tourism sectors in Scotland.

The awards mark the culmination of five extremely successful years of rewarding local heroes, innovative businesses and enterprising community projects which make the awards the most sought-after rural awards in Scotland. Finalists will be invited to attend a black-tie dinner held in spring 2020.

Last year's awards were presented by Dougie Vipond and were held at Dynamic Earth, Edinburgh.

It couldn't be easier to enter, just fill in our online form to register your nomination. The full criteria for each award, along with nomination forms, are available on the Scottish Rural Awards website, www.scottishruralawards.org.

Every nominee will receive a free copy of Scottish Field magazine.

Canine capers at the Nevis Centre

Lochaber and District Canine Society held a Companion Show at the Nevis Centre in Fort William last week, writes Mark Entwistle.

This was a 'fun dog show' with two rings: one for pedigree dogs and the other for novelty dogs. The pedigree classes ranged from Puppy, Junior, Open (any age) and Veteran (over seven years).

Other classes split up the various dog groups – terrier/gundog/hound/toy/utility/working and pastoral.

Best Pedigree was won by Cathy Putman and Linnet her whippet. This is the second consecutive year she has won the prize.

Any breed/cross of dog can enter the Novelty classes, with groups such as Veteran (over seven years), Best Crossbreed, Best Condition, Waggiest Tail – there was some serious wagging going on!

The Junior Handling class was taken very seriously and was easily won by Jadsia with Mia, the Tibetan spaniel.

The Prettiest Bitch class was followed by the Handsomest Dog, and lastly the Best Trick, won by Janne Huun with Becca the Hungarian vizsla. This has to be the best class of the night, with some very funny tricks.

The winning trick that Jan taught Becca was to empty the contents of her large bag, for Becca to individually



Above, winner of the Novelty section, Becca with owner Janne Huun; above right, Pedigree winner Linnet with owner Cathy Putman; and right, Radar who won the jar of dog biscuits. Photographs: Iain Ferguson, alba.photos



retrieve each one and place them back in her bag.

Becca thoroughly enjoyed showing off her trick and she and Jan then went onto to also win Best Novelty.

Show organiser Janet Robertson told the Lochaber Times: 'It is so lovely to see the joy that dogs bring to their owners and also the dogs having so much fun, which is so evident in the best trick class.'

'Often this is the first time that owners and their dogs have competed in an event like this, and to see how happy and proud they are of their dog at winning a rosette just makes organising events like this so worthwhile.'

Refreshments were available along with a raffle, while the Nevis Centre provided free use of the hall.

The stewards were Sharon Donald and Morag Mackell from the club, and the judges were Phil and Helen Moir, from Inverness.

At a Companion Show proceeds must go to a charity, and this year monies go to Munlochy Animal Aid in Inverness which does a great job at caring and rehoming animals in the Highlands.

The show raised a total of £417.03 and, along with a club donation, means Munlochy Animal Aid will get £525. The club will be holding its silver anniversary

annual Open Dog Show on Sunday September 8 at the Nevis Centre. A schedule can be obtained by emailing lornauthomas@gmail.com, with entries closing on August 9.

Please note that only Kennel Club-registered dogs that are pre-entered may attend.

The dog club resumes on August 6 at the Nevis Centre.

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Sun shines for Invernevis party

by Kirsteen Bell
fort@obantimes.co.uk

The sun shone on Invernevis House for their garden party in Fort William on Saturday, with the annual event being well attended by residents, their families and the wider community, also raising £2,100 for the Residents' Fund.

The party opened with the residents' choir, which was then joined by Highland dancers and a piper. Visitors had a wide range of entertainment and activities to choose from, from the disco-dome bouncy castle and pinata, to more music from Cachmore Ceilidh Band and an accordianist – there was even a visit from 'Elvis'.

Guests could also try their hand at the teddy tombola, lucky dip and a wheel of fortune with fantastic prizes donated from businesses and the community in Lochaber.

Claire Cameron, manager of Inverness House, said: 'I really want to say a huge thank you to everyone who helped with the event.'

'We were overwhelmed by



Above, Claire Sargent leads the residents' choir and, left, Emma and Mattie Rankine got their picture taken with Minnie and Mickey Mouse. Photographs: Iain Ferguson, alba.photos

For more photographs of the day, visit www.obantimes.co.uk/lochaber

the support. We raised an amazing sum and we couldn't have done that without the generous donations from local businesses and the time given by the local community.'

Carolyn Thain, whose

mother is a resident at Invernevis House, added: 'I was so pleased for the hard-working staff that the weather was sunny and the event was so well attended. It was a fantastic family day.'

A Cry For The Wild

HOLLY GILLIBRAND
fort@obantimes.co.uk

The osprey nest towered above me, just visible through the sparsely clustered pine needles. It was a man-made nest with planks of wood supporting its structure, but the nest itself was made from moss-clothed branches and twigs.

The tree was about 15 metres tall and leaning downhill. This is the tree I was going to climb to reach the nest and watch the ringing of the two osprey chicks occupying it.

We were at Loch Arkaig, home to one of the last remnants of ancient Caledonian pine forest.

The nest is being used by osprey pair Louis and Aila for the third year in a row. This year Louis and Aila are bringing up two osprey chicks.

Myself and raptor expert Lewis Pate were going to climb up the tree and ring



the chicks, as well as take measurements to determine the sex of the birds.

Lewis rigged up the ropes and we used a foot pulley system to climb up the tree.

When I reached the nest, it was incredible to catch my first glimpse of the birds. The chicks seemed identical. A delicate hooked beak led onto a brown feathered head and back, flecked with cream and gold edges. They had large, scaly, yellow feet with large talons, shaped perfectly for gripping fish. The chicks have

been colour ringed as 'JJ0' and 'JJ2', although proper names have been chosen. (Turn to page five.)

Ospreys were considered extinct in England in 1840, but held on in Loch Arkaig until 1908. Now the RSPB estimates there are around 300 nesting osprey pairs in Britain. Hopefully, their numbers will swell to become a thriving population and future generations won't look at them in picture books and ask: 'Did you really used to get those here?'

Call for shake-up in ferry service after disruptions

A former Scottish Office minister has called for an independent review of current and future issues affecting west coast ferry services following another weekend of disruption.

Brian Wilson, who lives on the Isle of Lewis and is chairman of one of the island's largest employers, Harris Tweed Hebrides, said: 'This is now a case of the whole being bigger than the sum of the parts. It is completely unfair on CalMac and the people who work for them that they are at the sharp end of every crisis while the causes are largely outside their control.'

The call came amid renewed concerns over ferry cancellations as the overstretched CalMac fleet struggled to cope following a breakdown of the MV Isle of Lewis last weekend.

'Lifeline' services were arranged but the disruption saw a wedding on Barra under threat. The wedding was on Saturday but family members and guests were booked on Friday's ferry – which would have been the last sailing

before the ceremony. It was feared they would not make it in time but CalMac scheduled the MV Isle of Mull to make the journey at 6.30pm on Friday night.

Hundreds of passengers sailing to Tiree Music Festival were also affected. Their sailing had been due to leave Oban at 6.15am on Friday but went at noon instead.

Caledonian Maritime Assets Ltd (CMAL), which is responsible for procuring piers and vessels, is locked in a £61 million legal dispute with Ferguson shipyard on the Clyde over two unfinished ferries which are desperately needed to augment the CalMac fleet.

Mr Wilson continued: 'These problems are now so urgent and interwoven that the only sensible way to proceed is through a general review of what has gone wrong, how it is going to be addressed over the next few years and how much it is going to cost.'

'We need an authoritative look at all these issues, outside the political arena, in order to find a way forward.'



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Spare surgery slots see Belford recommended

by Mark Entwistle
markentwistle@obantimes.co.uk

Shorter waiting times for operations are seeing patients from elsewhere in the Highlands encouraged to make the trip to Fort William and have their procedures carried out in the Belford Hospital.

NHS Highland says patients prepared to travel could significantly reduce their waiting times for procedures by choosing to have their care carried out at other NHS Highland hospitals rather than the Raigmore in Inverness.

An Aviemore man recently did just that by travelling 65 miles to have his procedure done at the Belford Hospital, rather than the 29 miles to the Inverness hospital.

Instead of waiting five months, James Mair, 76, was able to be operated on in just five weeks. Now other patients are being encouraged to make



the same choice in order to make use of spare capacity in smaller hospitals such as the Belford.

Mr Nair said: 'It was five weeks or five months, which is a big difference. And it was easy. My brother took me down. It was just over an hour's journey and I was kept overnight so I travelled back the next day.'

Dr Katrina Gannon, a consultant anaesthetist at the Belford, said it was not unusual for patients from across

Highland to come to the Belford for their procedures: 'We do general surgery and general urology here. We have three operating lists per week and often have spare capacity,' she explained.

However, one local resident wanted to know why, if this was the case, were local people still being sent to Inverness/Invergordon/Wick and Golspie for so many procedures.

'The pain clinic is a prime example. You get a consult in

Invergordon and treatment is either Golspie or Wick. The surgeon goes to these much smaller hospitals from Raigmore, so he is already having to leave Inverness to travel to these clinics,' she said.

'Can they not use the Belford to treat all these locals who are in pain and cannot comfortably get to these places?'

'This is not a criticism of the Belford in any way but to have locals travel hundreds of miles to get treatment and for Aviemore people coming here just seems ludicrous.'

Asked to respond, an NHS Highland spokesperson told us: 'We are very keen to develop services in remote and rural hospitals such as Caithness General Hospital, the Belford Hospital and Oban's Lorn and Islands Hospital.'

'Sometimes difficulties with recruitment and retention of key staff get in the way of us being able to do this and

sometimes procedures and operations are so complex that we have to do them in Raigmore where we have a wider range of advanced support services available for patients.'

'But, in principle, we are looking to provide treatment as locally as possible.'

The Chronic Pain Service comprises a number of different professionals from nursing, physiotherapy, consultant and psychology, and offers a range of services.

The multi-disciplinary clinics are currently provided from Invergordon, Golspie and Caithness which have the facilities and capacity to support the team.

'We are in the process of reviewing how we run a number of our services in NHS Highland and we can look to see how we might be able to improve patient access to this clinic in the future.'

'So far, so... as Fort cinema on track for May 2020 opening'

Construction of a new cinema in Fort William remains on track for a May 2020 opening, according to the developer, writes Neill Bo Finlayson.

As the foundations and retaining walls near completion, Highland Cinema owner Angus MacDonald is pleased with progress so far, particularly the work of builders 3b Construction, and is looking forward to opening next year.

The project will see a new two-studio cinema being built in Cameron Square in the centre of the town, which will include a cafe and restaurant area. Mr MacDonald

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Lochaber cannot be linked to Your

by Iain Ferguson
iain.ferguson@obantimes.co.uk

A cannon which may have a direct link to Bonnie Prince Charlie and his Jacobite army has been discovered in a river at Glen Loy, near Spean Bridge, almost 274 years to the day from when the Young Pretender set off from France to reclaim his throne.

Paul Rigby, 56, made the find while walking his dog, having passed the very spot, only a few hundred yards from his home, almost daily since moving in 14 years ago.

The three-foot, nine-inch cannon, which is strikingly similar to an 18th-century French naval, two-pounder, 'swivel gun', could have come from the ship Du Teillay which set off from France on July 16, 1745, with Prince Charles Edward Stuart aboard.

A month later, he raised his standard at Glenfinnan,

marking the start of the '45 rebellion.

In an incredible piece of historical coincidence, on Sunday July 14, 2019, Paul spotted the cannon sticking out of the peat and gravel on the river bed when the water level fell in the warm weather.

Mystery

A laboratory scientist in Fort William's Belford Hospital, he caught a glimpse of what he thought looked like the barrel of a gun below him in a deep gully and walked further down the bank to access the river, paddling back towards the mystery object.

As a keen historian who recently spoke to the Lochaber History Society on his main topic of interest, the Vikings, Paul could not believe what he had found and the excellent condition it was in, with little sign of wear or corrosion.

He told us: 'I was absolutely

gobsmacked and completely taken aback about what was lying there. I know that a cannonball was found in the area a few years ago and that metal detectorists have been searching for further historical artefacts, but there it was – an actual cannon right in front of me.'

Bonnie Prince Charlie raised his standard in Glenfinnan on August 17, 1745, bringing together his army of Highland clans.

It is known that small cannon were taken from the French ship for use by the Jacobites. The touchhole used to ignite the gunpowder is the only part of the weapon showing significant damage, so it is possible this was done deliberately to disable it before throwing it into what in that era may well have been a deep peat bog.

With no marks of identification immediately visible on the cannon, its prove-

'so good' nema for May evening

hopes to offer a wide variety of films to the 20,000 locals and 440,000 annual visitors.

When asked if he was confident of hitting the May 2020 target, he told the Lochaber Times: 'The answer is so far so good. It's progressing well and it is on schedule. The steel frame starts going up in August and then all of sudden it will look like a building.'

During this next stage of construction, Mr MacDonald will be offering members of the public a chance to catch a glimpse of the development by opening up a viewing platform with a perspex window in Viewfield



car park. This will allow people to view construction progress and ask questions about the cinema.

'Before the cladding goes up we will get a look at it,' he said. 'We had 450 people turn up to the open days so I feel there's quite a lot of interest.'

Fort William has been

without a working cinema for 12 years, despite several attempts in the recent past to restore the facility in the town.

Skye-based architectural firm Dualchas Architects has designed the new cinema complex with a view to creating a 'striking building' which references traditional

Highland architecture.

Designer Ewan Leckie, of My Creative, has also finalised the design for the Highland Cinema logo, which can be seen on the company's Facebook page.



The osprey chicks will now be known as Mallie and Rannoch.

Loch Arkaig osprey chicks christened with names

After dozens of suggestions were submitted for names for the two young osprey chicks at Loch Arkaig, the Woodland Trust Scotland, which manages the forest, has picked the winners.

The names for the young birds will be Mallie and Rannoch – Mallie as the area where the nest is located is Glen Mallie and Rannoch to honour Woodland Trust

volunteer Liz Bracken who watches the nest by telescope from across the loch.

Liz's commentary covers the ospreys movements when they are off the nest – and she adds hugely to the experience of the webcam audience.

There has already been an osprey called Bracken, so with Liz's agreement the trust used a Gaelicised version – Rannoch.

non may be ng Pretender



Paul Rigby in the Governor's Room in West Highland Museum, which was once located in the Old Fort, with the cannon which may have been used by the Jacobite army in 1745.

Photograph: Iain Ferguson

nance has still to be verified, although it is known that the Jacobites, not wishing to immediately face the soldiers stationed in Fort William, did take a circuitous route from Glenfinnan heading towards Spean Bridge.

It was just a few miles from this spot that the first shots of the '45 were fired as a small band of Jacobites attacked government troops crossing

'High Bridge' on the route linking the garrisons of Fort Augustus and Fort William.

The narrow bridge meant that soldiers could only cross two abreast so were easily picked off by musket fire, with no reference to any cannon being used.

Paul contacted the manager of West Highland Museum in Fort William, Colleen Barker, who lives nearby and

she was equally excited by the find, asking him to bring it in for further examination.

She said: 'It is a very exciting find, especially to me as I live very close to Glen Loy. Out walking your dog and you find this!'

It will now be reported to Treasure Trove who will decide what happens to it, although hopefully it will find its way back to our museum.'

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LT

Hundreds of highland families hit by 'two-child' benefit cap

Some 670 families and more than 2,300 children across Ross, Skye and Lochaber, could be affected by the two-child cap, according to new research – prompting more calls for the UK Government to scrap the 'heartless' policy.

Another 240 families and 840 children in the Western Isles could also be affected.

In total, more than 13,000 children across the Highlands and Islands would be hit according to MSP Kate Forbes.

The Westminster Government's 'two-child policy' allows low-income families to claim child tax credits or universal credit for their first two children only.

New research from the Child Poverty Action Group (CPAG) has revealed that 160,000 families have had their income slashed by the two-child limit to-date.

The charity estimates more than three million children could eventually be affected by the benefit cap.

Ms Forbes said: 'Social

security should be a safety net for all of us, but the two-child limit is having a staggering impact upon families up and down the country, with almost 13,000 children across the Highlands and Islands set to be affected by it.'

'All families are valuable and worthy of support, but this heartless policy turns people away when they most need support, and leaves children to grow up in hardship – which can have lifelong consequences for their wellbeing.'

'The SNP government has been left to pick up the pieces, investing over £125 million to mitigate Tory welfare policies. In addition, it is introducing a Scottish Child Payment to tackle child poverty. Without the two-child cap, this could go so much further.'

'The next Tory Prime Minister should make it a priority to tackle poverty and enable children to thrive, starting with reversing the two-child limit and horrendous 'rape clause.'

by Iain Ferguson
fort@obantimes.co.uk

A young man whose last visit to Fort William was in 2004 with a party of children from Belarus, as part of a respite care trip from the ravages of the Chernobyl nuclear disaster, returned to the area recently – the first of his group to do so.

Now aged 27, Janya Navumenka, called 'Eugene' by his foster hosts, arrived in Fort William this week by train with no idea of how to contact the people who had looked after him on his month-long stay 15 years ago as part of a group funded by the Chernobyl Children's Lifeline Charity.

However, when he mentioned his story to the landlady, she spoke to her neighbour who remembered the children and put

him in touch with one of the organisers, Vernon Wilkes, who lives in Strontian. Next morning, Vernon was on the doorstep to meet Janya and offered the young man accommodation with him and his wife Patricia, who happened to live next door to his 2004 'holiday mother' Catriona Hunter.

In the early 2000s, Lochaber hosted almost 100 children from Belarus, most of whom were suffering ill health from the effects of the Chernobyl fallout.

The idea was to give them time in a clean, healthy environment, with good food and access to medical care which they could not get at home.

Janya, who is now a train driver in his home town of Ossipovishi, recalls arriving on the plane into a 'different world'.

Many in his group of 10 were malnourished and most had no more than the tattered clothes they wore.

Having no English and little understanding of what was to happen, he was quickly made to feel safe and welcome as they made their way to Fort William. He said: 'We were a little frightened, but full of wonder at what was around us and the many kind people who were looking after us.'

Since arriving back in Lochaber, he has caught up with many of those who helped look after and entertain him 15 years ago.

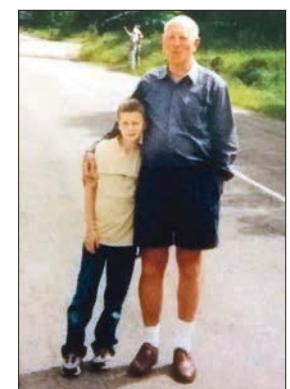
Businessman Stewart MacLean and his late wife invited all of the children and their hosts to lunch at their house in Onich.

Stewart met up with Janya again, taking him to various memorable destinations and treating him to lunch.

On his return to Belarus in 2004, tragedy struck within weeks when Janya's parents were killed in a road accident, leaving the youngster to live with his grandmother. However, he made the most of



Janya Navumenka is reunited with host Vernon Wilkes after 15 years.



The 12-year-old Janya Navumenka with Vernon Wilkes in 2004.



Making a return visit to Fort William, Janya Navumenka met up with businessman Stewart MacLean who hosted the Belarus group in 2004. Photograph: Iain Ferguson.

life and at the age of 17 began his career on the railway.

'I thank everyone so much, who gave me the chance to come to Fort William,' he said: 'I enjoyed everything and have great memories.'

'I did not know how to contact them again but hoped I could find someone who remembered. I am so happy to meet them and really, they have not changed.'

Mr Wilkes added: 'The phonecall to say he was here came out of the blue and was a great surprise. I couldn't wait to meet up and hear about his life.'

'Out of all of the children we brought over, none have ever been back and we have often wondered what they were

doing. It is so good to find out that Eugene is healthy and flourishing with a good job. It's wonderful to know that we made at least some difference to these young lives.'

The last word should perhaps go to the person who hosted him all those years ago – Catriona Hunter – who said she recognised the young man immediately.

'What a fine young man he has become. It was a lovely surprise to meet him as I have often wondered what had happened to the children and what they were doing now,' she said.

'There were five boys in his group and we did everything together. Eugene was always very small and quiet but never any problem.'

'He was so good, in fact they all were, and I am so glad to know what we did made a difference to their lives.'



Janya Navumenka, front, in green, at the 2004 Fort William Highland Games with the children from Belarus.

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Poor state of Fort bus station raises concern

by Neill Bo Finlayson
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From malfunctioning timetable screens to dirty benches, concerns have been raised by bus users over the state of Fort William Bus Station.

Members of Lochaber Transport Forum were unhappy with the current condition of the equipment and the general tidiness of the area after a recent visit to the station.

Forum secretary Benny MacDonald said the group has raised issues about the bus station over several years, both directly and when responding to concerns raised at meetings.

He said: 'While some cleaning work is done, more regular upkeep of the station would make it more comfortable for the many passengers using it. The forum also checks



Fort William Bus Station. Photograph: Iain Ferguson, alba.photos

timetables and the real time electronic sign regularly in an effort to keep information up to date.

'The bus station is a very busy hub. It is used by locals and many visitors so it's important to have the relevant signs and correct information easily available.'

Peter Knight, operations director at Citylink, who attended a recent visit to the

station with forum members, feels more could be done to improve the station.

'Our services operate in and out of many bus stations and interchanges across Scotland and we are aware that some have better facilities than others,' he said.

'We believe improvements could be made to the bus station in Fort William to help attract more people to bus

'It's important to have the relevant signs and correct information easily available.'

and coach travel and this is something we are keen to address with Highland Council which manages the station.'

However, Highland Council and Highlands and Islands Transport Partnership (HITRANS) told the Lochaber Times they are working on improving the upkeep of the station.

Neil MacRae, partnership manager at HITRANS, who supplies printed timetable display notices and operates and maintains the electronic displays, said the partnership has been in regular correspondence with Lochaber Transport Forum and are

aware of their concerns about Fort William Bus Station.

'The sign in the bus station was recently fixed following a report of a fault by the Transport Forum,' said Mr MacRae.

'We are currently in the process of procuring a new real-time information contract and expect this to be in place by the end of this year at which point we will be in a position to see what improvements may be made with regard to the electronic displays.'

Highland Council, which maintains the shelter and the seating, said the area is cleaned regularly.

A council spokesman said: 'All bus shelters in the Highland area are cleaned by our contractor on a 12-week cycle. Fort William, including the bus station, is on the schedule for cleaning in the first week in August.'

Lochaber community cash invite

Lochaber Housing Association (LHA) is inviting applications for its seventh round of grants. Some £7,000 is available to eligible community groups throughout the area – from sports groups, local clubs and community councils – with up to £200 available per application.

Local community groups have benefitted from grants totalling more than £40,000 since LHA launched its Community Fund in 2013 to commemorate the association's 25th anniversary.

Successful applicants will be invited the association's AGM in September to pick up their award.

The deadline for applications for this year's LHA Community Fund is Friday August 2. Contact Siobhan Toal on 01397 702530 for more details or to obtain an application form.

Alternatively download the form on the association's website.

Visit lochaberhousing.org.uk for more information.

'Vomit-stained site' a 'disgrace'

'A vomit-stained derelict site from a war zone, littered with cigarette ends and weeds' was the damning assessment of Fort William Bus Station this week.

Kinlochleven bus user and campaigner Julie McDonald's condemnation of the town's bus station followed a recent meeting of Lochaber Transport Forum, which discussed the issue.

Ms McDonald was also scathing about timetables with incorrect information sometimes being left up for long periods at bus stances across Lochaber.

She also slated the electronic timetable sign at Fort William Bus Station for inaccurate information being displayed for long periods of time.

'At one point something like 143 timetables provided were out of date,' she told the Lochaber Times.

'And the electronic notice-board at Fort William Bus Station has been out of date for ages.'

'The town's main bus station is a disgrace. The weeds get to about two feet high before anything is done about them.'

'Recently someone came along with flamethrowers while people were going in and out of the shelter, which was crazy. But the weeds are just growing back. The place



Julie McDonald has been complaining about the state of the bus station for many years. Photograph: Iain Ferguson, alba.photos

looks like a derelict site in a war zone. There's often vomit and excreta smeared across the glass. It's frequently filthy with debris lying everywhere and piles of cigarette ends.

'The drain overflows making two or three of the stances unusable when it rains, unless you are prepared to wade about in water and sewage up over your shoes. At night, thanks to the dim lighting at the station, it feels like a no-man's land.'

'What must they think if it's their first experience of the Highlands? I think the message it gives out is that Lochaber is certainly not open for business. They are styming economic growth with their lack of action.'

'Highland Council is meant to supply facilities bus operators can use which are in a clean and safe condition. But they're falling down on every aspect.'

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Online help for Mallaig patients

The expansion of NHS Highland 'Near Me' facilities continues in Lochaber as the latest clinic was recently installed in the Mackintosh Centre, Mallaig.

Located in a room at the Care Home Centre on Annie's Brae, the device will allow people in the Mallaig area to attend out-patient appointments using the online video platform – eliminating the need to travel to see a consultant. The service is similar to one already available on Eigg.

While the home option will be the preferred one for patients, the unstaffed Mallaig and Eigg units are part of a back-up system in case people cannot connect from their homes.

NHS Highland's NHS Near Me lead, Clare Morrison, said: 'Not everyone has a smartphone, computer or good internet connection. That's why we have installed these unstaffed rooms, so everyone can access the NHS Near Me service.'

Letter from America 'delivered' after 22 years

A message in a bottle thrown into the ocean off north-east America more than two decades ago has turned up on a remote Scottish beach.

It was 1997 when 12-year-old Matt Rhoades wrote a simple message on a scrap of paper: 'Hello, my name is Matt Rhoades, Please write back. Salem NH 35 Colleen Drive USA.'

Then he pushed it into a small plastic bottle and tossed it into the Atlantic from Moody Beach in the town of Wells, Maine, where he was holidaying with his parents.

Matt thought nothing more of it until this week (Monday) when a message on Twitter attracted his attention.

The bottle had been discovered on a pebble beach in North Uist by a family on holiday on the Outer Hebridean island.

Mike Bolam, who lives



Alexander Bolam with the message his father Mike found in the plastic bottle on a pebble beach in North Uist.

near Dalbeattie, Dumfries and Galloway, tweeted: 'Hey Twitter, do you think we can we let young Matt Rhoades from Colleen Drive Salem NH USA know his message in a bottle has been found on the other side of the Atlantic Ocean on the Island of North Uist.'

Just four hours later, Matt, now 34 and a musician, replied: 'This is wild! That is 100% my handwriting and my former address.'

The bottle had travelled many thousands of miles (2,850 miles as the crow flies shore to shore) and was still watertight after 22 years in

the sea. Seeing photographs of the bottle in Scotland, Matt, from Massachusetts, said: 'It's insane to think how far the bottle has gone and the length of time it has been in the ocean.'

'This was a cool moment to reflect on what I have done in my life since I sent this message off.'

But Matt was also shocked by the discovery. He said: 'I'm baffled by the condition of the bottle. It was something I did without much thought as a boy but now I am aware there is a lesson to be learned about non-biodegradable plastic in our oceans.'

'The awesome dude who found it has let me know that he will be recycling the bottle, which makes me feel better.'

Mike, who had just arrived on North Uist for a holiday with his partner Dawn and their three children, Katy, 15, Lily, 12, and 10-year-old

Alexander, said: 'We were all out for a stroll on a beach near where we are staying in north-west North Uist.'

'I saw a few plastic bottles but then I spotted the one with the message almost immediately, right up at the top of the shore.'

'The kids came running over with great excitement when I shouted what I'd found.'

'I couldn't get the lid off as it seemed to have been glued on but we could see writing on the piece of paper so a quick skelp with a stone set it free.'

Mike, a photographer, took the opportunity to give his children an environmental lesson.

He said: 'The only reason the message was found was due to plastic and the fact it lasts in the environment for hundreds of years.'

'I am happy to report this bottle is now in recycling.'



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Mowi proposes off-shore move for contentious fish farms

by Niall Bo Finlayson
fort@obantimes.co.uk

Mowi Scotland is offering to relocate two 'contentious' inshore sites to new locations off the shores of the Isle of Muck and the Isle of Rum.

The salmon farming giant is planning to shut down its operations at Loch Ewe and Loch Duich, situated in enclosed sea lochs near sensitive wild salmonid habitats, in exchange for the Small Isles sites.

Mowi, formerly known as Marine Harvest, already operates two offshore sites off Muck and Rum and Steve Robertson, development officer at the Isle of Rum Community Trust, said the island is open to the fish farm company's plans.

'Mowi's impact been wholly positive so far,' he said. 'Jobs, investment and housing have been brought into the community. And they are easy to deal with. Currently they are consulting on plans to expand the existing farm and the community seem



Ben Hadfield, managing director of Mowi Scotland

generally supportive of this.'

The move comes as the Norwegian-owned company said it is seeking to operate in locations 'more appropriate for modern day aquaculture'.

Ben Hadfield, managing director of Mowi Scotland said: 'Mowi has strived to improve relations with the wild fish sector and has been clear that it will seek to expand its operations in Scotland, while securing reduced impact on the environment and further developing the significant economic contribution that it makes to rural Scotland,' said

He continued: 'We have spoken to farm staff at both locations to assure them their employment can continue with the company at other new or expanded locations. Our ambition is to close contentious locations, jointly working with wild fishery managers.'

The Scottish Parliament's Rural Economy and Connectivity (REC) committee published a report last autumn which recommended that the Scottish Government discuss with salmon farm companies the potential to minimise risk to wild salmon and to improve the locations of existing farms and grow production in a sustainable way.

Working to align its operations with these recommendations, Mowi's head of environmental management, Stephen MacIntyre, said that the company has plans to grow its fish production levels over the next few years by expanding into 'new, high energy farming areas' located further offshore.

View from the Chamber

Now is the time to prepare for Brexit.

Earlier this year, Liz Cameron, chief executive of Scottish Chambers of Commerce, responded to the parliamentary defeat of the 'Meaningful Vote on the Brexit Withdrawal Agreement and Political Declaration' by saying: 'Business and industry have been navigating an economic and political landscape that is no clearer now than it was at the time of the referendum result. Therefore, the priority for the UK Government and the parliament must be to avoid the clear risks a 'no deal' exit would pose to businesses.'

Fast forward six months to present day and, with the future leader of our country still not known, businesses in the UK continue to wait for their future trading environment to come into focus. But



businesses can and should act now. There are important steps all businesses can do to prepare.

Although no one knows what will happen, the Scottish Government's new www.prepareforbrexit.scot website is a simple-to-use tool to help prepare for the risks, rewards and challenges of the new economic landscape.

The site is split into three easy-to-use sections:

Start planning: A self-assessment tool to help you think through and prepare based on your business needs.

Your answers to the self-assessment create a report for your business.

Where are we now? Up-to-date information on the changing BREXIT situation and what it means for Scottish business.

Financial support: Find out if you're eligible and apply for a Brexit Support Grant of up to £4,000 for small and medium-sized businesses.

Take action today to think through your business options and make sure your business is ready to face the future. Come along to our next Chamber networking lunch on Thursday July 25, to chat to fellow businesses and find out how we can help support you in your business.

To see what's on and how to join, visit www.lochaberchamber.co.uk, or call 01397 705765.

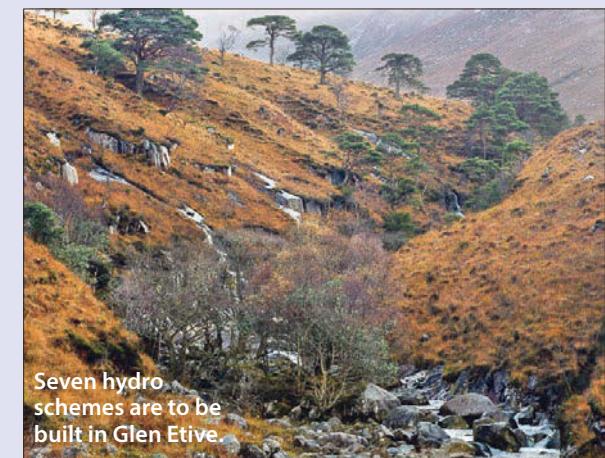
Anger as locals sidelined in Glen Etive hydro talks

Continued from page one
will lose the very thing that people from all over the world come to experience.'

Members of Glencoe and Glen Etive Community Council, whose remit it is to represent the people of Glencoe and Glen Etive, have already ascertained what the residents in Glen Etive would like to see done.

'The next step is to see how we can implement measures discussed and involve the Highland Council and the landowners, one of which is the National Trust for Scotland.

'As the John Muir Trust and others did not think to involve us, we have no idea what decision the meeting held on July 5 came to – if any. However the message from this area to them is that this is a local problem – even if it is a problem which affects many tourist hot-spots – and for the moment



we will deal with it locally.'

Kevin Leland, of the John Muir Trust who was a member of the seminar panel, agrees there should have been more local community involvement.

'The lesson to be learned from Glen Etive is the recognition of shared values

and interests. Broadly speaking, people did not engage well enough with local communities in this instance in order to work together.

'We always put working with local communities as a priority. It is part of our DNA.'

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Morvern Games pulls in the crowds at Lochaline

by Nic Goddard
fot@obantimes.co.uk

Blazened across the front of the programme for the 2019 Morvern Games and Gala Week in both English and Gaelic it says: 'The most scenic Highland Games in Scotland' – which is quite a promise to live up to.

But on Saturday (July 13) the games delivered.

The location was indeed scenic and a day of more perfect Highland games scenes could hardly be imagined.

The sun shone and in the distance lies Mull, with the Fishnish to Lochaline ferry gliding back and forth. A large and happy crowd enjoyed local seafood, venison burgers and drams while cheering on men in kilts tossing cabers and throwing hammers. The



A panoramic view of the games field on Saturday.

Mull and Iona Pipe Band played and Highland dancers performed the fling and sword dances.

The games on Saturday at Knock Park, Lochaline, were the start of a full week of events which ends with the Final Fling Ceilidh at Lochaline village hall being held this Sunday (July 21).

The chieftain of the games and gala week for 2019 is Elizabeth MacDonald, known locally as 'Bibby', and during the chieftain's address, with the games being officially opened in Gaelic, she welcomed everyone for what she called 'Morvern's most important day of the year'.

Speaking as a lifelong

Morvern resident, the chieftain said: 'Even as a school girl I remember the games being a big day. So much has changed over the years but this special day remains the same.'

There were opportunities for all ages and abilities to join in. Children took part in the egg-and-spoon race

or ran a three-legged race, with large numbers participating in the Morvern Mile – including Rusty the dog, who started but went rogue mid-race and left the track pursued by his owner, last seen headed for the sausage van.

Serious athletes competed in flat races, high jump and

long jump, and the heavy events included shot putt, hammer tossing and weight over the bar contests.

The veterans' race for the over-60s had an entrant of 91 years of age and the pipe band race had a surprise winner crossing the finish line just as the runner-up had thrown their hands up in a

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Chieftain of the Games, Elizabeth MacDonald.



victory stance thinking they had won. The wife-carrying race provided much hilarity as hard-hat wearing women were carried across the finish line in a variety of more and less elegant positions.

Alongside the events in the games field there were stalls offering drams of whisky,

bread and cakes, and crafts including handmade baskets, beautiful hand-turned wooden items, seaweed chutney and knitted items.

There was an amazing chainsaw sculpture display, including the live creation of a bench with squirrels carved which will be one of the raffle

prizes at the end of the week.

Live music played in the beer tent and there was a variety of inflatable rides to entertain children. An array of food was on offer, including Isle of Mull burgers, hog roast and items from the Isle of Skye bakery. A Prosecco and Pimms stand

kept everyone refreshed and Mulligan's ice-cream van was in attendance.

Chairperson Riona White provided a highly entertaining commentary to the day over the sound system, keeping all the events running smoothly and announcing two notable new things for

2019 – a brand new caber and a streaker on the pitch as a naked toddler broke free from his parents' grasp and ran across the field.

When not holding the microphone she told the Lochaber Times: 'It's been a great day. The weather has held, it's a fantastic turn-out and it's just

lovely to see everyone mixing and having fun.'

The only Highland presence missing from the scene was the midge – which we doubt anyone missed at all!

A full list of trophy winners from Morvern Games can be found at www.obantimes.co.uk/Lochaber

MacPhail

ANGUS MACPHAIL

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Around New Year, I covered in this column thoughts of my 2019 resolution to free up some days to visit and spend time with people whose company and friendship I have enjoyed, valued and found inspirational over the years.

The drudgery and debris of the insignificant clutter of everyday existence often prevents us from spending our time doing things that are truly important to us. Such was the case with most of the year so far. With the new album and all that entailed and preparation for the Skipinnish 20th anniversary concerts, we had to keep the throttle down and none of my good intentions was acted upon.

Having recently turned 40, the band turning 20, it being 20 years since my father died and many friends passing away over recent years, I have felt converging forces compelling me to act on these intentions and last weekend we did.

I am writing this on Tuesday morning aboard our boat, St Olave, as we pass south of the Gunna Sound bound for Ardmore Point, down the Sound of Mull and back to the mainland. I am down in the accommodation, Andrew is on the wheel and as I feel the boat

cutting through a calm and shimmering sea, I am filled with the magic of these past six days – the places we have been, the tunes we have had and the people with whom we have spent time.

The first leg of the voyage when we left Loch Lochy and came down the canal on Thursday morning set the tone for the rest of the trip.

On board were Andrew's father, David, and two of his friends. Of all the multifaceted and indefinable factors that have allowed Andrew and I to maintain a good working partnership coupled with a close friendship in our 20 years of adventures together, his parents have played a very important role in that.

David often tells me that my articles are full of nonsense and he's not one to enjoy praise so I expect a good ear-bashing for writing this, but one of the best things about having the boat is getting the chance to spend some time with himself. I'll go no further on that other than to say his help in many things and his influence over years is hugely appreciated.

The next day, from Dunstaffnage, I continued alone up to Tobermory where Andrew was joining me on



Saturday morning. Entering Tobermory Bay always fills me with a warm feeling of nostalgia and as I came through the Dorlin Gap on the way in, all the memories of childhood trips across here, music festivals over the years, and my first year living away from home were all flooding through my mind.

The presence of the remains of dad's boat, the Alice Robert, lying below the sea by Calve Island was powerful as I turned to port and headed for the new pontoons. That night the crack and stories were excellent and a lot of them filled with reference to dad and his times in Tobermory long years ago.

Andrew came aboard the next morning and, after loading supplies and fuelling up, we headed to the westward. In next week's column, I'll continue on the voyage.

We missed many friends whom we had hoped to see and there are many other places still to go, and many more people to meet up with but the trip gave a deeply enjoyable few days and has given me an even stronger impetus to make more time to enjoy the human connections that have been the making of our characters and the fibres of our lives.

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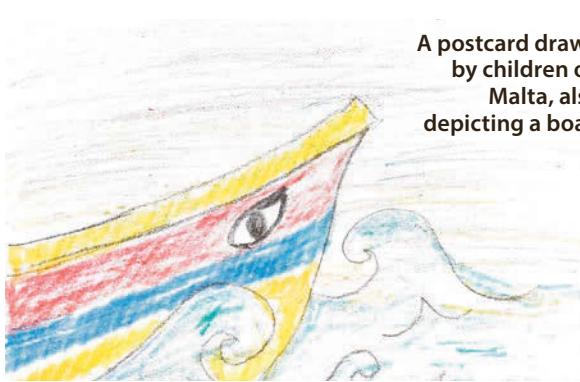
LT

Youngsters from Uist and Malta link up for art project

A postcard created by the youngsters on South Uist.



A postcard drawn by children on Malta, also depicting a boat.



by Mark Entwistle
mentwistle@obantimes.co.uk

The results of an art collaboration between communities on South Uist and Malta are now on display in the Western Isles.

Entitled Islands with Views, it was the brainchild of well-known stick weaving teacher Mary Carol Souness, who spent time on both islands earlier this year running workshops.

These classes, which were viewed as a 'conversation' between the two different islands, saw youngsters involved not just in stick weaving but also in making their own postcards.

In Malta, Mary Carol was hosted by the Gabriel Caruana Foundation at its craft mill venue in Birkirkara, while on South Uist she worked with communities, including two primary schools, a care home and community hub



at Lochboisdale. Mary Carol explained: 'The original idea was to compare two islands of different sizes but in different parts of the world.'

'As well as the stick weaving element, the youngsters were asked to design a postcard that summed up what they would like people to know about their island, as opposed to the more traditional subjects of postcards found in visitor information centres.'

Left, one of the stick weaving sessions on South Uist, and below a session with the Maltese children.

'The installation has already been on display on Malta and is now on show in the Kildonan Museum on South Uist until July 19, after which it will move to Shetland in September.'

'I'm very happy with the way the project turned out.'



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Katie Paterson's art project will be visiting Glenbrittle Beach on Skye.

Photograph: Katie Paterson.

Artist takes mountain sand castle project to Skye

Renowned Scottish artist Katie Paterson is taking her latest art project to the beaches of Skye.

In collaboration with the island's ATLAS Arts group, the First There is a Mountain project will be showcased at Glenbrittle Beach at the base of the island's Black Cuillin mountains on Sunday July 21.

The artist has created a set of 'buckets and spades' in the form of world mountains, from which the public will be invited to build mountains of sand across



Katie Paterson.

the country's coastline and play out the world's natural geography against a series

of tidal times. For the event in Skye, Sophia Kingshill has written The Haunted Sea, which will be read out as part of the event.

'We are really looking forward to being part of this participatory project by one of Scotland's most exciting artists,' said Shona Cameron, producer at Skye arts group ATLAS Arts.

First There is a Mountain has already visited Coll Beach on Isle of Lewis and Baleshare Beach, North Uist, and will be at Calgary Beach on the Isle of Mull on July 28.

LETTERS

Write to us: send your letters to editor@obantimes.co.uk
or The Editor, PO Box 1, Oban, Argyll PA34 4HB

Belford Hospital deserves praise for waiting times

We are pleased to able to report this week that the shorter waiting times for surgical procedures at Belford Hospital are attracting people from across the Highlands to Fort William for their operations.

NHS Highland says patients prepared to travel can significantly reduce their waiting times for procedures by choosing to have their care carried out at other NHS Highland hospitals rather than the Raigmore in Inverness.

Dr Katrina Gannon, a consultant anaesthetist at the Belford, said it was not unusual for patients from across Highland to come to Fort William for their procedures.

The town is lucky indeed to have such a centre of excellence that is the Belford Hospital and we commend the staff, medical and administrative, for their efforts on all our behalves.

Review of ferry services is required urgently

The weekend just passed was notable for many reasons, one of which was the degree of disruption to ferry services.

The cause was identified as a breakdown for the MV Isle of Lewis, which resulted in the CalMac fleet being overstretched.

Now Brian Wilson, the former Scottish Office minister, is calling for an independent review of current and future issues affecting west coast ferry services.

Mr Wilson was quick to exonerate CalMac and its staff as, he said, 'the causes are largely outside their control'.

He added: 'Making and mending on a daily basis repeatedly puts the ball back in CalMac's court though they now have no involvement in procurement or design of vessels, or even capacity.'

We support the call for a review.

Airbnb short-term lets benefit the local economy

I write in reference to last week's Lochaber Times front page, with one of the main themes being family evictions from privately rented properties which are then used for Airbnb purposes.

Shocking, indeed. The Private Housing (Tenancies) Act (Scotland) 2016 states that responsible tenants in rented properties in Scotland can only be asked to leave if the landlord intends to move into the property him/herself or if s/he intends to sell it.

Therefore, forcing families out is illegal. I would be interested to see how many local families this has affected and if there were other factors involved, such as rent arrears or not looking after the property.

Families or tenants who find themselves in a position like this have every right to take their landlords to task and I think this is something you should have included in your article. However, instead it suggests that Airbnb is damaging our community.

I agree, wholeheartedly, that short-term let hosts should adhere to certain rules, they should not be antisocial, they should comply with legalisation in terms of fire regulations and so on, and they should certainly be paying tax.

I would like to see you include in your newspaper information on how short-term lets are improving our locality. They provide employment for people with young families, who otherwise can't really afford to work, given the cost of childcare, and they ensure money is kept and circulated in our community, thus hugely improving the local economy.

I would bet that short-term rentals have improved more Lochaber lives than they have ruined. What a lovely, feelgood, community-spirited story to publish. After all, it's lovely to see a community prosper and even nicer to see that in the local paper.

And, yes, I am a responsible and community-minded Airbnb host who wouldn't dream of evicting anyone for my own gain.

Siobhan Maclean, by email.

Airbnb has brought about long-term pain already

Your editorial notes that there may be a conundrum over Airbnb suggesting that short-term gain will result in long-term pain.

YOUR PICTURES



We are experiencing the pain already. I was pleased to see the matter being raised by the Fort William Community Council and the Fort William Accommodation Marketing Group (FWAMG).

As members of the Chamber of Commerce ourselves, I do feel they need to take a firmer line than regarding Airbnb as simply 'a new route to market'; the economy and most of their members must already be affected adversely.

The situation regarding short-term lets in

Edinburgh is well documented with their council leading the calls for regulation. But their Chamber is similarly anodyne, 'wanting to work in partnership to promote responsible home-sharing which empowers families to make life more affordable'.

Last year VisitScotland launched a strategic partnership with Airbnb and estimated short-term lets account for around five per cent of tourist accommodation. (Should VisitScotland be in a partnership with an unregulated sector when it runs the main quality

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DISTRICT NEWS

PLOCKTON

The second Moore Bowl race for local boats was held on June 29 and saw Alexander Mackenzie (Ajax) cross the finishing line in first place, followed by, in second and third place respectively, Michael Hay and Neil MacRae.

The winner of this race also wins the Duirnish Tankard. The second Dubhaidh Trophy race for centre-boards was held three hours later and saw Michael Hay (Die Forelle) take top spot, with Lauren Glasgow (Fantas) and Ian Taylor (Solo), second and third respectively.

Plockton Primary School held its annual sports at the paddock opposite the school on a lovely sunny day.

On Friday June 28, the temperature at Plockton soared to a sweltering 28C. Last year, the hottest day was 27C on May 28.

Johanna Maclean sells her plants every year in aid of Blythswood Care and this year she raised £1,045.

At the European Pipe Band Championship in Inverness in June, Lochalsh Junior Pipe Band came second in its category, novice juvenile A.

The previous Saturday they piped Neil and Clair MacRae along Harbour Street in Plockton after their wedding.

Plockton villagers were saddened by the death of George Glasgow, of Harbour Street, after a short illness. He was 80 years old and was a very popular member of the community. Sympathy is expressed to relatives.

The village was also sorry to hear of the death of Johannes Dirk van Woerden in Inverness, who spent many years at Bank Street, Plockton.

PORTREE

The Scottish Farms Advisory Service is offering an Introduction to Auction Marts at Portree Mart on Monday July 22, from 10am to 3.30pm.

The event is designed for those who have not yet bought or sold through a mart, as well as those who would like to build a little confidence

Lochaber Yacht Club helps get young sailors afloat

At the end of June, Lochaber Yacht Club hosted a very successful visit by the pre-school pupils of St Columba's RC Primary in Caol. This is following the shore-based visit in February to tie in with the youngsters working on a project on boats. The children sailed across the loch to have a picnic on the Treslaig shore. 'Everyone enjoyed steering the dinghies and the RIBs then paddling on the way back since the wind was light. The sunshine made the excursion all the more successful,' said the club's commodore, Hamish Loudon.



around sale day. Sale days are busy, noisy and can be stressful, but they are also fun, exciting and a great social occasion.

Speakers from Dingwall and Highland Marts and consultants from the Scottish Agricultural College will run through the whole process, from choosing and preparing sale stock, through the practicalities of getting stock organised at the mart, selling them through the ring and how to collect sale money.

Activities will be both on croft and at the Portree Mart, so suitable clothing and footwear that can be disinfected should be worn. Lunch is provided, but booking is essential

for catering. To book visit www.fas.scot/events.

CANNA

Readers of The Guardian newspaper recently placed Café Canna in their list of the 20 best seaside cafes in the UK. Helen Brazier writes: 'It takes some effort to reach the Isle of Canna, where the tiny population is hugely outnumbered by seabirds.'

'With only a handful of houses scattered around the deep harbour, it was a delight to discover Café Canna.' Visitors were impressed by Gareth's ethos of using locally grown and harvested produce.

MORVERN

Lochaber MSP Kate Forbes has welcomed £6,000 funding from Highlands and Islands Enterprise to the Morvern Community Woodlands (MCW) group.

MCW will now conduct a new economic impact assessment, having already registered an interest under the Scottish Government's Community Right to Buy legislation to purchase the 2,392-hectare Killundine Estate.

Ms Forbes met with the group and visited part of the estate earlier in the year. She said she was delighted to see their plans progress to the

next step. 'This is a significant development for the Morvern community as Highlands and Islands Enterprise provides support to take the buy-out one step further,' she said.

'It is a unique opportunity to acquire land and assets, in a place which has long battled against depopulation.'

'There are many good things happening locally and in recent years there have been significant developments such as the pontoons in Lochaline.'

'However, it still stands that communities in Morvern are landlocked and it is great to see this group push ahead to change that.'



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2 Fernoch Cottage, Kilmichael Glen, by Lochgilphead, PA31 8RL
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O.I.R.O: £110,000
Home Report Available EPC Rating: E37



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- Countryside views
- Large garden
- Semi-detached
- 2-bedrooms

O.I.R.O: £110,000

This 2-bedroom semi-detached cottage is located in the peaceful setting of Kilmichael Glen and sits within a large, beautifully maintained garden. Accommodation consists of Lounge, dining room, kitchen, bathroom and 2 double bedrooms. The property further benefits from an entrance porch, currently used as a study, with mezzanine level. Early viewing of this property is highly recommended.

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Appeal to look out for dead wasps in Lochaber

Highland Biological Group is asking members of the community to look out for dead wasps.

The group is working with High Life Countryside Rangers and libraries to gather information about wasps in the local area. The information is especially important in more remote parts of the Highland.

Yellow-jacket wasps are usually unpopular, though social wasps are an important part of our ecosystem. Wasps can tell ecologists a great deal about the environmental changes.

The group is asking members of the public to contribute to the project by collecting dead wasps, whether in the house or in the countryside, and bringing them to your local library.

Collections can be brought in containers or envelopes, with a



Lawrie Byrne handing a found wasp to countryside ranger Fiona Maclean.

note of the place where the wasp was found and the date. Both Fort William and Caol libraries are accepting contributions.

You can also sign up to the national Big Wasp Survey, which involves setting beer-traps for seven days in

August to attract foraging workers, at www.bigwaspssurvey.org.

Fiona Maclean, High Life Countryside Ranger for Lochaber, said: 'This is a great opportunity to get involved with The Recorder's Year. There is a gap in the biological

records for the Fort William area for all wildlife, so people could record anything that interests them, anything from frogspawn to daddy-long-legs. Just get in touch with the rangers at the libraries for more information.'

Newly-elected district governor visits Lochaber Rotary

Jimmy Johnston, the newly-elected district governor for Glasgow and West of Scotland, was the principal guest at the Lochaber Rotary Club's business lunch meeting last week.

In a brief but powerful 15-minute presentation, he told members he was pleased to be in Lochaber and he was 'blown away by the range of community projects and activities' undertaken by the local club.

Mr Johnston added: 'What you have done this last session – young chef national finalist, poetry competition, huge Christmas festival, annual charity golf match, three-



Lochaber Rotary president Clive Talbot, right, with district governor Jimmy Johnston.

day supermarket bag-packing and on and on – should make you feel proud and I extend a massive well done to your club.'

Mr Johnston then continued: 'As an organisation, we need to increase our impact, expand our reach, engage in a changing

environment – both locally and nationally – and increase our ability to adapt to change.'

Club president Clive Talbot thanked Mr Johnston for his inspiring speech and added: 'Being on the rural peripheries of the Rotary District, we tend to operate in a bubble.'

'It's good to engage at district level and we appreciate your support and encouragement.'

Also at the meeting as guests were Wolfgang Spitt from the Rotary Club of Stralsund Hansestadt in Germany and his wife Annette Held.

WHAT'S ON in Lochaber

Off Beat Bikes are offering a free electric bike test day today, Thursday July 18, at its shop on Fort William High Street.

There will be guided rides, lasting up to 45 minutes, at 1pm, 3pm and 5pm.

Electric bikes can be a fast and ecologically friendly way of getting about and this is a great opportunity to try one out for yourself.

Dr Martin Taylor MBE, called 'the acoustic guitarist of his generation', will be playing a special concert in aid of local charity Ewen's Room, at the Sunart Centre tomorrow, Friday July 19, at 8pm.

Dr Taylor is widely considered to be the world's foremost exponent of solo jazz and fingerstyle guitar playing.

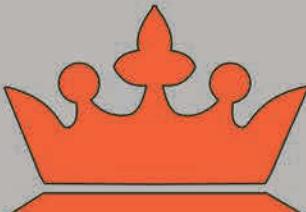
His style has earned him global acclaim from fellow musicians, fans and critics alike. Tickets are available in local shops and online at www.sunartcentre.org.

Fort William Board Mania tabletop games club is running during the school holidays, and will be at the new venue of Fort William Football Club's premises in Claggan, on Wednesday July 24, from 2pm-4pm.

Entry is £2 for first child, £1 each additional sibling – adults are free but must stay to accompany their children. For further info www.facebook.com/groups/fwboardmania

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FOOTBALL

New youth training jackets



Senior team player, Michael Gillespie of G Welding, presented Fort William FC's P5 and P6 youth teams with training jackets to help them look extra smart in the coming season. Photo: Iain Ferguson, alba.photos.

Heavy defeat for Mallaig

Sleat & Strath	5
Mallaig	1
Ross Cup - quarter final	

League leaders Mallaig were dumped out of the Ross Cup on Saturday by Sleat and Strath.

Five goals were enough for the Skye side to beat their Lochaber rivals at

BOWLS

Distillery Pairs winners



Winners of the Ben Nevis Distillery Nominated Pairs held on Sunday in bright sunshine at the Fort William Railway Club green in Inverlochy (left to right) Keith Brannagan and Robert Hunter, and runners-up Eddie Downs and John MacIntyre. Photo: Anthony MacMillan

LOTTERY NUMBERS

Lochaber club lotteries

Fort William Golf Club's lotto numbers last week were 6, 7 and 14. There were no winners this week. The prize for the draw today, Thursday July 18, will be £400.

Ballachulish Shinty Club's lottery numbers last week were 12, 18 and 19. There was no winner this week. Next week's jackpot will be £600.

The numbers in the Caol Regeneration Lotto this week were 1, 19 and 20. There was one winner, Kathleen Leitch, who won



the £400 jackpot. Next week's prize will be £100.

The result of the Lochaber Camanachd Club lotto draw on Tuesday, July 2 was 2, 8, 19. There were no winners. The numbers on Tuesday, July 9 were 6, 7, 8 with no winners again. The prize for next week is £400.

McFall golf day raises more than £4,000 for charity

GOLF

The fine weekend weather saw more than 100 golfers taking to the greens of Fort William Golf Club for the annual McFall Funeral Directors Charity Day Texas Scramble.

The event had been postponed from last month when torrential rain and flooding made the course unplayable, although sun tan lotion rather than umbrellas featured in many golf bags this time.

Winners: Andrew (Toon) Brown, Cal Brown, John Byrne and Brian Stewart Snr. Runners-up: Lewis Corbett, Kevin Ferguson, Mark MacPherson and Brian Stewart Jnr. Third Place: Darren Quigg, Garry Dunlop, Gareth Lee and Robert MacMillan Ladies' winners: Rosemary MacIntyre, Ann Lovat and Iona Cameron.

The day was sponsored by Jamie Manson and Beth MacBeath of McFall Funeral Directors, Inverlochy, and raised a outstanding amount of £4,626 for local charity Lochaber Hope.



Winning captains and competitors from the Mike McFall golf tournament with funeral directors Beth MacBeath (left) with her granddaughter and Jamie Manson (right). Photo: Abrightside Photography.

Results from Fort William Golf Club

On Tuesday June 5, a 12-hole Stableford competition was played with the following result: 1 Galen Dalziel, 28 points. 2 Andrew Brown, 26 points. 3 Neil Young, 25 points.

On Saturday June 29, the Neil Hardie Trophy was played for with the following result: 1 Brian Stewart Jnr, 41 points. 2 Andrew Brown, 38 points BIH. 3 Sinclair Gunn, 38 points.

On Tuesday July 2, a 12-hole Stableford competition was played with the following result: 1 Andrew Brown, 26 points. 2 Paddy MacPherson, 25 points (BIH). 3 Peter Stewart, 25 points.

On Saturday July 6, the senior July medal was played with the following result: 1 David MacDonald, net 69 (83 - 14). 2 Scott Dingwall, net 76 (92 - 16). 3 Grayham Hayden, net 87 (112- 25).

Section Two - 1 Stuart Manson, net 74 (93 - 19). 2 Frank Sweeney, net 78 (95 - 17). 3 Phil Bradley, net 91 (109 - 18).

On Sunday July 7, the senior July medal was played with the following result: 1 David MacDonald, net 69 (83 - 14). 2 Scott Dingwall, net 76 (92 - 16). 3 Grayham Hayden, net 87 (112- 25).

On Saturday July 13, the Campbell Homes White Box

strokeplay competition was played with the following result: 1 Kevin Ferguson, net 56 (73 - 17). 2 Ronald MacDonald, net 69 (81 - 12). 3 David MacPherson, net 71 (77 - 6).

Ladies: On Tuesday July 2, a 12-hole Stableford competition was played with the following result: 1 Kim Topping, 27 points. 2 Iona Cameron, 20 points. 3 Kathleen Leitch, 19 points.

On Saturday July 6, the Howie Trophy was played with the following result: 1 Rosemary MacIntyre, net 72 (84 - 12). 2 Kathleen Leitch, net 74 (91 - 17).

On Saturday July 13, the annual inter-club match to play for the Inverlochy Castle Tray was played at Fort William Golf Club. The result was as follows: 1 Triagh, 85 points. 2 Fort William, 84 points. 3 Spean Bridge, 74 points.



Fort William Golf Club.

Friends take on Three Peaks for James Tangney

by Iain Ferguson

Four local sportsmen and friends of Fort William shinty player James Tangney, who suffered serious spinal injuries in an accident while in India, are shortly setting off on a major fundraising campaign to help him with treatment costs.

Shinty players and footballers Bryan Simpson, Darren Quigg, Craig Forbes and Ross Wilson, who will be the driver and chef, will start a Three Peaks challenge on August 8, by running up Mount Snowdon, then Scafell Pike and finally Ben Nevis with the aim of completing the task in under 24 hours.

Immediately after tackling Ben Nevis, the runners will attend a race night at Fort William Shinty Club with all money going to meet ongoing costs related to James's rehab and recovery.

Businesses Duncan Kelly Design, Sunny's Sports Bar, McDonald's Fort William and LEAP have helped fund

FOOTBALL

travel and set up costs, with other companies also making donations to the event. Donations are also coming from far and wide through a dedicated JustGiving site.

'I just want to say I am completely overwhelmed by the generosity and kindness shown by the whole community,' said James Tangney. 'So many people that I personally don't know very well have donated and passed on their well wishes through friends and family it really is eye opening how decent and generous the people of Fort William are.'

'My progression is a slow, long process but I'm continuing on an upward course. With spinal cord injuries, there are a lot of different factors outside just losing the ability to walk that I continue to work through as well. I just need to keep working hard and pushing myself to recover as best as I can.'



James Tangney (centre) with Three Peaks team (left to right) Craig Forbes, Darren Quigg, Ross Wilson and Bryan Simpson.

Photo: Iain Ferguson, alba.photos.

Jags hold their own in D&K Cup

South Lochaber Thistle made the short journey to Oban last Saturday to take part in the six-team round-robin D&K Cup tournament.

Other teams taking part along with SLT were Hamilton Accies, Dundee United, Alloa Athletic, St Anthony's and hosts Oban Saints.

First up for the Jags at Mossfield Stadium was the local derby against Saints with the Oban side edging a close game 2-1. Martin Munro was on target for SLT.

Creditable

Last year's tournament winners Dundee United, coached by Dave Bowman and former Aberdeen and Hibs midfielder Brian Grant were the next opponents with the Kinlochleven side again putting up a creditable performance in a 2-0 defeat.

The wheels came off the bus a wee bit in the third game when they went down 4-1 to an impressive Hamilton Accies side coached by George Cairns and Dougie Imrie, who was an Accies first team player last season. Eric Tot scored for SLT.

Next up for the Lochaber outfit was a game against



South Lochaber's Martin Munro closes in on his Hamilton Accies opponent.

Glasgow junior side St Anthony's with the Ants coming out on top by virtue of a 2-0 win.

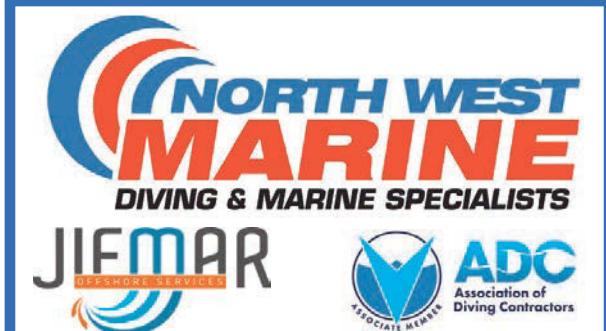
South Lochaber saved their best performance till the last game when they defeated Alloa Athletic 3-1 thanks to goals from Andy Mclean (2) and Davie Forbes.

The last game of the day was the decider with Dundee United taking on Hamilton Accies. United just need a point and Accies had to win.

This was a closely-fought encounter with no quarter asked or given and it looked as though United would get the point they needed until 60

seconds from time when an Accies' triallist stepped up to hammer the ball home from close range to give Hamilton the 1-0 win which was good enough to take the trophy back to New Douglas Park.

FOOTBALL



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WEATHER

Thursday
Light rain showers and a moderate breeze
Temperatures 12°C to 16°C.

Friday
Light rain and a gentle breeze
Temperatures 12°C to 17°C.

Weekend Outlook

Saturday
Sunny intervals and a gentle breeze
Sunday
Light rain showers and a gentle breeze
Temperatures 13°C to 18°C.



TIDAL INFORMATION

Tide tables for Oban during the week from **Thursday July 11, 2019** are listed below with differences for major ports listed on the right. All times are GMT (add one hour BST)

Thur	00.37	1.1	06.26	3.6
	12.53	1.0	18.47	3.9
Fri	01.16	1.2	07.01	3.6
	13.29	1.0	19.23	3.9
Sat	01.53	1.2	07.35	3.6
	14.04	1.1	19.58	3.8
Sun	02.29	1.3	08.08	3.5
	14.38	1.3	20.33	3.7
Mon	03.06	1.5	08.41	3.4
	15.11	1.4	21.08	3.5
Tues	03.43	1.6	09.15	3.3
	15.46	1.6	21.45	3.4
Wed	04.26	1.7	09.54	3.1
	16.26	1.7	22.28	3.2

Tidal Constants: (Add or deduct from High Water at Oban)

Ardrishaig	-5.35	Mallaig	+0.25
Campbeltown	-5.30	Portree	+0.55
Crinan	-0.47	Tobermory	+0.16
Islay Port Ellen	2.00	Dover	+5.30
Lochboisdale	+0.30		

Ferry Crossings/Sea States

Oban to Barra/South Uist	Moderate
Oban to Coll/Tiree	Moderate
Kennacraig to Islay	Moderate

Chain, shackles and buoys all available to purchase.

INSIDE THIS WEEK:

Friends take on Three Peaks for James Tangney

Golf day raises more than £4k for charity

NORTH WEST MARINE
DIVING & MARINE SPECIALISTS
SPONSORS OF THE OBAN TIMES WEATHER AND TIDES - SEE PAGE 63

Super Es breaks the Ramsay Round record

by Neil Bo Finlayson
fort@obantimes.co.uk

The prospect of scaling 24 Lochaber peaks across 58 miles in 24 hours would make even the hardiest of hill runners quiver.

To do so in just over 16 hours would seem nigh impossible.

However, that is exactly what Banavie runner Es Tresidder did on Saturday July 6, when he set off from Glen Nevis at 3am to run the Ramsay Round, the classic hill-running challenge that takes in Ben Nevis, the Aonachs, the Grey Corries, the Easains and the Mamores.

Not only did Tresidder complete the route, he ran it in a blistering time of 16 hours, 12 minutes, 32 seconds, narrowly beating the previous record, set by Jasmin Paris in 2016, by just 81 seconds.



Es Tresidder.



Es Tressider (left) leading the way on Mullach nan Coirean. Photo: Eoin Lennon.

After a sprint finish to the line, the Lochaber athlete felt the end result was a bit too close for comfort.

'I wasn't expecting to break it by such a small margin,' Tresidder told the Lochaber Times. 'I thought I would either beat it quite a lot, say half an hour or so, or I would be way off it.'

Despite this feat, Tresidder, a one-time record holder for the Cuillin Ridge, is not accustomed to this level of distance running.

'I've only done a handful of runs over four or five hours before and usually they ended quite badly with me just hitting the wall. I kind of went into the Ramsay Round thinking "If it goes well, I've

got a shot at the record" but then, with past experience, it may not go well.'

When asked what the difference was this time round, Tresidder put it down to preparation, eating more food and living in Lochaber.

'The things I've done before I think I didn't prepare for them as well,' he said. 'Living locally has obviously helped with that as I was able to do some seven-hour runs in the lead up. I was actually a lot more diligent with what I ate and made sure I was eating enough.'

And by that I had to eat around 300 calories an hour, which sounds easy but actually very hard when you're running.'

It was all paying off for

the Lochaber athlete who remained within touching distance of the record throughout the day. Previous record holder Jasmin Paris actually turned out to pace Tresidder's run at one stage, which exemplified the mutual respect and support in the sport.

'I know in a normal race I'd be confident of beating Jasmin but she's really fast over longer distances. So I kind of went into it with an open mind. The whole of the Grey Corries I was running with Jasmin and I was really trying to get a margin between my time and her previous record.'

By the time he reached the summit of Ben Nevis,

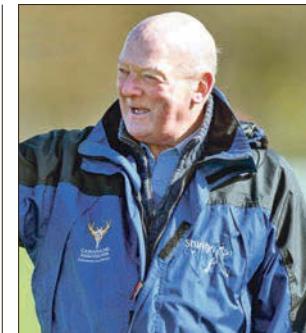
ATHLETICS

Tresidder was nine minutes up on Paris's time. With this new margin, and as light started to fade, Tresidder opted for a more careful descent of Britain's highest mountain, which eventually cost him almost five minutes. This made for a nerve-racking finish for Tresidder as he had a 'full-out sprint' in the final few minutes to nab the record.

Tresidder, a Passivhaus designer who specialises in designing environmentally-friendly houses, also used the run as a chance to raise more than £600 for two local causes: Friends of Banavie Park and Extinction Rebellion. Visit Es Tresidder's JustGiving crowdfunding page for more details.



Es pictured in action for Lochaber Athletic Club in last year's Ben Nevis Race.



Billy MacLachlan on duty as a Camanachd Association match assessor.

Shinty club campaign to rename road after Billy MacLachlan

SHINTY

Lochaber Camanachd Club are campaigning to rename the road leading to their pitch at Spean Bridge after the late Billy MacLachlan.

The former councillor, who died 18 months ago, was a stalwart of Lochaber shinty and is remembered with great regard throughout the Highlands.

'As a tribute to Billy it has been suggested that we officially name the road leading to his favourite place on earth, the Spean Bridge Shinty Field, in his honour,' said Aeleen Campbell of Lochaber Camanachd Club.

The club was started a crowdfunding campaign to raise £650 to carry out the renaming process. Details can be found on Lochaber Camanach Club Facebook page and the JustGiving campaign page.



Summer SIZZLER

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