



**Muddy good day at Appin Agricultural Show**



**Shinty Memories could start up in Oban**

**WIN**



**A luxury stay in the hidden highlands**



**A Stranraer Oyster Festival break**

# Oban High is struggling to recruit teaching staff

by David McPhee

dmcphoe@obantimes.co.uk



Like many other secondary schools this summer, Oban High is struggling to fill teaching vacancies.

The school is currently looking to fill four positions – in home economics, English, art and technical.

While Argyll and Bute Council is proactive in its approach to recruitment, offering support such as relocation packages and staff accommodation, the issue has raised concern among parents, with some fearing their children will miss out on vital classes.

Before a letter was sent to parents from head teacher Peter Bain, some took to social media to voice their dismay.

One said: 'This is two days into term. Why are parents not informed and why are classes not covered?'

With no suitable applications to date, and no applications at all in home economics, some timetables

have been amended. There are enough teachers to cover English and technical and only one period of art will be impacted. However, S1 and S2 pupils will be taught conversational Spanish and sport science instead of home economics until a new teacher is appointed.

In a letter to parents, Mr Bain said: 'All art classes with the exception of a single period of S1 art will be covered by an art specialist. The single period will be covered internally.'

**Qualified**

'S2 home economics is more difficult to cover and so rather than have multiple classes covered by a qualified teacher but non-specialist, S2 classes will be temporarily relocated to another subject.'

Mr Bain added: 'The summer term is when most teachers retire, get promoted or move schools. Some of these vacancies are known in advance, for example a retirement; others come late in the day, like a promotion in another school.'

'All education staff across all

local authorities, especially in Argyll and Bute, care about our children's futures. That doesn't mean we can knit teachers though.'

While other industries in Oban are struggling to recruit staff due to a lack of accommodation, the high school offers shared accommodation to help teachers settle in the area. The house, which is in Oban, consists of five bedrooms, a living and dining room, as well as male and female bathrooms.

A spokesperson for Argyll and Bute Council said: 'Across Scotland, local authorities are facing difficulties in the recruitment of teaching staff and promoted staff.'

'Argyll and Bute Council is being proactive by offering support such as relocation packages and highlights social rented housing opportunities where available stock exists, and we work with appropriate teacher recruitment agencies to identify potential appointees. Oban High is also unique as it has staff accommodation.'

## Let the Games begin...



Organisers were busy putting up the marquees at Mossfield on Tuesday in preparation for today's 148th Argyllshire Gathering's Oban Games. Among those working on the site were Alasdair Cameron and Paul Nicoll. The event kicks off with the March of the Stewards from Station Square at 10.30am. For the full story, turn to page 14.

## Flooring solutions by Mathesons



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OT

## Rafters on course to make waves at fundraiser

A new route has been devised for the Great Oban Raft Race, allowing spectators to witness the adventures on the high seas from the same view point this Saturday.

The annual fundraiser, organised by Oban and Lorn Lions Club, is one of the highlights in the town's calendar, with all proceeds going towards the Lions' charity fund.

All the usual skulduggery is expected as the vessels set sail from George Street beach at approximately 1.30pm.

Jim Edge of the Lions Club said: 'All rafts must be homemade and propelled by oar-type paddles and/or homemade sails. And, as this is a raft race, all crews must be on it, not in it – so no ca-

noe-style crafts. The weather looks fine, although it doesn't really matter as I suspect everyone will be getting wet anyway.'

Winners for the last three years, Oban Distillery, are likely to have a few chasers this year, while newbies Marks and Spencer are expected in 'not just a raft'.

Returning after a lengthy absence, and hoping to make a splash in their own publication next week, are the Oban Times team.

A raffle will also be available, with Autoglass Oban providing a clue to the prize within the design of their raft.

Entries are still open – £10 per raft and £5 per crew member, with registration from noon on Saturday.

## Robbery accused remanded

A 51-year-old man accused of assault and robbery appeared in Oban Sheriff Court on Monday August 19.

Simon Douglas, of no fixed

abode, made no plea and was remanded in custody for further examination.

He is scheduled to appear back in court within the next eight days.

# Man left footprints on woman's neck in 'shocking' assault

A Dunbeg man who left his footprints on an ex-partner's head and neck during a 'shocking' assault which caused her to black-out, has been jailed for 18 months.

Sentencing Thomas Barr last week, Oban Sheriff Patrick Hughes told the court it was 'the most serious and shocking abuse' case on a partner he had heard.

Barr, 37, from Castle Road, Dunbeg, was found guilty of assaulting the woman by punching her on her head, repeatedly kicking her on her head and body, placing a lit cigarette against her hand and putting his foot against her neck, causing her to lose consciousness.

He was also found guilty of repeatedly sending her texts

between May 27 and July 2 this year while under bail conditions not to.

The texts included asking to meet up, asking her to make contact, offering her money and saying he knew she would not attend court to give evidence against him.

Sheriff Hughes told the court he had no hesitation in finding Barr's victim to be 'an honest person, telling the truth' whose evidence was born out by the physical injuries that matched exactly what she said.

He told the court it was a guilty verdict on the assault charge and that the verdict on the second charge of sending texts was as libeled.

Barr was sentenced to 12 months for the assault plus

six months for committing it while on bail for another assault.

He was also sentenced to four months for the texts charge, ordered to be served concurrently.

Barr's brother and mother were in court.

His defence solicitor Ruben Murdanaigum had earlier pleaded with the sheriff to let him go to a specialist rehabilitation centre, arranged by his mother, instead of prison.

'The court will have to consider sending him to prison but with the support of his brother and his mother my submission is that he's not someone who should just be thrown away.'

'He could be worked with and become a good and

decent member of society,' said Mr Murdanaigum who added: 'He is to be punished and punishment takes different forms.'

'Sending him to prison, he would come back having learned nothing.'

Mr Murdanaigum made a point that Barr's mother had found what happened to her son's ex-partner 'disgusting'.

The court also heard how Barr had 'a very long list of convictions' and in most of them, drink had been involved.

The court was also told how 'things' had not been easy in Barr's family life and that he had also assaulted his father to the extent he was paraplegic and had been in hospital since.



## Search ongoing for East Lothian man missing in Loch Awe

The search for a man missing after a boat capsized in Loch Awe on Saturday was ongoing, as The Oban Times went to press.

Kieran Cowan, left, 23,

from Prestonpans, was one of three men involved.

Two other men on the boat were able to swim to a nearby island and raise the alarm. The pair, aged 23 and 27, were

rescued and taken to Lorn and Islands Hospital in Oban before being discharged.

Officers from Police Scotland, the Scottish Fire and Rescue Service,

the Scottish Ambulance Service, the Maritime and Coastguard Agency and Oban Mountain Rescue Team attended Loch Awe after the boat capsized

around 4.40pm on Saturday. A Police Scotland spokesperson told The Oban Times that members of its Dive and Marine Unit had been assisting the search since Monday.

**Travelling with your Dog**

Road trips in the car can be fun for the whole family including your pet. Check out our travel tips for keeping your dog happy during car journeys.

**MAKE A STOP**

Make lots of stops along the way to let your dog stretch their legs, have a drink and some fresh air. Always ensure your dog is on a lead when out of the car!

**HEAT!**

NEVER leave your dog in a vehicle if you are making a stop during the journey. Temperatures inside cars can rise extremely quickly and cause heat stress, dehydration and even death.

**MOTION SICKNESS**

This can be caused by the anxiety of travelling in the car, which is why it is important to practice travelling in the car and always making journeys fun. If appropriate avoid feeding your dog at least 2 hours before you journey... This will reduce nausea when travelling.

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# Whisky boss banned from driving

A whisky shop boss has been banned from driving for 15 months after he was found to be more than four times over the drink-drive limit.

Euan Finlayson, 36, from Kilbowie House, Gallanach Road, appeared at Oban Sheriff Court last week and plead guilty to having 100 microgrammes of alcohol in 100 millilitres of breath, when the limit

is 22 microgrammes. If he successfully passes a drink driver rehabilitation course the ban will be reduced to 12 months. He must also pay a £750 fine and his licence will be endorsed.

The court heard how earlier this year Finlayson had parked his car in George Street just round the corner from his Oban Whisky and Fine Wines

business in Stafford Street. He got caught up with customers and did not get a chance to go back to move his car. When he discovered he had been given a ticket, it upset him.

He had already been drinking a strong whisky in the shop, Sheriff Patrick Hughes was told.

Finlayson decided to move the car from just a few metres

away to a pedestrian area outside his shop and put up a sign saying 'No Parking Restrictions Here!'.

The plan was to leave the car there overnight while he went out for drinks.

But other matters overtook him when police on duty spotted the vehicle and the notice on it and went into the shop to ask about it.

Officers immediately

noticed Finlayson was under the influence of drink. At first he refused a breath test, but police checked shop cameras which revealed timings and details of him leaving and coming back from moving the car.

It also showed 'a stumble here and there'.

He was asked a second time to give a breath test, which he failed.

## POLICE FILES

### Break-in

Sometime between 11pm on Monday August 12 and 9am the following day, Kilchurn Castle Shop, Loch Awe, was broken into and items stolen. During the same period, a cable between a catering van and a generator was cut at Kilchurn Castle.

### Abusive

Following a report of a person behaving in an abusive manner at Fearnoch Forest, Taynuilt, around noon on Monday August 15, a man, aged 63, was charged and issued with a recorded police warning.

### Drugs

A woman, aged 40, was charged with allegedly possessing heroin in Quarry Road, Oban, about 8.45pm on Friday August 16. A report will be submitted to the procurator fiscal.

### Disturbance

A glass door panel in licensed premises in Oban was smashed at 6.45pm on Sunday August 18.

# Oban High School Pipe Band crowned Champion of Champions

Oban High School Pipe Band was crowned Grade 3B champion of champions at the World Pipe Band Championship in Glasgow last weekend.

The band finished second in their grade on Saturday, losing out to Tullylagan on the day, but with the most points from this year's five major competitions, the Oban pupils were crowned champions. Oban have been consistently good this season and won the Grade 3 category in the European Championships in Inverness at the end of June.



Head teacher Peter Bain said: High's Grade 3B Pipe Band. 'Congratulations to Oban Due to their magnificent

performances and success across the competing season,

they were crowned Champion of Champions. Our Novice/Juvenile B Band also competed in their first World Championships and were placed 13 out of 21 competing bands – a remarkable achievement for such a young band.'

This year's Grade 1 world champions were Inveraray and District Pipe Band, with Field Marshal Montgomery second. For the last four years, the two bands have been trading first and second place, with St Laurance O'Toole taking third for the fourth year in a row.

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OT

## Top classical musicians head to Seil

Netherlorn Music Scheme will host its first public event next week, welcoming Scotland's foremost chamber musicians The Scottish Ensemble to the island.

Organisers hope to pack Seil Hall for a free lunchtime recital at 1.15pm on Friday August 30, featuring Norwegian violinist Marianne Thorsen as guest director. Donations will be invited to help the scheme's development.

The Ensemble, visiting for one day, will be performing one of Mendelssohn's most loved chamber music works – his Octet, opus 20 (1825). He wrote it aged 16 as a birthday gift for his friend and violin teacher, Eduard Ritz.

The idea behind The Netherlorn Music Scheme is to trade free accommodation for week-long residencies in return for musicians' community involvement and a performance.

To find out more about supporting The Netherlorn Music Scheme, email nems2019@btinternet.com



Oban Sailing Club's Monday Mayhem group try out their new helmets.

16\_T34\_sailingclub01-newhelmets

## Seil sale supports Royal British Legion

The president of Royal British Legion Scotland is visiting Seil this Saturday to open the Easdale branch's annual sale.

The event on August 24 is from noon to 3pm at Seil Island Hall with General Sir Alastair Irwin doing the honours. Over the last few years the branch has raised thousands of pounds for the Veterans Charities and Poppy

Scotland. Branch secretary Jean Alexander said: '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.'

## Charity gives Oban Sailing Club a safety heads up

Young sailors in Oban will be safer and warmer on the water thanks to a charity donating 18 helmets.

Oban Sailing Club's Monday Mayhem group met up with Argyll Beats Cardiovascular Disease (ABCD) representatives this week to say thank you for the £360 that paid for the helmets.

Set up in 2000 by a group of volunteers, ABCD has since raised more than £250,000 to support projects across Argyll, encouraging people to get fit and stay active to beat heart disease.

'It's a fantastic gesture that

will help us get more young people out on the water while keeping them safer and warmer,' said the sailing club's commodore Iain Campbell.

Andy Henderson from ABCD added: 'We were pleased to help after the sailing club got in touch asking for support. We try to encourage groups to be active, particularly those involving young people, so it ticked all the right boxes.'

Dunbeg Primary School and Oban Saints Football Club have also recently benefited from the charity's funds.

# Shinty Memories group could start up in Oban

by David McPhee  
dmcphoe@obantimes.co.uk



There was a three-day shinty exhibition at The Rockfield Centre last weekend which left behind more than just pin-marks in the wall.

The display featured photographs, trophies, sticks and an interactive map that played videos when you scanned it.

The voice of shinty, Hugh Dan MacLennan, launched the exhibition and talked about all things shinty over the Macaulay Cup weekend.

One of the main topics he explored was the ability to help those living with dementia by triggering memories through sports memorabilia and photographs. He has helped launch the charity Shinty Memories and encouraged The Rockfield Centre to help launch an Oban branch of the organisation.

Mr MacLennan said: 'There can be few clubs or

families who are not aware of people who have to meet the challenges of dealing with dementia.'

Throughout his talk in Oban, he spoke about and showed videos of the benefits of people who attend the gatherings. One of the video clips featured a quote from a woman, whose husband attended a group in Badnoch: 'A lady said she left a man living with dementia at the meeting and she picked up her husband.'

Other clips were more history related, such as the 1937 Camanachd Cup Final between Oban Celtic and Newtonmore, which was the first cup final to feature numbers of the players' strips – this was to help commentators identify them. Other topics covered how many shinty teams there have been in Oban – there have been a lot, such as the Soroba Strollers from the 1920s. But they all

serve as conversation starters and can trigger memories for those living with dementia.

Mr MacLennan added: 'Oban is such a big part of shinty's history. Before people start throwing stuff out, let's gather it all and start using it.'

'I think there should be an Argyll shinty archive in The Rockfield Centre.'

Eleanor MacKinnon, of The Rockfield Centre, said the organisation was very much behind the idea of kick-starting a group in Oban.

'All of this actually sits exactly with what is planned for the building,' she said.

'It is the heritage of the town and shinty has always been in about it. We will form a group and we are absolutely delighted to get the additional resource of the memory box.'

'If people are interested in getting involved in the group, get in touch with me by emailing eleanor@therockfieldcentre.co.uk

## Countdown to Benderloch's Bookends

Time is ticking to the start of this year's Bookends Festival in Benderloch's Victory Hall.

Organisers are busy making sure the next chapter of the popular week-long festival will be as gripping as last year's event celebrating all things literary.

Its fourth year begins on Saturday September 21 to

Saturday September 28 with a preview night on Friday September 20 featuring 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 Creagneuk 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. To get a taste of what to expect, tune into Oban FM this Sunday from 6-7pm to hear what author Lachlan Munro of The Scenary of Dreams; The true story of Robert Louis Stevenson's Kidnapped, had to say at last year's Bookends.

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Simon Hunt and his wife Stef Burgon with their rescue cat Frank, taking a break during the renovations. 16\_T22\_castle01

## Kilmartin Castle to feature on TV show

A new TV show featuring Gogglebox stars Steph and Dom Parker will shine a spotlight on the newly refurbished Kilmartin Castle.

Channel Four's The Great Hotel Escape, a 20-part documentary series, which has been filmed over the past 12 months, follows Steph and Dom as they meet families who are planning to open, or who are already running, their own historic hotels in some of Britain's most beautiful locations.

Former ad agency director Stef Burgon and Dubai DJ Simon Hunt ditched their day jobs in 2015 when they bought the castle to run as Airbnb accommodation.

However, the hands-on pair closed their doors to guests in January to start a major refurbishment, with help from a team of skilled Tarbert tradesmen, and moved into their trusty van with their well-travelled rescue cat, Frank, until the job was finished.

The couple have now transformed their turreted 1550 home into a five-bedroom luxury B&B and viewers will be able to follow Stef and Simon's DIY journey at the end of this month.

Although best known for appearing on Gogglebox, Steph and Dom renovated and ran their own hotel, The Salutation in Kent, for 12 years.

## MSP concerned about condition of cemeteries

Highlands and Islands MSP Donald Cameron has expressed concern about the deteriorating condition of some Argyll cemeteries.

He spoke out after constituents from Islay joined local councillor Alastair Redman in highlighting the poor upkeep of cemeteries in the area he represents.

Councillor Redman said: 'Perhaps the worst example is Kilnaughton Cemetery, at Port Ellen, where we have a real problem with rabbits digging into some of the plots.'

'This is a graveyard which is still in use and, frankly, local

people are becoming distressed at what is happening.

'There have been some makeshift repairs but the whole site really needs to be made secure with rabbit-proof fencing.'

Mr Cameron said: 'I understand that Argyll and Bute Council confirmed it now at last has plans in place to address the problems at Kilnaughton, after being contacted by Alastair.'

'However, it remains disappointing things are allowed to deteriorate to the extent that the maintenance of cemeteries has become a matter of public concern.'

## Benefit claims figures revealed

Benefit claims in Argyll and Bute have gone down 25 per cent over the past five years, according to the latest claimant count from the Department for Work and Pensions.

The count monitors labour market changes and counts the number of people

claiming unemployment related benefits.

The new figures show that in May this year there were 1,475 claimants, 490 fewer than in 2014. What's more the number of 18- to 24-year-old claimants has dropped 36 percent from 313 to 201.

## Man is fined £350 for locking onto police body armour

A man who locked on to a police officer's body armour on a works night out and refused to let go has been fined £350 at Oban Sheriff Court.

Joseph MacIntyre, from 15 Aray Gardens, Soroba, had been leaving a town centre pub in the early hours of November 17 last year when the incident happened.

It started when an officer on

duty in the pub's doorway felt a thud on his body armour and questioned MacIntyre about it. The 39-year-old told the officer it had only been 'done in jest and no malice' was meant. The officer stayed in the doorway but MacIntyre then ran towards him, pulling at his body armour and pulling him into the bar area, locking on and refusing to

let go. Last week MacIntyre pleaded guilty to behaving in an abusive and threatening manner, seizing the police officer's body armour and refusing to let go despite repeatedly being told to do so. MacIntyre was arrested but still would not let go.

He was abusive in the police van and completely uncooperative at the police

station, remaining aggressive, the court heard. It took three people to get him into a police cell. MacIntyre, who had been heavily under the influence of drink, had been on a staff night out.

Ordering him to pay a £350 fine, Oban Sheriff Patrick Hughes said it had been 'a one-off matter of drink and stupidity'.

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OT

# Council to tighten events purse strings

Events organisers have applied for almost double the total money that can be allocated by Argyll and Bute Council's events and festivals fund, a new report has revealed.

The authority is now proposing to tighten its criteria for any community events looking for a share of the Strategic Events and Festivals Fund, following requests from 21 groups for a total of more than £221,000 during round one of the process.

It was agreed in May 2018, prior to the application process starting that August, that the total money made available through the fund would be £113,000.

A report for a meeting of the council's policy and resources committee on Thursday August 15 proposed to seek more evidence of what grants are for.

Applications to round two of the fund are due to be

sought from Monday August 26 to Monday October 7.

This will see a pot of £90,000 distributed over the 2020/21 financial year, as agreed during the council's budgeting process in February.

The report by Pippa Milne, the council's executive director with responsibility for development and economic growth, states: "The first round fund was oversubscribed by 100 per cent, with a total of 21 bids received into the two pots.

"This, combined with the range and scale of events, as well as the varying quality of submissions, meant the fund was complex and challenging to administer despite the clear criteria and assessment headings.

"The failure by a number of applicants to provide the required information timeously proved time consuming for officers to follow up.

"Financial information pro-

vided in support of a number of applications was also found to contain mistakes or gaps, which also took considerable officer time to follow up and rectify.

"The applications covered a wide area geographically and demonstrated a variety of event types, from literary events and music festivals, to Highland games and sporting races.

"There was also varying levels of community involvement and it was not always clear how commercial an event was.

"As three events had benefited from council funding previously, a 10 per cent reduction was applied on their previous award.

"There is need to increase the efficiency and effectiveness of the process in order that the second round can be made as simple and clear as possible for applicants, and as streamlined as possible for officers."

Ms Milne stated that, under the proposed changes, there would be no guarantee of the full grant being given or the full pot being used.

Applicants will also be required to show they have applied for match funding, and will have a better chance of securing funding if their event is run entirely by the community in a voluntary capacity.

She added: "The fund will remain competitive and every application will need to clearly evidence why the event requires public money.

"Applicants will be asked to show precisely what the funding will be used for in an effort to demonstrate best value for the public purse.

"And it will be made clear within the guidance that council funding should only be considered as the funder of last resort and that requests for funding should be kept to a minimum."

## What a week in Oban

Around Oban

KAY MCDONALD

editor@obantimes.co.uk



### WHERE IS THIS?



What a weekend it is going to be in Oban and, if you include today (Thursday), with the Argyllshire Gathering, it gets even more eventful.

I love watching the march up to the games, partly for the stirring pipe music, but mostly for watching the faces of the visitors as they get to join in. They're absolutely delighted to be able to feel part of the event. As locals, I think we get quite blasé about things like this but it is an amazing experience, especially if you're not used to hearing the pipes.

Tomorrow (Friday) has two events worth supporting, the opening of a photography exhibition in The Rockfield Centre entitled Blur, which is on until September 1, and in the evening a quiz night in Glencruitten Golf Club hosted by Pets At Home in aid of Adoption for Pets and Small Paws.

On Saturday, it really kicks off though with the Round Kerrera Sea Kayak Race, Oban town market, a regatta

at the sailing club, a visit by Ocean Majesty cruise ship and Oban and Lorn Lions Club Great Oban Raft Race.

I'm not going to have time to draw breath on Saturday but it will be fun. The bay is going to be chock-a-block for the day but it will be a fantastic spectacle.

This year the raft race has a slightly different route that will make it much easier for spectators to see the race if you're standing anywhere from the Railway Pier to the North Pier and I really hope we get a good turnout.

The photograph last week was tricky as you only notice the turret if you stand outside the Jetty Gallery and look at the back of the Regent Hotel, but this week's photograph may be easier.

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The winner and their guest will enjoy a one-night stay in a master bedroom, a three-course dinner, full Scottish breakfast and a whisky flight for two. Worth over £350, this is your chance to experience the very finest Scottish hospitality.

If you'd like a chance to win this amazing prize, answer the following question.

Which river runs alongside the hotel?

Must be redeemed within six months of the draw date. Cannot be redeemed between or on 23rd December - 2 January, Bank Holidays, 14th -16th February.

---

### WIN

A STRANRAER OYSTER FESTIVAL BREAK AT NORTH WEST CASTLE

Enjoy a fantastic foodie experience with a two night Stranraer Oyster Festival package at North West Castle Hotel.

Stranraer Oyster Festival is packed with fun and flavour. Celebrating the wild, native oysters of Loch Ryan this food festival includes celebrity chef demonstrations, the Scottish Shucking Championships, foodie workshops, dining experiences, an artisan market, family friendly activities, street food, live music and more.

Your Stranraer Oyster Festival package, worth £320 must be taken on Friday 13 and Saturday 14 September, includes dinner, bed and breakfast, plus room upgrade and wine. As well as weekend tickets to Stranraer Oyster Festival and to one celebrity chef demonstration, and two tickets to the Saturday evening Big Oyster Bash.

If you'd like a chance to win this amazing prize, answer the following question.

What national chef competition takes place at Stranraer Oyster Festival?

NB: The closing date for this competition is Friday 30th August

T&Cs - the prize is for the Stranraer Oyster Festival Package, plus upgrades, at the North West Castle Hotel, plus Stranraer Oyster Festival tickets. The prize must be taken on 13th and 14th September 2019. The prize is for 2 adults sharing a room. The winner will be sent a voucher for their prize. The room and Big Bash tickets have already been reserved and allocated to the winner by North West Castle. Use of data, Stranraer Development Trust, organisers of Stranraer Oyster Festival. Will use any data received from this competition for the purposes of sending email marketing about Stranraer Oyster Festival, including details of programmes and ticket offers. It will not be sold or given to any third parties, and will not be used for any other purpose.

To enter, send separate entries (in the same envelope) with your name, address, telephone number and email address to **Scottish Field Competitions, Fettes Park, 496 Ferry Road, Edinburgh EH5 2DL** or enter at [www.scottishfield.co.uk](http://www.scottishfield.co.uk). Closing date, unless otherwise stated, is 30 September 2019. **Winners drawn from all competitions also enter a prize to win a bottle of Whitetail Gin.**

Entrants must be 18 or over. Employees of Scottish Field, the competition promoters, and their direct families are ineligible to enter. No purchase necessary. The winner will be first correct entry drawn after closing date. No cash alternative is available. The winner will be informed by telephone. Usual Scottish Field rules apply. We will protect your personal data. We only gather what we need for the requirements of this competition - your name, address, telephone number and email address. If you wish to receive news and offers from the third party running the competition, then please mark the words "OPT IN" on your postcard entry. If you enter various competitions on one card, you will be opting in for every competition running. Unless you opt in to receive further marketing information we will only contact you if you win a prize in the competition. Scottish Field (Wywex Media) will retain your information for a maximum of 3 months after the competition closes and then it will be deleted. If you have opted in to receive third party information, the data you have supplied will be passed to the third party company running the competition. This may be used for the purposes of the third party contacting you regarding new products and services for a period of 3 months, unless you agree to an extension with the third party company at a later date.

# Blazing a trail to open day



Members of the community came out in force on Saturday to support Oban Community Fire Station's Open Day.

A steady stream of visitors attended the event which was in aid of MND Scotland and Scottish Fire and Rescue Family Support Trust.

A spokesperson for the fire station said: 'We would like to thank all local businesses and members of the public for their kind donations, all other emergency services for attending on the day. 'We would also like to thank everybody who came along on the day to show support.'

The event raised a fantastic total of £4,183 to be split between the two charities.



Oban Community Fire Station held their Open Day last weekend.



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OT



James Weir, from Angus, with his champion Blackface ewe. 15\_T34\_AppinShow\_BlackFaceWinner



Jennifer MacNeil from Bonawe with her white Peking cockerel Romeo. 15\_T34\_AppinShow\_Poultry

# Muddy good day at Appin

by Fiona Scott  
fscott@obantimes.co.uk



Welly boots were a must for the 62nd Appin Agricultural Show but, as Saturday morning's torrential downpours gave way to mainly blue skies, sunglasses and ice-cream were also in demand.

Organisers breathed a collective sigh of relief as the clouds broke and the sun began to make an appearance and, despite the Glastonbury-like surface, gate numbers were up on last year and everyone enjoyed themselves.

'It was quite worrying at around 10am when the rain was still coming down in sheets,' said show secretary Caroline Henderson.

'Fortunately, it stopped shortly after we opened and it was people flowing through the gates rather than water.'

Indeed, the mud proved an added attraction to the many children who attended the event, with many making the most of the squelchy ground conditions at Tynbribbie Croft.



Ewen MacGillivray Jnr from Home Farm, Barcaldine, with his champion of champions. 15\_T34\_AppinShow\_CattleOverall

Children's races, a bouncy castle, slides, face painting and lots more fun activities also kept the youngsters busy throughout the day.

In keeping with the weather, the livestock competition was hotly contested with the Highland cattle section having an exceptionally high entry. Winning out overall was Home Farm, Barcaldine, whose Orkney-born heifer Creran Oban Lass was crowned Champion of Champions.

The MacGillivrays scooped

a total of five of the commercial cattle trophies on offer.

James Weir, from Indernahyle, was delighted when his Blackface ewe took the Overall Sheep title as well as Reserve Champion on her first time out.

In the poultry tent, Jennifer MacNeil from Bonawe achieved a clean sweep, taking all six prizes on offer.

Brue the black Labrador came out top in the hugely well entered dog show, much to the delight of owner Jenne Singer from Aberdeenshire.

There were 23 entries for the hill race, sponsored by Scottish Soup Kitchen, which was won for the second consecutive year by Lochaber AC member Tom Smith, from Connel, in a time of 26 minutes, 15 seconds.

There was also a huge entry for the handicrafts section, while various trade, craft, food and charity stands were around the showfield, along with a marquee with foods and crafts.

New this year was the Lochaber Beekeepers' Association stand manned by Jim and Alison Blair. 'Apart from having a few issues trying to keep our stand from blowing away, it has been a great day,' said Alison. 'We have had quite a lot of people showing an interest in what we do and it was great to be part of this wonderful show.'

This year's show also celebrated another great Appin institution as the village's Scottish Women's Institute (SWI), formerly known as the Scottish Women's Rural Institute, marks its centenary.



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# Appin Agricultural Show



Twenty three hardy runners lined up at the start of the hill race. 15\_T34\_AppinShow\_HillRaceStart

Brenda MacLeod has been a member of Appin SWI for almost 40 years, and served on the show committee for much the same period.

'We tend to get involved in many things at the show and try to help where we can,' she said. 'It's a great community event and everyone takes part in some way.'

A sentiment which was echoed by James Hendry, Appin Agricultural Show chairman. 'This year's show has been a resounding

success, with entries – in the Highland cattle especially – exceeding those of last year.

'Once again, we are grateful to everyone who contributes to the show and the many volunteers without whom it would not be possible.'

Full results and more photographs at [www.obantimes.co.uk](http://www.obantimes.co.uk).

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email us at [editor@obantimes.co.uk](mailto:editor@obantimes.co.uk)



The Highland dancers provided plenty of colour and entertainment. 15\_T34\_AppinShow\_HighlandDancers



Fran and Anna, aka Mairi Fleck and Ali Martin, collected for North Argyll Carers Centre. 15\_T34\_AppinShow\_FranAndAnna



Jim and Alison Blair from Lochaber Beekeepers' Association created a buzz. 15\_T34\_AppinShow\_LochaberBeeKeepers



Appin's own Roan MacColl won the young handler trophy. 15\_T34\_AppinShow\_JuniorHandler

Advertorial

## A whisky and gin festival is taking place in Oban this September

Attention all gin and whisky lovers - a festival celebrating the two popular spirits will take place in Oban on Saturday September 14, but there are only a limited number of tickets available.

The West Coast Whisky Fèis will be held in The View and will run from 1pm until 6pm. People are being urged to book in advance in order to avoid disappointment.

There will be hundreds of local whiskies and gins to sample, all hailing from the west of Scotland, as well as live music.

Whiskies from Oban, Ben Nevis, Tobermory Springbank, Bruichladdich, Glengoyne, Ncn'ean, Kilkerran, Kilchoman, Bunnahabhain, and Ardnamurchan, to name a few, will feature at the festival.

There will also be a wide selection of gin to try including Isle of Harris, Lussa, Crossbill and a new Oban Bay Gin, bottled especially for the Festival.

But it will not just be a liquid lunch that is on offer, a buffet filled with locally sourced products will also be on hand to help line stomachs.

The whisky fèis was the brainchild of Euan Finlayson and James Galbraith, who run the Oban Whisky and Fine Wines



shop on Oban's Stafford Street.

They held the first festival in 2017 in The View, which was called Skipinnish at the time.

On the website, [www.westcoastwhiskyfeis.co.uk](http://www.westcoastwhiskyfeis.co.uk), they said: 'We're delighted to invite you to our festival of Scotland's west coast distillers, who gather once again in our beautiful home-town of Oban: Gateway to the Isles.'

For the £30 ticket price, attendees are able to sample hundreds of whiskies and gins, they receive a free tasting glass, as well as a shop voucher.

But on top of experiencing 'the spirit of the west coast', those attending will be able to see behind the curtain and meet those who make their favourite concoctions.

'A feast is no use without conversation,' the event description reads. 'Enjoy a dram and a chat with the good folk from the distilleries, or even attend one of the exclusive masterclasses on throughout the day.'

There will be an Old Oban vs New Oban whisky masterclass taking place as part of the festival as well. It will take place at Oban Distillery in the business's historic warehouses.

There will also be the opportunity to purchase exclusive festival-only bottling.

To book a ticket, visit [www.westcoastwhiskyfeis.co.uk](http://www.westcoastwhiskyfeis.co.uk), call 01631 570586, or pop into Oban Whisky and Fine Wines shop on Stafford Street.

TOBERMORY, SPRINGBANK, OBAN BAY GIN,  
**WEST COAST WHISKY FÈIS**  
*Oban's Whisky & Gin Festival*

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- Free tasting glass & fèis shop voucher
- Exclusive festival-only bottling
- Old Oban vs New Oban Whisky Masterclass  
Hosted at Oban Distillery in their historic warehouses

Tickets are limited so book **NOW** to avoid disappointment!

Tickets available online, over the phone, or from Oban Whisky & Fines Wines, Stafford St, Oban.

**£30**

**Saturday 14th September 2019**  
**1 - 6pm**

The View, 34 George St, Oban PA34 5NL  
[www.westcoastwhiskyfeis.co.uk](http://www.westcoastwhiskyfeis.co.uk)  
01631 570586

BEI NEVIS, LUSSA GIN, BRUICHLADDICH, GLENGOYNE, OBAN,  
PORTFANT, KILKERRAN, CROSSBILL GIN, KILCHOMAN, BUNNAHABHAIN,  
ARDNAMURCHAN DISTILLERY, ARDNAMURCHAN

# Oban Healthy Living Town



Over the past decade or so there has been growing recognition among those in the health and social care sectors that society as a whole needs to be more pro-active in maintaining a healthy lifestyle.

Alongside this are concerns about increasing chronic illness, obesity, child health, diabetes, an ageing population, sedentary lifestyles and more.

Everyone wants to live for as long as possible in as healthy a frame of mind and body, and with the best quality of life available to them. And there is significant evidence to suggest that a shift in societal behaviour can lead to some dramatic improvements.

While access to health care, genetics and the



Last year's launch of Oban as Scotland's first healthy living town took place in Atlantis Leisure, where dozens of organisations that help to improve people's health turned out to offer advice, such as parkrun, and people were encouraged to try out a new activity or sport on the day; and, right, when it comes to our health and wellbeing, the choices we make play a large part in ensuring a positive outcome.

environment people live in account for 50 per cent of what makes a healthy com-

munity, the other half comes from healthy behaviour. Thirty-three per cent of

men and 45 per cent of women are not active enough to maintain good health.

Astonishingly, physical inactivity contributes to the same number of deaths in the UK as smoking does.

There is also a three-year life expectancy gap between those who are inactive and those who do the minimum activity – just 30 minutes a week – which can be as simple as doing housework, walking to the shop or to a friend's house or a bit of gardening.

#### Benefits

But there are not just individual physical and mental benefits from being more active – there are community benefits: from reducing the burden on health and social care budgets to active workforces being more productive; it increases community spirit; it reduces social exclusion by connecting more people; and it can lead to job creation and new careers.

But to achieve this positive changes need to happen at all levels of society and in every area.

With this in mind, a group has come together from across a range of organisations in Oban to promote just that – creating health within the community to forge Oban as a healthy living town.

The Oban Healthy Living Town group has realised that while the voices of health, social care and third sector organisations have been steadily increasing in volume

## What Makes Us Healthy

ACCESS TO CARE 10%

GENETICS 20%

ENVIRONMENT 20%

HEALTHY BEHAVIORS 50%

and awareness, there has been a parallel growth across Oban in clubs, societies and organisations offering a vast array of sporting, social, creative and supportive activities for all ages and abilities that anyone can tap into.

In fact, all the resources needed to be a healthy living town – but barriers to accessing activities need to be tackled; awareness of what is on offer in the town and surrounding area needs to be better; and organisations need to work in collaboration to give everyone the confidence to help themselves to be more active physically, socially and mentally. Over the next few months, Oban Healthy

Living Town, in partnership with The Oban Times, will be producing a number of articles with a view to raising awareness of physical and social activities, and organisations, available in Oban and the area which offer ways to move collectively towards healthy behaviour thereby creating health in the community.

Some of these just involve getting outside in good company, others include community support; others still involve specific age groups; others encompass all ages – whatever, there is something for everyone out there to improve their healthy behaviour.

Data courtesy of the Boston Foundation and the New England Healthcare Institute

## Be part of Oban Healthy Living Town

Get out  
Get active  
Get involved  
Feel energised  
Feel motivated  
Feel good

Stay healthy by having fun and getting active

Join the Healthy Oban Facebook group to find and promote ways of being part of Oban Healthy Living Town

Let us come and talk to your organisation about our vision, what it means and how we can all support each other to live in a healthier community

Contact: Roy Clunie 01631 770605; Nick Wesley, Atlantis Leisure 01631 566800 ext 212; Eleanor MacKinnon, Rockfield Centre 07769344515; Andy Spence Bid4Oban 01631 569915; Morag MacLean 01631 564422

## MacPhail

ANGUS MACPHAIL

angusmacphail@yahoo.co.uk



During the heyday of the ring net herring fishing on the West Coast, the islands of Eriskay and Scalpay were renowned for being home to the very top fishermen of that sector.

Similarly, the Ayrshire boatyard, Nobles of Girvan, was famous for building the very best boats for this method of fishing.

These dual highpoints of history were marked profoundly last weekend when the 1968-built Nobles ringer, Jasper (later called Santa Maria III) made a return to these islands. Skipped and owned by Donald Archie MacKinnon, son of Micheal, one of the highly respected MacKinnon brothers who put Eriskay on the map as an island of top fishermen, the voyage home represented the conclusion of a six-year journey of dedication by Donald Archie (DA) to restore the boat to its former beauty and glory.

Built originally for M and E MacDonald of Scalpay as Jasper, she was sold to the MacKinnons of Eriskay and

renamed Santa Maria III in 1971. The MacKinnon brothers, with this boat and others, caught some of the biggest shots of herring ever recorded in this method of fishing.

Alec Thorburn from Fisherrow, a great-uncle of Rory Grindlay, our drummer, recalls in the mid-sixties Calum MacKinnon with an earlier Santa Maria netting more than 830 cran of herring south of Muldonich, near the mouth of Vatersay Bay.

The boat Alec was on, Pathfinder of Maidens, and four other boats, as well as Santa Maria herself, were filled to capacity from this one ring. On a later occasion, and with the actual Jasper/Santa Maria III, the MacKinnons again caught a huge shot of herring off South Uist, where it is estimated that over 1,000 cran was taken and filled seven boats to capacity.

This was such a haul that at the time the story of this record-breaking catch appeared in the national press. Although not conclusive, it is thought to this day that this

was the biggest ever haul of herring by a ring net boat.

While these figures are impressive, they were not one-off occurrences and consistently the Eriskay and Scalpay men landed catches of herring to Mallaig, Stornoway and Oban that made them famous for their ability in this method of fishing.

The fourth verse of our song Last of the Hunters was written about the Eriskay and Scalpay fishermen. I amended it slightly to give to DA on two brass plaques last week and they now adorn the front of the wheelhouse and a deck beam on the Jasper.

The Jasper will never again be laden deep with herring, but what she will be laden deep with and what filled her hold, her wheelhouse, her engine room, her foc'sle, and was held in her ribs, beams and planks last weekend, is a rich history, a respect for the men who built and worked her, and a powerful pride in a boat that represents a pinnacle of achievement in boat-building and fishing.

# Quality entries in all sections of Islay agricultural show

by Peggy MacEachan  
editor@obantimes.co.uk

Following a wet July and a mixed start to August, everyone concerned with Islay Show was relieved to wake up on Thursday August 8 to find it dull but dry.

The quality of the exhibits in all sections was of the very high standard people have come to expect at Islay, Jura and Colonsay Agricultural Show, with the number of entries on a par with last year – the exception being in the horticultural section where the number of entries was considerably up on previous years. The number of craft stalls demonstrating excellent talent in every field seems to grow year-on-year and, along with various side shows, and offers something to suit everyone.

Entertainment was provided by members of the Clan Stunt



Champion of Champions, a Charalois cross heifer born in February shown by Tom Epps. Photograph: Peggy MacEachan.

Team, who performed skillful high-rise cycle stunts which thrilled the crowd.

Islay Community Pipe Band played selections of foot-tap-ping music.

This year's Champion of Champions was a Charalois

X heifer born in February and shown by Tom Epps for the Firm of T Epps.

The Reserve Champion of Champions was a Blackface 4crop ewe owned and shown by Elliot Bowman.

Continued on page 12

## WHAT'S YOUR FAVOURITE RECIPE? Chicken, ham and vegetable pasta

Serves 4

Syns per serving: FREE

Ingredients

- 350g dried strozzapreti or other pasta shapes
- 1 small leek, chopped
- 150g frozen peas
- 150g baby leaf spinach
- 200g pulled ham (5% fat or less) or lean ham, visible fat removed, chopped into small chunks
- 2 cooked skinless and boneless chicken breasts, cut into thin strips

For the sauce:

- 1 large onion, roughly chopped
- ½ x 400g can cannellini beans, drained
- 100g cauliflower, cut into small florets
- 1 medium potato, peeled and roughly chopped
- ½ tsp Marmite
- 1 chicken stock cube, crumbled
- 4 large garlic cloves, peeled
- ½ tsp chopped fresh rosemary (or ½ tsp dried rosemary)
- 120g plain quark



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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OT



The Mary F McGregor trophy for Best Baking Exhibit is presented by Mary to the first winner, Emily Dalzell for her tablet.



Johnnie Bonar with his eight-week-old foal at Islay Show.



Elliot Bowman who won the reserve Champion of Champions with his 4crop ewe.



Lisa Morrison with her horse Lola who won the Overall Horse award.



Some of the vintage cars on display.



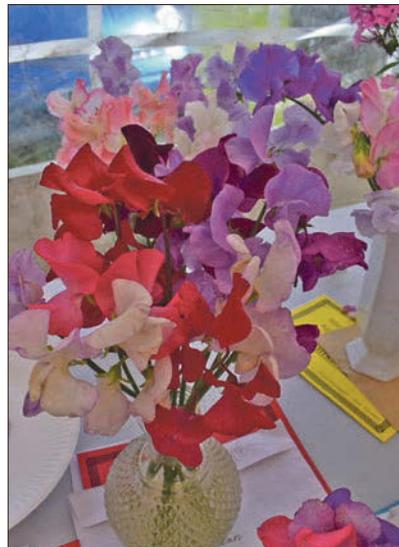
Champion Dog, a Saluki shown by Caroline Vander Heiden, and Reserve, a Miniature Poodle owned by Samantha MacArthur.



Highland cows in the parade of prizewinners.



The best overall exhibit in the flower and vegetable section was this Pendula Begonia grown by Liz Cunningham.



These sweet peas earned Archie McPhee the James T Christie Cup.



Winners of the Findlay MacMillan Memorial Cup for best begonia, above, were A & P McEachern.



Liz Cunningham won the prize for best hand bouquet with this lovely entry, above.

# Quality entries in all sections of Islay Show

Continued from page 11  
Lisa Morrison's horse Lola was champion ridden horse and champion inhand horse and took the overall horse champion.

Best overall exhibit in the flower and vegetable section was won by Liz Cunningham with a striking bright red Pendula Begonia. Arthur MacEachern won the Reserve Best In Show with a pot of bright red Single Begonias in the pot plant, any variety, class.

The champion dog was a Saluki, shown by Caroline Van Der Heiden, with reserve going to Murphy, a Miniature Poodle, owned by Samantha MacArthur.

Organisers commented it was encouraging to see so many young people winning prizes in all sections as they are the future of the show.

Prizes were presented by Sheena MacKellar, whose brother and late father were both past presidents of the association.

A new trophy this year, presented by Mary F McGregor for the Best Baking Exhibit, was won by Emily Dalzell for her tablet. Mary had the honour of presenting the trophy to the first winner.

The show committee thanks everyone who helped to make the day such a success, especially setting up the field and dismantling it in challenging conditions.

Preparations now begin for the 2020 show.

**All photographs:  
Peggy MacEachern**



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## Tobermory lifeboat goes to aid of fish farm vessel

Tobermory RNLi's volunteer crew went to the aid of a 23-metre fish farm support vessel off Ardnamurchan on the evening of Saturday August 17.

The vessel, which had suffered engine failure, was adrift south of the Ardnamurchan peninsula in squally force six south-west-erly winds.

The lifeboat crew were paged at 7.27pm and launched their Severn-class all weather lifeboat, Elizabeth Fairlie Ramsey, eight minutes later.

With a fishing boat and a local charter RIB standing by, Tobermory's volunteer crew passed a line to the support vessel and towed her back towards Tobermory.

While the vessel was under tow, its crew managed to restart the engines and, once into Tobermory Bay, they were able to make their way to the pontoon under their own power where she was met by members of the Tobermory Coastguard Rescue Team.

The lifeboat returned to its berth where she was refuelled and made ready for service just before 10pm.

Tobermory coxswain David McHaffie said: 'With the weather forecast to deteriorate overnight, we were pleased to get out quickly to the support vessel and help her back to Tobermory before conditions worsened.'

**YOURSTORY**  
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# Tiny community plants big project for future

Ulva Ferry celebrated Community Land Week by planting tree saplings, wild-flowers and a time capsule, writes Kathie Griffiths.

Community memories, mementos and photos were stored in a capsule dug deep underground with instructions for it not to be opened until 2050.

The gathering, on a recently purchased plot of land at Oskamull, was organised by Ulva School Community Association (USCA) and Mull and Iona Community Trust (MICT). A family ceilidh and barbecue rounded off the fun day last Friday.

The Oskamull plot was recently bought by MICT on behalf of the Ulva Ferry community to build more affordable and much-needed long-term rental homes.

In the time it has taken for the project's first two houses to be built, another four homes at Ulva Ferry are now self-catering or holiday homes, said Mull and Iona Community Trust's general manager Moray Finch.

The purchase was made possible via the Scottish Land Fund and it is hoped work will start in spring 2020.

Mr Finch said it was a priv-



Ulva Ferry residents celebrate Community Land Week. Photograph: Jane Gordon-Chauvet.

ilege for MICT to support its community but warned there was 'more work to do'.

'In the time taken for us to build the first two houses, another four homes at Ulva Ferry are now self-catering or second homes,' he said.

And he added: 'As with any community project, a great deal of fundraising and grant applications are required to secure funding for the build costs. A fundraising appeal

has been launched and any donations would be gratefully received.'

Donations can be made online at [wonderful.org/appeal/ulvaferryaffordablehousing](http://wonderful.org/appeal/ulvaferryaffordablehousing) or by sending cheques payable to Mull and Iona Community Trust to An Roth, Craignure, Isle of Mull, PA65 6AY.

A total of £326.03 was raised at Friday's event.

USCA secretary Anna Hogan said: 'The warmth and

joy of this event were beautiful. The tree planting was about the children and their future which is, of course, what the affordable housing plans are all about.'

Thanks went to Community Land Scotland, Lip na Cloiche Garden for donating the tree saplings, Iain MacKay for carrying out the fencing, pupils and staff at Ulva Primary School for all their help, the Mimi Spence Ceilidh Band

for music, Alan Jack for MC duties and Còisir Òg Mhuile for the singing.

Thanks also went to the USCA committee for their organisational efforts.

Anyone wanting more information about the housing project or who is interesting in renting one of the planned houses, should contact Helen MacDonald on 01680 812900 or email [hmacdonald@mict.co.uk](mailto:hmacdonald@mict.co.uk)

## World's best descend on Oban for 2019 Argyllshire Gathering Games

Some of the best bagpipers, dancers, strongest men and highest jumpers in the world will descend on Mossfield Park today for the Argyllshire Gathering's Oban Games.

The 148th staging of the

event will kick-off with the March of the Stewards, led by a mass band of competing pipers, from Station Square at 10.30am. President of the games, Torquhil Campbell, 13th Duke of Argyll, said:

'A lot of work goes into the organisation of these games and I should like to express my thanks to all who make them possible.'

A full programme of races, field and heavy events also

gets under way at the stadium at 10.30am, while entertainment from Oban High School of Dance and Oban High School of Music will complement the traditional piping throughout the day.

An added attraction this year is the introduction of the Argyllshire Gathering Rugby Cup which will see two in-school teams from Oban High vying for the new trophy.

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# BUSINESS NEWS

## Distillery launches new Tobermory Gin

Tobermory, the only whisky distillery on the Isle of Mull, has expanded its range to produce Tobermory Gin.

The distiller, known for its Tobermory and Ledaig single malts, has created the first gin in the distillery's 200-year history.

Unique to Tobermory Gin is a splash of spirit from the Tobermory whisky stills, creating a character unlike any other.

Ensuring a taste of the island is important to the blend, as is demonstrated with the inclusion of a pinch of Hebridean tea, grown on Mull.

In total, 13 botanicals create Tobermory Gin's flavour profile, including juniper, elderflower and sweet orange peel. These botanicals reflect the

fruity character that Tobermory is known for in its standout single malt whisky.

Tobermory Gin is best served in a balloon glass with ice, topped with chilled tonic water. The taste of fresh juniper balanced with sweet orange and lemon comes through clearly, with hints of coriander and gentle herbs and spices.

Stephen Woodcock, distillery manager, said: 'Tobermory Distillery is one of the oldest distilleries in Scotland, producing one of the oldest single malts. We've got a track record of producing different spirit types, though we'd never tried to make gin, until now.'

Amy Burns, marketing manager for Tobermory Gin, added: 'The team at Tobermory Distillery is highly skilled and the prospect of taking on a fresh challenge, to create a new type of spirit, was one it embraced with creativity and island inspiration.'



## Alan is cooking up a storm at Crear Kitchen

A local chef has been celebrating a summer of success, which included a string of awards and an invite to the Queen's garden party.

Alan Boslem has been honoured with several awards recognising his passion, skill and flair for food over the past few months.

Using delicious fresh produce from the land and sea, he and his team at Crear Kitchen strive to use seasonal, sustainable and local produce where possible to create the most wondrous cuisine.

Most significantly, Alan was presented with The Banqueting and Events Chef Award at the annual CIS Excellence Awards in June.

Celebrating its 16th year, the awards ceremony recognises, rewards and celebrates innovation and excellence in the Scottish hospitality, catering and tourism sectors.

Competing against some of the most recognised event chefs in Scotland, the CIS award is of the highest honour.

In May, Alan was awarded the titles of Best Food and Drink Provider and Best Business (0-10 employees) at the Lanarkshire Business Excellence Awards.

Formerly sous chef at Gleneagles Hotel, with more than 100 chefs reporting to him, Alan is no stranger to cooking for the rich and famous. In 2005, alongside Andrew Fairlie, Alan cooked for the Queen and 44



Award-winning chef Alan Boslem. Photograph: Alex Sarginson.

of the world's leaders during the G8 summit held at Gleneagles. The Queen continues to recognise Alan's talent and contribution to the Scottish food industry and he attended her Holyrood garden party last month.

Crear founder Kate Lithgow told us: 'Alan, understated in personality, is a great talent for the West Coast and Scotland as a whole.

More than 4,000 guests travel from around the world each year to attend exclusive use weddings at Crear in Kilberry and the food, alongside the stunning Argyll scenery, is what they tell us wowed them the most.

'Alan's recent recognitions are a phenomenal achievement and Crear are most proud to have him as part of our team.'

## Argyll and Bute gets £1.7m from Timber Transport Fund

Argyll and Bute has secured £1.7million from the Scottish Government's Timber Transport Fund.

The council has been successful in getting the largest share of the government's £6.6m fund which is earmarked for projects that minimise the impact of timber lorries in its rural road network.

The £1.7m allocated to local projects means that every £1 spent by the council has been almost doubled by the Scottish Timber Transport Fund (STTF). Total spend for timber roads' improvements, including the council's investment, will come to more than

£2.7 million. The works being undertaken will make it easier for residents and businesses to share the roads. Getting timber off the roads network and improving journey times when shifting timber from forests to processing facilities is another major benefit of improving the network.

Roads that will see improvements by the joint funding by the council and STTF are: Lochgilphead-Oban strategic route; Lochawe haulage routes - B840, C30 and C29; Kintyre B842; Leorin B8016; and Strathlachlan, Cowal, B8000.

Councillor Ellen Morton said: 'I welcome

the news that the STTF has supported our roads improvement projects. It's particularly encouraging to see that we have submitted quality projects, in a competitive process, that have secured three of the highest individual funding awards. Forestry is one of the key industry sectors in Argyll and Bute, and it plays a vital part in growing our economy. As much as we encourage it, we recognise it has an impact on our infrastructure at a time when we, as a council, are making difficult choices about services.

'We are therefore delighted to be able to double our investment in roads.'

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## Budding engineers wanted at Cruachan

Drax wants to hear from budding engineers in the Argyll and Bute area interested in a vacancy for an apprentice engineer role at the Cruachan power station.

The UK's biggest renewable power generator acquired a portfolio of assets in Scotland at the beginning of this year and has reinstated an apprenticeship scheme as part of its efforts to support education and learning and encourage science, technology, engineering and maths (STEM) subjects.

Drax is appointing five apprentice engineers at its Scottish sites, including one at Cruachan.

This is the final call for applicants to get in touch for the role at the pumped storage hydro power station, also known as the Hollow Mountain, as a result of the feat of engineering required to bury its turbines within the stunning Ben Cruachan.

Andy Koss, CEO Generation, said: 'At our power station in Selby, North Yorkshire, we

Cruachan hydro power station is thriving under Drax.



understand that attracting ambitious apprentices to learn from our world class engineers is helping us to retain and develop a skilled workforce for the future. And we want to do the same at our Scottish sites – including at Cruachan.

'The opportunity at Cruachan really is a plum role – the suc-

cessful candidate will get to work with a fantastic team of engineers on some exciting engineering challenges at what is one of the most fascinating power stations in the world. I encourage anyone thinking about a career in engineering to get in touch.'

Drax's apprenticeship scheme has been running for 15 years

at the Selby plant, but, since the acquisition of a portfolio of thermal and hydro assets, it has started to expand the scheme across the other sites including at Cruachan.

Mr Koss added: 'Ever since we started our apprenticeship programme 15 years ago, we've seen the value that these ambitious young people bring to our business.

'We're excited to now be recruiting apprentices across our expanded portfolio, including at Cruachan which plays a critical role in not only our business but also across the wider electricity system. We'll continue to support young people from our local communities to help build a sustainable workforce with the right skills at all levels.'

The Drax apprenticeship training scheme is a four-year programme, and specialises in three engineering disciplines: mechanical, electrical, and control and instrumentation.

## Applications for EnCat courses

Food hygiene and personal licence courses will be running at the Corran Halls in Oban at the beginning of next month.

Run by EnCat, the REHIS Elementary Food Hygiene course runs from 9am to 4.30pm on Wednesday September 4.

The following day, Thursday September 5, there will be a Scottish Certificate for Personal Licence Holders Course which runs from 9am to 5pm.

Alongside the full personal licence holders course, there will also be a refresher course for personal licence holders. This is the qualification required within five years of a licence being issued and, more importantly, it is also the qualification required to renew your personal licence.

All courses are in the Corran Halls and start at 9am.

Contact details are included with the application form which is available along with details of other courses at [www.enecat.com](http://www.enecat.com).



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## Following in the footsteps of heroes

No stranger to a charity challenge, Tarbert man Kenny MacNab is at it again – despite undergoing surgery in June.

Kenny, chairman of the Clyde Fishermen's Trust, is hoping to raise £3,000 to help the trust support fishing communities and the way of life in fishing villages up and down the coast.

His challenge will be to complete the arduous Freedom Trail across the Pyrenees between France and Spain, climbing to heights of more than 2,500m on remote mountain trails.

As he trained for his trek in the Arrochar Alps, retired fisherman Kenny said: 'As chairman of the Clyde Fishermen's Trust, I have had first-hand experience of the excellent work it has done since its formation – not least in helping facilitate the recovery of the Nancy Glen and returning our two shipmates to their home port.

'The trust is involved in many other projects involving young people where we educate them about the cultural heritage of the fishing industry.

'It is our aim that this should never be lost – it's too precious to our communities. We are also involved in training for fishermen and also in the arts, and have commissioned a play about fishing and the modern-day problems we face, which may be touring soon.

'The Freedom Trail, or Chemin de la Liberté, follows one of the toughest Second World War escape routes from Nazi-occupied France. Local people risked their lives to help the thousands of Allied servicemen and Jewish refugees fleeing to safety, and we pass plaques and memorials dedicated to their bravery.'

Kenny added: 'The trek will be arduous, though I would imagine the scenery will be spectacular and, as well as raising funds, it will be a personal challenge which commemorates the bravery of others. I don't have long to get into shape before heading off on September 7 but I am looking forward to it.'

To support Kenny's fundraising efforts, look out for sponsor sheets around Tarbert, and there is a Just Giving page for donations – simply visit the Just Giving website and search for 'Clyde Fishermen's Trust'.

# Farewell to deer, salmon

## Morvern lines

IAIN THORNER

ian.thorner@btinternet.com



The old saying, 'A deer from the hill, a salmon from the river and a tree from the wood' describes the traditional entitlement of every Highlander.

It is sad, indeed, that in the 21st century not one of these can be had without complying with the mind-bending rules and petty regulations of a bureaucracy determined to extinguish the very sports it purports to regulate. This at a time when every year more people are turning to the countryside for sport, relaxation and pleasure.

A recent survey, conducted on a large estate in the north-east Highlands, showed that camping, tourism, bird-watching, salmon fishing, deer stalking and grouse shooting brought more than £4,000 a day to that small area alone. Overall, the value of field sports to the Scottish economy is estimated to exceed £200 million a year and rising, yet the industry is in difficulty. Why?

The reasons are straightforward: excessive interference by government agencies, landowners thirled to Scottish Natural Heritage (SNH) for eye-watering and obscenely high tree-planting grants, unwilling to bite the hand that feeds them, and a massive reduction in wildlife and deer through poor agricultural husbandry.

A few years ago, many more people lived and worked in the Scottish countryside. However, those responsible then for its welfare were of a different breed. Gone are the farmers, gamekeepers and shepherds who were schooled and lived out their working lives in the same glen, hefted to their hill like some old hind, and excellent naturalists with a practical knowledge of the habits of the deer, salmon, grouse, plants and wildlife in general. They perhaps met only once or twice a year. No emails or reams of paper changed hands, no maps were pored over, the word 'management' did not enter their vocabulary, yet golden eagles, grouse and black-game nested and produced young; deer, foxes, hedgehogs and sheep bred and survived, and pine, birch and oak forests flourished in harmony with everything around them.

These local stewards have largely been replaced by desk-bound scientists and officials who understand little of the workings of the



countryside and seem intent on bankrupting it for future generations in pursuit of trying to create a mythical Arcadian state. The question being asked today is how long rural communities can survive such meddling?

All of Scotland's field sports are under pressure from an anti-lobby, increasing administrations and red tape. Grouse shooting has been given the kiss of death by afforestation and the RSPB's attitude towards raptors.

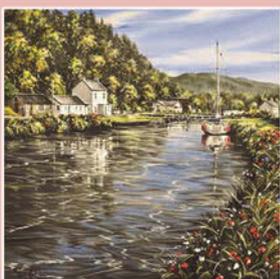
Salmon and trout fishing have become an easy target for do-gooders and politicians, but top of their hit-list is deer stalking. Once the preserve of a rich and leisured few, it now attracts everyone from housewives to lorry drivers. Many landowners and their insurers require stalkers and other staff to pass deer management courses (DMQ) before allowing them to work on their estates.

New figures reveal the number of these applying for the Level One DMQ certificates for stalking has multiplied by more than 50 per cent. Those who claim that deer stalking

is cruel ignore the fact that, when carried out under the supervision of a professional stalker, the animal is shot at close range with a high-powered rifle. It is the only humane way of controlling wild deer numbers, and many a young stalker, at the end of a long hard day on the hill, has wondered whether the greater cruelty was to the deer or himself.

The vastly expensive refrigerated deer larders now required for carcass handling have not resulted in a proportional increase in the price which a sporting estate receives for its venison. The purchaser of a 10lb mixed-cut pack of wild venison will find it difficult to believe that the estate typically receives far less. At least an increasing demand for healthy wild meat may result in a better price to the producer in the future.

A recent survey by Mintel, the international market analyst, has shown that, thanks to the popularity of farmers' markets and a rising interest in local produce, game meat sales increased from £28 million to £57 million



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# on and grouse



**There is something undignified about helicopters being used for deer extraction, even from remote places. Below: The deer shooting season has opened.**

when they gathered at Glenfeshie Estate near Kingussie to protest at one such slaughter. Far from heeding the disquiet among professional stalkers and the widespread public condemnation which followed, the National Trust for Scotland, the following year, flew in contractors by helicopters to its Mar Lodge estate where, during two weeks, more than 1,000 deer were shot for the crime of nibbling a few Scots pines.

As a result, the secretary of the Braemar Tourist Group felt compelled to write to the Scottish Government to complain of a marked downturn in stalking visitors and naturalists coming to the area, leading to a serious loss of local revenue.

The public outcry, arising from one of the BBC's Autumn Watch programmes with the well-known naturalists Bill Oddie and Simon King about SNH's deer culls on Rum led to questions being asked in government, prompting the chairman of the Association of Deer Management Groups, to ask for a greater degree of common sense regarding the future of wild red deer. Rejecting old and never-ending RSPB reports on deer numbers as unhelpful, he also dismissed assertions that Scotland as a whole had too many deer.

Where culls were necessary, they had to be done in ways that avoided the scenes of recent years where marksmen, allegedly, shot them from helicopters and removed their carcasses dangling on a rope under the aircraft. The chairman said: 'So, will our ministers, MSPs and their advisers please kick the "lairds at play" stereotype firmly into touch and accept that deer management, the business it sustains and the jobs that it generates, are of real value to the rural economy?'

A sentiment echoed by former MSP Jamie McGrigor (Conservative) and Fergus Ewing (Scottish Nationalist Party), who labelled the situation on the remote island of Rum as 'ecological vandalism'. It is only this type of language which will protect, promote and enhance Scotland's unique natural resources for tomorrow.

in two years, with virtually fat-free and low cholesterol venison coming out top and accounting for 47 per cent of sales. However, the constraints are many.

SNH, which replaced the Deer Commission for Scotland, seems to have turned its face against deer, blaming them for the destruction of habitat and for restricting public access under the Right to Roam legislation. While the former may occur locally, in neither case do both apply to the whole of Scotland.

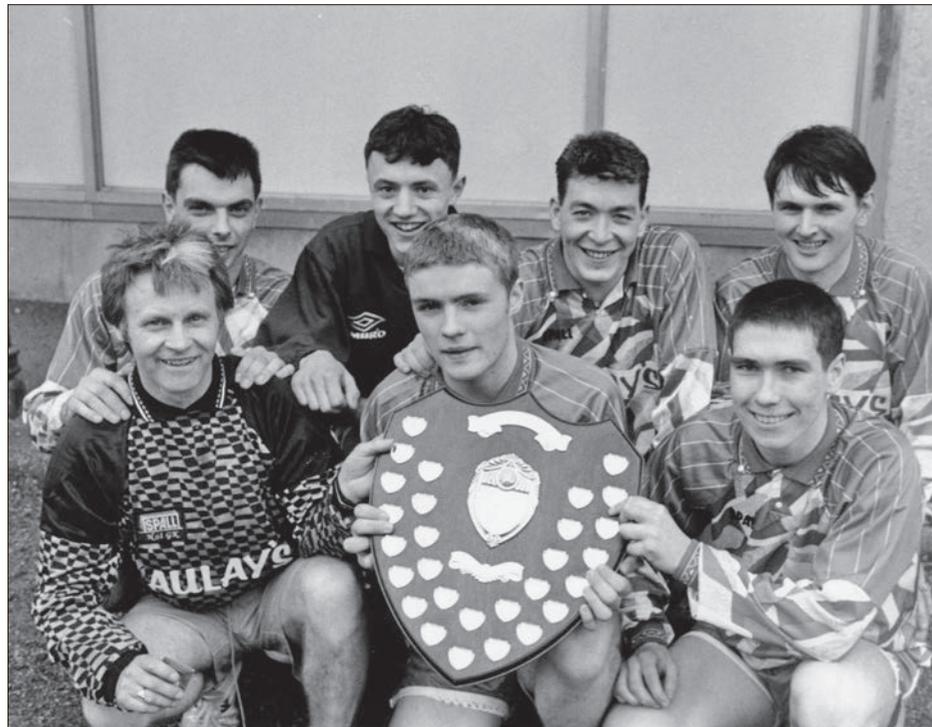
Culls on an unprecedented scale are now undertaken by SNH and, when they are done at night and involve killing, of out of season, heavily pregnant hinds, the attendant welfare issues create greater resentment among genuine hill-men.

In 2004, 100 angry gamekeepers and stalkers from across Scotland made national headlines



## DOWN MEMORY LANE

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



The Oban Times archive from March 1993 shows a team from 'Hill the painters', clearly sponsored by Aulay's pub in Oban winning the Oban Licensed Trade Association Old Mull Shield. Top marks for those who can name all the players.



This week's photo from the Roamer archive shows Fort William High Street.

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## LETTERS

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or The Editor, PO Box 1, Oban, Argyll PA34 4HB

## School's teacher shortage is a cause for concern

The problem faced by Argyll and Bute Council in recruiting academic staff for Oban High School is not a new phenomenon.

According to the school's head teacher, Peter Bain, it regularly proves difficult to attract applications from the kind of teachers we all want to see practicing their profession in this part of the country.

As we report this week, home economics is proving to be a particular problem, which is disappointing.

Among the principal reasons for the recruitment issue – it is not yet a crisis – is the provision and cost of housing, with potential teaching staff deterred as a result.

As Mr Bain has said, the council and school are very proactive in attempting to attract people to this area but 'you can't knit teachers'.

It is a valid point but it remains a cause for some concern.

## Here's hoping for good weather for gathering

It is, of course, one of the highlights of the social and sporting calendar in the region: the Argyllshire Gathering.

Athletes, pipers, dancers and others will congregate at Mossfield Park for the annual Highland games in Oban, with competitors hoping to write their names into the record books as winners. Good luck to them all.

It is also a hugely popular social occasion, both for Argyll residents and the many visitors to the town who want to experience the great day.

It would not be possible for Oban to host this event without the work of many people to stage the gathering. We thank them for their efforts and hope the games are blessed with a sunny day.

## Slashing of air services is a sign of what is to come

So glad that 'Concerned islander' (Letters, August 22) wrote in regarding the inappropriate 'celebration' of the savage cutbacks to the air services for the Argyll islands.

For a minute, I imagined I had lost all sense of reason for it seemed that the paper was announcing this 50 per cent slashing of the service as some sort of good outcome.

Let us remember how this air service started and why.

The new airports at Coll and Colonsay and the enhanced airport at Tralee [Oban] were officially opened in August and September 2008 by, among others, Stewart Stevenson MSP, Minister for Transport, Councillor Dick Walsh, Councillor Duncan MacIntyre and Charlie King, the first chairman of HITRANS, the regional transport partnership. I was present at the openings and noted the following comments word for word.

Council leader Dick Walsh said: 'This marks the official opening of this wonderful new facility which will be a major benefit to the people of Argyll and Bute. Argyll and Bute Council and its partners share a vision which is to be a leading rural area, providing and improving services that will promote and improve the quality of life to the people that we represent.

'We are confident that the Argyll air services will support economic development in the area as well as attracting more visitors. In addition, this transport option will enable island children attending Oban High School to take advantage of our special scholar flights and fly home regularly.'

Mr Stevenson's comment was: 'This is a great day for Oban. This new airport is so important, opening up access for islanders, tourists and businesses alike.'

Great words from our noble leaders but the reality is turning out to be horribly different from their golden visions of the future. What's the betting that this latest collapsing of the service is just a prequel to the next and final step and what good the 'Islands Bill' then?

Peter Isaacson, Coll.

## Better security systems are needed in retail outlets

Over a few years now in Oban there have been a number of robberies, attempted robberies

## YOUR PICTURES



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

[editor@obantimes.co.uk](mailto:editor@obantimes.co.uk), post it to The Editor, PO Box 1, Oban, PA34 4HB. Alternatively, hand it in to our offices in Crannog Lane, Lochavullin Industrial Estate, Oban, or to our office in

and burglaries at a post office, bank, shops and now the M&S Foodhall.

This recent armed robbery is a very rare type of occurrence in our card-paying world. However, I must emphasise that the young assistant, although faced with what must have been a very unpleasant episode, acted absolutely correctly as no one was hurt, which is the priority and should be commended.

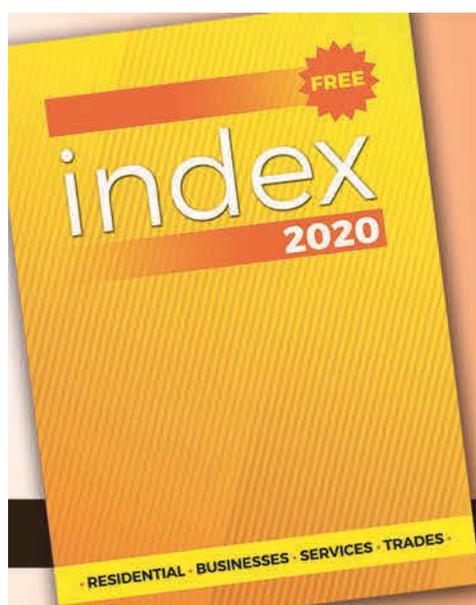
M&S and other retailers could have some simple precautions put in place in terms of security measures so the public feel safe when out shopping.

To deter robberies, simple high visibility signs suggesting £50 maximum held in each till and extra CCTV should be in place.

Name and address supplied.

## More information about distinguished piper

While reading The Oban Times (Thursday August 15), I saw the article 'Tattoo now has its own Harris Tweed design' and was delighted to see the face of an old friend, Steve Small. Although I was not a piper or musician, I was



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High Street, Fort William. This week's photograph was sent in by Kenny MacLeod, of MacLeod Construction Limited who took the photograph of an egret at the Clock Tower in Lochgilphead.

a friend of Steve throughout his time in the Black Watch.

Steve was a major in the army, the senior pipe major in the British Army and went on to be director of bagpipe music in the British Army from 2007-2016 and was awarded the MBE in 2017. He is now, I believe, head organiser of bagpiping for the Edinburgh Tattoo.

So I found it a little odd (even though the article is not about him) for him just to be noted as a 'Tattoo performer piper Stevie Small'.

Surely with his background at least some note of his title, rank, position or appointment

could have been mentioned. Maybe that's all he wanted or maybe I'm just getting old and grumpy and there is nothing wrong with the caption, but I thought I'd send this email anyway.

Ricky Clark, Kilchoan.

## I have a Green dream to tackle climate change

With respect to Martin Luther King, my Green Scottish dream is an independent Scottish Government as a coalition between the Greens and SNP.

In government together, this could be a powerhouse of controlled but radical change. The idea for this came to me with Lorna Slater's profile in The National, Friday August 16. Her proposition of a Scottish Green new deal hits the spot.

With the SNP being responsible for nationhood, broadly, and the Greens pushing ahead with their new deal, the expertise of both parties could be brought to bear on the critical issues of our time, climate emergency and inequality.

With regard to the necessity for establishing a low carbon future, it is necessary to handle the transition from fossil fuel energy to sustainable energy in a pragmatic way. It is counter-productive to demonise oil companies and big business.

We need to seduce them away from their obsession with mass consumption regardless of damage to our environment.

One way, in the North Sea, would be to eliminate decommissioning costs providing that redundant platforms were converted to wind and tidal platforms generating sustainable energy.

Tie-ups to land can be cables via redundant pipelines and/or hydrogen generation on installations with no

pipeline connection. The technology for this is available now and the basic infrastructure is in situ.

There is an opportunity for gainful employment. Once these installations were redundant, they could then be converted to mini reefs. Perhaps a win-win situation. Possibly, also, a means of providing, economically, a link to Europe to supply renewable energy.

Finally, I see no reason why one of our Scottish universities could not research such a project now.

Donald Grant, Sula Bheinn,  
Corpach, Fort William.

## Beachd Ailein

ALLAN CAMPBELL

editor@obantimes.co.uk



Anns an fharsaingeachd tha mi a' creidsinn nach eil muinntir Bhatairsteinn an Eilean Sgitheanaich idir air spiorad aoiheil dualach nan Gàidheal a thrèigsinn, ach tuigidh mi carson a tha cuid aca air an leamhachadh le truimead trafaig chun na h-ìre 's gum bheil iad a' moladh còmhhdail luchd-turais a bhacadh gu h-iomlan bhon rathad aon-fhillte a tha a' ruith tron bhaile aca.

'S i an trioblaid gur e sin an aon slighe rathaid a dh'ionnsaigh na h-Eist, rubha eireachdail aonranach air taobh an iar an Eilein le taigh-solais ainmeil agus seallaidhean air bearraidhean iargalta leithid An t-Àigeach, Am Bìoda Mòr, is Bìoda an Adhair. Sgìre a bha ainmeil riamh airson iasgach eil cuid de na rathaidean agus seirbheisean aiseig air chomas dèiligeadh ri meud na bheil a' tadhal ann.

Ach tha barrachd aire a-nise ga thoirt air cho beag ul-lachaidh 's a tha ga dhèanamh ma choinneamh nan àireamhan luchd-turais a tha a' tighinn dhan sgìre. Mar a tha an seanfhacal ag ràdh, cha ghabh an soitheach Gàidhealach ach a làn, agus tha fianais làidir air feadh mòran de cheann a tuath na dùthcha a-nise nach eil cuid de na rathaidean agus seirbheisean aiseig air chomas dèiligeadh ri meud na bheil a' tadhal ann.

Aig an aon àm tha gainnead ionmhais na roinne poblach a' fàgail fiù 's goireasan thaighean-beaga a' dùnadh, agus pàircean-charbadan a' fàs nas daoire. Fàilte chun na Gàidhealtachd!

Chan eil mi cinnteach cuin a dh'fhàs Rubha na h-Eist cho tarraingeach dha luchd-turais ach gu cinnteach tha e a-nise aig ìre fear de phrìomh làraich tadhail an Eilean Sgitheanaich a dh'aindeoin 's gum bheil suas

ri deich mìle de rathad cumhang aon-fhillte thuige bho dh'fhàgas tu Dùn Bheagain.

Tha a' mhòr-chuid de shluagh na Gàidhealtachd is nan Eilean glè thuigseach air cho luachmhor agus a tha gnìomhachas turasachd air fàs dha eaconamaidh na sgìre, is e a' lìonadh nam beàrnan a tha lughdachadh ann an cosnaidhean eile a' fàgail ann am beòshlaint nan daoine.

Ach tha barrachd aire a-nise ga thoirt air cho beag ul-lachaidh 's a tha ga dhèanamh ma choinneamh nan àireamhan luchd-turais a tha a' tighinn dhan sgìre. Mar a tha an seanfhacal ag ràdh, cha ghabh an soitheach Gàidhealach ach a làn, agus tha fianais làidir air feadh mòran de cheann a tuath na dùthcha a-nise nach eil cuid de na rathaidean agus seirbheisean aiseig air chomas dèiligeadh ri meud na bheil a' tadhal ann.

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Às aonais gnìomhachas eile air faire a ghabhadh àite na tha an sgìre a' cosnadh bho thurasachd, saoil nach eil e air

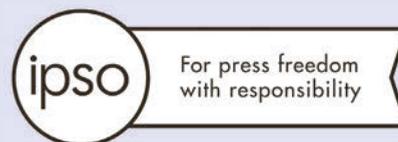
leth èiginneach gun d' rachadh innleachd choileanta a dheasachadh air mar a ghabhas an obair seo a frithealadh anns na bliadhnaichean romhainn.

Chan iongnadh sam bith cuid a bhith cantainn gur fhada bhon a bha còir leithid de phlana a bhith ann agus gun robhas a' margaideachd na sgìre gun diù ga thoirt air ìre agus comas nan goireasan a bh' innte, agus cuideachd feumalachdan agus còraichean an t-sluaigh a tha còmhnaidh an sin. Feumar sluaigh a ghleidheadh san sgìre oir cha bhi aoiheachd Ghàidhealach buan gun Ghàidheil.

Exponential growth in tourism requires a detailed strategy for provision and maintenance of roads, ferry services and support facilities. Such a plan must also recognise and protect the interests of local communities, to enable and maintain a traditional Highland welcome.

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

Allan Campbell is president of An Comunn Gaidhealach and a member of Bòrd na Gàidhlig.



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

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OT

# DISTRICT NEWS

## ISLAY

There will be a family fun day at the Dunyvaig Dig on Saturday August 24. The event will start at noon and run until 4pm.

In the Lagavulin Malt Mill at the distillery, there will be spinning and weaving demonstrations, medieval food workshops, arts and crafts, as well as information about Islay's clans and family history.

At the Lagavulin Bay, by the Dunyvaig Dig, there will be archery lessons, historical talks about the bay, as well as a chance to meet the archaeologists to hear about Dunyvaig's history and see what has been found at the excavation.

## TAYVALLICH

Tayvallich Sailing Club held a successful annual regatta on Saturday August 10.

Defying the forecast, lots of people turned up and luckily the weather did not do what it was forecast to.

Always a popular day for locals and visitors, the regatta is the main fundraising event for the sailing club and a very full day of activities.

In the morning, various on-the-water races were held – rowing, rafting, canoeing, hunt the rubber duck – all in front of the village green where refreshments were served.

In the afternoon, it was all about sea swimming races just outside the bay and wind surfing, dinghy and keelboat races on Loch Sween.

The day was rounded off with a barbecue, prize-giving and live music at The Tayvallich Inn.

This year there were three bands playing – Thorkil and the Creelmen, The Vallichs, and The Rusty Mustangs.

Money raised at the regatta goes towards operating costs and the club's main activity at the moment is teaching the village primary school children to row and sail and be safe at sea.

The Tayvallich Regatta is held every year on the second weekend in August.



Pictured collecting the Rotary Club of Oban's Young Musician of the Year Award from president Douglas Small is Anna Tait-Westwell, flanked by Rotarian Dave Waltho, youth convener.

## Anna is Rotary's Young Musician of Year

The Rotary Club of Oban's Young Musician of the Year is Anna Tait-Westwell, who received her award recently from club president Douglas Small and youth convener Dave Waltho.

Anna is a very accomplished young musician, especially for someone of such a young age and will no doubt go on to be a hugely successful musician.

The Rotary Club said it was delighted to support Anna and have her as its Young Musician

for this year. Anna already has an impressive CV and is clearly a gifted talent. She has won the clarsach recital three times at the Royal National Mòd.

She has also won the harp medal at the Edinburgh Competition, and performs each year at the Highlands and Islands Music Festival where she has won clarsach prize and piano grade four, and singing.

Anna has performed at the Edinburgh International Harp

Festival in the 100th anniversary concert for the Clarsach Society and has had a composition published in the Wild Strings Jazz harp collection after winning a composition competition.

She started playing the fiddle aged four and the clarsach at seven and now has a growing interest in the Paraguayan harp, which she is learning to master.

The Rotary Club said: 'We all wish Anna a fun year ahead as our Young Musician of the Year.'



Youngsters have fun during the raft race, below left, and sailing boats take to the water.

## INVERARAY

The best competing pipers around returned to the stage at the National Piping Centre in Glasgow for the annual Masters Solo Piping Competition.

Inveraray's Pipe Major Stuart Liddell proved to be the pick of the bunch at the competition on Monday August 12.

His win earns him qualification for the Glenfiddich Piping Championship 2019, which takes place this October.

Competition results were as follows.

Piobaireachd: 1st Stuart Liddell, The Unjust Incarceration; 2nd Fred Morrison, Scarce of Fishing; 3rd Callum Beaumont Donald Gruamach's March; 4th Roddy MacLeod, The Earl of Ross's March.

March, Strathspey and Reel: 1st Connor Sinclair, Major Manson at Clachantrushal, Arniston Castle, Broadford Bay; 2nd Angus MacColl, The Lochaber Gathering, The Cameronian Rant, Pretty Marion; 3rd Willie McCallum, Murdo MacLeod, Lady MacKenzie of Gairloch, The Man from Glengarry; 4th Finlay Johnston, Inverloch Castle, Maggie Cameron, Thompson's Dirk.



Stuart Liddell with his trophy.



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## At random

MARTIN LAING

mlaing@obantimes.co.uk



### Shocking crime

There was widespread dismay last week after an armed raid at Oban's Marks and Spencer Foodhall.

A very young member of staff – just 17, we were told – was forced to hand over a three-figure sum of money and was understandably traumatised by this very frightening experience.

Thankfully, a person has been apprehended for the offence. Police Scotland responded by carrying out extensive inquiries and providing a mobile police station the car park outside the store.

This was a shocking incident to happen anywhere but perhaps especially in a community such as ours where serious crimes are thankfully rare.

I hope this was a one-off but for the sake of staff in the retail sector across the area, I also hope that employers are reviewing with urgency their security provisions.

No one should have to face this kind of trauma as part of their working day and I feel desperately sorry for the people involved.

And I would urge anyone with any information to contact the police as soon as possible.

### Ramping it up

Oops! It seems I have been a bit hasty in this space recently when I considered the work being carried out at Oban's Tesco store to upgrade the emergency exits.

I wrote two weeks ago: 'My only concern is that all the new escape routes seem to involve steps. What about people with mobility problems, or wheelchair users or mums with tots in buggies?'

'In the highly unlikely event of an emergency, how are they to exit the supermarket if the front entrance is not available?'

'At least one of these escape routes should have a ramp.'

Time to eat humble pie. The guys from KCR Building Solutions were quite rightly peeved that I went off half-cocked because the following week they installed just such a ramp.

### 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.



The Portsonachan Squirrel Regeneration Project group with the new feed boxes.

## Project aims to save Argyll's red squirrels

The Portsonachan Squirrel Regeneration Project are continuing their work to preserve the red squirrel population.

Some of the local volunteers of the group have installed new replacement squirrel feeders. These feeders will be used along South Loch Awe-side replacing existing feeders which have

been damaged by the elements, thus providing a total of 19 feeding stations being watched and sustained by the volunteer group.

The purchase of the new feeders was made possible by the group's main sponsor, Tilhill Forestry, and Egger Forestry. Also sponsoring the project

this year is Ardanaiseig Hotel, which enables the group to have a continuous supply of food for the future, supplementing the natural diet available locally.

Spokesperson Carol Russell said: 'We have already seen a steady spread of red squirrels from the initial hotspots, with some areas reporting four or

five youngsters and hopefully we will see a second litter later this year.'

Further information on the project can be found on the Portsonachan Squirrel Regeneration Project Facebook page or by contacting Carol Russell at Carolr2@btinternet.com

We provide a full range of services dealing with charitable organisations, and are happy to provide advice and ongoing compliance work as appropriate

To make an enquiry call David Ross CA on 01631 294160 or email [info@mackayandco.net](mailto:info@mackayandco.net)  
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# Safer Communities Safer Scotland

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

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

## Seen something? Say something

If you thought a child was at risk of harm, you'd do something about it. It should be no different for an adult. If your instinct tells you something isn't right, don't keep it to yourself. With one email or anonymous phone call to Social Work, the situation you're worried about will be checked out and support given, if needed. It may be nothing, but there's no harm in being sure. For your local contact details, visit [actagainstharm.org](http://actagainstharm.org)

### Situations to be aware of

It's not always easy to tell if an adult at risk of harm is in trouble. But there are situations to be aware of. Above all, trust your instincts – if something feels wrong, say something.

### Financial harm

Examples of this could be when an adult who is at risk of harm:

- Gives money to a stranger or someone they know, for reasons that concern you.
- Is unclear or confused about where their money has gone.
- Is stressed about money issues or debt.

### Physical harm

Examples of this could be when an adult who is at risk of harm:

- Has cuts, bruises or other marks they can't properly explain.
- Tries to hide injuries or refuses to talk about them.
- Is fearful or withdrawn around certain people or in certain situations.

### Psychological harm

Examples of this could be when an adult who is at risk of harm:

- Is persistently having friends or strangers 'hanging out' at their house.
- Is being verbally bullied by others.
- Is involved in illegal or socially unacceptable activity with others.

### Sexual harm

Examples of this could be when an adult who is at risk of harm:

- Is being sexually harassed or intimidated.
- Appears nervous, withdrawn or intimidated in the presence of others.
- Becomes tearful or upset when their relationship is mentioned.

### Neglect

Examples of this could be when an adult who is at risk of harm:

- Is not dressing, washing or eating properly.
- Is becoming socially isolated.
- Can no longer look after themselves or their property.

**If you think an adult is at risk of harm and may need help, call Social Work to share your concerns. For your local contact details, visit [actagainstharm.org](http://actagainstharm.org)**

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**There is no requirement to join or set up a neighbourhood watch - simply follow the registration instructions. By signing up you control your personal information, contact details and also decide what information providers you want to receive ALERTS from**



It's not always easy to recognise a victim of crime and crimes can often be committed against the most vulnerable people in society and can include stealing or coercing someone to give them money.

People being stressed

or confused about money can be an indication that something is wrong. Vulnerable people can also be coerced in to carrying out crimes for others, often against their will. These crimes could be committed against friends, neighbours or even members of your own family. It is important that if you suspect someone vulnerable is a victim of crime you report it to the Police.

**Graeme Greenlaw**  
Community Sergeant  
Oban

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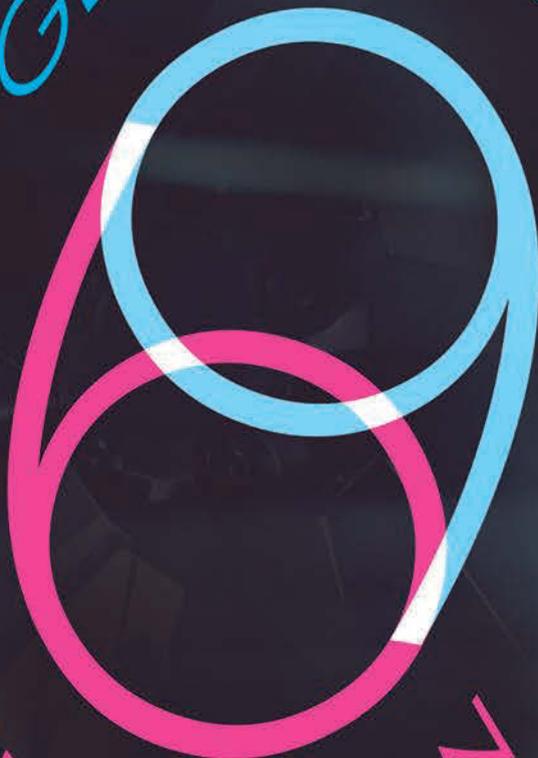
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best position to get a good deal. This means deciding what make and model you want, as well as any add-ons that you need.

Once you have the facts and figures in front of you, it's time to talk to the dealer and negotiate your best price. Our guide will help you get the right car, with the right features for the right price, so read on and get inspired!

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# HIGH FIVE FROM THE ISUZU D-MAX

Winning its fifth award of 2019, Best Working Pick-up in the Professional Pickup & 4x4 awards.

The award-winning Isuzu D-Max keeps on pulling in the wins in 2019 picking up the Working Pickup of the Year 2019 Award in the Professional Pickup & 4x4 awards.

Professional Pickup & 4x4 magazine is written by pickup users, for pickup users. They carry out rigorous tests on all the latest pickups and 4x4s, including towing tests with heavy duty trailers and off-roading on their very own 4x4 course.

This award is bestowed upon the pickup that demonstrates the best 'working' qualities, such as towing abilities, payload, loading practicality and was judged by a panel of twelve 'Pickup Professionals', who highly commended the Isuzu D-Max for its outstanding

durability, capability and reliability. It works to meet the needs of different types of business user.

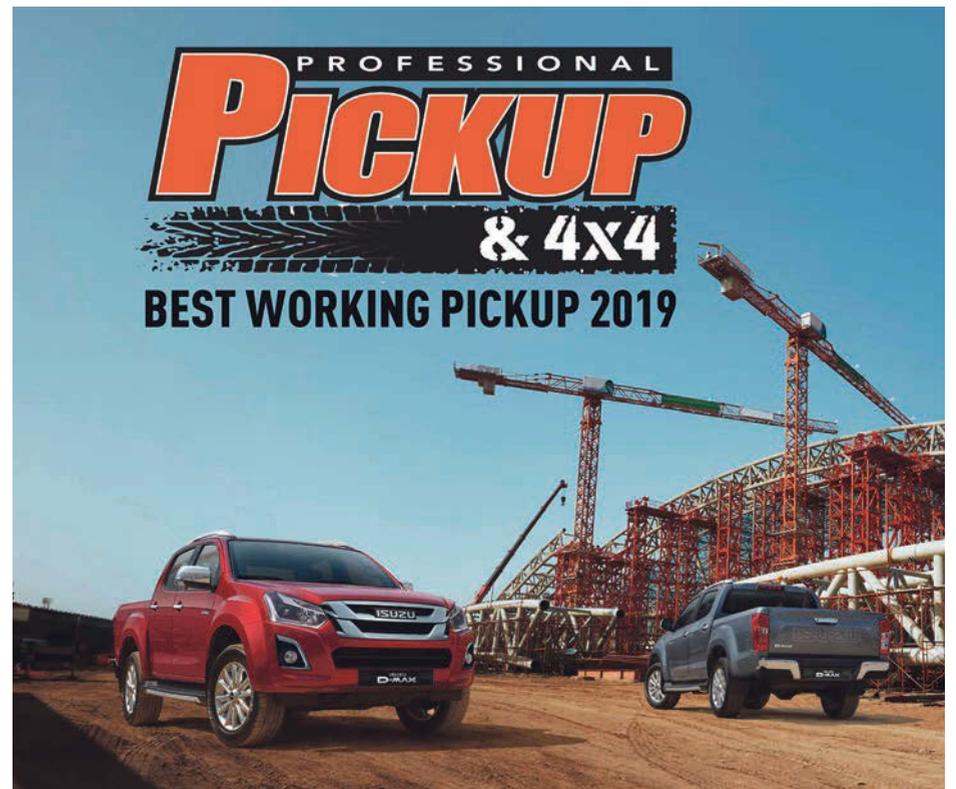
The Isuzu D-Max was also praised for meeting Euro 6 standards without the need for AdBlue, unlike most of its competitors. It has a 3.5-tonne towing capacity, over one-tonne payload and provides a quiet, economical driving experience. The breadth of the Isuzu D-Max range also impressed; with single, extended and double-cab formats available, as well as a wide choice of trim levels. Coupled with the attractive five-year/125,000-mile warranty package and five years' roadside assistance (in the UK and Europe), the Isuzu D-Max proved it was truly built for the professionals who use it.

Isuzu UK Managing Director William Brown commented: 'We're really proud to receive this award

as it strengthens the D-Max's position as the most capable and durable working vehicle in the sector. It's really pleasing that all the hard work that has gone in at Isuzu to make such a great product has been recognised.'

The award-winning Isuzu D-Max has already had a successful 2019, being crowned 'Pick-Up of the Year' at the 2019 WhatVan? Awards and in the Pick-up & 4x4 Pro Awards 2019 plus the Isuzu D-Max won best model in the 4x4 Magazine awards. This success follows immediately on from winning the 2019 Best Workhorse Pick-up Award from Trade Van Driver, making it the 5th award already won by the Isuzu D-Max in 2019. It just continues picking them up!

For more information on the award-winning Isuzu D-Max range visit [www.autoservicesperthltd.co.uk](http://www.autoservicesperthltd.co.uk) for further details.



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## THE BEST VALUE CONTRACT HIRE DEAL ON THE MARKET FROM S&S SERVICES

Isuzu UK, the pick-up professionals, is pleased to announce the launch of the new Isuzu D-Max Workman+ double cab. A special edition in the D-Max range, the Workman+ will be produced in a limited to a volume of 125 vehicles in total and will be available in a manual transmission. This hard-working pick-up retains all the features of the multi award-winning Isuzu D-Max Utility but also includes the following equipment over a standard double cab:

- Rear load liner
- Tow bar & 13 pin electrics
- Side steps
- 18" alloy wheels
- Full-size spare wheel – alloy
- Reversing camera
- DAB radio

Aimed at farmers and urban trade customers, Workman+ is equipped with practical specification to help get the job done. The tow bar and 13 pin electrics are compatible with trailers that have LED lights and customers can choose to fit an over rail or under

rail load liner according to their preference.

Elevating the exterior styling from a basic workhorse pick-up, side steps increase convenience and 18" alloy wheels add a premium feel while still retaining the practicality of a working vehicle as a full-size spare alloy wheel

and locking wheel nuts are included as standard.

The audio system has also been upgraded to include DAB radio and a reversing camera is mounted under the rear bumper, with the image displayed in the rear-view mirror.

In addition to the new

features mentioned above, the Isuzu D-Max Workman+ retains its superior 3.5-tonne towing, outstanding 125,000-mile / five-year warranty (whichever comes first) and five-year roadside assistance in the UK and across Europe.

Workman+ is available

in five colours: Splash White, Titanium Silver Met, Obsidian Grey Mica, Cosmic Black Mica and Sapphire Blue Mica. Cosmic Black and Sapphire Blue paint finishes are normally restricted to premium models but a limited volume has been made

available for Workman+.

Pricing for the new Workman+ is only £21,495 CVOTR. This offers a considerable amount of equipment for a price walk of only £700 over a standard Utility Double Cab. Call S&S Services on 01292 880080 for further details.

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Blade Model pictured (inc. optional special paint finish) from £309.37 a month +VAT plus Initial Rental in advance of £2,784.33 +VAT.



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—OVER—  
**1.0**  
TONNE  
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## LEVORG 2.0I GT LINEARTRONIC

- The new Subaru Levorg comes equipped with a 2.0L naturally aspirated petrol engine.
- This family tourer benefits from a fine-tuned suspension, responsive handling and a host of new technology.
- Available at S&S Services



The new Subaru Levorg offers estate car practicality with permanent Symmetrical All-Wheel Drive as standard. Refreshed for 2019, Levorg comes equipped with a 2.0L naturally aspirated petrol engine, refined exterior styling and a selection of interior upgrades including new safety technology.

Comfortable and capable around town and effortless on the motorway, Levorg's new

petrol engine is combined with Subaru's Lineartronic CVT transmission and Symmetrical All-Wheel Drive as standard. This family tourer also benefits from a fine-tuned suspension and responsive handling to deliver improved ride comfort and sheer driving enjoyment.

The front face has been revamped with a more refined front bumper, a sharper front grille and refreshed headlight and

fog light designs. A newly designed 18" alloy wheel completes the exterior and, in addition to these visual enhancements, Levorg gains improved visibility with LED steering responsive headlights and LED fog lights.

Inside, there has been a variety of discreet style upgrades to the instrument panel, door trim and switches. Plus, there have been improvements to comfort with power

adjustable lumbar support introduced on the driver's seat. Rear seat and boot space usability has been enhanced with a new 40/20/40 split folding rear seat configuration that improves convenience and is particularly suited to loading long items with two passengers seated in the rear.

Levorg features all of the infotainment and audio offerings you would expect in a family tourer. The

intuitive 7" multifunction colour touchscreen is easy to use and contains Apple CarPlay™ and Android Auto™, DAB radio, Bluetooth® connectivity and satellite navigation.

Subaru has been voted Best Manufacturer for Safety Features in the 2019 Driver Power Survey and Levorg demonstrates the brand's commitment to build the safest cars on the road. EyeSight driver assistance includes

adaptive cruise control, pre-collision braking and lane departure warning. Blind spot monitoring and a reversing camera were also existing technologies and these are now complemented by a front view camera and smart rear-view mirror to improve visibility in areas that would ordinarily be obstructed from view.

Available from S&S Services, please call 01292 880080 for further details.

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**(BETTER where it MATTERS)**

Vehicles shown: XV 2.0i SE Premium Lineartronic OTR price of £29,075, Forester 2.0i XE Lineartronic OTR price £30,565 & Outback 2.5i SE Premium Lineartronic OTR price £33,575. Prices include optional special paint finish (£550)

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# ALL-NEW PEUGEOT 208 AND e-208 PRICES AND SPECIFICATIONS ANNOUNCED

- Prices for the all-new PEUGEOT 208 start from £16,250 with the all-electric e-208 priced from £25,050\* in Active trim
- The all-new e-208 is the first new generation all-electric car from PEUGEOT, capable of up to 211 miles from a single charge (WLTP)
- The all-new 208 and e-208 are available in Active, Allure and GT Line trim, with e-208 also available in flagship GT trim
- To find out more about the all-new PEUGEOT 208 and e-208, visit: [www.campbeltownmotorcompany.co.uk](http://www.campbeltownmotorcompany.co.uk)

Prices and specifications for the all-new PEUGEOT 208 and the fully-electric e-208 have been released. The all-new 208 and e-208 start from £16,250 and £25,050\* respectively with customer deliveries starting early 2020.

The all-new 208 is the first vehicle to fulfil PEUGEOT's new philosophy of the power of choice i.e. 'choose your PEUGEOT, choose your powertrain'. Featuring the choice of diesel, petrol or all-electric powertrains, the all-new 208 and e-208 will be available in Active, Allure and GT Line trim levels. The zero-emission e-208 is also available in range-topping GT trim.

Standard equipment includes the new PEUGEOT i-Cockpit® with a compact multifunction steering wheel, configurable head-up display, either a 7" or 10" HD colour touchscreen (according to version) and seven satin chrome 'piano' toggle switches. The interior environment can also be personalised with a choice of eight LED mood lighting colours. All driving information can be easily accessed through the all-new PEUGEOT 208 3D i-Cockpit® cluster which is a unique system that projects all the

information on different layers giving you outstanding 3D effect.

Also available is PEUGEOT Connect SOS and Assistance, programmable Cruise Control, Lane Keeping Assist and Mirror Screen® with Apple CarPlay™, Android Auto and MirrorLink®. Bringing sharp design, an instinctive driving experience, uncompromising quality and class-leading levels of technology to the supermini-segment, the all-new PEUGEOT 208 gives customers a comprehensive choice of powertrains to suit their needs.

PEUGEOT's first new generation, 100% electric vehicle, the e-208 uses a 50kWh battery and 136hp electric motor to provide a 211 mile range from a full charge under the WLTP testing.

David Peel, Managing Director of PEUGEOT UK, said: "The all-new PEUGEOT 208 represents the first step in PEUGEOT's vision of providing our customers with the 'power of choice' i.e. 'choose your PEUGEOT, choose your powertrain.' With class-

leading levels of technology, sharp styling and a distinctive driving experience, we expect the all-new 208 and the all-new e-208 to challenge the norm in this sector of the market."

In Active trim, the all-new PEUGEOT 208 starts from £16,250, while the all-new e-208 Active costs from £25,050\*. Active trim features 16-inch alloy wheels (steel wheels for the e-208), Active Safety Brake with pedestrian detection, electric and heated door mirrors and LED daytime running lights with PEUGEOT's unique 'Tooth' design. The e-208 in Active trim also features pre-heating functionality and automatic air conditioning.

Prices for Allure start from £18,850 for the all-new 208 and £26,250\* for the all-new e-208. Allure models come with 17-inch diamond-cut alloy wheels (16-inch alloy wheels on e-208), a gloss black B-pillar, tri-material 'Cozy' leather-effect seat trim with double stitch detail and the PEUGEOT 3D i-Cockpit® with configurable 3D head-up instrument panel.

Allure trim models also feature PEUGEOT's signature 'Claw Effect' full LED 3D rear-light clusters.

GT Line models feature front and rear parking sensors and 180° reversing camera. Also included are 17-inch wheels across petrol, diesel and EV models, Active Safety Brake with Night function, cyclist and pedestrian detection, eight-colour ambient interior lighting, and full LED headlights with PEUGEOT Smartbeam Assist. Additional styling cues include gloss black wheel arch extensions, twin chrome exhaust pipes (on petrol and diesel models) and a Diamond Black roof. Prices start from £20,700 for the all-new 208 GT Line and £28,100\* for the all-new e-208 GT Line.

The all-new e-208 is also available exclusively in range-topping GT trim. Priced at £29,650\*, the GT models feature fully automated parking assistance, adaptive Cruise Control with Stop & Go, Lane Positioning Assist and Blind Spot Monitoring. Inside, GT models come with grey Alcantara® leather trim, heated front seats, and PEUGEOT 3D i-Cockpit® with a larger 10-inch capacitive colour touchscreen and Connected 3D Navigation.

All e-208

models come with three driving modes – Sport, Normal and Eco – and support rapid charging up to 100kWh, with an 80% charge taking just 30 minutes. The e-208 also features unique styling cues to set the electric model apart, including a body coloured chequered front grille, a bespoke 'e' monogram on the C-pillar and a dichroic Lion, which changes colour from different angles.

PEUGEOT recommend using a wallbox charger, so the all-new e-208 comes with a Mode 3 Type 2 cable as standard, which will charge the vehicle in 7.5 hours with a 7kW charging point. PEUGEOT customers can also download the MyPeugeot app, which will allow them to manage their vehicle charge remotely, precondition the temperature of the vehicle and receive 'e-Coaching' on how to benefit most from their vehicle. PEUGEOT will provide a 'Charging Pass' to their customers which enables them to access certain UK public charging points through a free subscription for an introductory period.

To find out more about the all-new PEUGEOT 208 and e-208, visit: <http://campbeltownmotorcompany.co.uk/>





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All finance prices above based on 6000 miles per annum. Images shown for illustration purposes only. Terms & Conditions apply. Age restrictions may apply on certain models. Excess mileage charges may apply. Contact us for more information. Alternatively email us at [cmc@peugeotmail.co.uk](mailto:cmc@peugeotmail.co.uk)

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# RENAULT REVEALS ALL-NEW CLIO UK PRICING AND SPECIFICATION



- All-new fifth generation Renault Clio – best-selling French car ever
- Evolutionary exterior styling and revolutionary interior design
- Option of 'Smart Cockpit' 9.3-inch touchscreen infotainment system and 10-inch TFT instrument cluster
- New EASY LINK multimedia platform features Android Auto™, Apple CarPlay™ and 4G connectivity
- EasyDrive system brings advanced driver assistance to the class
- More interior space and luggage capacity yet more compact exterior dimensions
- Lighter, stronger and safer than its predecessor
- Five-star EuroNCAP award
- First Renault to be built on CMF-B platform
- LED headlamps standard across the range
- EasyLife offering of four trim levels, including new S Edition and R.S. Line models

- Choice of five powertrains, comprising three petrols and one diesel, with hybrid to come in 2020
- Enhanced customisation options
- Prices start from £14,295 OTR
- Orders now open with customer deliveries from late October



The All-New Renault Clio is now available to order, with prices starting at just £14,295 and customer deliveries from late October. Officially revealed at the 2019 Geneva Motor Show, the fifth generation Clio features the latest technological innovations and iconic style that have marked out its ultra-successful predecessors over the past three decades. Completely redesigned

inside and out, the all-new Clio is more spacious and refined than ever, plus it introduces cutting edge driving assistance and infotainment systems to the supermini class. The All-New Clio also continues Renault's strong tradition for safety, having already been awarded a five-star EuroNCAP rating. Following Renault's simple EasyLife model strategy, the

all-new Clio is available in popular Play and Iconic trim levels, as well as new S Edition and RS Line versions. All models are extremely well equipped and packed with premium features, yet with prices starting at £14,295 the all-new Clio remains as affordable as ever.

For further information and pricing, please contact WD Semple on 01499 302150.

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19	Dacia Sandero Comfort TCE90	Blue	10	£10,950	64	Renault Clio + Exp	Red	25,000	£7,500
19	Dacia Stepway Essential, Petrol,	Blue	10	£9,975	64	Renault Clio Dyn TCe	Red	16,000	£7,500
68	Renault Captur TCe Play,	White/black	9,000	£11,450	64	Vauxhall Corsa SE 1.2, 5dr,	Blue	39,000	£5,650
18	Dacia Logan AMB TCE Est,	White	5,250	£8,500	64	Dacia Duster LAU DCI 4x4,	Black	51,000	£7,950
67	Renault Twingo 1M SCE,	White	8,700	£6,950	14	Nissan Micra Acenta,	Black	21,400	£5,950
66	Dacia Sandero Laureate DCi	Silver	6,000	£8,450	63	Renault Clio EXP 1.2	White	5,000	£6,250
66	Peugeot 208 GTline HDi	Red	14,500	£9,750	62	Kia Picanto 1L Petrol ,	Black	39,000	£3850
66	Fiat Punto Pop Plus	White	8,500	£6,950	62	Peugeot Active 1.7 Auto,	Grey,	64,000	£3,250
16	Vauxhall Corsa Design, 1.4 5dr,	Red	36,000	£6,500	62	BMW Series SPH 1.6	Black	48,000	£7,950
15	Peugeot 3008 HDi Allure	Blue	41,000	£9,250	62	Nissan Juke, Acenta, DCI	Red	78,000	£5,250
15	Dacia Duster LAU Prime DCi 4x2	Blue	41,000	£8,250	60	Citroen Picasso HDi	Blue	80,000	£3,500

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# We're coming to Oban Tesco!

The Helensburgh Toyota team are coming to Oban on Tuesday and Wednesday, August 27 and 28, with a range of our most popular Toyota models.



If you're thinking about a new car, pop over and say hello to Paul, our sales consultant. Whether you're looking for a Motability car or want to know more about our hybrid range, Paul will be able to give you expert advice.

We have fantastic offers just now across the range including 0% on Yaris and a Scrapage Scheme offering

£2,000 towards a brand new AYGO.

Helensburgh Toyota has delivered exceptional customer service for over 40 years, and are known across Argyll and Bute and the islands for taking the time with customers to understand their needs. We aim to make the whole car journey effortlessly simple including our fantastic

service team who can arrange to pick your car up from your home when it needs a service or MOT. We'll even give you a free courtesy car until your car is ready. We look forward to seeing you in Oban.

All our latest offers can be found at [www.helensburgh.toyota.co.uk](http://www.helensburgh.toyota.co.uk).

Curious about Hybrid?

If you are wondering what all the fuss is about hybrid

vehicles, come along and meet our experts. Toyota has been at the forefront of hybrid car technology for over 20 years. Our hybrid models are self-charging meaning there is nothing to plug in. The moment you start driving, your battery is charging even when slowing down.

You'll find hybrids feel no different to drive than

a petrol or diesel powered automatic vehicle. Not only does a hybrid offer a quiet and relaxing ride, it will give you the power you need whatever the situation whether cruising down the motorway or overtaking.

From hybrid SUVs to city cars, we offer a range of models to suit every need from family outings to business trips. Our hybrid

vehicles offer significant savings on fuel costs, reduced CO2 emissions and a smooth, stress-free drive.

The best way to discover hybrid is to take a test drive to see for yourself how far you can travel in electric mode. On average, we find at least 50% of our test drive journeys are completed in electric mode, this means no fuel is being used.

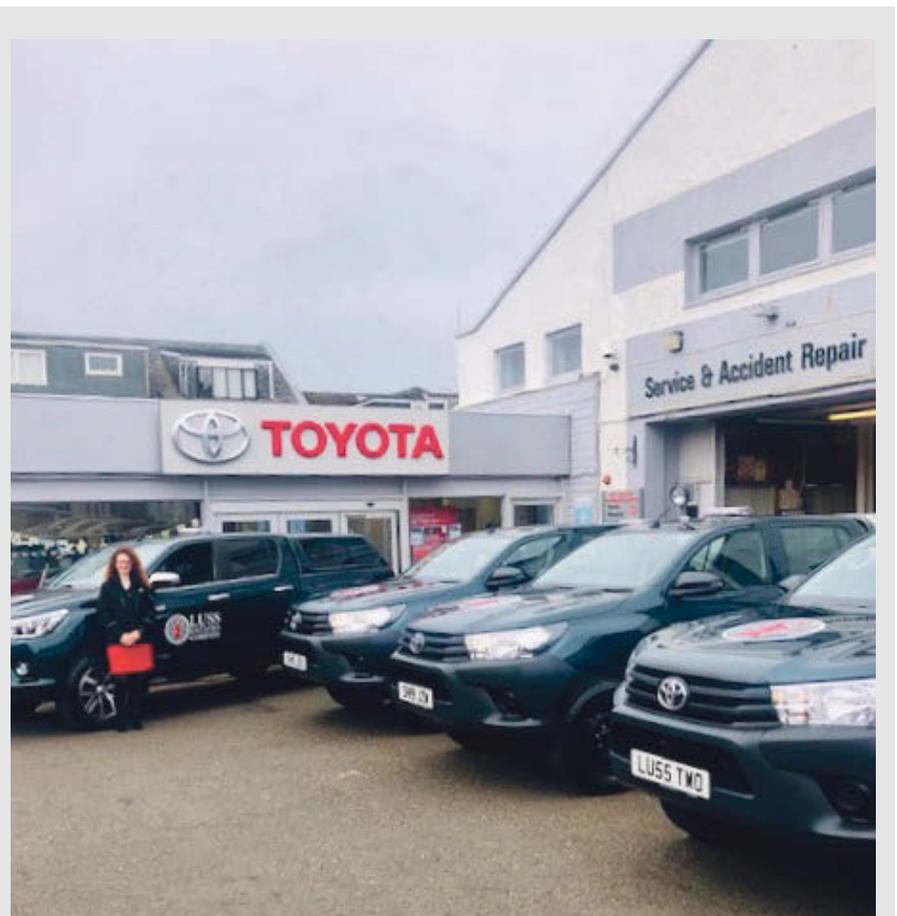
## Business Solutions from Helensburgh Toyota

Our Business Fleet Consultant, Fiona McLaren is also coming to Oban and is available to answer any questions you have. Whether you are a sole trader or manage a range of vehicles for your business, Fiona can provide tailor made solutions that work best for you offering

a range of vehicles.

Speaking about her role, Fiona said: "We take customer service very seriously and like to get to know all customers so we can understand the individual needs of their business. We're proud to be able to deliver tailor made solutions and go above and

beyond. We are a dealership who genuinely cares about our customers and will ensure that they are looked after from first conversation right through to delivery and aftersales. From the banks of Loch Lomond to the Isle of Mull, we offer a bespoke service for businesses."



### We offer:

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- Reclaimable VAT

### Testimonial

**Simon Miller, Chief Executive, Luss Estates:**

"Fiona and the team at Helensburgh Toyota have been fantastic to work with. When we first approached the dealership, we had very specific requirements needed for our vehicles. Working on and around the estate over rough terrain, we needed tough, reliable models but also a fleet that displayed our brand and looked stylish. Nothing was any trouble and the team listened and worked with us every step of the way. The new fleet looks amazing and a real asset to the estate."

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Model shown is AYGO x-trend 1.0 VVT-i Manual £13,090 including optional white flash paint at £250. Model shown is Yaris Icon Tech Petrol 1.0 VVT-i Manual at £15,820 including optional Pure White paint at £250. Prices correct at time of being published. 5 year/100,000 mile manufacturer warranty. Terms and conditions apply. Official fuel consumption figures in mpg (l/100km): AYGO x-trend combined 53.5 (5.3) – 56.5 (5.0). Combined CO2 93 g/km. Yaris Icon Tech combined 45.0 (6.3) – 48.7 (5.8). Combined CO2 107 g/km. Figures are provided for comparability purposes; only compare fuel consumption and CO2 figures with other cars tested to the same technical procedures. These figures may not reflect real life driving results. Fuel consumption and CO2 produced varies significantly depending on a number of factors, including the accessories fitted (post-registration), driving style, conditions, speed and vehicle load. All models and grades are certified according to the World Harmonised Light Vehicle Test Procedure (WLTP), which replaces the New European Driving Cycle test procedure (NEDC). All CO2 figures quoted are NEDC equivalent. This means the CO2 figures are based on the new WLTP test procedure but calculated (using a standard European calculation method) to allow comparison with the NEDC test procedure and will be used to calculate vehicle tax on first registration. All mpg figures quoted are full WLTP figures. More information can be found by visiting: [www.vehicle-certification-agency.gov.uk/fcb/wltp.asp](http://www.vehicle-certification-agency.gov.uk/fcb/wltp.asp) \*0% APR Representative and £2,000 scrappage saving only available on new retail orders of AYGO (excluding X grade) between 1st July 2019 and 30th September 2019 and registered and financed through Toyota Financial Services by 30th September 2019 on a 42 month AccessToyota (PCP) plan with 0%-35% deposit. Scrappage Saving Allowance is not available in conjunction with a Finance Deposit Allowance. Toyota Financial Services is a trading name of Toyota Financial Services (UK) PLC; registered office Great Burgh, Burgh Heath, Epsom, Surrey, KT18 5UZ. Authorised and regulated by the Financial Conduct Authority. Indemnities may be required. Finance subject to status to over 18s. Other finance offers are available but cannot be used in conjunction with this offer. Offer may be varied or withdrawn at any time. 8,000 miles per annum, excess miles over contracted charged at 8p per mile. Toyota Centres are independent of Toyota Financial Services. Participating Toyota Centres. Affordable finance through AccessToyota (PCP). Terms and conditions apply. \*0% APR Representative and £2,500 scrappage saving only available on new retail orders of Yaris Conventional (excluding Active grade) between 1st July 2019 and 30th September 2019 and registered and financed through Toyota Financial Services by 30th September 2019 on a 42 month AccessToyota (PCP) plan with 0%-35% deposit. Scrappage Saving Allowance is not available in conjunction with a Finance Deposit Allowance. Toyota Financial Services is a trading name of Toyota Financial Services (UK) PLC; registered office Great Burgh, Burgh Heath, Epsom, Surrey, KT18 5UZ. Authorised and regulated by the Financial Conduct Authority.

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# GET THAT DAMAGE REPAIRED STRAIGHT

- Even small dents can hide underlying structural damage
- Damage to paintwork lets water in and raises the risk of rust
- When it comes to selling, any unrepaired damage suggests you've neglected the car

It may be human nature to put off small tasks that don't seem urgent, but road safety and breakdown organisation GEM Motoring Assist is urging car owners to have any damage put right as soon as possible.

Delaying repair to car body damage – however minor – can put safety at risk, due to the complex protection systems in place on all modern cars, according to GEM. Additionally, the longer you leave a dent unrepaired, the costlier it's likely to be to put right – and damaged or dangerous bodywork could constitute an MoT failure under the new testing regulations.

GEM's road safety officer Neil Worth said: "If it's a

large dent, most people will get it fixed right away. But when it's only a small dent, it can be easy to put off. You tell yourself it doesn't look good but it's only a minor blemish. Or the car is getting older, so a minor dent here and there doesn't really matter.

"Or you tell yourself you'll get it fixed sooner or later, just not today. So, you put it on the back burner of your to-do list and somehow it never seems to get done.

"Next thing you know, six months or a year have gone by and that car dent is still there. And who knows what's happening to your car underneath the dent?"

GEM has compiled a list of good reasons for fixing car dents as soon as they happen,

not when you eventually get around to it:

### 1 Safety

When it comes to car maintenance, safety is always the top priority. Even small dents can hide underlying structural damage that isn't obvious on the surface. For example, today's flexible bumper covers with plastic outer coatings are designed to minimise damage in low-speed collisions. Yet, the underlying damage can often be much worse than it looks on the surface – and that could compromise safety for you and your passengers.

### 2 Rust issues

Dents cause unsightly blemishes on your car. But a further problem is that a dent damages the paintwork.

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# IT AWAY, SAYS GEM

Cracks caused by even a very small impact can allow water to seep underneath the paint where it will reach the unprotected metal part of the car. Over time, the water will cause the metal to oxidise, causing rust.

### 3 Longer-term paint damage

When you ignore the damage that occurs with a dent, the paintwork isn't going to get better. Weather conditions, everyday wear-and-tear, and even washing your car can cause the cracks in the paint to grow larger. This can lead to flaking and peeling, leaving the underlying sealant exposed. If the car dent is severe enough to damage the sealant as well, peeling paint can leave bare metal exposed.

Once this happens, it's only a matter of time before it starts to rust.

### 4 Reduced resale value

No matter how well your car runs, the exterior appearance is a vital factor when it comes to selling. Few things lower the value of a used car as effectively as unrepaired damage, even if it appears minor. Add paint damage and rust spots and the price a buyer is willing to pay goes down even more. Furthermore, unrepaired dents are a sign of a neglectful owner. Potential buyers may wonder what else is wrong with the car because you didn't take care of the engine, brakes, or other parts. Unless your car is old and in poor condition overall, fixing any

dents should bring you a better price.

### 5 Cheaper to put right

Repairing car dents right away will always cost less than if you wait. It doesn't take long for rust spots to appear or paint to start flaking away. In times of bad weather, or if there's a lot of salt in the air (as you'll find in coastal locations), the damage will spread even faster.

### 6 Pride

If you care about your car's appearance, it doesn't make sense to leave a dent unrepaired. So, the next time someone opens their car door into yours or you bump into someone else when parking, don't wait. Get the damage assessed and repaired by experts.



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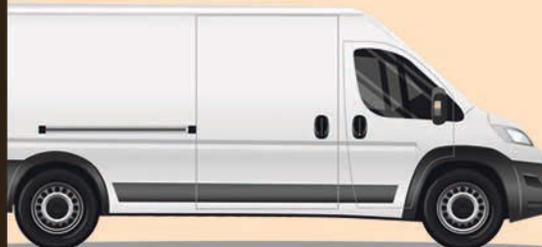
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# VOLVO XC40 CROWNED NEW CAR OF THE YEAR AT MOTOR TRADER 2019 AWARDS

- More than a year on from its launch, the XC40 continues to set winning standards in the premium compact SUV market
- Motor Trader's judges praised the XC40 for its design, packaging, dynamic performance, build quality and impeccable safety
- XC40's success is central to Volvo's exceptional UK sales growth – up 27% in the first half of 2019



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Fuel consumption and CO<sub>2</sub> figures for the MY20 Volvo XC60 T5 FWD, in MPG (l/100km): WLTP Combined 30.1 (9.4) – 34.0 (8.3). NEDC CO<sub>2</sub> emissions 165g/km.

Figures shown are for comparability purposes; only compare fuel consumption and CO<sub>2</sub> figures with other cars tested to the same technical procedures. These figures may not reflect real life driving results, which will depend upon a number of factors including the accessories fitted (post-registration), variations in weather, driving styles and vehicle load. \*There is a new test used for fuel consumption and CO<sub>2</sub> figures. The CO<sub>2</sub> figures shown however, are based on the outgoing test cycle and will be used to calculate vehicle tax on first registration. Preliminary data. Please contact your retailer for latest information. †T&Cs apply. Model shown is the Volvo XC60 T5 FWD Momentum. Contract hire provided by Santander Consumer UK PLC trading as Volvo Car Financial Services, RH1 1SR, 18s & over. Finance subject to status. You can never own the vehicle and it must be returned in good condition to avoid further charges. Excess mileage will be charged at 7.56p per mile for the first 5,000 excess miles. After 5,000 excess miles, excess mileage will be charged at 10.08p per mile. Subject to availability at participating retailers on orders received between 01/07/2019 – 30/09/2019. Guarantee may be required. Not available with other promotions. Ian H. Cameron Ltd, trading as Strathmore are a credit broker not a lender for this financial promotion. We can introduce you to a limited number of carefully selected finance providers and may receive a commission from them for the introduction.

The Volvo XC40 has claimed yet another significant honour, adding the New Car of the Year title in the Motor Trader 2019 Awards to its impressive collection. Its success confirms its status as a game-changing model in the fiercely competitive premium compact SUV market, more than a year on from its UK debut.

Motor Trader's judging panel was full of praise, saying: "The XC40 is a star turn. It shines on all the crucial fronts: convenient size, engaging driving dynamics, impeccable safety credentials and excellent build quality. These combine to make it an outstanding car."

The XC40 was admired for its restrained styling in contrast to more "pumped-up" SUVs, projecting a look that is "more mannerly and less confrontational". The judges were also impressed by the car's ride, handling, performance and refinement, which help make it an accomplished companion over long distances. Further appreciation was given to the "cool Scandinavian interior" and the impressive array of safety features fitted to every version in the range.

Kristian Elvefors, Managing Director of Volvo Car UK, said: "This latest award is a fantastic result, especially because it names the XC40 as the all-round best new car on sale. The XC40 has enjoyed an exceptional reception from the media and public alike, and we will continue to develop and improve its



qualities to ensure it remains the car that sets the standard in its class."

The XC40 exemplifies Volvo's transformation of its entire model range. It's a car that addresses all the priorities of today's premium-market customers in a package that is highly desirable yet full of practical touches to make life easier. Its popularity has helped power Volvo's exceptional UK sales growth – up 27% in the first six months of 2019. In fact, more than 15,000 XC40s have been snapped up by customers since its launch in February 2018.

A large part of this appeal is down to the XC40's clean, contemporary Scandinavian styling, while its cabin is a calm, comfortable and luxuriously appointed place to be. It also delivers the latest in seamless on-board connectivity with unmatched safety technology.

The heart of the XC40's connectivity is the Volvo Sensus system, which includes a central nine-inch touchscreen and advanced voice-activated

control system. This allows easy control of the car's entertainment and information technology, along with access to a range of online apps. A wireless phone charging pad is also available.

A recipient of the maximum, five-star rating from independent safety testing organisation Euro NCAP, the XC40 has excellent impact protection engineered in, while its array of advanced systems include City Safety, which alerts you to a collision risk and can automatically apply the brakes in an emergency as required.

The XC40 is available with a range of Volvo-designed-and-built engines, engineered for smooth performance with good fuel economy and low emissions across the board. Manual and automatic transmissions are available, together with front- or all-wheel drive, depending on the engine.

For more information on the Volvo XC40, and to use the online car configurator, please go to [volvocarsperth.co.uk](http://volvocarsperth.co.uk) or call 01738 622156.

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**Around the markets – Oban and Tiree**

Oban – United Auctions held their opening show and sale of Lambs at Oban Livestock Centre on Tuesday August 13 when 4375 head were sold. Lambs were shown in exceptional good bloom with many purchasers commenting that they have never seen such a good show of lambs at this centre. Lambs sold to average £58.55 per head. In general, most sellers were receiving around £2 per head rise on the year whilst some exceptional lots were up slightly more. A good following of buyers were in attendance. The show of pens of 25 lambs + was judged by Mr J Johnston, West Montgarswood, Ayrshire and the following are his awards. 1st and Champion Pen = J MacCormick, Balnagown £73; 2nd and Reserve Champion = D Dempster, Barguillean £68; 3rd = D MacCormick, Baligarve £70.50. The show of Lambs was kindly sponsored by Carrs of Billington whose shield was awarded to Mr J MacCormick, Balnagown. Principal lots and prices. Lambs. SUFFx: £74.50 – Strongorm : £73.00 – Balnagown : £72.50 – Frackersaig : £68.00 – Strongorm : £67.00 – Ardencaple : £67.00 – Achnacreebeag : £67.00 – Mid Farm : £65.00 – Ardlarach : £64.00 – Frackersaig : £63.00 – Balnagown : £61.00 – Ardlarach. TEXx: £74.00 – Kames Beag : £73.50 – Poltalloch : £73.00 and £71.00 – Balnagown : £70.50 – Baligarve : £70.50 – 3 Baligrundle : £70.00 – Balnagown (A MacColl) : £70.00 – Strongorm : £68.00 – Kames Beag : £68.00 – Barguillean

: £67.00 – Strongorm :  
£67.00 – Barguillean :  
£66.50 – Bailuacraich :  
£66.00 – Keilbeg :  
£66.00 – 2 Baligrundle :  
£65.50 – Blackcroft Crofting :  
£65.50 – Balnagown : £65.00 – Newfield : £65.00 – Dunach Estate.  
BELTx: £72.00 – Island View : £69.50 – Achuaran : £64.00 – Island View.  
ROUGE: £65.00 – Island View.  
CHARx: £52.00 – Creagnich.  
CHEV: £73.00 – 58 Tangasdale, Barra : £60.00 – 85 Borge, Barra.  
CROSS: £73.50 – Strongorm : £70.50 – Inshaig.  
MULE: £66.00 – Achuaran : £63.00 – Fiart : £63.00 – Glenmachrie : £60.00 – Stronacroibh.  
BF: £36.50 – Ben Alder Estate.  
Ewes.  
TEXx: £62.00 – Dunach Estate : £56.00 – Strontoiler.  
CHEV: £54.00 – Dunach Estate.

Tiree – United Auctions held their annual lamb sale at Tiree Auction Mart on Saturday August 17, when 4670 lambs sold to the usual strong force of buyers. Lambs sold to average £59.17 per head or 170.60p per kilo which recorded a sale average increase per head of £2.89 whilst the average price per kilo remained unchanged. As evident from the sale averages, lambs were weighing around 1.5 kilos more on the year. Overall, an excellent show of quality bred lambs was presented at this sale. Principal lots and prices. Top prices per head. SUFFx: £84.50 and £81.00 – 2/15 Balevullin : £78.00 – Hillcrest and 2/15 Balevullin



John MacCormick, Balnagown, Lismore, receiving the shield for champion pen of lambs from Karen Mackay of Carrs Billington.

: £76.50 – Druimasaidh :  
£75.50 – 6 Crossapol : £74.00 – 9 Barrapol and Heylipol Farm : £72.50 – 15 Crossapol : £72.00 – Hillcrest and 2 Heylipol : £71.50 – Salum and Roadside : £71.00 – 2 Heylipol and 2/15 Balevullin : £70.50 – Benview : £70.00 – 9 Barrapol and 8 Cornaigbeg : £68.00 – 10 Crossapol and 6 Crossapol : £67.50 – 6 Barrapol : £67.00 – Croish : £66.50 – 4 Kilkenneth : £66.00 – Hillcrest, Benview and 6 Crossapol : £65.50 – 9 Barrapol. TEXx: £85.00 – 4 Kilkenneth : £81.00 – Deobedal : £79.00 – 4 Kilkenneth : £78.00 – 6 Barrapol : £77.00 and £75.50 – Braeside : £74.50 – Whitehouse : £73.50 – 6 Barrapol and Braeside : £73.00 – Ardmay : £72.00 – Hillcrest : £71.00 – 6 Crossapol and Crofthouse : £70.50 – 6 Barrapol : £70.00 – Whitehouse : £69.50 – Ruaig and 4 Kilkenneth : £69.00 – 3 Middleton, Braeside, 4 Heanish and 3 Balevullin : £68.50 – Lochside : £68.00 – 7 Balinoe and 6 Crossapol. BELTx: £86.00 – Heylipol Farm : £81.00 – 6 Barrapol : £79.00 and £76.00 – Heylipol

: £65.50 – Druimasaidh :  
£65.00 and £65.50 – 8 Kilkenneth.  
CROSS: £76.50 – 2/15 Balevullin : £64.50 – 3a Caolis : £61.00 – Beechwood.  
MULE: £65.00 – Braeside : £64.00 – Lochside : £62.00 – 3 Balevullin.  
BF: £52.50 – Lochside.  
Top prices per kilo. SUFFx: 185p – 4 Kilkenneth and Salum : 181p – Hillcrest and Benview : 179p – Scarinish Farm and Garaphail : 178p – 8 Cornaigbeg and 6 Barrapol : 177p – 6 Barrapol : 176p – Clachan, Garaphail, Ardeas and Whitehouse : 175p – 4 Kilkenneth : 174p – Croish, Ardeas and 10 Balevullin : 173p – Hillcrest, Garaphail and 6 Crossapol : 172p – Benview.  
TEXx: 236p – 4 Heanish

: 209p – Braeside : 199p – Dunbeag : 195p – Lochphuill : 192p – Whitehouse : 191p – Braeside : 190p – 4 Kilkenneth : 189p – 3 Middleton : 188p – Braeside and Sandaig : 186p – Dunbeag and Lochphuill : 185p – Heylipol Farm : 183p – Dunbeag and 4 Kilkenneth : 182p – 3a Caolis, Clachan, Lochphuill and Crofthouse : 181p – 6 Barrapol : 180p – 4 Kilkenneth.  
BELTx: 218p, 214p and 198p – Heylipol Farm : 197p, 194p and 187p – Ruaig : 184p – 6 Barrapol and Ruaig : 183p and 179p – 6 Barrapol.  
CHEVx: 193p – 8 Kilkenneth.  
CROSS: 190p – Scarinish Farm.  
MULE: 163p – Roadside : 161p – Lochside.  
BF: 147p – Lochside.

## S&S SERVICES

# OUTDOORS

## Call for support of world's first shark protected area

The Scottish Wildlife Trust and Marine Conservation Society are asking people to show their support for basking sharks by responding to a Scottish Government consultation.

The Sea of the Hebrides Marine Protected Area (MPA) is one of four MPAs that were proposed by the Scottish Government in June. Spanning an area between the east coast of the Western Isles and the west coasts of Skye, Mull and the Ardnamurchan Peninsula, it would be the world's first protected area for basking sharks.

Large groups of basking sharks gather in the Hebrides from May to October to feed on the plentiful plankton supported by the mixing of nutrient-rich cold waters with warmer surface waters.

Dr Sam Collin, marine planning manager for the Scottish Wildlife Trust (SWT), said: 'Basking sharks are only in Scottish seas for around six months of the year but it is vital that we do all we can to protect them from harm.'

'The proposed MPA is a welcome step forward for the conservation of this threatened species and adds to a growing network of protected areas around Scotland.'

Calum Duncan, from the Marine Conservation Society, added: 'We know Scotland's wildlife and environmental quality are of immense value, both in their own right and to our global reputation, and so are delighted that these new sites are being proposed. We urge as many people as possible to join our campaign to ensure basking sharks, and other features, have better protection in Scottish waters.'

The new Sea of the Hebrides MPA would be the world's first protected area for basking sharks, and would offer them, as well as other species such as whales, additional protection by controlling potentially harmful activity.

# Academic's warning about islands' future

South Uist, Benbecula and North Uist may be the first Scottish communities to suffer from the affects of climate change and rising sea-levels.

That was the stark message of Professor Stewart Angus in his second talk at the 2019 Ceòlas community symposium, which took place last month, titled 'Eadar an Làn, an Lige agus an Loch'.  
A series of lectures and guided walks examined Uist's relationship with water, from the elaborate canal system, possibly dating to the 18th century, to the inland fisheries and the threat of storm surges to the low-lying machair on the west.

According to the research of Prof Angus, policy and advice manager with SNH, the communities most vulnerable to the effects of climate change in Scotland are Uist, Tiree,Islay and Sanday in Orkney.

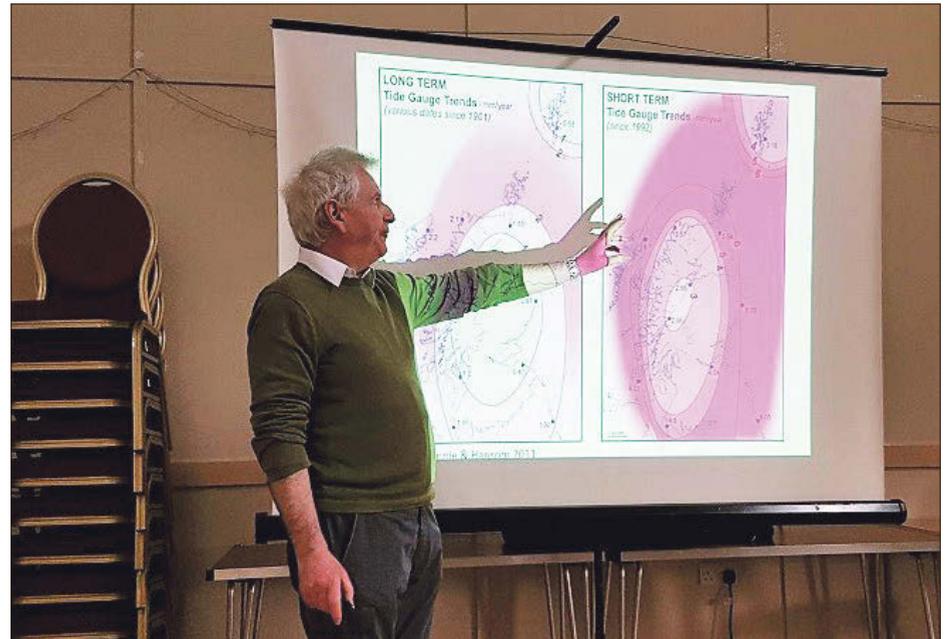
Uist's situation on the rim of the North Atlantic, along with its soft coastline, low-lying plains and lochs, leaves it exposed to powerful storms. Currently shielded by forests of kelp, which help to sap the strength of the Atlantic rollers, it is thought that storm surges and further sea-level rise will render this natural defence more ineffective as the wave action rises above the kelp's reach.

South Uist has been drained through a canal system, known as the 'ligidhean', for many generations.

The under-researched system is highly complex, spanning the length of the island and into Benbecula, and oral tradition tells that sections were built in the 18th century by Dutch engineers.

Due to sea-level rise, among other factors, the drains' effectiveness is reduced as there is less time at low tide to expel water. A powerful storm, accompanied by a surge and large rainfall, will cause major flooding and result in considerable damage to coastal areas.

In some areas, the machair dunes which provide a regenerative buffer for the low-lying inland croft land are growing precariously



Professor Stewart Angus demonstrating relative sea-level rise in Scotland.

thin at certain areas. The machair at Cille Pheadair is in danger of inundation by the sea if the dunes breach on the west side during a storm.

Much of the inland machair lies below the high-water spring tide and large areas of croft-land may be reclaimed by the ocean. It is thought that this could happen within the next century.

In addition to these grave predictions, more light-hearted topics were explored during the symposium, including poaching, gutting fish, smoking mussels and the high regard of women within the Gaelic world.

Two walks looked at the 'ligeadh' at Loch Druidibeag and the route which the salmon take on their way to their spawning areas later in the year.

The symposium was opened with a mass in

Ardkenneth Church and concluded with a service in Howmore Church.

The piping recital, showcasing the high skill of local pipers, was headlined by Dr Angus MacDonald, who always has an insightful approach to playing for a Gaelic audience. A highlight was his performance of a tune called 'Finlay MacKenzie' in the old Uist style of dance-piping. The final cèilidh, hosted by Mòrag MacDonald, the presenter of the popular 'A' Mire ri Mòir' programme on BBC Radio nan Gàidheal, was an excellent evening of Uist musicians.

Ceòlas would like to thank those who attended the talks and concerts, those who gave demonstrations or talks, and its funders, Bòrd na Gàidhlig, Creative Scotland, Highlands and Islands Enterprise and Comhairle nan Eilean Siar.

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## This week's walks



### Walkers urged to check for deer stalking

Hillwalkers are being urged to check online for deer stalking information before setting out during the busiest part of the season.

Scottish Natural Heritage (SNH) manages the Heading for the Scottish Hills website which provides details on deer stalking on estates between July and late October to help walkers avoid disturbing stalkers.

The website makes it easier for walkers to follow the advice in the Scottish Outdoor Access Code to try to find out where stag stalking is taking place and provides details on who to contact for more information. It also includes routes that are 'always okay' and days that stalking takes place on each estate.

The code also encourages walkers to follow reasonable advice from land managers on alternative routes and to avoid crossing land where stalking is taking place.

Fiona Cuninghame, SNH recreation and access officer, said: 'This time of year is great for getting outside and enjoying nature, but it's also a very busy time for land managers. The Heading for the Scottish Hills website is a quick way for hill walkers to check they won't disturb deer stalking during the season.'

'The site is updated with new information as estates provide it, so if you're planning a trip and the hills you want to climb aren't included on the site, it's always worth taking another look nearer the time.'

The information can also be accessed through the Walkhighlands website, with relevant stalking details provided on the page for each walk.

Davie Black, Mountaineering Scotland's access officer, added: 'We have been involved with

Heading for Scottish Hills since it started, and are always happy to see more estates join each year. We encourage all walkers to check the website during the stalking season and contact the relevant estate if they have further questions.'

Richard Cooke, chairman of the Association of Deer Management Groups, said: 'The ADMG has been involved with Heading for the Scottish Hills for more than 20 years, both in its initial book form and now in the online version.'

'We would like to see this as the go to source of information for people taking recreational access in the Highlands of Scotland and are pleased that an increasing number of deer management groups are signing up. Clearly, it is in our members' interests also to make this information available.'

Heading for the Scottish Hills was first launched in 2015.

#### 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](http://www.lochaberandlorn-ramblers.org.uk)  
**Sunday August 25, Glen Tarff, Fort Augustus.**

Park at start of walk at NH374085. Head SE along road to old burial ground and then S to join minor road just N of Culachy House. Head S on drive, passing gate house, and then skirt round to the E of Culachy boundary fence. Once past Culachy House, follow track marked on the map that runs S, the entire length of Glen Tarff. Where the River Tarff forks at NH395020, follow track up to General Wade's Military Road back N to Culachy House.

Pass the house on the W. Rejoin the minor road crossed on outward route and return to start passing the old burial ground.

Grade: M. Distance 12km. Height to climb 400m. Maps LR34, EX400. Meet at: Fort William WM NN112742 at 0915 for start of walk NH374085 at 1000.

#### Thursday August 29: Glean Domhanaidh, Torlundy.

Start at the Gondola Lift car park NN170773. Walk due west along the ski resort road to a forest track at NN169773. Follow this westward in to Gleann Domhanaidh and continue through to Torlundy alongside the River Lundy. Just before the bridge over the railway, turn left and follow the track southwards past the North Face car park. The track continues and bends eastwards, follows the Allt na Caillich for a while, then leads back to the start. The walk may be extended using other tracks and paths in the area.

Grade: L\*. Distance: 7km. Height gained: 90m. Maps: LR41, EX392. Meet at: East end of the gondola lift car park at 1000. Leader: Helen Critchley 01397 712346 or 07789 253701.

#### NEVIS HILLWALKING CLUB

Full walk details at [www.nevis-hillwalking.club](http://www.nevis-hillwalking.club). If anyone would

like to go on a walk, contact club secretary Suzanne Theobald on 01397 701783 or email enquiries@nevishillwalking.club.

#### Saturday August 24, Beinn Fhada, Ben More, Isle of Mull.

This is the most interesting approach to this isolated Island Munro, the only one outside of Skye.

Travel arrangements and meeting times:

Oban Ferry Terminal NM855298 for 0730 sailing (check-in 30 mins prior to departure, and advance booking advisable; Corran Ferry Slip NN021635 for 0730 sailing; Lochaline Ferry Slip NM679446 for 0845 sailing (check-in 10 mins prior to departure). Coffee and rendezvous at Salen Hotel at 0900.

Members travelling by bus from Craignure to Salen will need car transport to and from start of walk.

Start from the bridge on the B8035 at NM517374. Limited parking is available in the vicinity. Follow the S bank of the Scarisdale River to its confluence with the Allt Coire nan Gabhar. Climb S up the ridge to reach a small summit, 563m, then continue SE up to the summit of \*Beinn Fhada, 702m. Turn SSW down to a col at the head of Gleann na Beinne Fada, NM537344.

Head up S to reach a prominent ridge leading to the summit of A' Chioch. Turn W and descend to col. The ridge becomes more rocky and exposed. Follow it SW up to the small summit plateau of Ben More, 966m. Descend NW on a path to the CP at Dhiseig, NM493359. Transport required 5 mins from start.

\*Beinn Fhada may also be reached by a traverse of Beinn a' Ghraig, 591m and Beinn nan Gabhar, 572m. In this case, follow the N bank of the Scarisdale river. At the confluence, head ENE up to the summit ridge of Beinn a' Ghraig.

13km, 1285m ascent

\*14km, 1549m ascent

Suggested by Andrew Gilbert, coordinated by Graham Innes.

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# LEISURE & ENTERTAINMENT

YOUR GUIDE TO WHAT'S ON IN ARGYLL AND LOCHABER

## MacIntyre and Butler serve up musical treat on Mull

by Fiona Scott  
fscott@obantimes.co.uk



Multi-talented Mullerach Colin MacIntyre will be teaming up with Bernard Butler (formerly of Suede) for two performances at An Tobar next week.

Billed as a 'homecoming' event, the evening will feature songs from MacIntyre's new album *Wakelines*, released under his pseudonym Mull Historical Society.

MacIntyre, a multi-award-winning musician, producer, author and playwright, cannot wait to be back on home soil having spent much of his time in New York recently 'penning songs' and signing deals that he hopes will realise his dream of staging a musical.

Colin will be joined by Bernard Butler for his two gigs at An Comar on Mull.



'I am looking forward to performing the two MHS gigs in An Tobar, back home in Tobermory,' he told us.

'The performance room was my primary one classroom so it holds many memories.

'My work of late, both music and in books, has been a lot about home and how it travels

with you, so it feels fitting. We're delighted to have a special guest in Bernard Butler, who produced my new MHS album. He is a Brit Award-winner and is recognised as one of the best guitarists of his generation, and he's looking forward to being an honorary mainlander for

these shows.' Fellow local musicians Sorren Maclean and Hannah Fisher will be joining the pair on stage.

Having dedicated his debut album, *Loss*, to his late father, Kenny MacIntyre, eight albums and a few books later, Colin's latest musical offering concentrates on his own journeys and emotional experiences.

Elsewhere, Colin has been working on a musical on the theme of Culloden and, speaking publicly about the project for the first time, he told *The Oban Times*: 'It feels like a natural ambition for me, having recently adapted my debut novel, *The Letters of Ivor Punch*, for the stage in Glasgow and Edinburgh.'

'The play, *The Origins of Ivor Punch*, features the

character Sergeant Punch, and his fictional connections to Isabella and Henrietta Bird and Tobermory Town Clock, as well as playing around with local mythology. I'd love to bring it to Mull.'

'The actors were great to work with and the design team recreated Tobermory seafront so well that I had to buy it off them so I can step onto the seafront whenever I want in London.'

The success of the play got Colin thinking, and he wanted to do more for the stage, so he has written a musical based on Culloden and Bonnie Prince Charlie, told through a contemporary lens.

On his recent visit to New York, Colin signed a new publishing deal with Mute Song, which will be able to

help him successfully stage this latest venture.

'A Scottish Les Mis would be the dream,' Colin added.

'In all truth, a lot of explorative work is ahead ... but I've been penning the songs and some of the tracks come from a new electro-pop project I have, called *Field Stars*, which I will release soon.

'Mute, which has worked with Depeche Mode, Nick Cave, Goldfrapp and New Order, is excited by these songs, so it's nice to have that support.'

Mull Historical Society featuring Bernard Butler will be at An Tobar on August 28 and 29.

■ Tickets from COMAR: Box Office 01688 302211 / [www.comar.co.uk](http://www.comar.co.uk).



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# Glasgow Letter

ROBERT ROBERTSON

robert.d.robertson@hotmail.co.uk



## The 'after Worlds hangover cure'

On Sunday afternoon, I headed down to the Park Bar where (as I wrote last week) Gray Street had been turned into a huge beer garden for the annual World Pipe Band Championships 'hangover cure'.

For me, it wasn't a hangover cure as such – I had been playing a festival in Exeter the day before so hadn't got back to Glasgow until quite late on Saturday and was raring to go by Sunday afternoon.

I arrived to find hundreds of pipers visibly weary from the effects of the weekend but with a steely determination to carry on the party as they all glanced nervously at the ominous clouds blowing down Sauchiehall Street.

No sooner had I joined some pals and ordered a drink than the heavens opened and everyone was running back in doors or squeezing under the cover of the gazebo over the bar.

It was a great opportunity for those pipers and drummers from warmer climes to sample a typical Scottish summer scene. Australians

and Americans looked on with particular amusement when, as soon as the smallest chink of sunlight appeared back through the dark clouds, everyone piled outside again, took their coats off, and carried on the al fresco party.

Music inside the pub was courtesy of Lorne MacDougall and his band for most of the day, although eventually a set of pipes was passed round virtually everyone in the pub to play a tune.

By the end of the night, I believe there were still a host of hardy souls still standing outside seemingly blissfully unaware of the plummeting temperatures. They were certainly making the most of the last few hours of Worlds weekend.

Congratulations to all the competitors and, in particular, of course, to Inveraray and District Pipe Band who beat competition from 13 other nations to be crowned World Pipe Band Champions 2019.

## Mòd hosts whisky and gin tasting

The next Mòd Ghlaschu fundraising event has all the

ingredients (quite literally) to be an absolute cracker.

Held this Saturday, August 24, in the City Centre Holiday Inn, it is a whisky and gin tasting evening alongside haggis, neeps and tatties. Who could ask for more?

The selection of whisky includes Auchentoshan, Bowmore, Glen Garioch and Laphroaig. Gins include Barra Atlantic Gin and Downpour gin from North Uist.

Although I have regrettably not managed along to any of their events yet, I must commend the Mòd committee for keeping up the profile of Gaelic and traditional music in Glasgow through the summer months which are usually so barren of céilidhs and concerts as so many people return to the Highlands and Islands for the season.

Their concert in the Òran Mòr last weekend, featuring Oban singer Kim Carnie and her band as well as Oban band Ceòl an Aire, was reportedly a great evening and I am sure this gin and whisky tasting will be well worth attending too.

Tickets are £25 and can be obtained by contacting info@modghlaschu2019.com

# Champion axe throwers lay down gauntlet to Cowal visitors

Cowal Highland Gathering is renowned for the additional entertainment it provides alongside the traditional Highland dancing, piping and heavy athletics, and this year there's a big, bold new attraction in town – axe throwing.

The Braveheart Axe Throwing Club, from Glasgow, which ranks as Scotland's premier axe throwing team and boasts tournament wins around the world, has signed up to be what is sure to be a big draw on Saturday.

Sponsored by Tilhill Forestry, the challenge will be laid down to anyone brave enough – throw an axe and see if you can hit the target.

Don't panic, kids and grandparents can join in too! There's no age limit because the younger/less strong participants can try throwing a smaller hatchet instead of an axe. Cowal Highland

Gathering chairman Ronnie Cairns said he was delighted to welcome such a popular outfit to the other entertainment on offer in the top field.

He said: "The Braveheart club is renowned as being one of the most exciting attractions at events around the country, and we're thrilled that Cowal visitors are now going to be able to experience their magic first hand.

"Their skill levels have to be seen to be believed, but they are also fantastic at teaching newcomers how to throw these weapons – and do it in a fun, entertaining way. I fully expect them to be one of the stars of the show on the day."

Among the reviews left by people who have tried their hand with Braveheart in the past are comments such as: "These guys are fantastic! They teach, taunt and torment in equal measure

and make sure everyone has a great time trying out the axes."

Bryan Pearce, forest manager with Tilhill Forestry, said: "Tilhill is excited at the opportunity to be involved once more with the Cowal Highland Gathering. We think this is a fantastic opportunity for anyone who would like to give it a go in a safe environment with experienced coaches on hand. I'll be having a go myself."

The Braveheart axe throwing challenge will run from noon-4pm in the top field on Saturday August 31.

This year's Cowal Highland Gathering runs from Thursday to Saturday August 29 to 31.

For more information about the event or to buy tickets, visit the Gathering's website at www.cowalgathering.com, email: info@cowalgathering.com or phone 01369 703206.

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### DIARDAOIN 22 AN LÙNASTAL THURSDAY 22nd AUGUST

17.00 Prògraman Chloinne – Children's programming  
19.00 Air an Toir (rpt)  
19.30 Speaking our Language (rpt)  
19.55 Earrann Eachdraidh (rpt)  
20.00 An Là – News  
20.30 Dealbhan Fraoich (rpt)  
21.00 DIY le Donnie (rpt)  
21.45 ÙR/NEW: Dhan Uisge  
21.55 Fraochy Bay (rpt)  
22.00 Gaol @ Gael (rpt)  
22.30 Slighean Sgoile an t-Saoghail (rpt)  
23.20 Belladrum 2017: Feeder (rpt)

### DIHAOINE 23 AN LÙNASTAL FRIDAY 23rd AUGUST

17.00 Programan Chloinne – Children's Programming  
18.35 Machair (rpt)  
19.00 An Là – News  
19.25 Fraochy Bay (rpt)  
19.30 ALBA: 1972 (rpt)  
20.00 Togaidh Sinn Fonn (rpt)  
20.30 Dreach Ur (rpt)  
21.00 Beloved Wilderness (rpt)  
21.50 Belladrum 2017: Benjamin Francis Leftwich (rpt)  
22.00 ÙR/NEW: Black Lake S2  
22.45 Ceòl bho Perthshire Amber (rpt)  
23.00 Belladrum 2019 highlights (rpt)

### DISATHAIRNE 24 AN LÙNASTAL SATURDAY 24th AUGUST

16.00 Prògraman Chloinne – Children's programming  
17.45 An Là – News  
18.00 ÙR/NEW: Scottish Premiership – Kilmarnock v Aberdeen  
20.00 Machair (rpt)  
20.25 Fraochy Bay (rpt)  
20.30 Ceathrar air a' Chuiltheann (rpt)

21.00 ÙR/NEW: Belladrum 2019 Highlights  
22.00 Slighean Sgoile an t-Saoghail (rpt)  
22.50 Dhan Uisge (rpt)  
23.00 Scottish Premiership – Kilmarnock v Aberdeen (rpt)

### DIDÒMHNAICH 25 AN LÙNASTAL SUNDAY 25th AUGUST

16.00 Prògraman Chloinne – Children's programming  
18.15 An Là – News  
18.30 Seachd Là – News Review  
19.30 Alleluia! (rpt)  
20.00 Dealbhan Fraoich (rpt)  
20.30 Cuimhneachan (rpt)  
21.00 Breab agus Buaidh (rpt)  
22.00 Belladrum 2019 Highlights (rpt)  
23.00 Black Lake S2 (rpt)  
23.45 Dhan Uisge (rpt)  
23.55 Belladrum 2017: Tamzene (rpt)

### DILUAIN 26 AN LÙNASTAL MONDAY 26th AUGUST

17.00 Prògraman Chloinne – Children's programming  
19.00 An Aghaidh an t-Srutha (rpt)  
19.25 Earrann Eachdraidh (rpt)  
19.30 Speaking our Language (rpt)

19.55 Binneas – Na Trads – Stuart Liddell (rpt)

20.00 An Là – News

20.15 Sgeul Seirbheis (rpt)  
20.30 Dreach Ur (rpt)  
21.00 Bannan S5 (rpt)  
21.30 Trusadh – Tioram air Tir (rpt)  
22.30 Farpaisean Chon-Chaorach (rpt)  
23.30 Gaol @ Gael (rpt)

### DIMÀIRT 27 AN LÙNASTAL TUESDAY 27th AUGUST

17.00 Prògraman Chloinne – Children's programming

19.00 Air An Toir (rpt)  
19.30 Speaking our Language (rpt)  
20.00 An Là – News  
20.30 Ceathrar air a' Chuiltheann (rpt)  
21.00 An Dotair Mòr (rpt)  
22.00 Trusadh – Tioram air Tir (rpt)  
23.00 Togaidh Sinn Fonn (rpt)  
23.20 Dhan Uisge (rpt)  
23.30 Alleluia! (rpt)

### DICIADAIN 28 AN LÙNASTAL WEDNESDAY 28th AUGUST

17.00 Prògraman Chloinne – Children's programming  
19.00 An Aghaidh an t-Srutha (rpt)  
19.25 Earrann Eachdraidh (rpt)  
19.30 Speaking our Language (rpt)  
19.55 Binneas – Na Trads – Stuart Liddell (rpt)  
20.00 An Là – News  
20.30 Cuimhneachan (rpt)  
21.00 Farpaisean Chon-Chaorach (rpt)  
22.00 Belladrum 2017: Tigerstyle (rpt)  
22.30 Bannan S5 (rpt)  
23.00 DIY le Donnie (rpt)  
23.45 Ceòl bho Perthshire Amber (rpt)

### DIARDAOIN 29 AN LÙNASTAL THURSDAY 29th AUGUST

17.00 Prògraman Chloinne – Children's programming  
19.00 Air an Toir (rpt)  
19.30 Speaking our Language (rpt)  
20.00 An Là – News  
20.30 Dealbhan Fraoich (rpt)  
21.00 DIY le Donnie (rpt)  
21.45 Ceòl bho Perthshire Amber (rpt)  
22.00 Gaol @ Gael (rpt)  
22.30 ÙR/NEW: Slighean Sgoile an t-Saoghail  
23.20 Belladrum 2017: The Sherlock (rpt)



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# Exploring the octets through Chamber Notes

The UK's leading string orchestra, the Scottish Ensemble, has announced the first half of a two-part Scottish tour called Chamber Notes, with the first half of the tour calling at Mull Theatre on August 31.

The ensemble will perform Mendelssohn and Enescu's stunning octets, and will be led by the outstanding Norwegian violinist Marianne Thorsen.

Although written for just eight instruments, both of these sophisticated works have the drama, richness and depth of a full-blown symphony. They also make for an excellently contrasting pair.

From Mendelssohn's exuberant opening bars, listeners are swept through music that is impressively complex yet captivatingly, joyously melodic throughout, whilst Enescu's is moody, breathlessly dramatic, and, in parts, simply volcanic.

Guest directed by Marianne Thorsen – a passionate chamber musician – the Scottish



Norwegian violinist Marianne Thorsen.

Ensemble will explore the specific charm of seeing a small group of musicians performing live.

With fewer instruments, the fabric of the music becomes more tangible, subtle shifts in mood may have a new-found presence, and pieces you think you know well might offer surprising new colours when heard live. With fewer musicians on stage, it's easier to follow each individual path and witness the beautiful

alchemy of eight artists creating something together.

Violinist Thorsen is an

acclaimed soloist and passionate chamber musician.

Former leader of the Nash Ensemble, she regularly performs with Norway's Trondheim Soloists, one of the founding ensembles of The Bridge network and festival – a Creative Europe-supported collaboration between international ensembles, led by Scottish Ensemble and coming to Scotland next year.

The concert starts at 7.30pm. To book online, visit [www.comar.co.uk/whats-on/scottish-ensemble-0](http://www.comar.co.uk/whats-on/scottish-ensemble-0)

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# Islay Jazz Festival launches 2019 programme – sláinte

The 21st Lagavulin Islay Jazz Festival will hit the ground running next month.

Since it began, the festival has presented an uncompromisingly high-quality artistic programme – a showcase of everything that is new and exciting in the Scottish jazz scene, with some very special international guests.

The music is presented in the most unusual and atmospheric surrounds – from bird sanctuaries to distilleries – against the beautiful backdrop of the most southerly island in the Hebrides.

There are world premieres, international visitors, exciting contemporary jazz, a classic singer, a blues legend, some great piano trios and some get-down funky music.

The charismatic Canadian trumpet star and singer, Bria Skonberg, visits Islay for the first time. Highly musical,



Charismatic trumpeter Bria Skonberg will play Islay for the first time.

she's a champion of classic hot jazz – from earliest jazz styles across classic swing – and she's guested with U2 and Dave Matthews Band.

Blues legend Maggie Bell

makes her festival debut with a new show that both highlights her amazing vocals and eavesdrops into her 50 years of showbiz stories.

The festival features some

of the young musicians making Scotland such an exciting scene in 2019 – Fergus McCreadie, Graham Costello's STRATA, Mezcla, Blue Boar Brass Band. Colin Steele salutes both Joni Mitchell and Miles Davis, while bassist David Bowden's band plays the entire Mingus Ah Um album.

Islay can be a magical place at all times. During the festival, the island has an extra dimension and it is one that sets off some extraordinarily creative reactions. Listeners can mix and match their choice of music over the weekend, creating their own odyssey of concerts and places. Decisions may be made according to the appeal of a specific musician, but they might equally be made by scheduling of a distillery visit, a seafood lunch, a walk on a beach or birdwatching.

Headline sponsor Lagavulin is one of Scotland's 'essential' distilleries, and a place of pilgrimage for many adorners of this quintessential Islay malt, for which demand heavily exceeds supply.

Here on the south-eastern edge of Islay, the distillery works its magic on a wildly romantic site by the sea, looking across a small tight bay to the ruins of Dunyvaig Castle, a 13th-century base of the Lords of the Isles.

Concerts are held in the acoustically splendid Malt Mill, itself a reminder of that now defunct single malt

Leigh Aitken, Lagavulin brand home manager, said: 'The Jazz Festival is a great advertisement for Islay and Lagavulin are proud to be headline sponsor. We look forward to welcoming performers and visitors to Islay for this unique festival. The

brand is really at the heart of the festival, with its strong personality, big heritage and plenty of intensity. Not a bad analogy for jazz.'

The festival is co-promoted by jazz specialists, Jazz Scotland and the island's premier arts promoters, The Islay Arts Association.

Stuart Todd, chairman of the association, and the man who set the ball rolling in getting the Jazz Festival started, is still amazed at the way the it has developed.

He said: 'Audiences and musicians are smitten with the combination of nature and art, and the sense of community which is central to the experience of living in Islay and which can be shared even on a weekend visit.'

The festival will take place from September 13-15. For the full programme, visit: [www.islayjazzfestival.co.uk](http://www.islayjazzfestival.co.uk).

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



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

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

# CHArts showcase comes to Oban

Argyll artists will be showcasing their work in an inspirational programme of exhibitions, experiences, workshops and discussion at St John's Cathedral in Oban, next month.

The day, organised by CHArts, a network of creative people and organisations living and working in Argyll and the Isles with the objective of supporting, connecting and growing the creative industries sector, will provide an immersive cultural environment to meet, learn and experience our diverse and talented network of culture, heritage and arts professionals.

There will be an opportunity to meet with representatives of the recently constituted CHArts SCIO, and learn of its plans for the ongoing support of the sector.

Highlights include talks from Cove Park and Cultural Documents; performances from Clair Tierney, Mark Neal and Eilidh Steel; demonstrations from Archipelago Folk School; workshops from Jamie Smith and Deville Studios; exhibitions from Lynne Cameron and Argyll Papers; plus lots more to discover.

Talking ahead of the event, visual artist and contemporary abstract painter Lynne Cameron said: 'I think it's a great idea to bring artists together in this kind of



St Mary's Space, Appin. Photograph: Fiona Higgins

showcase event. Although I love the silence and solitude of working in my island studio, I'm looking forward to meeting other people in the network and having the chance to share my paintings in this way.'

CHArts are delighted to be hosting the event in the beautiful setting of St John's Cathedral in the heart of Oban.

St John's provost, the Very Reverend Margi Campbell, said: 'We are so delighted to welcome this really exciting day to the cathedral. It is a wonderful opportunity to experience our rich heritage and culture, music, arts and crafts that are so much a part of Argyll and the Isles in a building which is celebrating 155 years since it was first built in 1884 as a small church in the fields.'

The evening will see the premiere screening of five short films, each capturing a different element of culture, heritage and arts in Argyll and the Isles, with these and further performances being live-streamed globally.

Music, dance, piping, the Gaelic language, art, craft, history and heritage will all come together to promote and celebrate Argyll's creative talents.

David Price, chairman of CHArts, says: 'Our challenge, recognising the extraordinary artistic and geographic diversity of Argyll and the Isles, is to give as many of our creative individuals and organisations as possible, an opportunity to showcase their talents.'

'Cutting-edge technology enabling live streaming into and out of the event, will be an important contributor

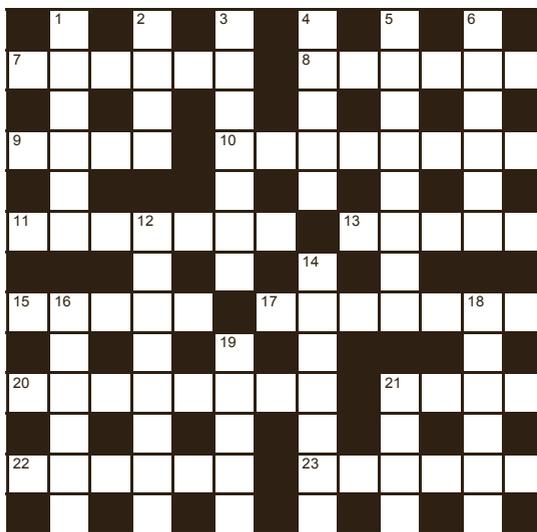
to achieving this objective.' Councillor Robin Currie, Argyll and Bute Council's policy lead for Communities, Housing, Islands and Gaelic, said: 'There is so much on offer across the day, so I would encourage people to get their free tickets and go along for a look.'

The event takes place on Saturday September 14, with an open exhibition between 11am and 5pm, and an evening reception between 6pm and 8pm. For more information, visit [www.chartsargyllandisles.org](http://www.chartsargyllandisles.org).

For a video previewing the event, visit [www.obantimes.co.uk](http://www.obantimes.co.uk).

The video was produced by Inner Ear and features a few of the participants in the programme. The music was provided by Eilidh Steel and Mark Neal.

## Crossword



**Across**

- 7 Total (6)
- 8 Situate (6)
- 9 Large growing plant (4)
- 10 School sports (5,3)
- 11 Part of a heartbeat (7)
- 13 Busy places (5)
- 15 Sharp growth (5)
- 17 City of SE France.... (7)
- 20 ....where you may see a man (8)
- 21 Graduate (4)
- 22 Sheets (6)
- 23 Not the main actor (2-4)

**Down**

- 1 Creepy (6)
- 2 Dice (4)
- 3 Rigidly (7)
- 4 Grass cutter (5)
- 5 Fire starters (8)
- 6 Risky (6)
- 12 Thrushlike bird (8)
- 14 Greed (7)
- 16 Tobacco pipe (6)
- 18 Visual (6)
- 19 Taste or touch (5)
- 21 In addition (4)

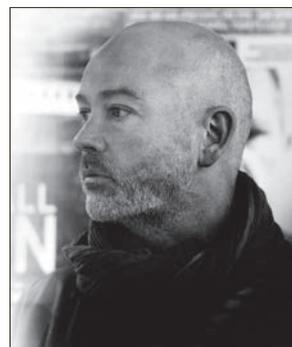
### LAST WEEK'S SOLUTION



An Oban musician has created a significant new addition to the Scottish traditional music repertoire.

Aidan O'Rourke began working on the 365 project after Scottish writer James Robertson set himself the challenge of writing a short story (365 words) every day of the year.

The strange, sprawling collection of fairytales, memories, keen observations and bold provocations was published online, one story per day, through the course



Aidan O'Rourke.

of 2014, then published Robertson's collection as

a volume by Penguin as 365:Stories. Enchanted by the potent atmosphere of James's tiny prose pieces and intrigued by the notion of an inescapable daily creative ritual, Aidan - Scottish fiddler, composer and one third of the folk supertrio Lau - decided to write a tune every day in response. The result is a major new body of 365 fiddle tunes.

'I feel I have grown as a musician during this whole process,' he told us.

'I learned to trust my in-

stinct and not to overthink things.' Highlights of Aidan's project have been released on CD as 365: Volume One (May 2019) and 365: Volume Two (released August 9, 2019).

Last week Volume One was longlisted, along with 19 other albums, for the Scottish Album of the Year award 2019 but unfortunately did not make the shortlist.

Aidan, who grew up in Soroba and Seil, performed alongside Robertson at the Edinburgh International Book Festival this month.

# A tune a day keeps Oban musician focused

## COMMUNITY NOTICEBOARD

### Scottish Ensemble at Crear

Kilberry, by Tarbert PA29 6YD  
Thursday 29 August at 6:30pm  
Chamber Notes with Marianne Thorsen with guest director Marianne Thorsen (violin)  
Advance tickets include refreshments £20  
School children free places  
**T 01880 770369**  
[www.crear.co.uk](http://www.crear.co.uk)

### North Connel & District

**Horticultural Show 2019**  
Victory Hall, Benderloch  
Saturday, 24 August  
Please note  
Show Opens 2.00pm  
Admission - Adults £3, Children £1  
Prizes, Raffle, Sale of Produce from 3.15pm

### ROYAL BRITISH LEGION SCOTLAND, EASDALE BRANCH

**ANNUAL SALE**  
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SATURDAY 24 AUGUST  
12 noon to 3pm  
Baking, Bric-a-Brac, Books, Toys, Produce, Raffle, Bottle Stall, Teas and Refreshments, Entrance free  
**For further information contact 01852 314 242**

## Diverse line-up for Lismore festival

An all-star line-up of musical and literary talent are tuning up for the second Taproot Festival which takes place on the Isle of Lismore from Thursday September 19 to Sunday September 22, writes Fiona Scott.

Centred on the Lismore Gaelic Heritage Centre, Taproot is a music and literature festival that brings a diversity of artists to the island to celebrate four days of word, film and sound.

This year's festival features some of the country's finest.

Award-winning Scottish actor, director and writer Gerda Stevenson will read from her acclaimed poetry collection, *QUINES: Poems in tribute to women of Scotland*.

Mairi Campbell brings her newest show, *Auld Lang Syne*, to the festival. This one-woman music and theatre show tells the story of Mairi's adventures with Scotland's most famous song, devised on and inspired by Lismore.

Having explored Scotland's inspiring northern European neighbours in 2018, journalist Lesley Riddoch will tell tales of her journey and what we can learn from them.



Norman Bissell evoked enchanting images of the West Coast reading from *Slate, Sea and Sky* at the 2017 festival.

Writer and poet Norman Bissell presents his new book, *Barnhill*, a novel telling the story of George Orwell's time on Jura, where he wrote *1984*.

In addition, the festival will feature some eclectic Lismore talent, talks, ceilidhs, theatre, film, walks and local crafts.

Jennifer Baker, museum events and group convener, is co-ordinating the event with help from the museum, cafe and members of the wider community. She said: 'We have built on our first Taproot festival in 2017 and have come up with an exciting programme of events to suit

all tastes for this year's event.

'This year we have had funding from CHArts, while CalMac is also contributing, by getting the musicians across to Lismore.

'We look forward to welcoming people to this magical island that inspires so many artists and be part of a truly Lismore creative gathering.'

Anyone wishing to book a place at any of the events or receive more information can call the Lismore Heritage Centre on 01631 760030, email [lismoregaelicheritagecentre.org](mailto:lismoregaelicheritagecentre.org) or follow on Facebook at [lismoretaproot](https://www.facebook.com/lismoretaproot).

## WHAT'S ON

In partnership with Oban Town Diary [BID4oban.co.uk](http://BID4oban.co.uk)



### THURSDAY 22ND AUGUST

#### Slimming World

Salvation Army Hall, Fort William  
9:30am, 11:30am, 3:00pm, 5:00pm & 7:00pm

Tel: Gillian 07796 040803

#### Oban Health Walks

Oban Congregational Church  
10:00am - 12:00pm

#### Recovery Cafe

New Hope Kitchen  
12:30pm

#### Creative Writing Group

New Hope Kitchen  
2:30pm - 4:00pm

#### Live Music & Entertainment @ Markie Dans

FREE JUKEBOX EVERY THURSDAY

### FRIDAY 23RD AUGUST

#### Hope Kitchen Music Group

Salvation Army Hall  
1:00pm - 4:00pm

#### Parsley's Cat Cafe

New Hope Kitchen  
2:00pm

#### Live Music & Entertainment @ Markie Dans

Crackin Craic

Open till 2:00am

### SATURDAY 24TH AUGUST

#### Royal British Legion Annual Sale

Seil Island Hall, Easdale  
12:00pm - 3:00pm

#### North Connel & District Horticultural Show

Victory Hall, Benderloch. 2:15pm

#### Hill Walk

Isle of Mull, Tobermory  
All day

#### Maiden Scotland with Mactallica

Corran Halls. 7:30pm

#### Live Music & Entertainment @ Markie Dans

Jono. Open till 2:00am

### SUNDAY 25TH AUGUST

#### Live Music & Entertainment @ Markie Dans

QUIZ NIGHT at 9:30pm

£1 per person, max of 6 per team  
Win £20 bar voucher

### MONDAY 26TH AUGUST

#### Fellowship Meeting

New Hope Kitchen. 2:00pm

#### Slimming World

Union Street/Argyll Street,  
Lochgilthead

5:30pm & 7:30pm

Tel: Rhona 07880 878906

#### Drumming and Music Making

Taynuilt Sports Pavilion  
6:30pm - 7:30pm

#### Martyn's Monday Club Ladies

New Hope Kitchen  
7:00pm - 9:00pm

### TUESDAY 27TH AUGUST

#### Hill Walk

Glen Ogle, Arrochar. All day

#### Carers Coffee Morning

North Argyll Carers Centre  
10:30am - 12:00pm

#### Knitting Group

New Hope Kitchen. 2:00pm

#### Martyn's Monday Club Ladies

New Hope Kitchen

7:00pm - 9:00pm

### WEDNESDAY 28TH AUGUST

#### Slimming World

Glencruitten Church Hall, Oban  
9:30am, 11:30am, 5:30pm & 7:30pm

Tel: Gillian 07796 040803

#### Hope Kitchen Beach Clean

Slip opposite Stafford Street  
10:30am - 12:00pm

#### Open Day

Greenshoots Garden  
10:30am - 3:30pm

Events may charge. Please visit [www.obanwhatson.co.uk](http://www.obanwhatson.co.uk) for more details. To list your event, please call **01631 568000**

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**Jimmy McGeachy**  
**Jamie McClafferty**

Saturday 24th - 1.30pm

**Alex McAllister**  
**Arran McAllister and guests**

Saturday 24th - 9pm

**Alex McAllister & Davie Robertson**

Food served all day



PRESS RELEASE

# Cohabiting: couples in Scotland move in with partner 18 months after first date on average

A new study looking into the regional differences between the amount of time that couples move in together after meeting has revealed that, whilst those in Wales are the quickest to make the commitment, those in London wait the longest time to cohabit. Financial benefits, wanting to escape from family members/housemates and relocating emerged as the biggest factors in making the decision to move in with a significant other.

The study, conducted by interior specialists at www.hillarys.co.uk, asked more than 2,400 UK-based adults aged 18 and over, all in long-term relationships and currently living with their partners, how long after their first date they began cohabiting, as well as the key motivating factors behind the decision.

Just over one-third (34 per cent) cited financial benefits, such as splitting bills and being able to save more money, as the biggest incentive for moving in together. A further 17 per cent listed problematic housemates or family members as the biggest motivators for moving out, and eight per cent admitted that relocating to a new town or city made the decision for them.

The average length of time between Britons' first dates and moving in with their partner was found to be one year and seven months, but the regional breakdown of time taken for couples to live together was comparatively mixed across the country. Those in Wales took just nine months, with Londoners admitting to a longer wait of almost two and a half years. The full regional breakdown is as follows:

1. Wales – 11 months
2. North East – 14 months
3. North West – 14 months
4. Northern Ireland – 15 months
5. East Midlands – 17 months
6. Scotland – 18 months
7. South West – 18 months
8. West Midlands – 20 months
9. Yorkshire & Humberside – 20 months
10. East of England – 22 months
11. South East – 24 months
12. London – 29 months

The vast majority (88 per cent) weren't married when they first moved in with their partners, with 91 per cent moving into rented accommodation and nine per cent owning the first property they lived in with their significant others.

Lucy Askew, spokesperson for www.hillarys.co.uk, commented: 'With a decrease in the stigma towards young, unmarried couples moving in together, it is clear that the amount of time taken for couples to move in together is variable dependent on location.'

'It is great to see that young couples are moving out of family homes and finding a degree of independence.'

'There has been a significant rise in financial pressure on young couples and cohabiting with a partner can really help to ease the burden of increased rent costs and bills.'



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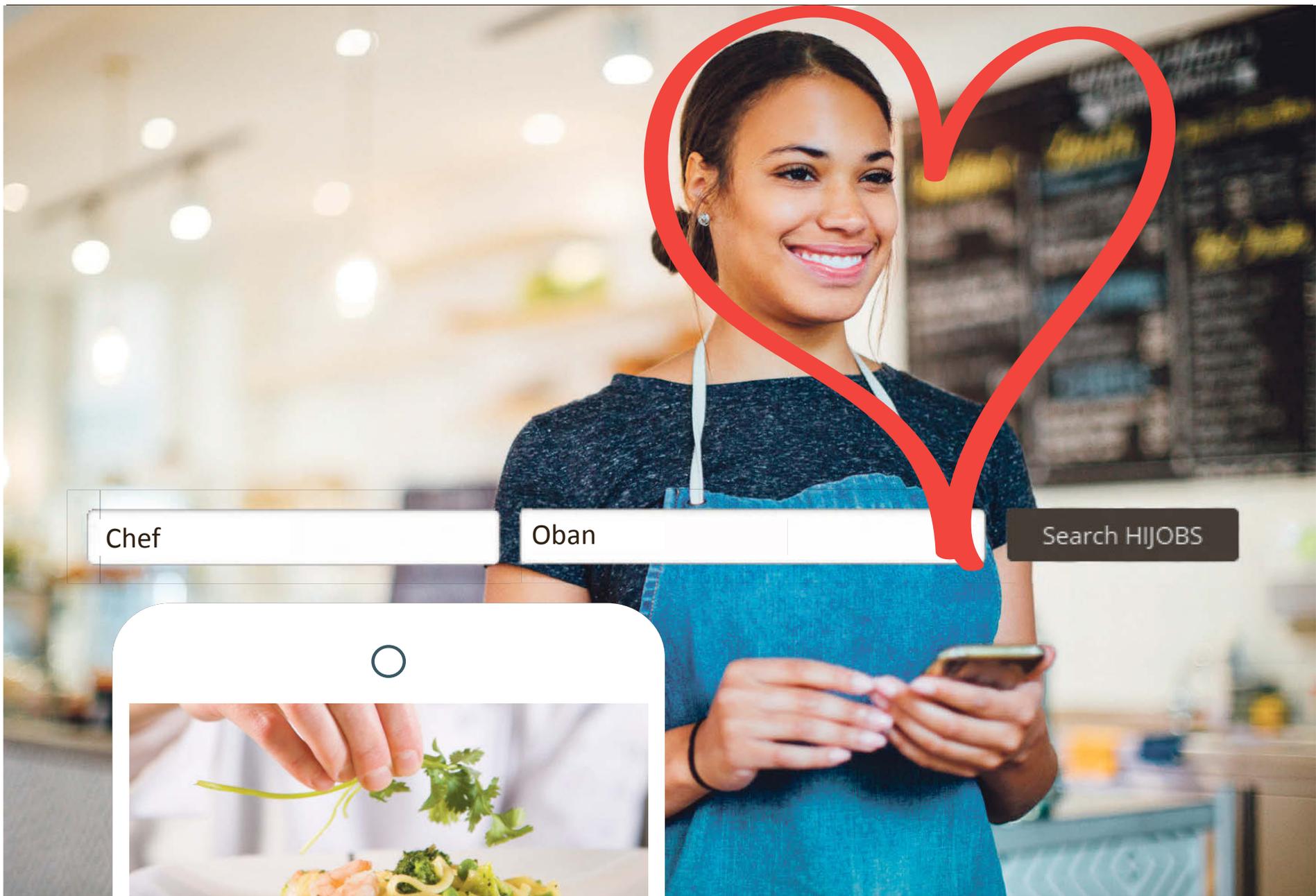
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We are looking for a time served Mechanic. It would be desirable if you have had previous experience of an industrial environment and plant. Knowledge and the ability to maintain HGVs would also be beneficial; however, this is not essential as training will be provided as part of ongoing personal development. The key aspect is that you are motivated and willing to learn. A full UK driving licence is necessary for this position.

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To apply for this position please email a copy of your CV and a covering letter to: Alastair Anderson, Engineering Manager – quoting REF: 2019M email: [alastair.anderson@aggregate.com](mailto:alastair.anderson@aggregate.com)

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### Full/Part-Time Secretary/ Administrator

Argyll Estates seeks a Secretary/Administrator.

A high level of typing skills and computer literacy is required.

A full job description and further details can be obtained from Argyll Estates Office by contacting [secretary@inveraray-castle.com](mailto:secretary@inveraray-castle.com) or telephoning 01499 302203

Applications in writing, together with a CV should be sent to [secretary@inveraray-castle.com](mailto:secretary@inveraray-castle.com) to arrive no later than Monday 2nd September 2019

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## WEST HIGHLAND HOUSING ASSOCIATION

West Highland Housing Association is a charitable organisation working in the Oban and Lorn area. We are recruiting for 2 full time posts within our office based in Oban.

### Housing Assistant - Starting Salary £24,454

You will be part of a team of 6 and we would expect our ideal candidate to have customer service and IT experience. We would want you to demonstrate that you have excellent interpersonal skills and can communicate effectively with people on the phone, face to face and via email.

### Property Officer - Starting Salary £32,850

The postholder will be primarily responsible for the delivery and management of our Reactive Repairs Contract and Void Management which requires a mix of technical knowledge and experience linked with excellent IT, communication and analytical skills.

Additionally, the postholder will support the Asset Management Team with aspects of site delivery and supervision of our Cyclical, Planned and Investment programmes including the supervision of our In-House Service Engineer. As the postholder will be a member of our Senior Management Team, we expect applicants to demonstrate leadership skills and have 5 years' experience within construction or another relevant field.

For both posts we want people who understand high quality customer service and want to improve services for our tenants and owners.

In return West Highland Housing Association is offering an excellent remuneration package which includes 25 days paid leave per year plus public holidays and a contributory pension scheme. The organisation is a gold accredited Investors in People organisation and is committed to developing its staff team.

If you want to speak to us about either post, please contact Iona Smith/Moira MacVicar for the Housing Assistant post and Graeme Bruce for the Property Officer post on 01631 566451. We will be delighted to talk further about our work and our expectations.

**A full job pack can be downloaded from our website at [www.westhighlandha.co.uk](http://www.westhighlandha.co.uk) (no CVs). Applications should be received by noon 2nd September. Interviews are planned for week commencing 9th September at our office at Crannog Lane.**

Visit [hijobs.net](http://hijobs.net)

**FIRST REGISTRATION OF A CROFT**

Mrs Hazel Claire MacCormick has registered the croft known as Croic Ur, Lismore & Appin on the Crofting Register held by the Registers of Scotland. Any person who wishes to challenge the registration may apply to the Scottish Land Court by the 9th May 2020. Details of the registration can be found at [www.crofts.ros.gov.uk/register/home](http://www.crofts.ros.gov.uk/register/home). The croft registration number is C6266.

**FIRST REGISTRATION OF A CROFT**

Margaret Boyd has registered their croft 1 Stronaba, Stronaba, Kilmonivaig on the Crofting Register held by the Registers of Scotland. Any person who wishes to challenge the registration may apply to the Scottish Land Court by 09 May 2020. Details of the registration can be found at [www.crofts.ros.gov.uk/register/home](http://www.crofts.ros.gov.uk/register/home). The croft registration number is C6265.

**PROPOSED DIVISION OF TENANTED COMMON GRAZING SHARES**

Mrs Shona Campbell as executor of the late Mrs Catherine McKinlay is applying to divide the tenancy of the grazing shares pertaining to the croft at Loch Awe View, Stronmilchan (grazing share), Glenorchy & Innishail, into 2 new crofts. Written comments from those with a relevant interest (which may be made public) to: Crofting Commission, Leachkin Road, Inverness IV3 8NW, [info@crofting.gov.scot](mailto:info@crofting.gov.scot) within 28 days from the date of the advert.

**FIRST REGISTRATION OF A CROFT**

Mrs M A Campbell has registered their croft 5 Airds Bay, Ardchattan & Muckairn 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 12 May 2020. Details of the registration can be found at [www.crofts.ros.gov.uk/register/home](http://www.crofts.ros.gov.uk/register/home). The croft registration number is C6276.

[www.highland.gov.uk](http://www.highland.gov.uk)

The Highland Council  
Comhairle na Gàidhealtachd

**TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING (SCOTLAND) ACT 1997  
PLANNING (LISTED BUILDING AND CONSERVATION AREAS) (SCOTLAND) ACT 1997**

The applications listed below, along with plans and other documents submitted with them, may be examined online at <http://wam.highland.gov.uk>; 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](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
19/02955/FUL	Sealladh A Sguir	Old Town, North Ballachulish, Onich, Fort William	Construction of timber unit for short term holiday letting (retrospective)
19/03587/FUL	Archwood Lodge	76 Camaghael, Fort William	Installation of pod for holiday letting
19/03640/FUL	Land 60M East Of Cuilcheanna Cottage Steadings	Onich	Erection of house
19/03633/FUL	Land 200M NW Of Crossroad Cottage	1 Crossroads, Spean Bridge	Erection of agricultural building
19/02425/FUL	Land 165 M East Of Ernsaig	5 Stronaba, Spean Bridge	Formation of access track and hardstanding (retrospective)
19/02923/FUL	Tigh Na Loan	Acharacle	Demolition of existing shed, siting of 3 storage containers and alterations to car park
19/03457/FUL	Craigewan	Old Banavie Road Banavie, Fort William	Replacement of existing chalet
19/03142/FUL	Land 25M NE Of Shoshone	Clovullin, Ardgour	Erection of agricultural building
19/03572/FUL	Land 750M South Of Corrie Vullin	Blarmachfoldach Fort William	Erection of 20m lattice mast and associated equipment.

**Time period for comments is 14 days & 21 days for 19/03640**  
ePlanning Centre, The Highland Council, Glenurquhart Road, INVERNESS IV3 5NX  
Email: [eplanning@highland.gov.uk](mailto:eplanning@highland.gov.uk)

**PROPOSED LET OF PART OF A CROFT**

Anthony Gerard Grant and Kenneth Francis Grant are applying to let the tenancy of part of a croft at 1/26 Inverroy, Kilmonivaig to Mr Angus A Macdonald of Ernsaig, 5 Stronaba, Spean Bridge, PH 34 4DX. Written comments from those with a relevant interest (which may be made public) to: Crofting Commission, Leachkin Road, Inverness, IV3 8NW, [info@crofting.scotland.gov.uk](mailto:info@crofting.scotland.gov.uk) by 19/09/19

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**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 4AV, 1A Manse Brae Lochgilhead PA31 8RD, your Local Customer Service Point and by logging on to the Council's website at [www.argyll-bute.gov.uk](http://www.argyll-bute.gov.uk).

**TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING DEVELOPMENT MANAGEMENT PROCEDURE (SCOTLAND) REGULATIONS 2013 REGULATION 20(1) ADVERT STATEMENT TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING (SCOTLAND) ACT 1997 (AS AMENDED), RELATED PLANNING (LISTED BUILDINGS AND CONSERVATION AREAS) (SCOTLAND) ACT 1997**

Ref. No.	Proposal	Site Address
19/01360/PP	Siting of mobile home to facilitate staff accommodation (retrospective)	Glenforsa Hotel Glenforsa Isle Of Mull Argyll And Bute PA72 6JW
19/01115/PP	Erection of 2 dwellinghouses	Land North West Of Tom-A Mhuillinn Tobermory Isle Of Mull Argyll And Bute
19/01409/PP	Erection of timber dwellinghouse	Bunessan Wood (Land Approx 235M East Of Achamore Farm) Bunessan Isle Of Mull Argyll And Bute
19/01697/PP	Erection of dwellinghouse, installation of septic tank and air source heat pump and formation of vehicular access'	Land To The East Of Bishops Walk Isle Of Iona Argyll And Bute
19/01668/PP	Erection of dwellinghouse, installation of bio-disc drainage system and formation of vehicular access	Land East Of Ainsval Cornaigmore Isle Of Tiree Argyll And Bute
19/01394/PP	Erection of telecommunications equipment enclosure with 12m high streetworks pole and associated equipment	Land Off The B828 And West Of 7 Kinlochlaich Portnacraish Appin Argyll And Bute
19/01619/PP	Erection of dwellinghouse, installation of septic tank and formation of vehicular access	Land North West Of Alastair Annies Lower Kilchattan Isle Of Colonsay Argyll And Bute

Written comments can be made to the above address or submitted online <http://www.argyll-bute.gov.uk/planning-and-environment/find-and-comment-planning-applications> within 21 days of this advert. Please quote the reference number in any correspondence. Any letter of representation the Council receives is considered a public document and will be published on our website. Anonymous or marked confidential correspondence will not be considered. A weekly list of all applications can be viewed at all Area Offices, Council Libraries and on the Councils website.

To find out more about living and working in Argyll & Bute visit us at: [www.argyll-bute.gov.uk](http://www.argyll-bute.gov.uk)  
Comhairle Earra - Ghàidheal agus Bhòid

**Argyll & Bute COUNCIL**

**PUBLIC MEETINGS**

**New Linkspan Decks at Coll And Tiree Ferry Terminals**

**Caledonian Maritime Assets Limited (CMAL) is replacing the linkspan decks at the ferry terminals at Coll and Tiree.**

Public meetings have been arranged to update communities on project plans. Communities are invited to attend their local meeting:

An Cridhe Coll Community Centre, Coll	An Talla Community Hall Tiree
Monday 2nd September 2019 4.00pm - 7.30pm	Tuesday 3rd September 2019 4.00pm - 7.30pm

Individuals are welcome to drop-in at any time during the meetings.

Representatives from CMAL, Calmac Ferries Ltd, engineering firm Moff MacDonald and contractor George Leslie Ltd will be at the events to discuss details of the project, including timing, the linkspan replacement process, alternative ferry service arrangements and linkspan closure dates. At Coll, the linkspan will be out of service from 28th October 2019 with a planned return to service on 21st November 2019. At Tiree, the linkspan will be taken out of service on 24th February 2020 and return to service on 17th March 2020.

Caledonian Maritime Assets Ltd, Municipal Buildings, Fore Street, Port Glasgow PA14 5EQ  
[www.cmassets.co.uk](http://www.cmassets.co.uk)  
01475 749920 | [operations@cmassets.co.uk](mailto:operations@cmassets.co.uk)

**MARINE (SCOTLAND) ACT 2010**  
**Scour Protection, C1222, Achmore, Highlands**

Notice is hereby given that Amalgamated Construction Limited has applied to the Scottish Ministers of the Scottish Government, under Part 4 of the Marine (Scotland) Act 2010, in respect of scour protection at:

Cost	£550000	
Location	Latitude	Longitude
C1222, Achmore, Highlands	57° 20.670' N	05° 35.245' W
	57° 20.684' N	05° 35.230' W
	57° 20.670' N	05° 35.207' W
	57° 20.660' N	05° 35.223' W

(WGS84)

Plans showing the position of the works may be inspected at Plockton Library, Village Hall, Harbour Steet, Plockton, IV52 8TG. Objections relating to safety of navigation or environmental issues in respect of the application should be made in writing to: Licensing Operations Team, Marine Scotland, Marine Laboratory, 375 Victoria Road, Aberdeen, AB11 9DB within 28 days of the date of this notice or by email to: [MS.MarineLicensing@gov.scot](mailto:MS.MarineLicensing@gov.scot), quoting reference: 07049 and Amalgamated Construction Limited.

**Fair Processing Notice**  
The Scottish Government's Marine Scotland Licensing Operations Team (MS-LOT) determine applications for marine licences under the Marine (Scotland) Act 2010 and the Marine and Coastal Access Act 2009. During the consultation process any person having an interest in the outcome of the application may make representation to MS-LOT. The representation may contain personal information, for example a name or address. This representation will only be used for the purpose of determining an application and will be stored securely in the Scottish Government's official corporate record. Representations will be shared with the applicant and/or agent acting on behalf of the applicant, any people or organisations that we consult in relation to the application and, where necessary, be published online, however personal information will be removed before sharing or publishing. A full privacy notice can be found at: <http://www.gov.scot/Topics/marine/Licensing/marine/PrivacyNotice>. If you are unable to access this, or you have any queries or concerns about how your personal information will be handled, contact MS-LOT at: [ms.marinelicensing@gov.scot](mailto:ms.marinelicensing@gov.scot) or Marine Scotland - Licensing Operations Team, Marine Laboratory, 375 Victoria Road, Aberdeen, AB11 9DB.

**LOCHABER**  
A B Citizens Advice Bureau

Notice of

**Annual General Meeting**  
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Soroba Road Oban PA344HQ  
01631 565195 [info@mathesons.co.uk](mailto:info@mathesons.co.uk)



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## DEATHS

**CAMERON** - Allan, aged 87, died suddenly and peacefully on August 11, 2019. Born on July 12, 1932 in Braunault, Achateny to John and Mary Cameron. The eldest child and much loved brother of Elizabeth, Mary, Hugh, Kirsty, Norman and Donald. He moved to Greenock as a young man, marrying the late Ella Cameron in 1955. Much loved dad of Christine and Ann, and beloved grandfather of Laura, Mairi and Allan. He led a full and active life, and will be sorely missed by family and friends.

**McCALLUM** - Peacefully at his home, on August 13, 2019, John (Iain) McCallum, in his 80th year, of Ballymeanoch House, Kilmichael Glassary, by Lochgilhead, beloved husband of Sheila McBride, dear father of Lorna and Fiona, much respected father-in-law of Alan, loving brother of Elizabeth (Libby) and a dear brother-in-law, uncle and cousin to all the family. Funeral service was held in Lochgilhead Parish Church, on Wednesday, August 21, 2019, followed by interment at Achnabreac Cemetery. Sadly missed.

**SMITH** - Colin, aged 83 years, died peacefully at RAH on August 12, 2019. Beloved husband of Maureen, dearly loved father of Janice, Annette, Emma, Wendy and David. Much loved grandpa and brother. Dearly loved and will always be in our hearts.

**STEELE** - Peacefully on August 8, 2019 after a short illness, Iain passed away with his loving son Iain and daughter Kirsty by his side. Loving and devoted husband to Marion, adored and much loved grampa to his five grandchildren and to his son-in-law-Martin and daughter-in-law Laura and much loved brother of Catriona and Neil.

## ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

**CARGILL** - Following the sudden death of John, Jean and the family would like to thank all friends and neighbours for their kindness and support. We would like to express our

appreciation to all who paid their respects at the church and cemetery, our thanks go to Rev Cameron for conducting the service. We appreciate the excellent care John received by paramedics and at Lorn and Islands Hospital. We would also like to thank Catriona and all at Hamish Hoey & Son for their kind assistance with funeral arrangements, The Royal Hotel for the catering and Agnes and Lynette from Petals for the beautiful flowers. Thanks to all who contributed to the collection for The Dove Centre and the Mcmillan Day Bed Unit.

## MEMORIAM

**LANDER** - Robert (Bertie Bird) 9.6.1931 - 26.8.2018. Dad, grandpa and great grandpa.

A year has gone, slow but fast, Miss you always.

- Mary, David and Maree, Hamish, Glenn and Drew xxxx

**MACDONALD** - Treasured memories of Alister, a devoted husband and father, who passed away on August 18, 2001.

The many things you did for me

In your kind and loving way Give me memories to treasure As I think of you each day.

- Helen.

We miss you dad, our hearts are sore With each new day we miss you more

No longer in our lives to share But in our hearts you're always there.

- Iain, Deirdre and Mhairi.

**McGRATH** - Precious memories of our dear Mum, Margaret, Achaleven Farm who died on August 23, 2006. You rest in the arms of angels in a place of peace and love, watching over us always from Heaven up above. You rest in the arms of angels, free from illness and pain, waiting for the day we're all together once again.

- Your loving children and all the family xxx

**SIMPSON** - Remembering my dad Ian who died so suddenly on August 24, 1987. Always in my thoughts.

- Love Mary x

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# Rotary Club of Oban clay target competition

Lorn Clay Target Club hosted the Annual Rotary Club of Oban Clay Target Competition organised by Past Rotary President and crack shot Billy MacLean at the North Connel Moss last Thursday.

Members of the Lorn Clay Target Club provided all equipment, judges and coaching to the large number of Rotarians who attended the shoot.

Rotarians Peter Tosh and past president Terry MacNair raised money for good causes by selling tasty burgers, donated free of charge by Jackson's Butchers Oban, to all attendees.

Rotary President Douglas Small gave a vote of thanks to the Lorn Clay Target Club for all their guidance, tips and support on an excellent night enjoyed by all and to Billy MacLean for organising the event and providing the prizes.

In a very close contest, Rotarians Dave Waltho took third place, Chris Sutton pressed hard for second place, and Tommy McQuade sneaked in to win the competition by a small margin.

**Right: Rotarian Dave Waltho takes aim and, far right, president Douglas Small does likewise.**



President Douglas Small, second-placed Chris Sutton, winner Tommy McQuade and Dave Waltho, who was third.



## THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK

On a recent day of warm sunshine, then mist, rain, sleet, thunder and lightning, back to sun, and followed by a miasma of midges, we celebrated a significant birthday for my wife by climbing Ben Nevis.

Next week, my eldest daughter and I will climb Ben Sgulaird for a last fix of the west before she heads for Aberdeen University.

So many of us climb mountains, sometimes with great risk. Through the exhilaration of achievement and the wonder of nature around, many people speak of a spiritual connection with mountains.

Is this really just 19th-century Romanticism coming to the fore as we pose on a promontory like Caspar David Friedrich's *The Wanderer*? You will know the painting.



Reverend Dugald Cameron

Perhaps a clue to a deeper spirituality of space is found in the Biblical account of the Transfiguration – Jesus took with him Peter and James and John, and led them up a high mountain apart, by themselves.

And he was transfigured before them.

Theologically, this tells us of the Kingdom of Heaven breaking through in Jesus. He makes the genuine link between heaven and earth, transforming perception and providing meaning to all that is, for us.

It is telling that this spiritual breakthrough took place on a mountain top.

All of us, though, have to come back down. And mundane day-to-day stuff kicks in.

Yet, faith endures, and it is reinforced whenever we turn our hearts towards heaven breaking through – and we do so whenever we raise up our brothers and sisters from the depths of the valley.

**Rev Dugald Cameron,  
Kilmore and Oban.**

## GRADUATION



**KATIE MCINTOSH**

Graduated from the University of Strathclyde with BA (Hons) in Politics and International Relations. Daughter of John and Helen McIntosh. Granddaughter of Ian and Charlotte MacLeod (Fort William) and Donald and Margaret McIntosh (Strontian).

## New medical leadership at NHS Highland

NHS Highland today announces the appointment of Dr Boyd Peters as its new Medical Director.

Dr Peters, who has held the post on an interim basis since April this year, was previously the board's Associate Medical Director for mental health and worked as a GP in Grantown-on-Spey for more than 25 years.

He was also NHS Highland's clinical lead for the redesign of health and social care services in Badenoch and Strathspey, which includes the construction of the new Badenoch and Strathspey Community Hospital.

Dr Peters will attend board meetings and provide clinical advice to the NHS Highland board.

Dr Peters said: 'I'm delighted to take on this important role. As we deal with the



**Dr Boyd Peters takes up his position with immediate effect.**

challenges ahead of us, I will do everything I can to ensure that clinical leadership will

play a key part in reshaping our services.

'Having worked in the Highlands for 28 years I know just how dedicated and committed our clinical teams are and I look forward to working with them and supporting them in all that they do.'

NHS Highland Chief Executive Iain Stewart said: 'I am delighted to announce Boyd's appointment.'

'I have come to know Boyd well during his time as interim Medical Director and I have every confidence that our medical leadership will be in safe hands.'

'He is an exceptional individual with a rigorous approach to improving the quality of care that we deliver.'

Dr Peters takes up his post with immediate effect.

# Kingussie win Macaulay Cup

## Artemis Macaulay Cup Final

Kingussie 3  
Oban Camanachd 2

Kingussie lifted the Artemis Macaulay Cup, their first national success since 2014, after a 3-2 victory over Oban Camanachd at Mossfield.

The Macaulay Final is one of shinty's main events and is particularly important to the town of Oban. The finals have been high-scoring affairs in recent years, with the last ten clashes averaging almost six goals per game, so there was plenty to look forward to.

Oban Camanachd were after their first Macaulay success since 1995, whilst Kingussie last lifted the trophy in 2010.

Oban Camanachd manager Stephen Sloss was without Willie Neilson who faces a spell on the sidelines after dislocating a knee in the previous week's Tulloch Homes Camanachd Cup win over Kyles Athletic. Youngster Ross Campbell was added to the bench, whilst the starting 12 remained unchanged.

Kingussie boss John Gibson has had consistency in selection in recent weeks. The weather ruled



Kingussie's James Hutchison with his tenth Macaulay winners medal, the first won in 1997.

Photograph: Neil Paterson.

out Kingussie's meeting with Kinlochshiel the previous weekend, with Gibson also naming an unchanged starting 12 from the one that drew with Newtonmore a fortnight earlier.

It had been wet in the days in the lead up to the final but Iain Hay and his ground staff had the Mossfield pitch in great condition on a blustery day.

Kingussie won the toss and opted to play into a strong wind in the first half.

Whilst Kingussie attacked from the throw-up, Oban Camanachd had the first effort on goal with unsighted Kingussie keeper Rory MacGregor producing a fine reaction save to deny Lorne Dickie.

Kingussie responded and Savio Genini found Liam Borthwick on the right, but his effort went narrowly wide.

James Falconer fired over when a Ruaridh Anderson strike broke into his path whilst, at the other end, an Andrew MacCuish snap-shot from the front post wasn't far away.

Keeper MacGregor did well again to keep out Scott MacMillan's bouncing half-volley from a Keith MacMillan hit-in on the right as he must have seen the ball late.

The opening goal seemed close and it came for Kingussie on 19 minutes. Savio Genini took a ball forward from James Falconer and made enough space to turn and shoot low into the net to make it 1-0.

The game was very open and Daniel Cameron shot over on his back-hand before Savio Genini took a pass from Ruaridh Anderson but was thwarted as Oban Camanachd keeper Cameron Sutherland stretched to his right, saving well with his foot.

Oban Camanachd had worked hard to get to the final and they drew level on 23 minutes. Cameron Sutherland's huge goal-hit fell for Scott MacMillan on the left.



The victorious Kingussie team.

Photograph: Neil Paterson.

MacMillan steadied himself before shooting from distance as Rory MacKeachan dived in to challenge and the ball took the slightest deflection as it went low into the net to make it 1-1.

Sutherland saved with his feet, again from Genini, before Oban Camanachd took the lead on 28 minutes. The goal came from Scott MacMillan's hit-in on the left and it was another strike from distance, this time from skipper Daniel Cameron, which beat the keeper.

Andrew MacCuish saw his shot saved as the final reached the half-hour mark before he shot wide following a corner on the right.

It took a brilliant Cameron Sutherland save, parrying the ball with his club to his left, to keep out a fierce James Falconer shot following a short free-hit from Savio Genini on the left.

The rain came pouring down as the final reached the final 10 minutes of the first half and Robert Mabon was lucky referee Archie Ritchie didn't spot a trip on Andrew MacCuish as the Oban Camanachd broke forward.

Savio Genini had the ball in the net five minutes before the break but the referee's whistle had gone just a second earlier with Daniel Madej penalised for his challenge on the lively Kingussie full forward meaning Oban Camanachd took their 2-1 lead into the break.

The wind had dropped for the start of the second half as Kingussie brought Roddy Young on in attack in favour of Liam Borthwick.

Lorne Dickie's ball from midfield into the 'D' caused panic in the Kingussie defence but Andrew MacCuish's volley, after keeper MacGregor had played the ball away, went over the bar.

Oban Camanachd made their first change with Aidan MacIntyre coming on for Keith MacMillan in midfield just short of the hour mark.

Scott MacMillan was fortunate to escape with only a booking a couple of minutes later for coming down with both feet on Kingussie's James Falconer as the players tan-



Kingussie captain Robert Mabon with the Macaulay Cup.

Photograph: Kevin McGlynn.

gled on the right. Kingussie's Ryan MacWilliam blazed wide from the resultant free-hit.

Kingussie continued to press and Daniel Sloss did well to stretch high and deflect James Falconer's shot, which was on target, away for a corner.

Oban broke forward and a surging Daniel MacCuish run created a half-chance for Andrew MacCuish at the edge of the 'D' but he couldn't get the ball under control. It was now Kingussie's turn to counter and Ruaridh Anderson won a challenge and got away from Garry Lord before playing a perfectly-weighted pass to the right to Falconer who allowed the ball to run across his body before firing a shot across the keeper into the far corner of the net to make it 2-2 with 64 minutes on the clock.

Cameron Sutherland then saved with his feet from Savio Genini's back-hand effort following a Kingussie set-piece.

With 20 minutes to go, a great tackle from Scott MacMillan snuffed out a Kingussie chance with Roddy Young firing the loose ball over.

Kingussie were creating a number of set-piece opportunities and, from another such move, Cameron Sutherland saved with his chest from Ruaridh Anderson's shot from wide on the right.

Kingussie regained the lead on 77 minutes. An attempted clearance

was charged down by Savio Genini on the Kingussie left and a great ball across goal from Roddy Young was left by James Falconer and found Ruaridh Anderson racing wide on the right. Anderson still had plenty to do, but he forced a blistering shot between the keeper and his left post to make it 3-2. It was a great goal with all four forwards involved.

Keith MacMillan returned to the fray for Daniel MacVicar and Oban Camanachd needed a goal.

Kingussie's attacking play was a delight to watch and Roddy Young broke away from his marker and raced through on goal but Cameron Sutherland came off his line to narrow the angle and Young wasn't able to get a shot on target.

Kingussie had their tails up and Ruaridh Anderson's ball came across to Ryan MacWilliam but he couldn't finish it off from the edge of the 'D' with Scott MacMillan challenging.

There was an exchange of words on the touchline between Kingussie boss John Gibson and Scott MacMillan, with Gibson still unhappy with MacMillan's earlier involvement in the clash with James Falconer.

With six minutes remaining, Oban Camanachd made two more switches, Gary McKerracher for Daniel MacVicar and Daniel MacCuish for Scott MacMillan, with the latter suf-

## Fixtures

### Saturday August 24 Liberty British Aluminium Balliemore Cup Final

Glasgow MA v Fort William  
Ross Brown, 2.30pm.  
At An Aird, Fort William.

### Mowi Premiership

Caberfeidh v Oban Camanachd  
Calum Girvan  
Kilmallie v Kingussie  
Robert Baxter - 3pm  
Kyles Athletic v Lovat  
Lachie Wood - 3pm  
Newtonmore v Inveraray  
Graham Cameron - 3pm

### Mowi National Division

Strathglass v Oban Celtic  
Iain Kennedy

### Mowi North Division 1

Glengarry v Kinlochshiel  
Steven MacLachlan

Lovat v Aberdeen University

John Angus Gilles  
Newtonmore v Kingussie  
Ewan MacDonald - noon

### Mowi South Division 1

Inveraray v Col Glen  
Alex MacVicar  
Kyles Athletic v Taynuilt  
David Mitchell - noon  
Lochside Rovers v Aberdour  
Des McNulty

### Mowi North Division 2

Kilmallie v Beaulie  
Callum Duff - noon  
Lochcarron v Inverness  
Andy MacLean  
Strathspey v Lewis  
Neil MacDonald - 1.30pm

### Mowi South Division 2

Kilmoryv Glenorchy  
John Wood - 2pm  
All throw-ups 2.30pm, unless stated.

## Results

### Friday August 13

**Mowi North Division Two**  
Beauly 8 v 3 Boleskine

### Saturday August 17

**Artemis Macaulay Cup Final**  
Oban Caman 2 v Kingussie 3

### Mowi Premiership

Kyles Athletic 4 v 3 Lochaber  
Newtonmore 7 v 2 Caberfeidh  
Kilmallie 0 v 2 Lovat

### Mowi National Division

Strathglass 2 v 5 Fort William  
Beauly 0 v 3 Glasgow Mid Argyll  
Bute 0 v 5 Skye

### Mowi North Division One

Fort William P v P Caberfeidh  
Unplayable field  
Glenurquhart 3 v 2 Lovat  
Inverness 2 v 3 Glengarry  
Kinlochshiel 6 v 0 Aberdeen Uni  
Skye 3 v 3 Newtonmore

### Mowi South Division One

Taynuilt 4 v 5 Tayforth  
Ballachulish P v P Aberdour  
Unplayable field

### Mowi South Division Two

Ardnamurchan P v P Bute  
To be rescheduled

fering from cramp. Rory MacGregor came off his line to foil a late Oban Camanachd attack but the Oban side kept pressing.

The margins can be fine on such occasions and, as the final moved into stoppage time, Daniel Cameron collected a hit-in from the left and turned his man before unleashing a glorious drive which cannoned off the inside of the post.

James Falconer came off and Liam Borthwick went back on as Kingussie saw out the closing stages to emerge victorious.

This was a good final and whilst it ultimately ended in disappointment for Oban Camanachd, they have plenty to play for this season. Daniel Sloss and Daniel Madej, particularly in the second half, were excellent in defence, whilst a lot of good play came from Keith MacMillan on the right.

The man of the match accolade went to Kingussie attacker James Falconer who was well supported in the forward line by Savio Genini and Ruairidh Anderson, whilst Roddy Young's introduction injected something extra at just the right time.

Kingussie captain Robert Mabon stepped forward to collect the Artemis Macaulay Cup and silver mounted caman, presented by Councillor Roddy McCuish.

Speaking after the event, Macaulay Association secretary David Hamilton said: 'I would like to thank all the Macaulay committee members, past and present, the ladies at the gate and teas and numerous volunteers in the car park and around the ground for their help last Saturday which made the event run so well, and the Argyllshire

Gathering Halls for their superb reception at night.

'Special mention goes to the ground staff who got the pitches in such good condition, despite adverse weather.

'Congratulations to Kingussie who won the Macaulay Cup and to Lochaber High School who won the inaugural Macaulay Youth Cup.'

Next up for Oban Camanachd is a trip to Caberfeidh, the first of four successive away league matches for the side with two scheduled before the Tulloch Homes Camanachd Cup Final against Newtonmore on Saturday September 14 and two immediately afterwards.

## Mowi Premiership Kilmallie 0 Lovat 2

Lovat go top of the Mowi Premiership after beating Kilmallie 2-0 at Canal Parks.

Kilmallie's Martin Stewart began a two-match suspension with the hosts also missing keeper Shane Gillies, Aaron Sandison, Lewis Birrell, Jordan MacPhee and Ryan Stewart. Kevin Toye started between the sticks.

Daniel Grieve and Lorne MacKay returned for Lovat, but Martin Mainland remained on their injury list.

It was a wet day in Caol with a wind coming across the pitch.

The hosts almost opened the scoring on two minutes with a Daniel Stewart shot from the left which came back off the post.

Kilmallie had to make a change on 20 minutes when they lost Stephen McAlister with a head knock.

Continued on page 60



Oban Camanachd's Daniel Sloss closes in on Kingussie's James Falconer during last Saturday's Macaulay Cup final.

Photograph: Stephen Lawson.

# new SPOT THE SHINTY BALL

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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.

### Easy to enter

Cut out your completed coupon and put your entry plus £1 per 20 attempts into a sealed envelope and post it to "Spot the Shinty Ball" Competition, The Oban Times, PO Box 1, Oban, Argyll PA34 4HB by 2pm Tuesday. No refunds will be given for entries received after the deadline.

You may hand it into any of our offices - The Oban Times, Lochavullin, Oban; The Lochaber Times, High Street, Fort William; The Campbelltown Courier, Main Street, Campbelltown; The Argyllshire Advertiser, Argyll Street, Lochgilphead or the Arran Banner, Brodick, Isle of Arran by the same time. Otherwise all entries must be posted.

### Competition rules

No responsibility will be accepted for entries which are delayed, mislaid or lost, and proof of posting cannot be accepted as proof of delivery.

The Company's decision is final on all matters relating to the

competition and no correspondence will be entered into. The final decision rests with the Company.

In the event of more than one correct entry, the jackpot will be shared equally between all winning entries. Any decision regarding the awarding of a prize is entirely at the discretion of the Company. The Company reserves the right to declare the competition null and void at any time, subject to its discretion and to make full refund of the price of the coupon to any person who has entered the competition at that time. Winners agree to have their photograph taken for publicity purposes. Winners' names and home towns will appear in the newspaper. Employees of Wyvex Media, their immediate relatives and any person otherwise connected with the competition are ineligible to enter. We will protect your personal data. We only gather what we need for the requirements of this competition. Entry data will be deleted/destroyed within 30 days of the competition entry deadline and in a manner appropriate to GDPR regulations. Entrant's details will not be used for any other activity.



**Please remember to enclose £1 for 20 crosses.** The maximum number of attempts on this coupon is 20, but you may enter on separate coupons as many times as you wish. No photocopies allowed. You agree to abide by the rules. How to enter: Mark your crosses using a ballpoint pen. Twenty crosses may be put on this coupon for £1. Send to 'Spot the Shinty Ball' Competition, The Oban Times, P.O. Box 1, Oban PA34 4HB or hand in to any of our offices as detailed above.

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**L Currie** Nov '18 **£800**  
**L Nicolson** Dec '18 **£3900**

### LAST WEEK'S SHINTY BALL WAS HERE...



The two entries who got nearest the ball and each receive £25 are:

**I MacMillan**  
**Fort William**  
**S Galbraith**  
**Campbeltown**

Continued from page 59

Iain MacIntyre took over in the forward line with Calum MacDougall joining the midfield at wing centre and Liam Cameron moving to full centre.

Lovat took the lead on 31 minutes when a ball into the danger area held up on the wet surface and Lewis Tawse won the race for possession as he stretched in one-handed, on his back-hand, to steer the ball past keeper Kevin Toye.

It took a bit of work on the pitch at half-time to allow the game to continue although the weather improved slightly in the second half.

Cammy MacMillan came off the Lovat bench on 58 minutes to replace full forward Lorne MacKay who had a back problem and it only took MacMillan three minutes to make his mark with a terrific goal.

Lewis Bryson held the ball up before playing it right out into the corner where Greg Matheson had time to look up and pick out Fraser Heath on the far side. Heath played in Lewis Tawse who touched the ball by a defender before finding Cammy MacMillan who calmly placed the ball into the bottom corner, to the keeper's right, for his first senior goal.

Kilmallie introduced Michael Rodger and Bryan MacKay on 67 minutes to try and get back into the game and they played at a good pace, having more than their fair share of pressure and forcing Lovat keeper Stuart MacDonald into two fantastic saves. First, midway through the second half, MacDonald turned away a Liam MacDonald shot destined for the top corner of the net. Then, near the end, Michael Rodger ran in on goal doing keepy-uppys and the ball was flicked over MacDonald's head but he leapt to tip it over the bar.

Innes Blackhall was best for Kilmallie, with Callum Cruden tireless for Lovat. Lovat's Danny Kelly also did well against Liam MacDonald.

The win means Lovat take top spot from Kingussie on goal difference but they have played three games more than Kingussie and Newtonmore who are a point behind in third place.

Kyles Athletic and Oban Camanachd are still in the mix in what is shaping up to be an exciting end to the season. Kilmallie remain two points above the relegation zone with a home match against Kingussie and a trip to Kyles Athletic to come.

#### Kyles Athletic 4 Lochaber 3

Scott MacDonald's goal 20 seconds from the final whistle

gave Kyles Athletic a 4-3 win over Lochaber in their 1pm throw-up Tighnabraich.

Both sides were desperate for the points as Kyles are very much in the title race and Lochaber are battling to beat the drop.

Lochaber Ladies skipper Kirsty Delaney made her debut at this level and played for 85 minutes before being withdrawn.

Lochaber took the lead through Danny Delaney but Kyles levelled through a Ross MacRae volley from the edge of the 'D'.

Ben Delaney restored Lochaber's lead but Ross MacRae netted again, this time scoring with a tap-in after Roddy Macdonald tackled keeper Callum MacDonald.

Lochaber battled all the way and Danny Delaney got his second to put them into the lead for a third time but substitute Conor Kennedy, who had only been on the field for less than 10 minutes, gathered a lay-off from Roddy Macdonald and, from around the left side of the penalty spot, he put the ball in the bottom corner of the net, out-with the keeper's reach and it was now 3-3. There was late drama as Scott MacDonald grabbed an injury-time winner to make it 4-3 which means Kyles go fifth with games in hand on the teams above them.

#### Newtonmore 7 Caberfeidh 2

Newtonmore made their game in hand on Kingussie count, beating Caberfeidh 7-2 at the Eilan.

Caberfeidh got off to a great start as Craig Morrison continued his excellent scoring record, netting in the opening minute.

Morrison almost made it 2-0 before Newtonmore came storming back and Fraser MacKintosh on 13 minutes and Iain Robinson a couple of minutes later turned the match their way.

Kevin Bartlett made it 2-2 on 32 minutes but when Evan Menzies put Newtonmore back in front on 39 minutes, they never looked back with Drew MacDonald's effort on 41 minutes making it 4-2 at the break.

Iain Robinson completed his hat-trick with early second half goals on 46 and 48 minutes and Evan Menzies got his second on 72 minutes.

#### Mowi National Division

##### Strathglass 2 Fort William 5

Champions Fort William are just one win away from completing their league programme with a 100 per cent record but they had to come from two goals down before beating Strathglass



Kilmallie's Daniel Stewart has a shot at Lovat's goal during their Mowi Premiership match which Lovat won 2-0.

Photograph: A Brightside Photography.

5-2 in their 1pm throw-up at Cannich.

Fort William were not their usual clinical selves in front of goal in the first half with Arran MacPhee failing to find the target and Jack Fraser finding good positions but unable to trouble the keeper.

Lewis Morrison went through on goal but was unable to connect with the ball and the chance was gone.

Strathglass made their first serious attack on 13 minutes and they made it count. Ronan Melens struck a speculative ball into the goal area which wasn't dealt with and the ball was collected by Donald Fraser, who more regularly plays full back, and he touched it past his marker before giving Penri Jones the simplest of tasks to tap the ball into the empty net.

The home side's next clear-cut chance came on 34 minutes when another ball floated into the Fort William defence, this time by Steven Hyslop, wasn't cleared and Donald Fraser's deft touch found an unmarked Scott Douglas on the left and he slammed the ball past the keeper to make it 2-0.

With all their dominance, Fort William created few genuine first half chances and they looked frustrated going into the break.

Fort William boss Victor Smith switched Arran MacPhee to buckshee forward with Jack Fraser going to full forward and Pdraig McNeil came on for Lewis Morrison.

Fort William now looked more menacing and pulled a goal back on 57 minutes. Sean Cruickshank played in a hit-in from the right, finding Arran MacPhee near the 'D'. MacPhee didn't catch the ball cleanly but it bobbed between keeper Ally MacAdams and the post to make it 2-1.

Fort William drew level on 62 minutes with the goal coming from a defensive error. Pdraig McNeil played an inch-perfect pass to an unmarked Alexander MacMillan whose shot from the left beat the keeper.

Fort William scored the

goal of the game five minutes later. Lewis Clark made a good run from the left but was impeded. Referee John Angus Gillies played advantage and Clark squared the ball to Arran MacPhee who blasted an effort over the keeper's right shoulder from near the penalty spot.

Alexander MacMillan got his second and Fort William's fourth goal on 69 minutes when he combined with Pdraig McNeil, finishing off a good passing move from 12 yards to make it 4-2.

Fort William brought on Victor Smith who caused problems for the Strathglass defence and was rewarded with a goal on 82 minutes. There was a tackle between Darren Reid and Alexander MacMillan, leaving both men on the ground, and the ball broke to Pdraig McNeil who crossed to Victor Smith, who lost his marker and fired low past the keeper, inside his right post, to make it 5-2.

Fort William's final match is at home to Glasgow Mid Argyll when they will be presented with the league trophy. That game is currently scheduled for Saturday September 21.

Strathglass welcome Oban Celtic to Cannich this Saturday.

Elsewhere in the division, Glasgow Mid Argyll leapfrogged Glenurquhart into the second promotion spot after beating Beaully 3-0 at Braeview Park and James Pringle scored twice as Skye Camanachd beat Bute 5-0 at the Meadows.

#### Mowi North Division 1

##### Inverness 1 Glengarry 3

Glengarry are now six points clear at the top of the table after they safely negotiated a tricky encounter with the Inverness first team, winning 3-1 at Bught Park.

Raymond Robertson settled Glengarry into the game with a goal on six minutes.

Glengarry's Rhuairidh MacDonald recovered suffi-

ciently from a shoulder injury to play and made it 2-0 on 18 minutes.

Nick Dalgety marked his return to the Glengarry side when he made it 3-1 on 27 minutes. James Cameron pulled a goal back on 66 minutes but Glengarry stayed in front to seal a 3-1 win.

Elsewhere in the division, the Newtonmore seconds drew 3-3 with the Skye Camanachd seconds at Pairc nan Laoch, the Glenurquhart reserves beat Lovat reserves 3-2 at Blairbeg and the Kinlochshiel second team beat Aberdeen University at Reraig.

The match between the Fort William colts and the Caberfeidh colts at An Aird fell foul of a Saturday morning pitch inspection.

#### Mowi South Division 1

##### Taynuilt 4 Tayforth 5

Finlay Stark's goal a minute from time gave Tayforth a 5-4 win over Taynuilt in their 1pm throw-up at Taynuilt Sports Field. Tayforth led

through Josh Lomax on 15 minutes, but Liam Higgins on 30 minutes and Scott Dempster four minutes later put the hosts 2-1 up.

The game took another twist as Finlay Stark made it 2-2 a minute later.

Brendan Duggan on 37 minutes and a second from Finlay Stark on the stroke of half-time gave Tayforth a 4-2 interval lead.

Zander Kilmurray pulled a goal back 10 minutes into the second half and Kilmurray looked to have salvaged a point for Taynuilt when he made it 4-4 with four minutes remaining. However Finlay Stark completed his hat-trick a minute from time to give Tayforth a 5-4 victory.

The win lifts Tayforth into second place in the league although they have played more games than the other teams.

Elsewhere in the division, the Glasgow Mid Argyll colts beat the Kyles Athletic colts 5-3 at Yoker, whilst Aberdour's trip to Ballachulish was postponed on Saturday morning as Jubilee Park was waterlogged.

## Lochaber are junior Macaulay champions

Lochaber High School are the first winners of the Artemis Macaulay Junior Cup after defeating Oban High School 4-0 in the final at Ganavan on Saturday.

Ben MacKinnon scored twice with Robbie Rydings and Craig MacDonald getting the others for a Lochaber side coached by Donald MacLean.

The squad were presented with the trophy at half-time at the Artemis Macaulay Cup Final between Kingussie and Oban Camanachd.

## Liberty British Aluminium Balliemore Cup Final

Glasgow Mid Argyll and Fort William contest the Liberty British Aluminium Balliemore Cup Final at An Aird on Saturday August 24.

The trophy was originally donated by Major MacRae Gilstrap for a shinty tournament run by his brother, Captain Colin MacRae of Balliemore, in the Kyles of Bute in the early 20th century.

Bute were the first winners in this format in 1985.

Fort William lifted the trophy in 2017, beating Caberfeidh in the final to take the trophy for the first time.

Fort William opened the tournament with a 3-0 win over Oban Celtic and then they defeated Bute 6-0 in the last-eight followed by Glenurquhart 4-1 in the semis.

Glasgow Mid Argyll were runners-up in 2015, losing out to Beaully in the final.

GMA, who have yet to lose a goal in this year's competition, defeated Skye 2-0 in the opening round before overcoming Taynuilt 4-0 in the quarter-finals then Strathglass 3-0 in the semi-finals.

Fort William will enjoy home advantage in the final with the venue decided before the tournament started.

Both teams have been in fine form recently and the Liberty British Aluminium Balliemore Cup Final between Glasgow Mid Argyll and Fort William throws-up at 2.30pm. Ross Brown is the match referee.

# Nothing loopy about Steven's Sportive win



Eight NACC riders took part in the event, with the other three 'speedy group' members finishing in the top six.

Around 70 riders took part in the recent Kilberry Loop Sportive with North Argyll Cycle Club rider Steven Groom taking top spot.

The event, run by Mid Argyll Triathlon and Cycling Club, is considered a favourite by their members as either a training ride or a social ride.

The stunning 40-mile route takes

the cyclists along the Sound of Jura in the west and the picturesque Loch Fyne in the east, connected by West Loch Tarbert to the South and the Loch Aral ascent in the north - giving superb views down the Kintyre coast to the Isle of Jura and to Islay, Gigha and Kintyre.

'It was an excellent event and we were

## CYCLING

very lucky with the weather on an amazing route with stunning scenery,' said Steven, who completed the course in an unofficial time of one hour 52 minutes and 50 seconds.'

# Awesome bowls earn home boys Open title

## BOWLS

Twenty teams from all over Argyll signed up for Oban Bowling Club's Open Pairs sponsored by Oban Carpet and Flooring Services.

Players from Ardrishaig BC, Tarbert BC, Helensburgh BC, Dumbarton BC and Argyle BC in Alexandria joined bowlers from the host club to contest the prestigious trophy.

Home pair Peter MacKinnon and Malcolm Scott (skip) won the battle at the end of the day following fine bowling throughout the round robin stages, semi-finals and finals.

From left: runners-up Richard Baldwin and John McLaren; Iain MacPherson of Oban Carpet and Flooring Services; winners Peter MacKinnon and Malcolm Scott and president Iain Boyd.



## WEIGHTLIFTING



Max Buchanan continues to raise the bar.

# First win gives Oban's Max a bit of a lift

by Fiona Scott  
fscott@obantimes.co.uk



Oban weightlifter Max Buchanan is continuing to raise the bar, notching three personal bests on his way to the GCB Classic 2019 event in Glasgow earlier this month.

On his way to taking his first win, the 31-year-old from Oban lifted personal bests in the snatch (114kg), clean and jerk (132kg) and total (246kg) at the event.

This result moves him from fifth to fourth, in his weight category of 89kg, in the Scottish rankings.

Max, a level 4 strength and conditioning coach at Atlantis Leisure, Oban, from where he runs his own business, took third place at the Scottish Championships with a personal best total of 238 in May and is delighted to have bettered that one.

'It was a small compe-

titition and winning isn't really a big deal but the national rankings will still be affected so it's nice,' he said.

Max still has a hefty 19kg to find if he wants to take the Scottish number one spot, currently held by Miles Morgan (264kg) and a further one to qualify for the British Championship.

His next big outing is at the West Scotland Open on September 21/22.

'For me it's mostly about having fun and trying to chip away at my personal bests and edging up the rankings is all part of that,' he added.

'Miles has 10 years on me. I didn't even know that weightlifting was a sport when I was 21, so if I want to better his lift I had better be quick because by the time he is my age he will be competing at the Olympics if he keeps going the way he is.'

# Ganavan Sands parkrun celebrates third birthday



Ganavan Sands Park Runners celebrated their third birthday recently. Left to right: June Bleazard, Derek Laidler, Wilf Laidler, back, Ellie Cooper, Bill Kersel and Emily Woolard.



The Ganavan runners.

OT

## GOLF

## Bob back in the swing



Bob MacIntyre.

After a few weeks off after success at The Open in Portrush, Oban's Bob MacIntyre, world number 102, got back in the swing of things last week when he took part in the Real D+D Real Czech Masters at the Albatross Golf resort, Prague.

In round one, Bob carded a three under par round of 69 with five birdies, the only blot being a double bogey six at the 14th.

In the second round, the Glencruitten left-hander carded a level par round of 72 which featured two birdies and two bogeys which was good enough to make the cut.

The 22-year-old had an excellent four under par third round which featured seven birdies and three bogeys.

In his final round, Bob carded a two-under par round of 70 with three birdies and one bogey to give him a nine under par four round total of 279 which meant he finished in joint 23rd place.

Bob now heads to Sweden for the Scandinavian Invitation at Hills Golf and Sports Club, Gothenburg, starting today (Thursday).

## Gents Open at Taynuilt

The S & S Services sponsored Gents Open took place on Sunday August 18 at Taynuilt Golf Club on a day of contrasting weather.

Morning players experienced the best of weather, whilst those in the afternoon were met with extremely wet and unpleasant conditions.

However, scoring was good and the 65 golfers who took part enjoyed a course superbly prepared by greenkeeper Fraser Inglis and his band of volunteers. The club thanks the event sponsors and everyone who supported the day.

Handicap Category: 1 Richard Bergant (Taynuilt GC) 62 (10); 2 Jason Wylie (Taynuilt GC) 63 (22) BIH; 3 Robert MacLarty (Taynuilt GC) 63 (11)  
Gross Category: 1 David Howie (Taynuilt GC) 66; 2 Graham MacColl (Glencruitten GC) 69; 3 John R Cowan (Taymouth Castle GC) 73

Longest Drive: 1st/10th: Justin Emsley (Taynuilt GC). Nearest the Pin: 3rd/12th: John R Cowan (Taymouth Castle GC). Nearest the Pin: 8th / 17th: Jim Milligan (Taynuilt GC).

## Results from Glencruitten

Steven McCuish won the Par 3 Competition at Glencruitten on Saturday with a score of 57 - 7 = 50. Kenny MacLean was second with a score of 59 - 7 = 52 and Neil Armour was third with a score of 62 - 9 = 53.

First round of the Cameron Trophy is on Saturday with the second round on Sunday. Eclectic Round 8 and Eclectic Round 9 also takes place at the weekend.

## First hole in one for 20 years

Colonsay held their Open Golf Competition on Saturday August 17. Walter Ashcroft won the championship and local shield. Jane Dunbar won the ladies competition and Felix Musgrave won the juniors. On the following day, Jane Dunbar had a hole in one at the 17th in the Sunday competition. This is the first recorded hole in one on Colonsay for more than 20 years. Well done Jane.



Jane Dunbar.



The start of last year's race. Photograph: Stephen Lawson.

## Oban Sea Kayak Race on Saturday

This Saturday, August 24, sees the tenth anniversary of the biggest sea kayaking event in the UK, The Oban Sea Kayak Race.

The event has been organised and held on the last weekend of August (Bank Holiday Weekend England and Wales) since 2010, attracting many competitors from all over the world.

The brainchild of Gus Brydon, an experienced local kayaker, he and a group of volunteers have organised this successful event which donates all of its proceeds to Oban Lifeboat.

Since 2010, the race has donated more than £18,500 to Oban Lifeboat, with the help of some local businesses and individuals around the bay, without

## KAYAKING

which this event would be impossible to run.

Everyone is encouraged to come out and support this great event which starts from Oban beach front at 1pm this Saturday.

## Not so unlucky 13 for Lorne Ladies

Glasgow Uni Ladies	15
Oban Lorne Ladies	19
National League Div 1	

On a dreich Sunday afternoon, Oban Lorne Ladies travelled to Glasgow University for their first fixture after being promoted to National League Division 1.

Starting the match with just 13 players against a full 15 player squad, Oban Ladies put up a strong defence.

With very wet conditions and plenty dropped balls, there were lots of scrums and breaks in play. After a dropped ball from Oban, Glasgow acted on the mistake, passed the ball out wide and scored the first try of the match. A missed conversion took the score to 5-0.

Ellen Barlow, who moved to centre from her usual position on the wing, ran some great lines along with Rachel MacDonald but failed to get points on the scoreboard. Second rows Nicole Taylor and Veronica Speirs put in some strong carries before captain Laura MacCormick linked up with vice captain Ailsa MacLachlan to burst through the Glasgow defence with MacCormick scoring



Oban Lorne Ladies before their win over Glasgow University.

Oban's first try. Selina Keppie, playing her first match at fly-half, successfully kicked the conversion to take the lead to 5-7.

Glasgow's fly-half caught the ball off the scrum and ran down the blindside and after a few missed tackles from Oban, she dived over the line to take the score to 10-7 at half-time.

The second half started with Oban having to put in some strong tackles on their five-metre line before one of

their players dotted over the line taking the score to 15-7.

With 20 minutes to go, a Glasgow player received a yellow card leaving them with 14 against Oban's 13.

Oban were attacking fast and strong, when Beth Menzies picked the ball up at a ruck and snuck through to score another try taking the score to 15-12 with five minutes to go.

With Glasgow making another handling error, Oban winger Rachel MacDonald

## WOMEN'S RUGBY

outpaced the opposition on the touchline to score the last try of the match in the final minute. With Keppie kicking another successful conversion, the final score was 15-19.

Player of the match award went to Howdo Bean for having a faultless performance stepping in at scrum-half.

Oban Lorne Ladies have their next fixture against Garioch at home on Sunday August 25.



Matty Kelly heads a Lesmahagow corner clear. Photograph: Derek Black.

## Saints GG team lose nine-goal thriller

Continued from page 64 sent Cammy Hill away on the left, only for the young striker to be upended midway inside opposition territory by 'Gow' full back Gordon Hamilton.

Lewis Cameron rolled the free-kick up to the edge of the box where it was taken towards the byeline by Craig MacEwan. There was no way through for MacEwan but his lay-off to David Beaton was cut back to Lewis Cameron on the edge of the box whose low shot through a sea of legs deceived Christopher Shaw and nestled in the bottom corner.

David Beaton fired in a shot from the corner of the box which warmed the palms of Christopher Shaw before the 'Gow' keeper pulled off an excellent save from Lewis Cameron. After being felled 24 yards out, Cameron picked himself up and sent a dipping effort up and over the four man wall which Shaw, at full stretch, finger tipped over the crossbar.

Saints made a double substitution sending on James Ford

and Dean Smith for David Beaton and Cammy Hill.

The game, which for the most part had been played in a competitive but fair spirit, erupted momentarily in the 80th minute.

However, Mr Quinn quickly restored order and once the dust had settled issued yellow cards to team captains Dene Cassells and Johnny Logan.

Saints made further changes, replacing Matty Kelly with the fresh legs of Daniel Croarkin and withdrawing Lewis Cameron in favour of the added aerial presence of Kerr Newbigging.

The visitors stepped up their aerial bombardment for the closing stages but the Saints rearguard stood firm under pressure, protecting keeper Graham Douglas well.

Saints had one final chance to take the pressure off the hard-worked defence with an 88th minute breakaway on the left.

Craig MacEwan raced into the box and, after rounding Christopher Shaw, saw his effort from a tight

angle cleared off the line by Robbie Kilpatrick. Mr Quinn brought proceedings to a close after three added minutes, confirming back-to-back league wins for Saints and a place among the early Division 1B pacesetters alongside Clydebank and Blantyre RGM.

Saints are at home again this Saturday when they welcome Clydebank to Oban on Central Scottish Amateur Football League Division 1B business. Kick-off at Glencruitten is at 2pm with Tom Cavanagh in charge.

Oban Saints GG	4
Langcraigs	5
League Cup	

Oban Saints Greater Glasgow team were also in action on Saturday when they took on Langcraigs in the League Cup on the 3G pitch at Oban High School.

The game turned out to be a nine-goal thriller with the Oban lads losing out 5-4 in an entertaining game.

### FOOTBALL

Saints had four goals disallowed in an end-to-end thriller.

Scoring for Saints were Fraser MacFarlane (3) and Ross Maitland.

The GG team are away to Calderglen on Saturday, also in the League Cup.

Oban Saints youth teams were also back in action after the school holidays with the following results: Dunoon 5, Under 13s 7. Scoring for Saints were Kai MacKechnie (4), Reece Millar (2) and James Muir. Clydebank 2, Under 14s 2. On target for Saints were Zander Craik and Gabriel Tidser. Campbeltown Pupils 3, Under 15s 2. Saints goalscorers were Kyle Cooper and Andrew Nicol. Ardencaple 1, Under 17s 5. Scoring for Saints were Ross Higgins (2), Ross Campbell (2) and Connor Moore.

This Sunday's fixtures: Under 14s v Drumchapel Utd; Under 15s v Drumchapel Utd; St Patrick's v Under 17s.

## Pre-season friendly games for Oban Lorne

Oban Lorne's 1st XV travelled to Glasgow for a pre season friendly last Saturday against Cartha Queens Park and Carrick.

This was a massive step up for the Oban boys with Cartha playing four leagues above in National 1 and Carrick playing three leagues above in National 2.

In the first game v Cartha, the Glasgow side gave Oban a bit of a lesson in how to react to a turnover ball.

Oban did well to keep possession in the game but whenever they made a mistake by knocking the ball on or forcing the offload Cartha capitalised and struck with pace and accuracy in attack.

This was a great challenge

and one that all the players relished and hopefully they took a lot from the game.

In the second game versus old foes Carrick, the Oban structure started to take shape and they scored a cou-

ple of cracking tries against a well-organised side.

The Carrick coach commented on the change of style in the Oban game since the last time the two teams had played three seasons ago.



The Oban Lorne squad who won the recent Tower Tens tournament. Photograph: Stephen Lawson.

### RUGBY

Ultimately, the exertions of the first game took their toll and a couple of minor injuries forced players off and the Ayrshire side took full advantage.

Head coach Andrew Johnston was delighted with the effort shown by the squad over the two games, especially with the amount of shuffling of players required over the day.

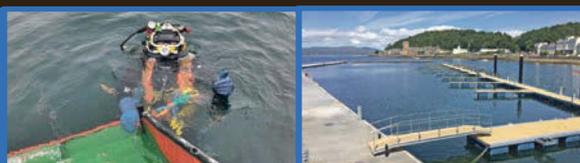
Next weekend the Green Machine are on their travels again in their final warm-up match before the start of the league season.

They are back to Glasgow to take on another old West Division 1 foe - Cambuslang.



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### WEATHER

**Thursday**  
Light rain showers and a moderate breeze  
Temperatures  
14°C to 17°C.

**Friday**  
Light rain showers and a moderate breeze  
Temperatures  
14°C to 18°C.

**Weekend Outlook**  
**Saturday**  
Light rain showers and a gentle breeze  
**Sunday**  
Light rain showers and a moderate breeze  
Temperatures  
12°C to 17°C.



FRIDAY

### TIDAL INFORMATION

Tide tables for Oban during the week from Thursday August 22, 2019 are listed below with differences for major ports listed on the right. All times are GMT (add one hour BST)

	03.33	1.6	09.12	3.3
<b>Thur</b>	15.34	1.6	21.40	3.3
<b>Fri</b>	04.18	1.7	09.54	3.1
	16.23	1.8	22.28	3.1
<b>Sat</b>	05.23	1.8	10.50	3.0
	17.36	1.9	23.47	3.0
<b>Sun</b>	06.40	1.8	12.26	2.9
	19.05	1.9	***	**
<b>Mon</b>	02.19	3.0	07.55	1.7
	14.39	3.1	20.34	1.7
<b>Tues</b>	03.29	3.2	09.03	1.4
	15.40	3.4	21.52	1.4
<b>Wed</b>	04.19	3.5	10.01	1.1
	16.28	3.7	22.49	1.0

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.**

Not so unlucky  
13 for Lorne  
Ladies

Saints GG team  
lose nine-goal  
thriller

# Narrow win keeps Saints' 100 per cent start on track

Oban Saints	2
Lesmahagow	1
Central Scottish AFL	

Goals early in each half gave Oban Saints the edge over visitors Lesmahagow when the D&K Lafferty Contractors sponsored side made their first home appearance of the season at Glencruitten last Saturday.

In an evenly-contested Central Scottish Amateur Football League Division 1B encounter, strikes from David Beaton and Lewis Cameron had Saints two goals to the good before a 59th minute reply from James McGill set up a nervy closing third of the match for the Glencruitten faithful who were relieved to see their favourites cling on to claim the points.

Saints made two changes to

the squad which had defeated Craigneuk seven days earlier, adding James Ford and Cammy Hill at the expense of Martin Bonar and Willie Gemmell.

Saints kicked off attacking the railway line end and were immediately on the attack with Lewis Cameron forcing a corner kick on the Saints left. Captain Dene Cassells climbed highest to meet Cameron's delivery on the six-yard line but his glancing header flew wide of target.

Getting the first glimpse of their favourites in competitive action since April 6, the Glencruitten faithful didn't have too long to wait to savour the first home goal of the season when David Beaton's second minute diagonal run from the left was expertly picked out by Craig MacEwan. Beaton held off the

attentions of Dean McLean and, with the outside of his right boot, lifted the ball over the advancing keeper Christopher Shaw and into the net to give Saints an early lead.

Beaton and Shaw were in direct opposition again two minutes later when Beaton collected a Matty Kelly pass and fired off a shot from 16 yards which Shaw did well to push behind for a corner kick. Lewis Cameron again sent in a good delivery which Paul Carmichael, at the back post, sent over the crossbar.

Referee John Quinn controversially denied Saints what appeared to be a clear 18th minute penalty kick when Lewis Cameron was tripped inside the Lesmahagow box. To the bemusement of everyone, instead of pointing to the penalty spot, Mr Quinn gave the decision in favour of the visitors and cautioned Cameron for simulation.

The visitors were becoming more of a force in the game and Graham Douglas in the Saints goal did well to push a fierce James McCrorie left foot strike behind for a 21st minute corner kick.

The Saints defence struggled to get Johnny Logan's delivery from the right fully cleared and were relieved to see McCrorie's dangerous ball across the six yard box fizz behind with no takers.

Craig MacEwan sent a low shot wide of target in the 26th minute before being denied a further shooting opportunity 60 seconds later.



Craig MacEwan gets to grips with Lesmahagow's James McGill. Report and photographs: Derek Black.

Returning to the 'Gow' after a brief spell in the junior ranks with Cumbernauld United, former club captain Robbie Kilpatrick made a perfectly timed sliding interception in his own penalty box to prevent MacEwan from testing Christopher Shaw.

For the second time in the match, referee Quinn left the Saints' management team of Donald Campbell and Willie Gemmell perplexed at the lack of a penalty kick award after David Beaton was clearly shoved in the back in the 28th minute.

Lewis Cameron and Cammy Hill combined well on the right wing for Cameron to send a cutback fractionally behind the supporting run of Matty Kelly who dragged his shot high and wide of target before Cameron sent another effort over the 'Gow' crossbar after a good turn on the edge of the box.

Lesmahagow hit the woodwork for the second time just before the half time whistle when the unmarked James McCrorie headed a James McGill cross onto the inside of Graham Douglas' left hand

post and back into the arms of the grateful keeper.

Saints started the second half in the same fashion as the first with a goal after two minutes.

A quick release of the ball from Graham Douglas, after he had safely gathered a Darren Smith long throw,

Continued on page 63.



Cammy Hill heads wide.

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# LOCHABER TIMES

## & OBAN TIMES

No 8473

Thursday 22 August, 2019

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95p



### More than 1,000 flock to Glenfinnan Gathering

### NEWS



### A luxury stay in the hidden highlands



### A Stranraer Oyster Festival break

# Dismay at removal of village's cash machine

by Mark Entwistle  
mentwistle@obantimes.co.uk

The future of the Post Office branch in Kinlochleven will be in jeopardy if a plan to remove the village's only external, free-to-use ATM cash dispenser from the branch at the end of October goes ahead.

So said Andrew Baxter this week, who, as well as serving as an elected Highland Council member for Fort William and Ardnamurchan, is also sub-postmaster in Kinlochleven.

Mr Baxter said he had just received official notice that Post Office Ltd/Bank of Ireland intend removing the machine in October.

He told us there has been widespread dismay at the prospect of losing the only external, free-to-use ATM between Tyndrum and Ballachulish.

And he warned: 'This will leave a large tourist village without 24-hour access to cash withdrawals. The next free-to-use machine is in Ballachulish. It will have a massive impact on the village

and particularly those visitors on the West Highland Way.

'Although many can withdraw cash from across the counter in the Post Office, this is only during opening hours. And those with foreign bank accounts will be unable to do so. Many of the B&Bs in the village have no facilities to pay

### Many of the B&Bs in the village have no facilities to pay by card.

by card. It also jeopardises the very future of the Post Office as hosting and operating the ATM accounts for between 18 and 20 per cent of Post Office income.'

Kinlochleven Community Council chairwoman Yvonne Rosie said local people were 'appalled' and told us: 'Leaving a community essentially cut off from access to cash - how can this be fair?'

'What will the community do for readily available money when the Post Office is closed, especially at the weekend?'

'The cashback facility at the Co-op will be inundated and perhaps unable to cope and what happens to those foreign visitors without UK bank accounts who won't be able to access the Post Office?'

'We have been cut adrift and it is shocking that we now have less than we had during the 20th century.'

Local MSP Kate Forbes added: 'It would be absurd if the people of Kinlochleven had to drive miles further to get cash out of hours,' she said. 'The Post Office has got to listen and stop these plans.'

A Post Office spokesperson said: 'The licence for the ATM at Kinlochleven has expired and our ATM provider, Bank of Ireland, has advised us that the ATM will be removed at a date to be agreed between the bank and Post Office.'

'Through our agreement with UK banks, 99 per cent of all the UK's consumer banking customers can access everyday banking services, including withdrawing cash, at any of our 11,500 Post Office branches.'

## Fort William man named as A830 fatality

Police Scotland has now confirmed the identity of the man who died following the five-vehicle collision on the A830 between Fort William and Glenfinnan on Monday.

Matthew Duncan, aged 23, from Fort William, was the driver of a red Audi RS3 which was involved in the accident near Fassfern around 12.45pm.

The collision also involved a white Renault Clio, a black Subaru Impreza, a silver Ford S Max and a Volkswagen Transporter van, which was parked in a lay-by at the time.

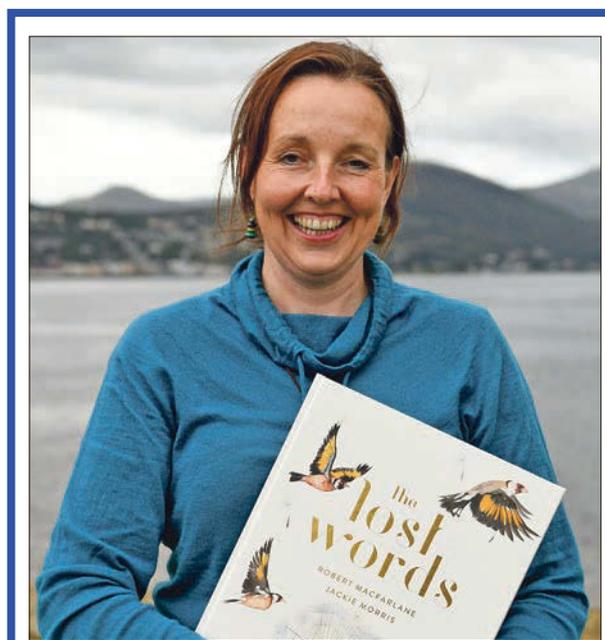
Five other people were taken to hospital for treatment to non-life threatening injuries.

The road was closed until around 11.10pm to allow for a thorough investigation.

Sergeant Donnie Mackinnon said: 'Our thoughts are with everyone affected but particularly with Mr Duncan's family and friends at this difficult time.'

'We are continuing to work to establish the full circumstances and anyone who hasn't yet spoken to police is urged to come forward.'

Anyone can contact police on 101, quoting incident 1599 of August 19.'



## Booking her place in history

Jane Beaton from Spean Bridge holds a copy of *The Lost Words* following her successful campaign that raised more than £25,000 to provide a copy for every school in Lochaber and the rest of Scotland. Full story, page four. Photograph: Iain Ferguson, The Write Image.

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# Proclaimers' gig boost for LMRT

by Mark Entwistle  
mentwistle@obantimes.co.uk

The sum of £1,000 has been raised for Lochaber Mountain Rescue Team in memory of Ian Bell, who died while climbing Ben Nevis, thanks to a concert by the Proclaimers that also saw the band dedicate a song to the late West Herts College lecturer.

Mr Bell, 60, lost his life while walking on Ben Nevis in August 2015.

Since then his family have held two special music events in the back garden of their home in Hemel Hempstead – entitled IanFest – plus a collection at the Rex Cinema in Berkhamsted and a series of other musical gatherings in the family home to raise money for the Fort William-based rescue team.

And it was while Proclaimers brothers Craig and Charlie Reid were performing in Watford earlier this month that a collection was taken for the team by Mr Bell's family and friends.

And in a moving tribute to him, the Reid twins also dedicated their famous hit song Sunshine on Leith to Mr Bell and his sons Oscar and Louie.

Every year since the tragic accident, Mr Bell's family



Julia Bell and her sons, Oscar and Louie, with a poster for the Proclaimers concert; and below, Ian Bell.

has raised funds for Lochaber Mountain Rescue Team, which searched for Mr Bell when he went missing.

Back in 2017, the family travelled to Lochaber to meet rescue team members.

Mr Bell's widow, Julia, said her late husband had been very proud of his Glaswegian ancestry and loved the Highlands and its mountains.

She told the Lochaber Times: 'We have not stopped playing the Proclaimers music since that Friday. The Sunshine of Leith album that belonged to Ian will be even

more worn down. We have the tour poster in the living room. And the Sunshine on Leith tea towel in the kitchen – perfect. It was an incredible night of music, fund-raising and emotion.

'We sat in the twelfth row, side by side, holding onto Ian's tartan scarf and waving it like we were in a football stadium, singing our hearts out to the anthems and holding onto each other.

'There was an energy in the air ... a feeling in the room that everyone was connected by the music and the moment. I felt deeply connected to Ian,

his life, his presence and also his absence.

'When Charlie announced from the stage that Sunshine on Leith was dedicated to Ian and the boys, I folded in two emotionally.

'When he acknowledged the collection that would be taking place for Lochaber Mountain Rescue, I felt pure pride. The LMRT deserves its name to be shouted on every stage, every platform, every rooftop.

'That moment and the gentle kindness of the Proclaimers meant everything to me. As the music began and the crowd sang, I felt deeply connected to Ian, his family and friends, the mighty Ben Nevis and the rescue team, my sons and my emotions.

'It is our intention as a family to carry on raising funds and raising the profile of Lochaber Mountain Rescue Team. They were there for us when we needed them. They are there for so many. They are selfless. They are incredible individuals. They do so much more behind the scenes and I am just delighted that we could raise £1,000 for them.

'It has been a hard four years but that one moment of kindness helped lift pain and dark clouds.'

## VIEW FROM THE CHAMBER

Today is an exciting day for Lochaber Chamber of Commerce as it marks the first consultation on our new Lochaber Leadership Programme with premium member businesses.

This innovative new staff development programme will create tailored training specifically designed by Lochaber Chamber of Commerce to meet the needs of local businesses and 'raise the bar' to meet the 21st-century leadership challenges.

This new training programme is being developed after the great feedback we received for our Ideas Week training seminars. The success of these short training seminars highlighted the business appetite for locally delivered, high-level staff development.

This collaborative opportunity with West Highland College UHI will provide candidates with professional

business accreditation through the Chartered Management Institute.

The new Leadership for Lochaber Businesses programme will train and support candidates to develop the necessary skills to take on senior business roles to achieve and maintain high performance within an ever-changing and demanding commercial environment.

The leadership programme will strengthen the capacity of local businesses to grow and develop and enhance Lochaber's reputation as a supportive, forward-thinking business environment for businesses considering moving into the area.

More details on the leadership programme will be unveiled during Lochaber Ideas Week.

If your business would like to find out more about the training, call 01397 705765.

## WHAT'S ON in Lochaber

■ Fèis Lochabair is planning to hold an EGM on Wednesday September 4 to help recruit new committee members to organise next year's Fèis. The EGM is from 6.30pm at Bun-sgoil Ghàidhlig Loch Abar.

■ Nether Lochaber Senior Citizens' Association is holding a bake sale Thursday August 29 raising funds for a Christmas lunch. It will run

10am to 2pm outside the service point on Fort William High Street.

■ The Boys' Brigade is enrolling for 2019/20 on Friday August 30 with all welcome to come along and see what is on offer. Many activities are planned for this season already with young people aged five to 17 encouraged to come along to Duncansburgh MacIntosh Church Hall.



### Travelling with your Dog

Road trips in the car can be fun for the whole family including your pet. Check out our travel tips for keeping your dog happy during car journeys.

#### MAKE A STOP

Make lots of stops along the way to let your dog stretch their legs, have a drink and some fresh air. Always ensure your dog is on a lead when out of the car!

#### HEAT!

NEVER leave your dog in a vehicle if you are making a stop during the journey. Temperatures inside cars can rise extremely quickly and cause heat stress, dehydration and even death.

#### MOTION SICKNESS

This can be caused by the anxiety of travelling in the car, which is why it is important to practice travelling in the car and always making journeys fun. If appropriate avoid feeding your dog at least 2 hours before you journey... This will reduce nausea when travelling.

#### STAY SAFE

A pet seatbelt or carries will stop your dog moving around the car, keeping them safe and secure whilst you drive.

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# Youth theatre has its funding pulled

by Peter Newman  
fort@obantimes.co.uk

People have been left reeling at news that Eden Court Theatre in Inverness is to stop all funding for youth theatre groups, including Lochaber Youth Theatre (LYT).

Eden Court, which last year reported an income of £6.5 million and a surplus of £480,000, had previously been accused of failing to value the work of the youth theatres when it made the 10 outreach workers, seven of whom were on permanent contracts, redundant.

At the time, chief executive James Mackenzie-Blackman was quoted as saying that of the seven colleagues leaving, the intention was for four to be re-employed in a freelance capacity.

The withdrawal of the budget for these freelance workers



Kate Bracken.

means the only youth theatre group still funded in the Highland is the one based at the Inverness theatre itself.

The controversial move came just a day after it was revealed Eden Court had secured £30,000 from Highland Council for a feasibility study into a possible extension to its existing state-of-the-art facilities.

Outraged Fort William and Ardnamurchan councillor Andrew Baxter said it seemed

Eden Court 'gets special treatment' from the council.

'It's appalling that they go cap in hand to the council to get £30,000 for a study to improve their business, when they slash important arts funding in Lochaber,' said Mr Baxter.

'Maybe it's time the council brings the curtain down on its funding for Eden Court and spends the money in local areas where it can have a massive impact. Let's subsidise local projects and end the effective subsidy for theatre goes in the Inverness area.'

The man running LYT, Alan Gray, said the organisation was now looking at alternatives for funding, adding: 'However, with strong art links locally with I-C-E, Figment Theatre, Dramafish, Photon Productions, Bright Productions and others, hopefully we can secure some sort of future for LYT.'

One LYT graduate and a former pupil at Lochaber High School is Kate Bracken, who starred in the BBC television series Being Human.

She said her time with LYT had been a major part of her career: 'To hear that funding has been cut and that LYT might no longer exist is heartbreaking.'

Mr Mackenzie-Blackman said Eden Court remains committed to its Highland-wide remit, but had seen its funding severely cut by the Highland Council and Creative Scotland. 'We are working on plans, and will soon be consulting with communities on the shape of an offer to children and young people across Highland region,' he said.

'Once we have undertaken this work, we will embark on getting it funded. I am confident we will be able to persuade funders of the clear need.'

## CalMac Tourshop in Fort William to close

by Richard Mason  
rmason@obantimes.co.uk

The Caledonian MacBrayne Tourshop in Fort William will close for good in September owing to changing customer needs.

The Tourshop – located next to Fort William railway station – was one of two CalMac has that offer ticketing facilities and knowledgeable staff available to give ideas for day trips and short breaks.

With more customers now using the internet to plan their trips rather than visit the tourshop, the ferry operator says it cannot justify renewing the lease on the Fort William premises.

A CalMac spokesman said: 'We appreciate this will be disappointing for regular users. However, information on ferry services and day tours will continue to be available at ports, online and through our customer contact centre.'

'CityLink tickets will be available through the VisitScotland shop in Fort William. The shop will close on September 1, 2019,



CalMac Tourshop.

and discussions about the three staff members' options are ongoing.'

The premises are leased by CalMac and will be left empty until a new tenant is found.

Councillor Allan Henderson, who represents Caol and Mallaig, thinks the closure is disappointing for CalMac.

He said: 'CalMac currently needs all the PR and high profile that goes with premises such as this in the transport hub for the west. It is also a hard knock when jobs are lost and the vital service and knowledge that is passed on to the casual traveller is withdrawn. A computer is no substitute for personal experience and up-to-the-minute travel information.'

The next closest CalMac location is at Mallaig.

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## Sunart films week is hailed a hit

The Sunart Centre in Strontian hosted a summer films week at the start of this month with four screenings including a matinee.

From animated Disney Pixar Coco, the original 1949 black and white film Whisky Galore!, tear-jerking Lion and the grand Friday night finale showing of The Greatest Showman, there was something on offer for every cinematic taste.

Cinema-goers of all ages rolled up over the week with three generations of the same family attending one screening.

Teens to pensioners watched Whisky Galore! on the big screen – some for the first time, some taking their viewing of the film into double figures.

Alan Gray, who organised the week, said: 'The idea for the film week came from talking with some of the young people at Ardnamurchan High School. It's been a great week. People have enjoyed the films.'

# Lost Words now found in schools across Lochaber

by Kirsteen Bell  
fort@obantimes.co.uk

A Spean Bridge woman has successfully raised more than £25,000 to deliver The Lost Words, nature's spell book, to every primary, secondary and special school in Scotland, kickstarting a movement that has spread across the UK.

In 2007, a new edition of the Oxford Junior Dictionary was published that had removed around 40 words relating to the natural world.

Among the words omitted were acorn, adder, bluebell, dandelion, fern, heron, kingfisher, newt, otter and willow.

The reason given for their removal was that they were no longer in common use by children. A survey released this week by children's activity app Hoop showed that four out of 10 children did not recognise a dandelion and almost five out of 10 could not identify a bluebell.

Illustrator Jackie Morris and nature writer Robert



Jane Beaton with a copy of The Lost Words.

Photograph: Iain Ferguson.

Macfarlane created The Lost Words to help address what was perceived as a growing gulf between children and the natural world.

Their 'spell book' contains illustrations and poems of 20 of the words removed from the Oxford dictionary, from adder to wren, in a bid to recapture these words before they are lost to the next generation entirely.

Jane Beaton, from Highbridge near Spean Bridge, recognised the importance of the book so began a crowdfunding campaign to provide a copy to every primary school in Scotland.

The initial target was reached so quickly that Ms Beaton quickly expanded the goal to include all Scottish secondary and special schools.

She told Lochaber Times: 'The campaign really captured a movement as people are looking for different ways to make a difference. Connecting with nature is so good for all of our physical and mental health and so many people share that thought now. It's not just urban kids, it's just as relevant in areas like the Highlands as a lot of rural

kids don't have access to the outdoors. The Lost Words book can give children and adults a way to engage together.'

The crowdfunding target was met in February last year. More than 500 pledges were made to the campaign with donations ranging from £1 to a £3,000 gift from America.

### Campaign

Ms Beaton added: 'This had never been done before. Robert MacFarlane and Jackie Morris were so supportive from day one. Ms Morris even drew some pictures to auction for the campaign.'

Since then, Ms Beaton has been involved in the mammoth task of distributing the books.

In Lochaber, the John Muir Trust and the Nevis Landscape Partnership worked in collaboration with Highland Council's RAiSE (Raising Aspirations in Science Education) programme to deliver literacy and nature training based on The Lost Words for teachers. Teachers were given a copy of The Lost Words along with the teaching resources developed by the trust.

Inspired by Ms Beaton's success, there are now similar crowdfunding campaigns across most of the UK, with others having been launched in the US, Canada and Japan.

Campaigns have also now been started to bring the book into care homes, creating inter-generational connections.

Ms Morris told the Lochaber Times: 'Jane Beaton began an extraordinary thing when she decided she wanted to make The Lost Words available to as many children as she could.'

'Her wish was to provide a copy to every school in Scotland. What she sowed the seeds for was an extraordinary community of supportive people whose passion is nature; crowdfunding organisers who gave considerable time to devote to campaigns, those who donated thousands, and pocket money, those who gave time to deliver – from Orkney to Cornwall. Such an amazing thing to see one's work at the centre of such passion.'

Ms Beaton added: 'The success of this campaign has been a huge boost to the belief that people can make a difference.'

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# Trust fearful of potential Canna fish farm impact

by Neill Bo Finlayson  
editor@obantimes.co.uk

The landowner of Canna has voiced 'significant concerns' about plans to build a large fish farm in waters just off the island.

The world's largest fish farming company, Mowi, formerly known as Marine Harvest, is scoping out plans to install an eight-pen salmon farm in a marine area considered to be one of the most environmentally protected in the UK.

With a 160-metre circumference each, the pens would be the largest in the country, covering a surface area equivalent to two football pitches and would sit less than 200 metres from the shoreline, north-east of Canna Pier. The moorings, meanwhile, would stretch to cover more than 222,000sq metres of seabed.

Canna is subject to a swathe of environmental legal protections and regulations, and sits within the Small Isles marine protection area (MPA).

If these initial plans are developed and approved, the farm will hold a maximum of 2,500 tonnes of fish at a time, a third less than a conventional farm of the same size.

However, the owner of the island, the National Trust for Scotland (NTS) – which was gifted the land by previous owner Gaelic folklorist John Lorne Campbell upon his death – is wary of potential damage to the island's environment and visitor appeal.

Stuart Brooks, the NTS's head of conservation and policy, said that although no planning application has been made by Mowi as yet, the trust has been made aware of the scope and nature of its plans and will formally respond in due course.

'As the conservation charity charged with the protection of Canna's rich heritage, we have

significant concerns about the potential effect on the internationally important marine environment,' said Mr Brooks.

'There could also be implications for tourism, which is a major source of income for the island. We expect the regulators to ensure any proposal in such a highly sensitive and protected area is supported by a comprehensive, evidence-based assessment.

'We are in ongoing discussions with Mowi and the Isle of Canna Community Development Trust.'

Scottish Natural Heritage has also said that Mowi's proposals could lead to 'significant environmental effects' on the area's seabirds, porpoises and seals, and threaten other rare marine life on the seabed.

Mowi could employ up to 10 people at the Canna site and has offered jobs to islanders. The company has also hinted that any incoming employees would be based on Canna year-round, adding to the 18 people already resident on the island.

The Canna Development Trust said islanders are undecided over the proposal and will also make a formal decision in due course after further discussions with all parties.

A Mowi spokesman said the Canna site would be 'adding to the success' of similar farm developments at Muck and Rum.

'Mowi and the Canna Development Trust have agreed to produce an environmental impact assessment for further discussion regarding a potential aquaculture development. Mowi has recently announced its interest in following the recommendation of the recent Scottish Government inquiry that encourages off-shore, high-energy fish farming sites.

'We continue to explore sites fit for today's modern salmon farming regulations and will work with communities that express interest.'



The proposed fish farm site would sit just off the shoreline, northeast of Canna harbour, pictured here. Photograph: Iain Thornber.

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## Fort William Rail Trail correction

In last week's edition we inadvertently gave the incorrect website address for the newly launched Fort William Rail Trail.

The trail has been developed by local railway history enthusiast Nick Jones and is being hosted by Glenfinnan Station Museum to mark the 125th anniversary of the West Highland Railway.

The new self-guided walking trail is a 2.5km walk following the route of the original railway and can be downloaded in pdf form from [www.fortwilliamrail-trail.co.uk](http://www.fortwilliamrail-trail.co.uk)

Either print it out or just view the pdf on your phone as you follow the trail.

We apologise for any inconvenience.

# More than 1,000 flock to

by Mark Entwistle  
mentwistle@obantimes.co.uk

More than 1,000 spectators flocked through the gate for the Glenfinnan Highland Gathering on Saturday, enjoying a mostly dry day for one of the most prestigious games events on the calendar.

The honour of chieftain for the day had gone to legendary Moidart accordion player Fergie MacDonald – the ‘Ceilidh King’ himself.

There was fierce competition for the prizes in the piping, heavy events, athletic and Highland dancing competitions. Alasdair Davidson won the Lang Trophy for heavy events, Sandy Cameron took the top slot in the open adult piobaireachd event, with Laura Robertson collecting the Cameron-Head Scholarship for junior pipers. Laura Smith was the top competitor in the adult open Highland dancing, winning the MacKellaig Cup. The hill race was won by Keir



Glenfinnan Highland Gathering field manager Alistair Gibson and Chieftain Fergie MacDonald lead the opening parade; and, right, Fraser Robertson, six, officially opens this year's games by raising the standard with a little help from his dad, David. Photographs: Abrightside Photography.

Robinson, with the first lady home being Ailsa Sheldon.

Showfield manager Alistair Gibson told the Lochaber Times organisers were happy with the way this year's event went, saying: 'I think I'd have to say everything ran smoothly. There were a few showers of rain, but everyone seemed to enjoy themselves

and there was a good number of people through the gate.

'The team who put it all together puts in a tremendous amount of hard work and it was great to see so many people volunteering.'

The gathering started at 11am with the traditional clan gathering, when the famous clan banners were



paraded, which have their own historical significance.

Just after the Second World War, a film company descended on Glenfinnan to make the 1948 movie Bonnie Prince Charlie, starring David Niven.

Some locals starred in the film and landowners assisted the film company during

the making. Six colourful banners were specially made depicting the clan crests of MacDonald of the Isles, MacPherson, MacDonald of Clanranald, Cameron and Cameron of Locheil, probably meant to represent the main followers of the Young Pretender.

After filming was finished, the landowners turned down the offer of financial remuneration, instead only asking for the banners which have been carried every year since.

And it is the historical significance of the gathering that still matters to Mr MacDonald.

'Being chieftain is a big thing as far as I am concerned – I am highly honoured to have been asked,' he told the Lochaber Times.

A proud descendant of the MacDonalds of Clanranald who rallied to the young prince's standard when he raised it on the shores of Loch Shiel in 1745, Mr MacDonald said today's family-friendly,

enjoyable gathering is probably a far cry from that first gathering of clansmen.

'I am very proud that my forefathers were there when the prince raised the standard ... it wasn't about games that day, they were getting ready for war,' he said.

After leaving the army in 1958, Mr MacDonald spent the following five years competing on the Highland games circuit, including the long jump at the Glenfinnan meeting that first year.

'And as a wee boy, I was at the games in 1946, coming up the loch on the boat, the Clanranald, with my mum and dad,' he explained. 'It is very important to keep this event going. It is an integral part of the history of this area and who we are.'

It was in 1969 that gathering co-founder, the late Archie MacKellaig, presented a young dancer, Mairi Monaghan, then aged 13, with his dancing sword on the promise she would

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OFFERS & competitions

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The winner and their guest will enjoy a one-night stay in a master bedroom, a three-course dinner, full Scottish breakfast and a whisky flight for two. Worth over £350, this is your chance to experience the very finest Scottish hospitality.

If you'd like a chance to win this amazing prize, answer the following question.  
**Which river runs alongside the hotel?**

Must be redeemed within six months of the draw date. Cannot be redeemed between or on 23rd December - 2 January, Bank Holidays, 14th -16th February.

---

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Your Stranraer Oyster Festival package, worth £320 must be taken on Friday 13 and Saturday 14 September, includes dinner, bed and breakfast, plus room upgrade and wine. As well as weekend tickets to Stranraer Oyster Festival and to one celebrity chef demonstration, and two tickets to the Saturday evening Big Oyster Bash.

If you'd like a chance to win this amazing prize, answer the following question.  
**What national chef competition takes place at Stranraer Oyster Festival?**

NB: The closing date for this competition is Friday 30th August

T&Cs - the prize is for the Stranraer Oyster Festival Package, plus upgrades, at the North West Castle Hotel, plus Stranraer Oyster Festival tickets. The prize must be taken on 13th and 14th September 2019. The prize is for 2 adults sharing a room. The winner will be sent a voucher for their prize. The room and Big Bash tickets have already been reserved and allocated to the winner by North West Castle. Use of data, Stranraer Development Trust, organisers of Stranraer Oyster Festival. Will use any data received from this competition for the purposes of sending email marketing about Stranraer Oyster Festival, including details of programmes and ticket offers. It will not be sold or given to any third parties, and will not be used for any other purpose.

To enter, send separate entries (in the same envelope) with your name, address, telephone number and email address to **Scottish Field Competitions, Fettes Park, 496 Ferry Road, Edinburgh EH5 2DL** or enter at [www.scottishfield.co.uk](http://www.scottishfield.co.uk). Closing date, unless otherwise stated, is 30 September 2019. **Winners drawn from all competitions also enter a prize to win a bottle of Whitetail Gin.**

Entrants must be 18 or over. Employees of Scottish Field, the competition promoters, and their direct families are ineligible to enter. No purchase necessary. The winner will be first correct entry drawn after closing date. No cash alternative is available. The winner will be informed by telephone. Usual Scottish Field rules apply. We will protect your personal data. We only gather what we need for the requirements of this competition - your name, address, telephone number and email address. If you wish to receive news and offers from the third party running the competition, then please mark the words 'OPT IN' on your postcard entry. If you enter various competitions on one card, you will be opting in for every competition running. Unless you opt in to receive further marketing information we will only contact you if you win a prize in the competition. Scottish Field (Wywex Media) will retain your information for a maximum of 3 months after the competition closes and then it will be deleted. If you have opted in to receive third party information, the data you have supplied will be passed to the third party company running the competition. This may be used for the purposes of the third party contacting you regarding new products and services for a period of 3 months, unless you agree to an extension with the third party company at a later date.

# Glenfinnan Gathering



Heavies competitor Alasdair Davidson gives it his all in the shot putt; young dancers perform the Highland fling; Depute Lord Lieutenant Iain Thornber, right; passengers aboard Loch Shiel Highland Cruises' vessel, MV Sileas, got a good view; Highland dancing judges Mairi Illsley, Rosemary McGuire and Alex McGuire; Highlands and Islands MSP Donald Cameron, centre; high jump action.

always bring it to each year's gathering – a promise she has kept for almost half a century.

Now Mairi Illsley – her uncle John Monaghan was station master at Glenfinnan – she was again dancing steward for the games.

A former teacher at

Lochaber High School, she told us: 'There was not a huge number of dancers this year, but the quality in all the age categories has been exceptional. It has been a display of fantastic dancing and it's been real spectacle for the crowd.

'There has been mainly dry

conditions, which is fantastic – the new roof [installed over the dancing platform last year] changes everything.'

Moira Robertson, Pipe Major of Lochaber Pipe Band, which was playing during the day for the entertainment of the crowd, said she had been

impressed by the standard of musicianship in the junior piping classes. 'We have heard some excellent performances today. It's been an excellent competition,' she told us.

On a footnote, none of the winning pipers was able to receive trophies as these are all

still missing. Organisers have asked if those in possession of the E Kennedy Cup, A MacDonald Cup, Oban Times Quaich and Carmichael Cup could return them in time for next year's 75th anniversary games. Also missing is the Trower Trophy for the hill race.

## Trophy winners

- Dancing**
- MacKellaig Cup (adult open) – Laura Smith
  - Mairi Rae Quaich (adult swords) – Darra Wood
  - Glenfinnan House (junior open) – Innes MacKenzie
  - MacGuire Cup (open 8-11) – Eilidh Smith
- Field and Heavy Events**
- Peto Trophy (caber) – Alasdair Davidson
  - MacLeod Cup (22lb hammer) – Angus MacPhail
  - MacMillan Cup (long/high jump etc) – Matt Waterson
  - Conaglen Trophy (tug-of-war) – Glenfinnan
  - Lang Trophy (heavy events) – Alasdair Davidson
- Piping**
- Piobaireachd (open adult) – Sandy Cameron
  - Marches (open adult) – Jason Craig
  - Strathspey and Reel – Dan Lyden
  - Marches (open under 17) – Laura Robertson
  - Strathspey and Reel – Ronnie Macintosh
  - Piobaireachd (open under 17) – Archie Park
  - Cameron-Head Scholarship – Laura Robertson

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\*Hotel and golf rounds subject to availability. Includes VAT and £3 nightly resort fee. Price shown is per person for four people in a Ugadale Cottage; rates vary based on room type and are valid 1 October - 31 October 2019. †Vouchers are non-transferable, have no cash value, and must be used during your stay.

SOUTHWORTH Europe

LT

# Heritage is tailor-made for Scots rugby players

by Mark Entwistle  
mentwistle@obantimes.co.uk

When representing their country away from the pitch in this autumn's upcoming Rugby World Cup in Japan, Scotland's players and officials will be clad in one of Scotland's most iconic brands.

Scottish Rugby has announced that Walker Slater, in conjunction with Harris Tweed Hebrides, will be the Official Formalwear Partner for the next two seasons.

The historic fabric, hand-woven, dyed and spun in the Outer Hebrides from pure wool, has been applied to a bespoke tweed in keeping with the rich rugby heritage and colours associated with the national team and governing body.

Ken Kennedy, head designer



From left to right are Scotland players Grant Gilchrist, Allan Dell and Stuart McInally model the new formalwear.

at Harris Tweed Hebrides in Shawbost, on Lewis, created the custom tweed to incorporate navy, purple and green in an exclusive design launched in 2016.

The range of garments was a collaboration between

Scottish Rugby, Harris Tweed Hebrides and the retailer Walker Slater, with a tailored blazer designed to be worn by the Scotland national team, council and board at official post-match functions.

Scottish Rugby's chief

operating officer, Dominic McKay, said Scottish Rugby was delighted to continue its work with such an iconic, world-renowned Scottish brand.

'Harris Tweed is recognised globally as a quality product, so we're pleased to develop a shared international dimension and awareness of our brands around the world,' he said.

'Harris Tweed has a well-established presence in Japan and the United States, which are both key territories for us in broadening and deepening our supporter base.'

In recent years, tweed tailoring specialists Walker Slater and Harris Tweed Hebrides have worked with the Ryder Cup and the Scottish Football Association as well as a recent partnership with the Royal Edinburgh Military Tattoo to produce

collections of garments and accessories.

Paul Walker, director of Walker Slater, added: 'Walker Slater is proud to have designed the formal wear collection for Scottish Rugby.'

'The Harris Tweed Hebrides designed cloth is instantly recognisable, featuring the deep navy of the squad's playing jersey, the blue of the saltire and the purple and green of the Scottish thistle. The modern cut is expertly tailored to each individual player.'

Walker Slater has designed a bespoke Scottish Rugby collection in both men's and women's garments as well as a range of accessories.

Supporters will be able to purchase these at Walker Slater stores in Edinburgh, Glasgow and London and online at [www.walkerslater.com](http://www.walkerslater.com)

## MSP slams Salmond £500k bill

Highlands and Islands MSP Donald Cameron has slammed as 'outrageous' the news that the Scottish Government has paid out more than £500,000 in legal expenses to former First Minister Alex Salmond over its flawed inquiry into sexual harassment claims.

Mr Cameron, a member of the Scottish Government's Handling of Harassment Complaints committee, said last week: 'It is outrageous that over half a million pounds has been wasted thanks to the botched handling of this investigation.'

'This is taxpayers' money that will be handed over to Alex Salmond thanks to the appalling way these complaints were dealt with.'

'In addition to this wasted money, the two people who made these complaints have been badly let down by the Scottish Government.'

'That is exactly why the Holyrood inquiry is necessary and parliament must get to the bottom of exactly what happened.'



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# Tenants renting to Airbnb face eviction

by Neill Bo Finlayson  
editor@obantimes.co.uk

Tenants renting out their homes to tourists on the Isle of Skye could be at risk of eviction.

That is according to Skye and Lochalsh Housing Association, which has written to its tenants on the island warning them against sub-letting their homes to visitors.

The association warned that people could be in violation of their tenancy agreement by using short-term letting websites, such as Airbnb, and as a result risk facing eviction.

Analysis from the Chartered Institute of Housing (CIH) published earlier this year shows that Skye has a greater Airbnb density than central Edinburgh, with one Airbnb for every 10 homes. CIH's report also claims that this rapid growth of short-term lets could lead to displacement of long-term residents.



Skye has a greater Airbnb density than central Edinburgh.

Lachie MacDonald, chief executive of Skye and Lochalsh Housing Association, said: 'The tenants' agreement is quite clear. Tenants can't operate a business from the property. We rely on the tenancy agreement between us and the tenant and that's what we will be using to correspond with them about.'

He added that the same rules

apply for people renting out a room or renting out a whole property.

'We're contacting the tenants to remind them of the obligations of the tenancy agreement. If they ignore this correspondence then matters will be passed to our solicitors to take it further and implement the terms of our tenancy agreement,' he said.

Tourist numbers on Skye have soared in recent years with facilities at some of the island's most popular tourist landmarks, such as the Fairy Pools, the Quiraing and the Old Man of Storr, struggling to cope with the influx of visitors.

While many have welcomed the rise in visitor numbers, others have raised concerns about the pressures on the island's infrastructure.

The Scottish Government conducted a full-scale consultation on the issue of short-term letting in July this year, something which it described as a 'subject of much controversy'. The consultation's findings will be published later this year and are aimed to act as a guide for future policy decisions.

Highland Council, meanwhile, has just launched a public consultation on the possibility of introducing a Transient Tourist Levy, as reported elsewhere in the Lochaber Times this week.



The rescue team struggled to get parked safely at the Old Man of Storr.

## 'Most difficult' part of Storr rescue was parking

Mountain rescuers faced a tough challenge on Tuesday August 13 to reach to a casualty at the Old Man of Storr.

That was not because of inclement weather or tricky climbing conditions, but because of a lack of parking at the popular tourist landmark.

Skye Mountain Rescue Team were called out to the Storr last Tuesday afternoon for the team to assist the Scottish Ambulance Service with a casualty who had sustained a

leg injury. After successfully getting to the person, the team said that the most difficult part of the rescue was getting parked safely.

The Skye rescue team tweeted: 'Another call-out to the Storr again this afternoon to assist Scottish Ambulance Service with a casualty who had sustained a leg injury.'

'This one was unusual in that the most difficult part of the rescue was getting the team parked safely at the location ... #chaos.'

Advertorial

## A whisky and gin festival is taking place in Oban this September

Attention all gin and whisky lovers - a festival celebrating the two popular spirits will take place in Oban on Saturday September 14, but there are only a limited number of tickets available.

The West Coast Whisky Fèis will be held in The View and will run from 1pm until 6pm. People are being urged to book in advance in order to avoid disappointment.

There will be hundreds of local whiskies and gins to sample, all hailing from the west of Scotland, as well as live music.

Whiskies from Oban, Ben Nevis, Tobermory Springbank, Bruichladdich, Glengoyne, Ncn'ean, Kilkerran, Kilchoman, Bunnahabhain, and Ardnamurchan, to name a few, will feature at the festival.

There will also be a wide selection of gin to try including Isle of Harris, Lussa, Crossbill and a new Oban Bay Gin, bottled especially for the Festival.

But it will not just be a liquid lunch that is on offer, a buffet filled with locally sourced products will also be on hand to help line stomachs.

The whisky fèis was the brainchild of Euan Finlayson and James Galbraith, who run the Oban Whisky and Fine Wines



shop on Oban's Stafford Street.

They held the first festival in 2017 in The View, which was called Skipinnish at the time.

On the website, [www.westcoastwhiskyfeis.co.uk](http://www.westcoastwhiskyfeis.co.uk), they said: 'We're delighted to invite you to our festival of Scotland's west coast distillers, who gather once again in our beautiful home-town of Oban: Gateway to the Isles.'

For the £30 ticket price, attendees are able to sample hundreds of whiskies and gins, they receive a free tasting glass, as well as a shop voucher.

But on top of experiencing 'the spirit of the west coast', those attending will be able to see behind the curtain and meet those who make their favourite concoctions.

'A feast is no use without conversation,' the event description reads. 'Enjoy a dram and a chat with the good folk from the distilleries, or even attend one of the exclusive masterclasses on throughout the day.'

There will be an Old Oban vs New Oban whisky masterclass taking place as part of the festival as well. It will take place at Oban Distillery in the business's historic warehouses.

There will also be the opportunity to purchase exclusive festival-only bottling.

To book a ticket, visit [www.westcoastwhiskyfeis.co.uk](http://www.westcoastwhiskyfeis.co.uk), call 01631 570586, or pop into Oban Whisky and Fine Wines shop on Stafford Street.

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Tickets are limited so book **NOW** to avoid disappointment!

Tickets available online, over the phone, or from Oban Whisky & Fines Wines, Stafford St, Oban.

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# Business group raises doubts over tourist tax

by Neill Bo Finlayson  
fort@obantimes.co.uk

Taxing tourists in the Highlands is 'not the answer', according to the Federation of Small Businesses (FSB).

The comments come after Highland Council launched a major public consultation on the possibility of introducing a Transient Visitor Levy – often referred to as a 'tourist tax' – which could generate an extra £5million to £10m each year, depending on how the scheme is designed.

The Highlands welcome more than six million visitors a year and many residents feel visitors should contribute to the maintenance of public services and infrastructure.

However, the FSB has expressed doubts about introducing a tourist tax due to growing pressures on Highland businesses, such as

## Public views sought on introduction of levy

increases in business running cost, squeezed margins, difficulty in employing staff and Brexit uncertainty. The business campaign group said it has 'serious doubts' about introducing a new tax on visitors.

'While fully accepting Highland infrastructure needs more investment, FSB argues taxing visitors in uncertain times is not the answer,' the group stated.

FSB Highlands and Islands area leader Tanja Lister is encouraging all Highland businesses who depend directly or indirectly on tourism to take part in the council's consultation.

'Our research over the past

three years shows a substantial majority of businesses are against a new visitor tax for a variety of reasons, not least the impact it could have on their customers and their businesses,' she said.

'It's now for Highland Council to explain to the local business community why it believes such a levy would be good for business and our local economy. In particular, businesses will want to know why a new tax on their customers, with the accompanying administrative burden, is preferable to alternative approaches.'

Running until autumn 2019, the main consultation consists of two components:

an online questionnaire aimed at residents and tourism businesses and targeted face-to-face questionnaires with visitors at locations across Highland. The council has stressed no decision has been reached on the matter other than to conduct a public consultation.

'Highland welcomes visitor numbers roughly 25 times our resident population every year,' said Lochaber councillor Allan Henderson, chairman of the Environment Development and Infrastructure Committee.

'While visitors are very welcome, some of Highland's infrastructure and services are struggling under the pressure of these additional users.'

'The council, with the help of everyone who responds to the consultation, needs to decide what is better for our region: introducing a visitor

levy, with its potential positive and negative impacts, or not implementing a visitor levy, avoiding potential negative impacts but limiting possible investment and therefore leaving the region with the problems we currently face.'

Council leader, councillor Margaret Davidson, said that the Transient Visitor Levy is just one option the council is considering to raise money to 'manage the challenges tourism is both facing and contributing to in Highland'.

The Scottish Government has committed to introducing legislation by 2021 that would allow local authorities in Scotland to implement a Transient Visitor Levy.

The Highland Council has published an online survey which will be open until October 20 with results forming part of a council report in December 2019.

## MSP Cameron slams pay out to Salmond

News that the Scottish Government has paid out more than £500,000 in legal expenses to former First Minister Alex Salmond over its flawed enquiry into sexual harassment claims has been slammed as 'outrageous' by Highlands and Islands Conservative MSP Donald Cameron.

Mr Cameron, a member of the Scottish Government's Handling of Harassment Complaints committee, said: 'It is outrageous over half a million pounds has been wasted thanks to the botched handling of this investigation. This is taxpayers' money that will be handed over to Alex Salmond thanks to the appalling way these complaints were dealt with.'

'In addition to this wasted money, the two people who made these complaints have been badly let down by the Scottish Government.'

'That is why the Holyrood inquiry we called for is necessary. Parliament must get to the bottom of what happened.'

## WHAT'S YOUR FAVOURITE RECIPE? Chicken, ham and vegetable pasta

Serves 4  
Syns per serving: FREE

### Ingredients

- 350g dried strozzapreti or other pasta shapes
- 1 small leek, chopped
- 150g frozen peas
- 150g baby leaf spinach
- 200g pulled ham (5% fat or less) or lean ham, visible fat removed, chopped into small chunks
- 2 cooked skinless and boneless chicken breasts, cut into thin strips

### For the sauce:

- 1 large onion, roughly chopped
- ½ x 400g can cannellini beans, drained
- 100g cauliflower, cut into small florets
- 1 medium potato, peeled and roughly chopped
- ½ tsp Marmite
- 1 chicken stock cube, crumbled
- 4 large garlic cloves, peeled
- ½ tsp chopped fresh rosemary (or ½ tsp dried rosemary)
- 120g plain quark



### 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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LT

## Comhairle calls for nationwide sale of goose

Following the announcement the sale of resident Greylag goose meat from Orkney will be available for sale Scotland-wide, Comhairle nan Eilean Siar has called for a rapid roll-out of the pilot project to other island areas.

To help farmers and crofters whose crops were being eaten by a rapidly rising goose population, pilot studies were run in Tirie, Coll, Uist, Lewis, Harris and Orkney.

The aim of the trial was to reduce goose impacts by managing their numbers and by selling goose meat locally.

But now the comhairle wants sales to be extended nationwide.

The council has also urged ministers to find a permanent solution to manage the Greylag population alongside an active and thriving crofting sector.

Chairman of the Sustainable Development committee, councillor Donald Crichton, said: 'The Comhairle has supported local goose management groups in the islands in the past, recognising the severe detrimental impact excessive numbers can have on crofting.'

'Sale of goose meat outwith the islands has been argued for before and while this is only a time limited relaxation of the rules, it shows it is possible.'

'As funding for goose management is being run down, it is imperative appropriate management schemes are developed. Access to a Scotland-wide market for wild goose meat is one way of helping secure a future sustainable balance between active crofting and Greylag geese population.'

# New book celebrates Lewis legend's Piobaireachds

by Neill Bo Finlayson  
fort@obantimes.co.uk

A new book of musical legend Pipe Major Donald Macleod's piobaireachds was launched last week at the National Piping Centre, Glasgow.

Donald Macleod's Collection of Piobaireachd, launched as part of the Piping Live festival, is the first time all Donald Macleod's piobaireachds have been brought together inside one cover, thanks to funding from community wind farm Point and Sandwick Trust and Lewis and Harris Piping Society.

Point and Sandwick Trust, which supports the annual Donald Macleod Memorial Piping Competition with £5,000 a year, gave Lewis and Harris Piping Society £300 towards its contribution to the printing costs of the book.

The Piping Society contributed a total of £500.

Pipe Major Donald Macleod, born in Stornoway in 1916, was an outstanding player and won all the major competitions in his day, some several times over. He was also a tutor and a Seaforth Highlander, but is best remembered for his prolific compositions, including 27 piobaireachds.

His entire piobaireachd collection



At the launch of the new book, left to right: Roddy Macleod; Finlay Johnston, 2019 winner of the PM Donald Macleod Memorial Piping Competition; John Wilson; Susan Macleod, daughter of Donald Macleod, pictured below, and leader of the book project; Dr John Smith and Fiona Macleod.

had not been published together until now and the project was led by Donald Macleod's family as a tribute to their much-loved father.

They received support with technical layout from Roddy Macleod MBE of the National Piping Centre and help with the text from John Wilson, a former pupil of Donald Macleod.

At the launch event, Mr Wilson spoke about the technical aspects of Donald's compositions and emphasised the influence of Gaelic song on his melody lines, which gave them a distinctive 'blàs' or flavour.

He illustrated his point with a demonstration of canntaireachd

singing, which communicates the music to be played. There were performances of two of Donald's tunes at the launch. Finlay Johnston, 2019 winner of the PM Donald Macleod Memorial Competition, played Lament for John Macdonald of Inverness and Roddy Macleod played Caberfeidh Gu Brath.

Dr John Smith, chairman of the Lewis and Harris Piping Society, presented the cheque for £500 to Susan Macleod, Donald Macleod's daughter, towards the costs of producing the book.

Welcoming the publication, Dr Smith said the Lewis and Harris

Piping Society is pleased to help bring together all of Donald Macleod's piobaireachd compositions under the one cover, saying: 'Donald Macleod's piobaireachd compositions reflected his cultural heritage and musical background and many of them are dedicated to family, friends and colleagues.'

'He was also inspired by nature with tunes such as Lament for the Rowan Tree and Field of Gold. But perhaps is most poignant composition was Lament for the Iolaire. Many of the tunes in the piobaireachd repertoire are hundreds of years old but this new book, bringing together all of Donald Macleod's piobaireachd compositions, will be a must-have text for any serious student of more modern compositions.'

## Western Isles MSP welcomes Ferguson shipyard nationalisation

Western Isles MSP Alasdair Allan has welcomed the announcement by the Scottish Government that it has taken the Ferguson Marine shipyard in Port Glasgow into public ownership.

The agreement will enable completion of the two

dual-fuel ferries under construction for CalMac. It will also ensure work continues towards delivery of the other vessels currently under construction and secure a future for the yard.

The company operating the shipbuilding yard at Port

Glasgow, Ferguson Marine Engineering Ltd, announced recently its intention to go into administration.

Vessel Number 802, one of two dual-fuel ferries under construction at the yard for CalMac, is earmarked for the Uig-Lochmaddy

and Uig-Tarbert routes. Mr Allan said: 'I welcome the announcement from the Scottish Government that is has stepped in and taken Ferguson Marine under public ownership. This was the only way forward. It's vitally important these vessels are

completed as soon as possible. CalMac's fleet is in urgent need of new vessels and the delays to the Glen Sannox and Vessel Number 802 have exacerbated the strain on the network. I look forward to hearing new estimated completion dates.'



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# Super hero time for kids in Caol

The final week of the school holidays can be a hard slog for some, but this year 50 or more children attended Kilmallie Free Church in Caol and joined the 'Super Hero Academy' - a week-long holiday club held each afternoon.

Children were invited to attend all or some of the days and enjoy two hours of activities, which involved Bible stories, singing, games, puzzles and crafts.

This has been the 15th year the club has been run by the church, and the team members are all volunteers who have been working for months to prepare and organise the event.

The club culminated in two exciting parts, the last session with the children was 'dress

up day' where those who wanted could dress up in super hero-themed costumes.

This was followed by a family barbecue in the evening which gave the children a chance to show off their newly learned songs and dance moves to go with them.

Organiser Fiona Wallace commented: 'This has been a fantastic year as the children have been so enthusiastic. The team has been great and they all worked together and they really gave it their all.'

The church continues to offer regular groups for children to attend.

The Sunday club is held every week during church for ages three to 12. The Jelly Tots groups begin again as the schools return.



Youngsters clearly enjoyed themselves at the holiday club. Photograph: Robbie Murray.

## Caol couple hand over diamond anniversary charity cheque

**Bobby and Isabel Mathers present a cheque for £1,300 to Sheelagh Purdie, Macmillan Nurses team leader. The couple from Caol raised the money through donations at their recent diamond wedding celebrations.**

Photograph: Iain Ferguson, alba.photos



## Women to sing for Water Aid

Listen out for some lovely singing in a really good cause, in and around Fort William town centre on Friday August 30.

A total of 785 million people globally live without any clean water and some two billion people do not have a decent toilet.

These shocking statistics motivated some Lochaber women to come together to raise funds for Water Aid, the charity that works in 28 countries to provide safe drinking water and hygienic sanitation.

Ten women from across Lochaber, from Morar to Duror, have been collecting sponsorship money for the rather daunting challenge of performing as a pop-up street choir, all as part of the Scotland-wide Sing for Water campaign.

'We'd never all met before,

and we're not experienced singers or musicians, so it's been a huge personal challenge for us all to learn six inspiring songs by heart, all in fantastic four-part acapella harmony, and reach a good enough standard to perform in public out on the street,' said Mandy Ketchin, one of the singers.

'Much tougher than running a marathon! But we've been practising hard all through the summer, and having lots of fun in the process, and we're confident we'll create a beautiful splash of song to entertain passers-by on the day. Our set lasts about half an hour and we'll be singing it in various locations throughout the day, so please keep an eye and an ear out for us.'

For more details contact Mandy at [mandyketchin@btinternet.com](mailto:mandyketchin@btinternet.com).

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## LETTERS

Write to us: send your letters to [editor@obantimes.co.uk](mailto:editor@obantimes.co.uk)  
or The Editor, PO Box 1, Oban, Argyll PA34 4HBExceptional effort  
is worth highest  
commendation

Spean Bridge woman Jane Beaton is to be highly commended for her amazing efforts to have the book *The Lost Words* delivered to every school in Scotland.

Ms Beaton has raised an astonishing £25,000 to ensure the books are now available to all our young people – and not only in Lochaber.

It is surprising indeed to learn that in 2007, a new edition of the Oxford Junior Dictionary was published that had removed around 40 words relating to the natural world. Among the words omitted were acorn, adder, bluebell, dandelion, fern, heron, kingfisher, newt, otter and willow.

The reason given for their removal was that they were no longer in common use by children. A survey released this week by children's activity app Hoop showed that four out of 10 children did not recognise a dandelion and almost five out of 10 could not identify a bluebell.

Very well done for ensuring these words are not lost forever.

Proclaimers deserve  
enduring popularity

Top Scottish entertainers The Proclaimers have been wowing crowds for more than 30 years now.

Their enduring popularity is well-deserved as they have been at the top of their game during all that time.

Twins Craig and Charlie Reid have now enhanced that reputation even further by helping to raise the sum of £1,000 for Lochaber Mountain Rescue Team in memory of Ian Bell, who died while climbing Ben Nevis back in 2015.

The work of LMRT is vital and saves lives every year. We thank The Proclaimers for helping to maintain it.

Slashing of air services is a  
sign of what is to come

So glad that 'Concerned islander' (Letters, August 22) wrote in regarding the inappropriate 'celebration' of the savage cutbacks to the air services for the Argyll islands.

For a minute, I imagined I had lost all sense of reason for it seemed that the paper was announcing this 50 per cent slashing of the service as some sort of good outcome.

Let us remember how this air service started and why.

The new airports at Coll and Colonsay and the enhanced airport at Tralee [Oban] were officially opened in August and September 2008 by, among others, Stewart Stevenson MSP, Minister for Transport, Councillor Dick Walsh, Councillor Duncan MacIntyre and Charlie King, the first chairman of HITRANS, the regional transport partnership. I was present at the openings and noted the following comments word for word.

Council leader Dick Walsh said: 'This marks the official opening of this wonderful new facility which will be a major benefit to the people of Argyll and Bute. Argyll and Bute Council and its partners share a vision which is to be a leading rural area, providing and improving services that will promote and improve the quality of life to the people that we represent.'

'We are confident that the Argyll air services will support economic development in the area as well as attracting more visitors. In addition, this transport option will enable island children attending Oban High School to take advantage of our special scholar flights and fly home regularly.'

Mr Stevenson's comment was: 'This is a great day for Oban. This new airport is so important, opening up access for islanders, tourists and businesses alike.'

Great words from our noble leaders but the reality is turning out to be horribly different from their golden visions of the future. What's the betting that this latest collapsing of the service is just a prequel to the next and final step and what good the 'Islands Bill' then?

Peter Isaacson, Coll.

Better security systems are  
needed in retail outlets

Over a few years now in Oban there have been a number of robberies, attempted robberies

## YOUR PICTURES



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

[editor@obantimes.co.uk](mailto:editor@obantimes.co.uk), post it to The Editor, PO Box 1, Oban, PA34 4HB. Alternatively, hand it in to our offices in Crannog Lane, Lochavullin Industrial Estate, Oban, or to our office in

and burglaries at a post office, bank, shops and now the M&S Foodhall.

This recent armed robbery is a very rare type of occurrence in our card-paying world. However, I must emphasise that the young assistant, although faced with what must have been a very unpleasant episode, acted absolutely correctly as no one was hurt, which is the priority and should be commended.

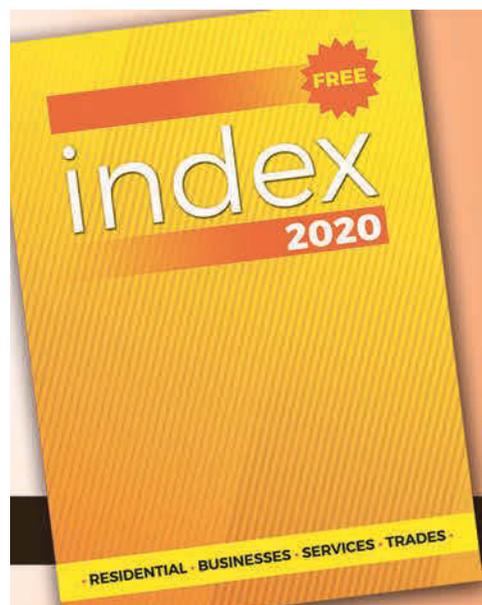
M&S and other retailers could have some simple precautions put in place in terms of security measures so the public feel safe when out shopping.

To deter robberies, simple high visibility signs suggesting £50 maximum held in each till and extra CCTV should be in place.

Name and address supplied.

More information about  
distinguished piper

While reading The Oban Times (Thursday August 15), I saw the article 'Tattoo now has its own Harris Tweed design' and was delighted to see the face of an old friend, Steve Small. Although I was not a piper or musician, I was



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# DISTRICT NEWS



All the trophy winners from this year's regatta fortnight and, below, three generations of the Hay family with their trophy haul from the two weeks of events.

## Three generations make Hay while wind blows at Plockton Regatta

The second week of the Plockton annual regatta fortnight began on August 5 with the weather still mainly dry with light winds.

In the afternoon, four boats sailed in the ladies' centreboard race for the Auchwurin Rose Bowl, with Imogen Smith, from Sheffield, winning.

In the evening, the local boat race for the third Plockton trophy was cancelled when no boats completed the course due to calm winds. However, the centreboard race, the fourth Ulluva Cup and first Sgeir Bhuidhe Cup was completed with 10 starters. James Smith took first place ahead of his two brother Robin and Peter.

On Tuesday, winds were again very light and only one boat completed the course inside the 2.5-hour time limit. That was David Hay (Coruisk), who won the Ex Commodores Tray. However, the fifth Ulluva Cup and second Sgeir Bhuidhe race was completed and resulted in a Robin Smith victory.

The Fossil Trophy for toppers



was also held with, sadly, only two entrants who ran three races. Alistair Stewart won the trophy.

On Wednesday afternoon, the third Plockton Trophy race, which had been cancelled on Monday, was held with nine competitors taking part in more wind than the previous 10 days. Alexander MacKenzie took the win. In the evening, the fourth and final Plockton Trophy race was held with nine starters. Again, it was Alexander Mackenzie who won, four seconds ahead of David Hay.

As a result, Ian Hay won the overall Plockton Trophy with seven points in the Seolta, which first won the trophy 69 years ago. Second was David Hay, Ian's son, also with seven points but Ian with two firsts wins. David gets the Fred Allen galleon.

Also held in the evening was the sixth Ulluva Cup and third Sgeir Bhuidhe Cup race for centreboard. Eight raced, with James Smith coming out on top. As a result Smith wins the Ulluva Cup with six points. Second was his brother Peter with 13

points. The Sgeir Bhuidhe Cup also went to James Smith with six points, second was brother Robin and third was also a brother, Peter. James has won all four centreboard trophies for the second year in a row.

On Thursday evening, the club decided to run the Johnnie Ruari race for youths which was postponed last week when only one boat entered. This time three ladies between 16 and 30 entered. Becky Sweeney from Easter Ross won.

In the evening, all boats raced together for the RNLI Burgee in aid of the RNLI as piper Ellie Pearson played on a lovely but calm evening.

Nineteen boats raced with 70-year-old Peter Smith taking victory. On Friday, the weather changed with strong east wind and rain, and the fishing competition was called off. In the evening, the Plockton Hall was full for the concert.

The chairman was Calum Mackenzie and commodore Kevin Baird thanked everybody who had made the fortnight such a success,

especially secretary Neil Macrae, timekeeper Sarah Bruce and the rescue boat crews.

The commodore's wife Julie Baird presented the trophies. The commodore also announced that Alexander Mackenzie was awarded the Starminx Starters cup, Eilidh Loudon was awarded the Junior Endeavour Trophy.

Kenneth MacRae and Anna Dryburgh won the Dolan Mackenzie Rowing Trophy. Kenneth MacRae becoming the first person in the history of the club to win a trophy seven years in a row. A dance followed to music by the Suzie Simpson Dance Band.

On Saturday, the children's ragamuffin race was held in very calm and cloudy conditions, a marked contrast to the day before. In first place was Chloe McLaughlin in Taeping.

The fortnight ended with the traditional dancing on the street on a cloudy but dry day.

Charlie G Macrae, after 35 years on the rescue boat, has decided to retire.



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## Lochaber features in new university course on clans

Locations in Lochaber have been used in the filming of material for a new online course put together by the University of Glasgow to tackle centuries of misrepresentation and romanticisation concerning Highland clans.

The free online three-week course, called The Scottish Highland Clans: Origins, Decline and Transformations, on the FutureLearn platform, hopes to debunk some of these misconceptions to provide a critical overview of how the clans functioned in Scottish society.

It emphasises the need to see clans as highly sophisticated social communities, with complex economic functions and a rich, unique language and culture.

Dr Andrew Mackillop, a senior lecturer in Scottish history at the university's College of Arts, who has led the creation of the course, said: 'The course explores the nature and function of clans from the fall of Clan Donald's Lordship of the Isles in 1493 until clanship broke apart in the final decades of the 18th century. Then it explores how literature, art and

social trends such as Highland Clubs and Games reinvented clanship.

'Novels, films and programmes such as the TV series Outlander ensure the process of reimagining continues to the present day. Learners taking the course with get a unique, multi-disciplinary perspective as well as an accessible introduction to some of the very latest research on the Highland clans.'

Designed and delivered by the College of Arts, the course draws on the expertise of academics, from across a number of Arts and Humanities research disciplines including Archaeology, Celtic and Gaelic, History and Literature, to bring the story of Scotland's iconic clans to life.

The course will explore how clans functioned as communities and created strong bonds as well as how religion, feuding and war shaped positive and negative stereotypes.

Filmed in locations from Glencoe, Lochaber and Glenlyon to the Isle of Lewis, University of Glasgow academics show how the clan family system impacted on Scottish history and key historical events.

### GLENCOE AND DUROR



Marylin Macdonald cuts her retirement cake.

Headteacher Marylin Macdonald, pictured, retired on Monday after 15 years as head teacher of Glencoe and Duror Primary Schools and as head teacher of St Bride's Primary in Onich for the last year.

She celebrated with a retirement party at each school and was presented with an apple tree, as well as a retirement cake and other gifts.

## Retro Roamer

fort@obantimes.co.uk

### More Roamerisms from the early 1990s

At Crianlarich, the Centenary engine had to take on water. Among the hundreds of passengers, many of them thought they'd seen it all before on the West Highland Line. But they were bemused when the water carrying vehicle hove into view.

It was a 5,000-gallon tanker, emblazoned with the words 'J&B Rare Scotch Whisky'. In fact, it may have contained just 4,999 gallons and seven pints of liquid.

Because, when the train eventually reached the Fort, the Provost of Dumbarton, Pat O'Neill, took the opportunity – after the exchange of plaques – of presenting 'Something a little extra' to Lochaber District Council chairman, Neil Clark.

It was, of course, a bottle of J&B Rare. But, printed across the label, was the name 'Drew Purdon'. It seems that officialdom on Dumbarton District Council had consulted an out-of-date Municipal Year Book – and had the label overprinted with the name of Neil's predecessor.

'I've promised Drew the bottle,' Neil assures me. 'Once it's empty.'

A couple of MacBrayne's Circle buses appeared quietly in town last Saturday. As old as the Lochaber hills – but bang on timetable.

There was fresh snow on the Ben for the August Bank Holiday, with the light fall covering the top 200 feet.

Thus, the first snow of the summer/autumn was actually six weeks later than last year when the summit had a coating on July 9. In 1992, the 'early' snow was on August 30, and in 1991 there was no sign of summit snow till September 23.

Lochaber is about to host a 'first' in film premieres. Because, this weekend, all the local extras in

Braveheart are having a party to celebrate their part in the epic.

Incidentally, Billy Connolly was in the Fort at the weekend. No kilt, right enough. He was resplendent in lederhosen.

John Francis Cassidy captained the victorious St Mary's Primary School team in the six-a-side shinty competition at last week's Highland Games in the Fort. And John was named Player of the Tournament.

The youngster was quoted afterwards as saying: 'It was great out there on An Aird today. I was able to play well because my old man wasn't there shouting and bawling at me.'

Remember to look out for Kiltie coalman Ewen MacColl on the telly. Ewen, the Shiel Valley sharpshooter, is representing Scotland at the Commonwealth Games in Vancouver. And he'll be on parade with the Scottish international squad – resplendent in the obligatory blazer. And kilt!

There have been quite a few 'railway reminders' of late. Andrew Welsh, the guard, stuck his green flag out of the train window at Crianlarich.

He gave it a ceremonial shake – and the flag shot across the line towards the Refresh, leaving Andrew with the stick still stuck in his hand. Now that wouldn't have happened to Jimmy MacMillan, the Mallaig guard in the halcyon steam days. Jimmy was a rabid Rangers supporter, you see.

It's a small world. Terry Pardoe, at remote Inverlair, answered a knock on the door. A couple of hillwalkers – from Prague – had lost their way. 'Come in! Come in for a cup of tea!' said the genial Terry. During a look at the map and a chat, it transpired that the three of them had mutual friends. In Havant, Hants.

The locals seem to be agreed on one thing – the schoolchildren have had good weather for their summer holidays.

'Just like it used to be in our day,' has been the universal cry. Fittingly, it rained on Tuesday, the day the schools went back.

The decor in the Duke of Argyll pub near Piccadilly Circus is very Highland.

Among the pictures of clan chiefs and stalwarts is a portrait, in full colour, of a Lochaber Highlander, playing the pipes on the ramparts of Edinburgh Castle. With the date of 1952 and the initials 'FB' on the picture.

Which reminds me that, in my local pub in the olden days, The Haven in Ealing Broadway, there's a massive, gilt-framed picture of Old Inverloch Castle, which has pride of place above the bar.

Did you see the letter in the Sunday Post from a Kirkcaldy reader who commented: 'In Fort William, I was impressed by the church bells ringing out their message to tunes such as Amazing Grace, Morag of Dunvegan and One Day at a Time.'

And finally. It's official. Roamer is a pussy cat. In fact, according to the Argyll Animal Aid advert in The Oban Times last week, Roamer 'is a long-haired, grey and white cat in need of a new home'. Who's a pretty boy, then? Well, I'm certainly grey, right enough!

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# All set for the 2019 Lochaber Agricultural Show

The 122nd annual Lochaber Agricultural Show takes place this Saturday, August 24, and it promises to be another unmissable day out for all the family.

Held by permission of Ewen Campbell at Inverloch Castle Farm, in a spectacular setting against the backdrop of Ben Nevis, the show is a celebration of the area's rich farming heritage and allows visitors to savour the very best of Scottish country life and lifestyle.

The livestock judging of cattle and sheep begins at 9.30am, with main ring attractions getting under way at 12.30pm.

These include Highland dancing, terrier racing, horse fancy dress, Highland stalking pony demonstration, sheep shearing, a children's pet parade, equine gymkhana and much more.

The Lochaber food and craft tent provides a perfect showcase for high-quality local produce, while other attractions at the family-friendly show include children's rides and inflatables, and a chance to have a ride on the Argocats.

Target sports including archery and air rifle 'have a go stands' always add a competitive edge to the day.

Nevis Cycles and Lochaber Environmental Group will be on the field to offer free children's bike events and competitions, and free bike maintenance checks. There will also be free electric bike demo rides.

The livestock judging which include blackface sheep, cross sheep, cattle including Highland and judges will again have a tough job on their hands.

As well as rewarding the most outstanding entries in each breed, the event underlines the high standards of the industry as a whole.

The best jumpers, though, will be determined at the horse and pony show and gymkhana as local riders compete for the prized rosettes and silverware.

Horse power of a very different kind can be admired at the small vintage machinery display, while the vintage tractor parade is another popular spectacle.

Making its return after many years absence is the dog show which is sure to be very popular and fun.

Lochaber Schools Pipe Band will open and close the show and will play a number of stirring tunes, while Highland dancers will bring another element of traditional culture

to the occasion. There will also be live music throughout the day with various groups.

The varied range of trade, catering and charity stands will add further interest and help create a bustling and colourful show-day atmosphere.

There will also be birds of prey on show and the ferrets are always a popular attraction with all ages.

Nevis Community Radio will be there broadcasting seven hours of live reports and music from the show starting at 10am.

The quality of livestock on display last year was commended by judges, especially as the climate had been remarkably wet on the build-up to the show.

The handicraft tent this year boasts 130 classes - including home-baking, vegetables, photography and flower arranging - and these categories are sure to be just as keenly contested this time. There are classes for schoolchildren from playgroup/nursery to high school (up to fourth-year pupils).

John Weller of the Lochaber Agricultural Society, said: 'All we can do now is pray for a fine dry day and hope all who attend have a fun and enjoyable experience.



Lochaber Schools Pipe Band will keep the crowd entertained again this year.

'We must express our appreciation to all the organisations and individuals that donate much-needed financial support and services to help the show be the standard that it is. 'The show is organised and

put on by a very small but dedicated team of volunteers who work together to stage the showcase to local rural life and living.'

Gates open at 9am with free parking. Entry is £8 per adult,

concessions £6, children 16 and under free.

Keep up to date with the Lochaber Agricultural Society via its website [www.lochaber-agriculturalshow.co.uk](http://www.lochaber-agriculturalshow.co.uk) and Facebook page.



Sheep judging at last year's event.

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## CONSTRUCTIVE THINKING







**Good Luck to all the entrants at the 122nd Lochaber Show from all at TSL Contractors Ltd**

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## GOLF

## Fort William golf results

Results from the Fort William Golf Club golf week, sponsored by Ben Nevis Distillery, from August 5 to August 9.

Monday August 5, 12 hole, two-person Texas Scamble - winners: Arran MacPhee and Shane Latto, 34 points; runners-up: Mark Lawrie and Scott Lawrie, 32 points.

Tuesday August 6, 12 hole Stableford competition - winner: Shane Latto, 29 points; runner-up: Oliver Stephen, 28 points.

Wednesday August 7, 12 hole, three-person Texas Scramble - winners: Liam MacDonald, Kevin Ferguson and Shaun Graham, 31 points BIH; runners-up: Oliver Stephen, Henry Milne and Martin Stewart, 31 points.

Thursday August 8, 12 hole Stableford competition - winner: Charles Luxton, 30 points; runner-up: Henry MacDonald, 28 points.

Other competitions. On Saturday August 10, a versus par competition was played with the following result - winner: Willie MacDonald, 6 up; runner-up: Ronald MacDonald, 1 up; third: Eric Wallace, 1 up.

On Sunday August 11, the Donnie Gilles Memorial Trophy was played for with the following result - winner: Andrew Brown, 39 points (BIH); runner-up: Darren Quigg, 39 points (BIH); third: Henry MacDonald, 39 points.

On Tuesday August 13, a 12-hole stableford competition was played with the following result - winner: John Byrne, 26 points (BIH); runner-up: Iain Fyfe, 26 points (BIH); third: Alex Stewart, 26 points.

Ladies: On Tuesday August 13, a 12 hole stableford competition was played with the following result - winner: Kim Topping, 24 points; runner-up: Helen Brian, 15 points; third: Iona Cameron, 14 points.

## FOOTBALL

## New signings for SLT

Andrew Martin, Lewis Campbell and Farquhar MacRae have all joined the Jags, bringing a great deal of experience to the side with each of them having competed at Highland League level in the past.

Martin, well-known throughout the football community of Lochaber as Zoomer, is a combative centre half who captained Fort William for more than a decade. About his signing, Zoomer said: 'The big attraction was coming back to football with a great bunch of guys. I've worked with Alan Gray before and am looking forward to the challenge.'

MacRae, also a tough tackling defender, said: 'After being out for so long with injury, it's great to be back playing and training with a good squad of guys. The aim is to get back playing regularly and to keep winning trophies.'

Lewis Campbell, known as Shrap, is an accomplished player capable of operating at the back or in midfield. He said: 'Division One is going to be a big challenge for the lads. SLT has got some great players and I'm sure we'll be a difficult away trip for many of the teams. I'm really looking forward to having a good season.'

Alan Gray was delighted with the signings. 'These are three top class players who will help us build on our success of winning the league last season,' he said.

## LOTTERY NUMBERS

## Lochaber club lotteries

Fort William Golf Club's lotto numbers last week were 8, 10 and 12. There was one winner of the £400 prize. The prize for the draw today, Thursday August 22, will be £100.

Ballachulish Shinty Club's lottery numbers last week were 5, 8 and 10. There was no winner. Next week's jackpot will be £800.

Caol Community Centre bingo lotto numbers this week were 12, 14 and 16. There were no winners so the prize next week is £600.

The numbers in the Caol Regeneration Lotto this week were 9, 12 and 17. There were no winners. Next week's prize will be £600.

# Dignan clinches podium spot

by Neill Bo Finlayson  
nfinlayson@obantimes.co.uk

2019 will be a year to remember for Roy Bridge trial rider Ben Dignan who has topped off a remarkable season with a podium finish in the European championships.

The 16-year-old has continued to catch the attention of the trials world after a remarkable season which culminated last weekend with a third-place finish in the FIM Europe Trial Championship youth class.

The young rider also finished in the top ten in the world championships and hopes are high for an overall British series victory next month.

Having been in and around the European podium places for the first two rounds in Italy, Dignan finished sixth in the third round in Ancelle, France, meaning he had to pull out the stops in the fourth and final round in Brezova, Czech Republic, last weekend to secure a podium finish. After two days of competition, Ben finished fifth, which was just enough to bump him into overall third.

The Gas Gas team rider said the European podium



Ben Dignan, right, on the podium.

finish ranks as his greatest achievement in his fledgling trials career.

'I am delighted to have secured third place in the championship after a rocky season of not putting in the best results,' he said.

'My goals for next season are to move into the class above in the British circuit and to continue to develop in the world 125 class and European Championship.'

Lochaber and District

Motor Cycle Club congratulated Ben on his 'fantastic' achievement. 'Here's to many more,' the club said.

Aside from his European endeavours, Ben has also been competing on a global level and took part in the the FIM World Series. This FIM 125cc class is not a youth class but a capacity class and is hotly contested, with an upper age limit of 21. After securing an eighth-place finish in Italy and ninth in Belgium, he

## TRIAL RIDING

broke into the top ten in the overall rankings - an incredible achievement considering he missed three of the six rounds of competition.

Slightly closer to home, Ben continues his domination of the British trials series, 125 class, after winning the last two rounds in Yorkshire and Devon. He has a commanding 32 point lead going in to the final round in Ayrshire next month. All he needs to do is finish one of the stages to take home British championship title.



Ben Dignan in action.

Photograph: Pixel Point Photography.

# Fort William pipped at the post in Donnie MacLean Sixes shinty final

There was a fantastic display of youth shinty at Spean last weekend with a good number of supporters turning out to watch the Donnie MacLean

Sixes competition. Some of the Fort team had returned triumphant from Oban the day before and were raring to take to the field again.

Coach Richard Shaw had a great squad with him - Jack Kearney, Ben Corner, Ryan Cairns, Cam Stephen, Rhys Kennedy, Archie MacKinnon,

## YOUTH SHINTY

Max Kelly, Arran Stephen, Ben Britton and James Clark.

The team knuckled down to business with the following results:

Fort 2, Lovat 0; Fort 4, Strathglass 0; Fort 6, Kilmallie 0; Fort 0, Kinlochshiel 1; Fort 0 Newtonmore 0; Semi Final - Fort 1 Inverness 1 (Fort won on penalties). Final - Fort 1 Kinlochshiel 2.

Well done everyone and to the victors, Kinlochshiel.

Thanks to Lochaber for hosting another successful Donnie MacLean Sixes and to Paul and Elspeth for presenting the medals and trophy.

Best wishes go to Ryan Cairns who took a knock during extra time in the final.



The Fort William and Kinlochshiel teams after the final. Photograph: Iain Ferguson, alba.photos



Fort trialist Stephen McGhie can't put the ball in the net from close range. Photographs: Iain Ferguson, alba.photos.

# Cause for optimism at Claggan Park

Continued from page 64  
continue and he was helped back to the changing rooms, before making a trip to Belford Hospital.

As the home side tried to re-organise, with Kyle Farrance taking to the field, Keith picked their time to strike and the opening goal came from Adam Clark in the 33rd minute. The goal came as a sucker punch for Fort William, who had dominated spells in the opening

45 minutes. The second half started much the same, with the home side pressing for an equaliser. The pressure was beginning to mount on the Keith defence as a number of their players picked up bookings.

However, despite long periods of possession and well-worked attacking moves, Fort William could not create a clear-cut chance for themselves as the clock ticked towards full-time.

The defence, in the meantime, had recovered from the loss of Treasurer and remained steadfast in keeping out the Keith forwards.

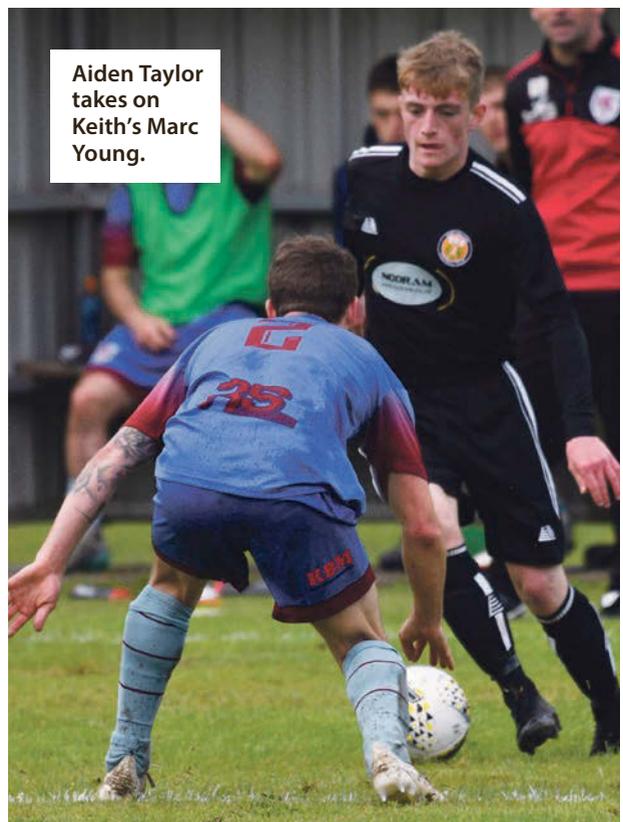
The final whistle blew to the frustration of the Fort but there was much cause for optimism among the Claggan faithful after another encouraging performance which saw the team narrowly miss out on points.

Saturday's defeat leaves the side with no points at the foot

## FOOTBALL

of the table, still level with Clachnacuddin, Forres and Huntly who are all winless so far this season.

The Fort were in action last night, after the Lochaber Times went to print, against Rothes in the Pat Munro North of Scotland Cup. This Saturday the quest for a first league win in more than two years continues for the Fort as they travel to Fraserburgh.



Aiden Taylor takes on Keith's Marc Young.



Kate Forbes shows her support for the Fort with club director Colin Wood.

## Kate cheers on the Fort

Lochaber MSP Kate Forbes could not resist a trip to Claggan Park on Saturday to watch Highland League side Fort William in action.

Taking a break from her summer tour of her Ross, Skye and Lochaber constituency, Ms Forbes stopped to watch Fort William take on Keith as they continue the hunt for a first league win of the season.

She said: 'Great to watch Fort William in action as they took on Keith this afternoon at Claggan Park. Narrow defeat for a strong side.'

Her show of support comes after a remarkable few months for the club which saw them star in a BBC documentary and be at the centre of a nationwide media storm.



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## WEATHER

**Thursday**  
Light rain showers and a moderate breeze  
Temperatures 14°C to 17°C.

**Friday**  
Light rain showers and a moderate breeze  
Temperatures 14°C to 18°C.

**Weekend Outlook Saturday**  
Light rain showers and a gentle breeze

**Sunday**  
Light rain showers and a moderate breeze  
Temperatures 12°C to 17°C.



FRIDAY

## TIDAL INFORMATION

Tide tables for Oban during the week from Thursday August 22, 2019 are listed below with differences for major ports listed on the right. All times are GMT (add one hour BST)

	03.33	1.6	09.12	3.3
<b>Thur</b>	15.34	1.6	21.40	3.3
<b>Fri</b>	04.18	1.7	09.54	3.1
	16.23	1.8	22.28	3.1
<b>Sat</b>	05.23	1.8	10.50	3.0
	17.36	1.9	23.47	3.0
<b>Sun</b>	06.40	1.8	12.26	2.9
	19.05	1.9	***	**
<b>Mon</b>	02.19	3.0	07.55	1.7
	14.39	3.1	20.34	1.7
<b>Tues</b>	03.29	3.2	09.03	1.4
	15.40	3.4	21.52	1.4
<b>Wed</b>	04.19	3.5	10.01	1.1
	16.28	3.7	22.49	1.0

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.**

Fort William pipped at the post in Donnie MacLean Sixes.

Cause for optimism at Claggan Park

# Fort William suffer narrow home defeat to Keith FC

Fort William	0
Keith	1
Highland League	

## FOOTBALL

One goal was the difference at Claggan Park on Saturday as Keith narrowly beat Fort William.

Still searching for a first win of the season, the Fort came close to picking up some points but were ultimately consigned to their fourth defeat of the season thanks to a first half strike from the visitors.

There was a good crowd as Fort fans from as far away as Yorkshire and Leamington

Spa travelled to watch the team in action.

Lochaber MSP Kate Forbes even made a detour from her summer tour to Claggan to catch the game and meet the board.

### Blighted

The Fort's shaky start to the match was further blighted when skipper and centre-back John Treasurer went down injured clutching his knee after 25 minutes. Despite attention from the physio on the pitch, it was clear Treasurer could not

Continued on page 63



John Treasurer is helped off the field by teammates.

Photographs: Iain Ferguson, alba.photos

Fort's Ross Gunn tackles Michael Selfridge.



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