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# Oban Legion at risk as tributes are paid

by David McPhee  
dmcphoe@obantimes.co.uk



The future of the Oban branch of the Royal British Legion Scotland is in jeopardy after the chairman had to step down due to ill health.

Ian Simmonds, who chairs the branch, and his wife Lesley have been responsible for organising Oban's Remembrance Day service for the past seven years.

With no replacement for the 70-year-old, the decision has been taken to close the group.

An Armistice Day committee is now in the process of being formed to marshal next year's event and Mr Simmonds is taking steps to formally fold the legion branch.

For the past seven years, he and Mrs Simmonds have been at the helm of the operation.

Mrs Simmonds was chairman of the Oban branch for five years, before handing over the reins to her husband two years ago.

The former army man said: 'It was decided to close the Oban branch. It was discussed about the Remembrance Day service and there is a small committee being formed



Ian Simmonds lays a wreath at the war memorial in Oban on Sunday.  
Photograph: Kevin McGlynn

to take care of that in the future. I won't be organising it but they have asked me to stay on as an adviser, so I

will be on the committee.' Speaking about his time with Royal British Legion Scotland, Mr Simmonds

said: 'It has been a good experience. We have been able to help veterans move, and help people with PTSD [post-traumatic stress disorder] problems.

'We are just a gateway for these people. We are not there to deliver care, but we pass them on to the relevant military charities that can help them.

'I will miss it. It was a sad night last night. It's a brilliant organisation. There were not enough members. We need people to do things as we are not fit enough to do it any more.'

However, Mr Simmonds added: 'This new committee will be exciting.'

A spokesperson for Legion Scotland said: 'Ian Simmonds has been a committed member of the Oban branch and his contribution to the remembrance parade year on year is greatly appreciated. We wish him all the very best for the future.

'In terms of the potential closure of the Oban branch, there is a due process that must be followed in such circumstances, so we are unable to comment further at this time.'

**■ Armistice Day special: pages four, five, six, seven, eight and nine.**

## Oban set for lights switch-on

This weekend is a big one in the Oban calendar with the switch-on of the Christmas lights.

The hugely popular annual event will be preceded on Saturday by the reindeer parade – complete with Santa in attendance – from the Corran Halls to Station Square.

The procession, sponsored by BID4Oban, heads off at 5pm, with the festive illuminations being turned on at 6pm.

Saturday's family fun is all part of the eighth annual Oban Winter Festival, which kicks off tomorrow (Friday November 16) with a varied programme for all ages.

There is live music, exhibitions, late-night shopping, arts, crafts, pipers, parades, competitions and more spread across 10 days and culminating on Sunday November 25 with the finale, The Big Racket.

That will see a parade led by Oban High School Pipe Band leave the Corran Halls and make its way to Oban Distillery, with brilliant pyrotechnics at the fireworks display at 7pm.

For the full programme, go to [www.obanwinterfestival.com](http://www.obanwinterfestival.com).

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OT

# Islanders turn out over parking fees

by David McPhee  
dmcph@obantimes.co.uk



Islanders on Mull packed into Craignure Village Hall at a public meeting on Friday to voice their concern over proposed parking charges.

A consultation process is currently underway but, if implemented, the free car parks at Craignure, Fionnphort's Columba Centre, and Ledaig in Tobermory would change to being paid for.

This has been met with scads of objections, including a petition which has been signed by more than 2,100 people.

The process began before the Islands (Scotland) Act came in.

However, islanders, and some councillors, are asking for an island community impact assessment to be carried out regardless.

More than 100 people attended the public meeting.

Brian Swinbanks, who is chairman of the Tobermory Harbour Association, updated those who were unable to go.

He said: 'Superb turnout from islanders at the meeting with the four councillors in Craignure today.

'Yes the councillors listened, yes the councillors got the message.

'The message that living on an island is unique and different.

'Under the Islands Act, they have to take this into account when introducing TROs [Traffic Regulation Orders] and above mainland charges.

'An island-wide impact assessment will have to be undertaken with council boots on the ground and officers talking to real islanders before any or no charges are

introduced.'

Councillor for Oban South and the Isles Jim Lynch said: 'There are a lot of objections coming in for various reasons.

'We now need to look at the Islands Act.'

Councillor Lynch said that an island impact assessment should be done, and 'should be done properly'.

'People should be there talking to folk,' the councillor added.

'It's very clear that one size does not fit all. We need to look at it and we need to do the islands assessment.'

Councillor for Oban North and Lorn, and chairwoman of Oban and Lorn Area Committee Elaine Robertson added: 'The consultation process is still under way.

'The objections will be evaluated and discussed before any decisions are made.

## Manager praised for saving care home

A manager at the Lynn of Lorne Care Home in Benderloch, who took up the job at the 'lowest point in its history', has reached the finals of the Scottish Care Awards for saving it from closure.

Home manager Georgina Taylor has been nominated in the Manager/Leader of the Year category in Friday's awards ceremony, celebrating 'the best of the independent care home sector'.

Jackie Weston, her line manager and director of care, who nominated Georgina, said: 'She took up the post in summer last year knowing the home was at its lowest point in its history – poor grades and a nurse staffing crisis. People had faith in her and she demonstrated a real passion for the home.

'The owners were planning to close. She lobbied and consulted and convinced her partners an enhanced residential model could work. The process of change has been hard but the home and staff are going from strength



Georgina Taylor.

to strength. Her commitment and drive has resulted in fabulous life-changing personal outcomes for people.'

Georgina was delighted to have been recognised and said: 'I am very surprised but thrilled and honoured to be chosen as a finalist in these prestigious awards.'

Mrs Weston told *The Oban Times*: 'Her unwavering dedication and collaborative approach resulted in residents' wishes of being able to remain at Lynn of Lorne being achieved. Georgie and her team share a vision for transforming the service.'

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## Man guilty of peeping on neighbour

A man has been found guilty of looking through his neighbour's window from behind a bush.

Martin Scott, 38, of 6 Longsdale Crescent, Oban, was found guilty of placing a female neighbour in a state of fear and alarm on March 27 this year, by concealing himself in the undergrowth outside her home, looking in her bedroom and, on being seen, crawling away on his hands and knees.

Scott denied the charge, stating he was out for a walk and decided to take a shortcut home.

However, Sheriff John Herald found him guilty at Oban Sheriff Court on November 7.

'As I was getting nearer,' Scott told the court, 'it dawned on me that I was never going to get over the bushes and the fence.

'I retraced my steps, but I actually fell. I noticed that my right boot had come off and I noticed that there was a thorn in my shoe, so I fixed my boot and shoe – I went on my hands and knees to avoid the jaggies.'

The 38-year-old said this took him around five to 10 minutes.

When police attended his home after the incident, he showed them two animal skulls, which he said he collects.

'Why bring this up to the court and police?' procurator

fiscal Eoin McGinty asked Scott.

'Because it is an explanation to why I was out,' he replied.

On Wednesday November 7, Sheriff Herald said: 'I am in no doubt whatsoever. I found the witness credible and reliable. She looked out her window and there is a figure in the bush looking through her window.

'She phones her partner and he and his friend drive across town then go to the area and what do they find? You crawling away on your hands and knees wearing a bandanna. I am in no doubt whatsoever. Guilty as libeled.'

Sheriff Herald deferred sentencing in order for the court to obtain reports.

## Six-month £1.1m works begin at Tyndrum

A new £1.1 million project gets under way this month to replace a 'sub-standard' culvert which supports the A82 trunk road near Tyndrum.

Works to replace the culvert, located at Clifton on the western edge of Tyndrum, will begin on Monday November 12 for up to six months.

BEAR Scotland explained: 'The existing culvert is in poor condition and showing signs of continuing deterioration,

meaning extensive works are now required to ensure the structure is safe for road users.

'The replacement structure has been designed with a 120-year design life, helping to ensure the road will continue to function safely for years to come. In addition, an improved safety barrier will also be installed at this location to improve road user safety on this stretch of the A82. To allow the installation of the

new culvert to take place, a temporary two-way diversion road will be constructed next to the site, allowing road users to safely continue their journeys on the A82 with minimal impact during the project.

'A reduced speed limit of 30mph will be implemented for the safety of road workers and motorists throughout the project. Temporary traffic lights will be used to control the flow of traffic.'

# Holidaymaker in plea to find man he saved

by David McPhee  
dmcph@obantimes.co.uk



A holidaymaker is hoping to find a man whose life he helped to save in Oban.

Kenny Marshall helped give CPR to a French man aged in his 60s after he died in his arms. Mr Marshall believes his first name was Nicholas.

The incident took place at the Railway Pier on October 21 around 10am.

Mr Marshall, who was heading to buy crabs, said: 'As we were walking up I saw someone lying on the ground. He was lying on his back and blood was gargling out of his mouth. Apparently, he had fallen and smacked his head.

'When I got there, I ran up and said I have a wee bit of medical experience. I went down to see the guy, I rolled him on his side to stop him choking on the blood. We put him in the recovery position and at that point I could see him trying to get his breath. As I held his head, he died.'

It was at that point the ambulance arrived and, after Mr Marshall explained that he had some medical training, he was then asked if he could do compressions while the

**'I just want to know if he is okay and if I can pop a card in. It was a bizarre situation'**

other paramedic set up the defibrillator.

'I am pumping away on this guy's chest, while the woman had the air mask.

'The defibrillator was showing there was something happening. We had brought him back to life. They said everyone stand clear and they shocked him.'

They then lost 'Nicholas' again, but once again were

able to bring him back. 'A woman came up and said she was a nurse, I stood back and let her take over,' Mr Marshall said.

'I got my crabs and I came back and everyone was gone, apart from a policeman and a bystander. She gave me a big hug and she said he went on the ambulance alive.

'We have been in contact; her daughter went up to visit the guy in hospital in Oban, and she said he was being sent to Glasgow and that's where the story ends.

'I just want to know if he is okay and if I can pop a card in. It was a bizarre situation to be in the main street of Oban.'

A spokesperson for the Scottish Ambulance Service said: 'We received a call at 1010 hours on Sunday October 21 to attend an incident in Oban. We dispatched one ambulance to the scene and transported one male patient in his 60s to Lorn and Islands Hospital in Oban.'

a report was submitted to the procurator fiscal.

■ At about 4pm on Thursday November 8, in Airds Crescent, Oban, a man stole a mobile phone. Police traced the man, aged 42, a short time later. He was arrested and charged and a report will be submitted to the procurator fiscal.

■ Between 9am and 5pm on Friday November 9, in the medical centre car park in Tobermory, a red Jaguar was damaged by having the passenger side dented by another vehicle which failed to report the incident.

■ At about 9.45pm on Friday November 9, within licensed premises in Oban, a man aged 29 smashed a window after being asked to leave. Police traced and identified the man, aged 29, but are continuing inquiries.

■ At about 4.20pm on Saturday November 10, on the unclassified road leading to Lerags, Oban, a collision occurred between a Mercedes and an Audi.

Subsequently, a 22-year-old man was charged with careless driving. Only minor injuries were sustained and a report will be submitted to the procurator fiscal.

■ At about 10.30pm on Saturday November 10, in Stafford Street, Oban, men aged 22 and 25 were arrested for behaving in an abusive manner and fighting with each other. The men were charged and issued with recorded police warnings.

■ At about 12.45am on Sunday November 11, in Glengallan Road, Oban, a man was assaulted by three other men. A 23-year-old man was arrested and charged. Inquiries are continuing to trace the other two men. The arrested man was held for court and a report has been submitted to the procurator fiscal.

■ If anyone has information in relation to any incident, they can contact police on 101, or through Crimestoppers on 0800 555 111.

## POLICE FILES

■ At about 11.20pm on Sunday November 4, on the A85 near Tyntrum, a motorcyclist was stopped for exceeding the speed limit. The rider, a man aged 44, was charged and a report will be submitted to the procurator fiscal.

■ At about 11am on Monday November 5, at Glencruit-ten, Oban, a man caused damage to several trees by cutting them down. The man aged 65 was charged and issued with a recorded police warning.

■ At about 3.30pm on Tuesday November 6, in the car park in Shore Street, Oban, a white Honda Civic motor car was damaged by having its rear dented by a white campervan which failed to report the incident.

■ At about 6.30pm on Wednesday November 7, near Benderloch, a man aged 34 was arrested for behaving in an abusive manner and assaulting a woman. The man was charged, held for court and



Volunteers hand over the cheque to Harris and his mum Shannon. 17\_T46\_Harris03

## Bonfire raises £3,550 for Harris

Dunbeg's community bonfire and fireworks night raised £3,550 for a three-year-old boy with leukemia.

Harris McGougan, who lives in the village, was diagnosed with acute lymphoblastic leukemia last year.

Event organiser James MacDonald said: 'His family have had a nightmare so this year Dunbeg is going to give them a night to remember.'

And they did. Harris received a special escort to the bonfire, thanks

to characters from his favourite television show, Paw Patrol, and Oban police.

Hundreds of people made their way to the Lochnell Road car park on Saturday November 3.

Harris's mum, Shannon MacDonald, said: 'Thanks to the organisers and everyone for their donations. It was such a good night. Harris loved it.'

Shannon said she plans to use the money to take Harris to Disneyland when he finishes his treatment.

## Pop along to Ardchattan for tea

Organisers of a pop-up tearoom at Ardchattan Primary School this Sunday November 18 are hoping to tempt people along for a community event, from 1pm to 3pm.

As well as cakes and cookies, there is the chance to browse books in the reading room and to go on a guided walk of the nearby quarry, setting off at 2pm.

People will also be invited to fill in a survey prioritising the area's needs and hopes for the future including the use of its mothballed primary school, currently doubling up as a community centre.

## Animals relocated as sanctuary closes

The Scottish Sealife Sanctuary in Barcaldine closed as planned on Wednesday October 31.

Merlin Entertainments made the 'agonising' decision to put the attraction up for sale in September. A buyer wasn't found before October 31 and the animals have been relocated.

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OT



# Oban and Argyll pay



Councillors Elaine Robertson and Julie McKenzie lay a wreath. Photograph: Kevin McGlynn

by David McPhee  
dmcphoe@obantimes.co.uk

Hundreds of people made their way to Oban's war memorial on Sunday to remember those who had died in battle.

This year's Armistice Day was particularly special, not only because it marked the centenary of the end of the First World War, but it was the final service for organiser Ian Simmonds.

Ian has been at the helm of the Oban branch of the Royal British Legion Scotland for seven years and has done a superb job with the annual memorial service.

However, due to ill health, he has had to step down and the Oban branch is in need of members to help organise next year's event.

'I think it went very well,' Ian said about Sunday's ceremony.

'We had a huge turnout, considering the weather, and what other town has a world champion piper – Angus MacColl – playing a lament while the wreaths are being laid?'

'Unfortunately, this is my last one. Through ill health, my wife and I have decided it is time for us to have more time for each other.'

'When I first started we had about 50 people and yesterday we had thousands.'

'It's great to see kids taking part. I just hope it

can keep going. It's been an experience. I have enjoyed it tremendously. I love doing things for Oban. Unfortunately, we have only had a couple of years when the weather has been good.'

Ian thanked numerous people and organisations for Sunday's service: Oban Pipe Band and Oban High School Pipe Band, 'who were both magnificent, as always'. Also Frank McKenna, Reverend Ian McFarlane, and

'When I first started we had about 50 people and this year we had thousands.'

Councillor Jim Lynch and Stephen MacPhee, who did all the heavy lifting for him.

As well as the service, and a parade fronted by Oban and Oban High School pipe bands, there was an additional event in the evening.

Oban High School's head teacher Peter Bain, who played at three other remembrance services, made a 130-mile journey to Oban to play The Last Post on a bugle at 6.55pm.

This was part of the Battle's Over remembrance event, which saw 1,000 pipers play a lament at 6am on Sunday

and 1,000 buglers play The Last Post at 6.55pm.

WWI beacons of light were then lit at 7pm across the world.

Remembrance services were also held across Argyll and the isles.

On Mull, islanders celebrated their the Battle's Over event with an 'emotional ceremony' at the harbour building in Tobermory on Saturday night.

Councillor for Oban South and the Isles Mary-Jean Devon said: 'We had a fantastic night. Nearly 300 people turned up and it stayed dry. We managed to project all the pictures on the wall of the harbour building of people from Mull who went to war. It was very emotional.'

'I am so, so proud of our young people – it was great. Mull definitely remembered.'

This was followed by services across the island on Sunday.

And in Taynuilt there was a wreath laying ceremony at the village's war memorial, followed by a procession to the village hall where a celebratory lunch took place – and participants needed a ration book ticket to enter.

There was a quiz, live music and entertainment, a traditional soup and sandwich lunch as well as prizes for the best 1918 costumes.

On the day donations went towards Erskine Veterans Hospital.

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World champion piper Angus MacColl plays a lament in Oban. Photograph: Kevin McGlynn

# tribute to the fallen



The parade, led by Frank Pat McKenna, marches along the Esplanade to the war memorial. All photographs: Kevin McGlynn



Oban High School head Peter Bain plays The Last Post. Photograph: Kevin McGlynn



Jackie Stewart, from Ardrishaig, remembers during the two minutes' silence.



A young air cadet lays a wreath at Oban's war memorial.



Cub Oliver Clark lays a wreath at the war memorial.

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OT

# Easdale remembers men who fought in Great War



Young and old came to remember the sacrifice of the men and boys from Easdale Island during the First World War.



May McGillivray and Donald Gillies with islanders at the remembrance service on Easdale on November 11, 2018.

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Islanders and visitors came together on Sunday to remember the men and boys from Easdale Island who died in the Great War.

As a beacon was lit at 4.15pm at the start of the small, but touching, ceremony, led by May McGillivray – Easdale Island Folk Museum's current curator – those gathered came to honour the loved ones who lost their lives.

May explained that in 1911, according to the information available then, there were 196 inhabitants, 61 of whom were eligible for call-up in 1914. Many men had already left the island 15-20 years before the war to find employment

due to the quarries closing down, which, May said, had made it difficult to find out exactly how many from the island died in the Great War.

Islander Donald Gillies then spoke emotionally of all the animals, horses in particular, that were forced into service during the Great War, reciting a poem by Neil Andrew – I Spoke To You In Whispers.

May said the work to complete the list of all those islanders who died in the First World War continued, before she read out the names of those who were known to have been lost, visibly moved. This was followed by two minutes' silence.

Duncan Smallman, who lives on the island, then read *The Soldier* by Rupert Brooke.

Bringing the small ceremony to a close, a young islander then rang the museum bell.

May said: 'The bell in the culree would have rung out in 1918 celebrating that the war was finally over – it would have been a joyous occasion.'

On Sunday morning, a service was held in Balvicar, which has the roll of honour for the whole parish.

And on the island of Luing and in Kilmelford, villagers lit their beacons after sunset, at 7pm, signalling the armistice.



A community event marked the centenary of the armistice in Tobermory. Introduced by Councillor Mary-Jean Devon, there were readings by members of the community, mostly children. A slideshow was projected on the wall of the harbour building, with images of men from Mull who served. Tobermory High School Pipe Band started the event and Coisir og Mhuile (Mull's junior Gaelic choir) sang and Holly Maclean performed a solo. The Rev Johny Paton gave a vote of thanks. The event was well attended with several hundred turning out.



More than 100 people packed Connel hall for the First World War commemoration.

# More than 100 pack hall for ceremony

On Sunday November 11, Connel Hall and Connel Community Council hosted a finger buffet lunch for 104 people in the village hall to commemorate the huge sacrifices made by men and women, and animals, during the First World War.

Ross Wilson, a retired colonel from the British Army's Royal Engineers, was the master of ceremonies. After lunch, he introduced the programme for the afternoon, which included moving poetry from Richard Toogood and from Ross himself.

Colin Paterson read a letter from the trenches which spoke of the terrible hardship men faced. Ellie Cooper led the audience in singing some WWI songs, while Sharon Burt provided piano accompaniment. Marion Fisher told the fascinating story of Madame Maze of Achnacloch, which few in the audience would have known. The event finished with the pupils of Achaleven Primary School singing Let there be Peace on Earth.

A collection of memorabilia, which was provided by village people, proved interesting to read for the guests. Cpl Allan Cameron, whose name is on the war memorial in the St Oran's church, was remembered by some of his descendants who had travelled from Norfolk for the event.

While the event was free, helped by sponsorship from MacLeod Construction and Bossards in Oban, a collection was made, which produced £366. Help for Heroes, the Royal British Legion and Erskine will be the beneficiaries.

The hall trustees and committee and the Connel community councillors thanked the villagers for their participation.

Les Stewart, chairman of the trustees of Connel hall, said: 'Among the memorabilia which people brought to the event was a letter from Alexander MacLeod, a WWI soldier who served with the Scottish Horse.'

'The letter was addressed to Mrs Janette Hamilton's mother - Mrs Stewart - who owned the Falls of Lora Hotel during WWI. It is amusing in that Alexander (Sandy) asks Mrs Hamilton to tell the editor of *The Oban Times* (a copy of which he had received in "the peninsula" - probably Gallipoli) to include more news of Connel in future.'

The letter reads: 'Dear Mrs Stewart,

'I received your letter last night the 22 and was glad to hear that you are all well as it leaves me in best of health. I also got *The Oban Times* you sent and thanking you very much for it.

'We enjoyed reading it seeing about the Old Place.

Please tell McCabe to get more Connel news into it.

'We are entrenched in this Peninsula but must not say where we are. We have been in the trenches for the last three weeks. It is a fine place if it was not for the flies and smell. Very cold at night; much more than at home. We have had no losses yet in our squadron except slight wounds.

'Things is very quite (sic) during the day but livening at night but one good thing that they do not shell us at night for the sake of (giving away) their position.

'We are all pretty well fed up already wishing it was all over. It is a pretty rough life as we haven't washed yet but we are getting used to it. We all hope to be home before the year's out.

'We are missing our horses but hoping to get them back soon.

'I cannot give you exact details of where we are or what we are doing. The Oban Battery (sic) is on our left just near. Marquis Crabh (?) was visiting us the other day. He is not very far from us. I have no more news just now but remember me to all. We do all our work at night and sleep during the day. Will close with kindest regards to all and hoping to hear from you soon again.

'I remain yours sincerely,  
'Sandy,  
'Alexander MacLeod.'



Some of the hundreds of people who turned out for Oban's commemoration observe two minutes' silence before the laying of wreaths. Photograph: Kevin McGlynn

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OT

# WWI remembered: Private John Paterson, died 1917

by Sandy Neil  
sneil@obantimes.co.uk



Liz MacFarlane reflected on her great-uncle John Paterson, a soldier in the Australian infantry who was born in Campbeltown on May 21, 1885, and died aged 31 a day after suffering wounds on the killing fields of France.

'Campbeltown then was a fishing town and many young men went into fishing. However, the call of the sea beckoned and a sailor he became - and off to Australia,' Liz told us. 'When the call to arms sounded, he said, "I'm ready".'

'He embarked at Sydney on Her Majesty's Australian Transports (HMAT) Aeneas on December 20, 1915, to Marseilles, France. Having survived Gallipoli, he was

going to the Somme and Passchendaele. He died on April 10, 1917.'

The documents do not mention where Private Paterson fought his last fight, but April 9, 1917, was one of the Great War's deadliest days, when 3,598 soldiers died at the Battle of Vimy Ridge, the first offensive in the Battle of Arras.

The *Campbeltown Courier* carried his obituary: 'Private Paterson was 31 years of age, was a sailor, and had been in Australia for eight years when the call to arms was sounded and found him ready to cast in his lot with the Empire's gallant sons. He had been in France for 15 months when he sustained his fatal wounds.'

A letter written to his father David Paterson, of Princes Street, Dalintober, on April

11 by a hospital nurse, Sister Ida O'Dwyer, reveals a fuller story: 'He was brought into this hospital on the night of the 9th suffering from a very bad wound in the back, right through to his chest.'

'He was immediately put straight into a warm bed and made as comfortable as possible for his last few hours, but though everything that was possible was done to save him, he had not a chance, and gradually died quite quietly next morning at nine o'clock.'

'I told him I would write to you and say he was wounded and he was quite happy, and said to give his love and he'd write himself as soon as he was well.'

'He was seen by the chaplain who buried him yesterday evening in a military cemetery. There is a cross



Private John Paterson, who died aged 31 on April 10.

with his name on it to show the spot, and can be found [by] anyone wishing to see the grave.'

Liz said John Paterson's name is on the war memorial in Campbeltown and is buried in the military cemetery at Bapaune, where a headstone is erected.

Sister Ida O'Dwyer saw the full horror of wounds straight from the battlefield,

and wrote a detailed report of her experiences, in the words of one historian the 'classic statement of nursing life in a casualty clearing station'.

In her own words: 'This is nearest nurses get to the actual fighting. Wards are prepared in a great hurry, not the comfortable bed ward of the base but mostly stretchers on the ground.'

'The sisters must be prepared in a few hours to receive and nurse hundreds of wounded admitted in numbers that can be hardly realised.'

'They have not only to be admitted but are to be classified, dressed, fed and evacuated, with the same speed and still keep her ward in a state that she can pass through hundreds more.'

'There is one continuous rush between cases ... during a battle everyone working a period of 16 hours a day.'

'The resuscitation ward which holds the patients who are too bad for immediate operation ... is really the biggest to the sister as she has never experienced anything like it before in her career.'

'Everyone requires immediate attention and some of them die before they can be fully attended to.'

'Every man is just as he is carried out of the trenches in his wet khaki and stone cold.'

'You can see death written in most of their faces ... yet ... he waits his turn and never asks - that's when a wounded soldier commands the respect and admiration of anyone in this world.'



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Islay remembered its fallen during poignant services at Portnahaven and Kilchoman. Councillor Alastair Redman said: 'It was a privilege to meet yet again with veterans and naval servicemen at Kilchoman. The American Monument on the Oa Peninsula was lit up to make a truly spectacular sight. A huge thanks to all who have contributed to the memorial services on Islay.'



**OBAN**



Oban's McCaig's Tower was illuminated in bright red over the weekend. Photograph: Kevin McGlynn



The parade makes its way along the Esplanade through throngs of onlookers. Photograph: Stephen Day.



Oban Sea Cadets lay a wreath at the CalMac building in Oban in memory of the merchant seamen who died in conflicts. Photograph: Stephen Day.



Catalina Sisters Ann Buchanan and Margaret Cooper entertained at an armistice tea held in the Argyllshire Gathering Halls. Photograph: Kevin McGlynn

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OT

# Oban bank foils scam

Police have issued a scam warning after a bank fraud attempt via telephone in Oban.

On Monday October 15, an elderly woman in Oban received a call from a man with a Scottish accent saying he was from her bank fraud team in Edinburgh.

The man said that there was an ongoing fraud where someone was trying to take money from the woman's account.

The woman was advised to attend at her bank and trans-

fer her money, more than £5,000, to a Nat West Bank account. The woman was further told not to mention this to the bank staff as they were believed to be involved in the fraud.

The woman went to the bank but, thankfully, staff realised this was a scam and called the police so no money was transferred.

Sergeant Chris Edwards, of the Oban Community Policing Team, said: 'We're aware of recent telephone scams occur-

ring within the Argyll area and warn local residents to remain vigilant of further calls.

'These calls are from people claiming to represent their bank and attempt to obtain internet banking details over the phone. They also try to get people to attend in person to their bank to transfer money to another account.

'I would like to take this opportunity to reiterate that a bank will never ask for your password over the phone, no matter how much detail they

say they have about you or your accounts, nor will they ask you to transfer money.

'If you do receive a phone call asking for these details or telling you about suspicious activity on your account, call into your local branch or phone your bank using a different telephone.

'Alternatively, wait until you have heard a dialling tone before phoning your bank - some fraudulent callers keep the line open and you could end up calling them back. If

you have any concerns, go into your local branch, contact local trading standards or speak to a police officer.

'In addition, an elderly lady received a voice-activated call asking her to urgently call a number from HMRC or Customs or face a lawsuit. Likewise, police are warning people not to respond to anything of this nature and contact us if unsure.'

More advice is available on the Police Scotland website under its Keep Safe banner.

## UHI opens micro-campus in China

The University of the Highlands and Islands has opened a micro-campus at the Hunan Institute of Engineering in China.

The development builds on an existing partnership between the two organisations which enables students from across China to study the University of the Highlands and Islands' BEng electrical and electronic engineering and BEng mechanical engineering degrees.

University of the Highlands and Islands principal and vice-chancellor Professor Clive Mulholland and Hunan Institute of Engineering president Liu Guofan marked the opening with the unveiling of a plaque.

## Isles Leave voters change their minds

More than 10 per cent of Western Isles voters who supported Brexit have now changed their minds, according to a new poll.

Isles MP Angus Brendan MacNeil said the poll, conducted by Channel 4 and Survation, showed that many who thought leaving the EU would be a positive move are now concluding that Brexit will be bad news.

Mr MacNeil said: 'When the facts change, people change their minds. This is a well known phrase and I congratulate those who are not afraid to review changing circumstances.'



Left to right are Fiona Wilson, Ben MacAllister, Freya MacKechnie and Aidan MacLeod.

## School raises charity money with karaoke

Oban High School have recently raised £1,691.98 for the organisation Ronald McDonald House Charities, the most money the school has ever raised for a single cause.

A karaoke session was put on in the school where teachers and pupils took part to sing many well-known hits.

Ronald McDonald Houses provide free accommodation for family members whose children are seriously ill in hospital, supporting the families to make sure they are just a short journey away from their child. The fundraiser was organised by geography teacher Fiona Wilson and fourth year pupil Freya MacKechnie.

## So excited for Oban Winter Festival

Around Oban

KAY MCDONALD

editor@obantimes.co.uk



I'm really looking forward to the reindeer parade at 5pm on Saturday and the visit by Santa.

There's something magical in seeing children's reaction to him and I do think it stirs the inner child in all of us.

Then we have the Christmas lights switch-on at 6pm to help banish the cold and dark of winter and, after that, it feels as if we're just a hop, skip and a jump away from Christmas. I adore Christmas but, on the other hand, I haven't even thought about buying a card yet.

I always spend far too much time having fun and attending events at this time of year

and not enough preparing which usually leads to a wee meltdown but I wouldn't have it any other way.

There is so much going on over the Oban Winter Festival that it is hard to narrow it down but the events that stand out for me this weekend (apart from Santa) are Oban Winter Bricks in St Columba's Cathedral Hall for all the Lego lovers, the Christmas flower arranging demonstration in the Argyllshire Gathering Halls and the Foraged Food and Whisky Pairing in the distillery with chef Gary Goldie...food and drink, two of my favourite things.

We've also just had all the excitement of the Oban Live launch for next year, which seems like ages away at the moment, but I love having

### WHERE IS THIS?



that to look forward to with the thought of summer sun (hopefully) and the build-up to the event with all the bands being announced.

So roll on Christmas and New Year and then we have Oban Live 2019 to look forward to.

Last week's photo was of the doorway above Coast Restaurant on George Street, which is quite close to this week's photo.

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Left to right are apprentices Calum Robertson, Armadale; Daniel Smith, Port Ellen; Adam Smith, Largs; Ryan Bell, Brodick and Duncan Turner, Oban, with CalMac managing director Robbie Drummond and Stuart Wallace, chief operating officer, Forth Ports.

# Port assistants start training

The first intake of ferry operator CalMac's new port operations modern apprentices have cast off on their training voyage, with Duncan Turner from Oban among them.

The company has joined Forth Ports Limited to deliver the modern apprenticeships to a group of five trainee port and harbour assistants, the first apprenticeship of its kind in the country.

CalMac manages 27 harbours and slipways across the

west coast. 'Providing training opportunities for young people in the communities we support is a key commitment within our operating plan, and I'm delighted to welcome these five new trainees to the company,' said managing director Robbie Drummond.

'Expanding our existing MA programme into port operations will ensure we have the right people in place for the future in what is a vital area of service delivery. This new

MA is the solid foundation for building a long-term career in harbour management.'

Over the 15-month programme of training, the MAs will qualify to SVQ level 2 in Port Operations along with an additional industry qualification in plant and health and safety.

Training will be carried out at ports across the CalMac network and at Forth Ports' new Skills and Business Centre in Grangemouth.

# Shinty signs up to LGBT charter

Shinty's governing body in Scotland has signed up to an LGBT charter, to 'better include more lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender in sport'.

The Camanach Association has become a signatory to the Equality Network's Scottish LGBT Sports Charter.

The network's Scott Cuthbertson said: 'By signing up to the charter, the Camanachd Association is making a commitment to better include LGBT people in shinty and sending a signal of support for the charter's principles of inclusion.'

'We're delighted to welcome



**CAMANACHD ASSOCIATION**

the Camanachd Association as a signatory to the Scottish LGBT Sports Charter. We know that LGBT people can face barriers to sport wherever they live in Scotland. As shinty has a unique sporting reach in Scotland's Highlands and Islands, we

welcome its commitment to inclusive sport.'

Graham Cormack, national development manager of the Camanachd Association, added: 'I am delighted to sign the charter on behalf of the Camanachd Association.'

'Shinty rightly prides itself on being a sport embedded within its communities. Becoming a signatory is also part of our action plan in our progression from foundation to intermediate level in the national equality standards. We look forward to working with Equality Network to ensure we do provide the best opportunities for inclusion.'

# Drunk driver had 'vacant expression'

Police who stopped a driver at 3am because his car had no lights on said he had 'had a vacant expression'.

George William Shaw, of Strathrowan Cottage, High Street, Oban, failed a roadside breath test and was taken to Oban Police Station, where he failed to provide further breath specimens and on telling the police of an associated medical

condition he gave a blood sample. This showed a blood alcohol level of 139 when the legal limit is 50 milligrammes of alcohol in every 100 millilitres of blood.

Shaw, 24, told the court on Tuesday that his car lights had been working but the rear offside had failed and that was why he asked the officers what the issue was. He added that

his condition also meant he 'struggled to get my words'.

Sheriff John Herald fined him £500 and disqualified him from driving for a year.

The incident happened on April 15 but had taken so long to come to court, procurator fiscal Eoin McGinty said, because there was a backlog of forensic services for blood alcohol testing.



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OT

# MacPhail

ANGUS MACPHAIL

angusmacphail@yahoo.co.uk



A good wedding is hard to beat for a day and night of partying and last week I attended an absolute cracker.

An excellent venue, fantastic food, a great band, a good mix of guests and, above all, two very special people getting married combined to create the finest of soirees.

It is nearly a year since I have included a wedding in my ramblings so I think it is acceptable to delve into the realms of matrimonial celebration once more.

Wild celebrating was a large part of the recent Oban wedding I attended and this was pulled off with the vigour, style and panache one would expect from the joining of a bonnie Oban girl with Barra connections and a wild hooligan musician from Erbusaig.

The venue was the Argyllshire Gathering Halls in Oban, the band was Gunna Sound and the happy couple were Alasdair Murray and Jacqueline Cullen.

Ali moved to Oban in 2010 to work with us in the ceilidh house and he has been a solid ally ever since, working in the venue and also playing drums

and now pipes in the band. I have spent many thousands of hours with Ali over the past eight years travelling together, playing and working in the ceilidh house, performing at gigs, selling CDs at Highland games and going on the spree, and it has always been a pleasurable experience. He has also never once been later than five minutes early for any shift, meeting or agreed departure. His time-keeping and dependability are incredible.

It is a sign of getting far too old when you go to a wedding and you feel like a proud parent watching the young ones getting hitched.

## MacLennan Motors turns 40

I am few weeks out of date in covering the milestone of business achievement and success celebrated by Angus (Harry) and Catriona MacLennan of MacLennan Motors and it is most worthy of note.

MacLennan Motors has been a vital fixture in the fabric of Tiree since before I was born and, as far back as I can re-

member, they have constantly grown, developed and pushed boundaries to deliver their service to Tiree and beyond and to provide essential employment.

Building a business as they have done on a remote island with such a small year-round population is very rare and it could never have been done without huge commitment to their operation coupled with a fierce ambition and powerful work ethic.

It is businesses that can provide year-round employment that are the real keystones in maintaining a population and continuity of economic activity on these islands.

Without enterprising and ambitious business owners like Harry and Catriona, these jobs would not exist.

What they have built up over the past 40 years is impressive. I take my hat off to them and wish them warmest congratulations.

With new generations of MacLennans coming into the operation, there is no doubt that MacLennan Motors will be celebrating many more birthdays long into the future.



David Scott, director commercial banking, RBS, with Emma Clark, Gleneedale House.



Graeme Bell, Inverness Airport general manager, presents the Best Cultural Event or Festival to Naomi Hoolahan, Pauline Clifford, Shannon Watson, Martin Gillespie and Daniel Gillespie, from Oban Live.



Kris Bevan, freight manager, NorthLink Ferries, right, with Shane and Nikki Wasik of Basking Shark Scotland.



Councillor Allan Henderson, of The Highland Council, right, with Dave Sexton and Debby Thorne of Mull Eagle Watch.



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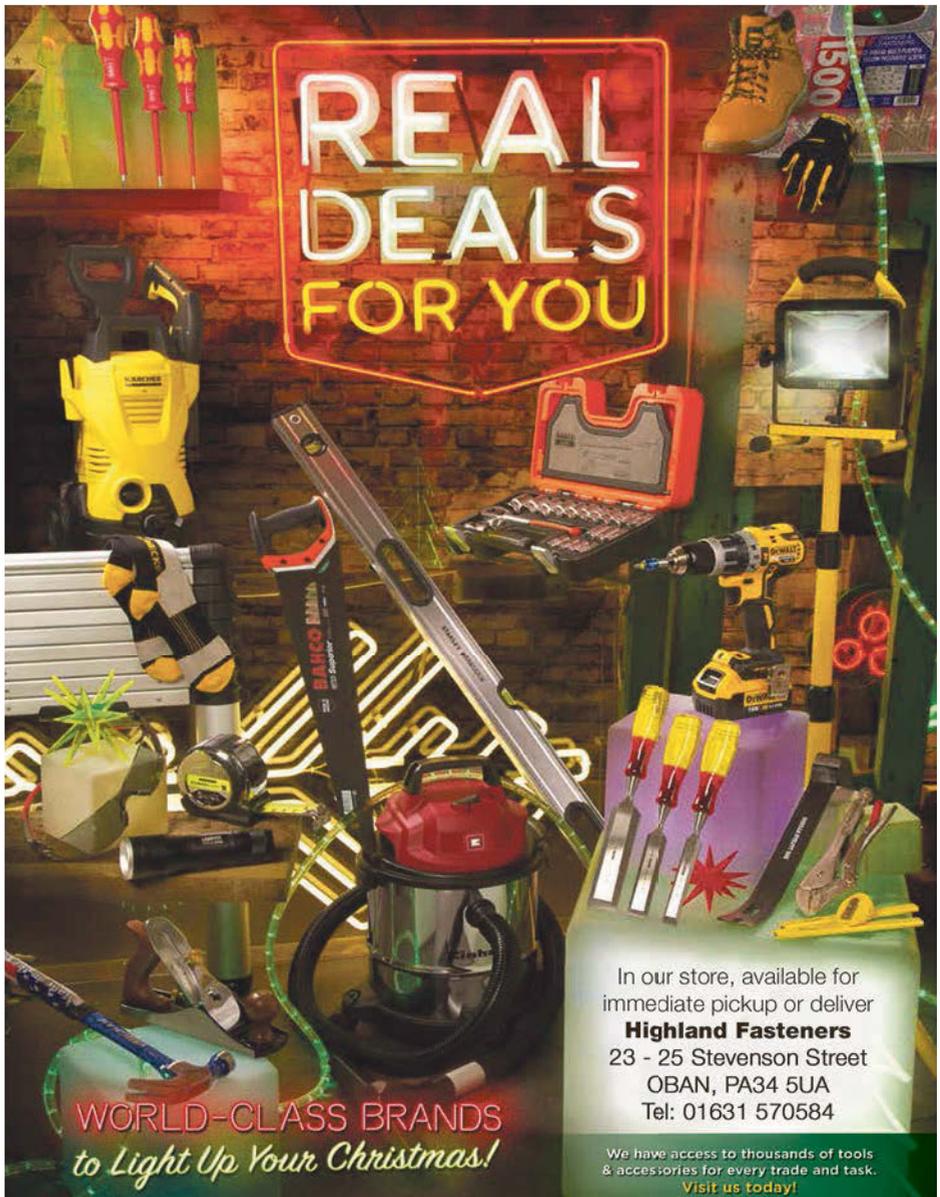
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Cabinet Secretary for Tourism Fiona Hyslop MSP, centre, with all the winners. Photographs: Gair Fraser

# Tourism firms celebrate success

Argyll and the Isles tourism businesses have been celebrating following the 2018 Highlands and Islands Tourism Awards (HITA).

Held in the Kingsmill Hotel in Inverness, in association with SSE, 16 Argyll businesses had been shortlisted and gathered around four tables on the night to cheer on colleagues and celebrate five winners out of 14 categories.

Iain Jurgensen, chairman of Argyll and the Isles Tourism Cooperative (AITC), said: 'It was a great night for Argyll's tourism businesses with so many winners and finalists gaining well-deserved recognition for their exemplar businesses.'

'The expertise, passion and confidence underpinning

tourism in Argyll is critical as we aim to attract more market share. AITC would like to congratulate all the finalists and winners and thanks the HITA team and indeed the Kingsmill's team for delivering such an enjoyable event.'

Five trophies made their way back to Argyll with Oban Live winning the Best Cultural Event 2018 and Basking Shark Scotland, also from Oban, winning the best outdoor experience against very stiff competition. Four of the five finalists were from Argyll and Shane and Nikki Wasik's win was applauded by The Majestic Line, St Hilda Cruises and Nature Scotland on Mull.

John McNulty, of Etive

Restaurant in Oban, was joint winner of the Rising Star Trophy and Mull Eagle Watch took to the stage to pick up the trophy for Working Together for Tourism.

Emma Clark of Gleneedale House on Islay was the very proud winner of the Tourism and Hospitality Hero of 2018, with Alice Gill of Lodge on Loch Goil also a finalist in this category.

Fiona Hyslop, the Cabinet Secretary for Culture, Tourism and External Affairs, attended the event and personally congratulated Emma Clark, whom she had stayed with on Islay during the recent First World War commemoration events.

Emma said: 'What a fan-

tastic honour to be not only recognised but to go on and win the coveted Hospitality and Tourism Hero at the Highlands and Islands Tourism Awards for 2018.

'This award recognises the dedication given to each and every visitor that comes in contact with myself to making their precious time the best it possibly can be for them while enjoying and visiting our beautiful island within Argyll and the Isles.'

Argyll businesses joined forces to share several Argyll tables for the awards dinner with a special request from AITC to be located together.

Dave Sexton, from Mull Eagle Watch, said: 'We were literally speechless with surprise when the award's

sponsor Highland Council announced Mull Eagle Watch as the winner of the Working Together for Tourism Award.

'On Mull, our partnership works hard with other businesses, host sites, government agencies, NGOs, Marketing Mull and Iona, AITC and community enterprises to promote Mull as the number one wildlife watching destination in the UK.

'And the white-tailed eagles as a flagship species help us achieve that. We were so proud to have been there on the night with the rest of team Argyll and to share in their success.'

The full list of Argyll businesses and individuals who

were finalists is as follows. Portavadie, Loch Fyne; Clan Cottages, Oban; Oban Live; Jura Music Festival; Ninth Wave Restaurant, Mull; St Hilda Sea Adventures, Oban; Basking Shark Scotland, Oban; Nature Scotland, Mull; Majestic Line, Argyll; Gleneedale House, Islay; Mull Eagle Watch; Argyll and the Isles Tourism Cooperative Ltd; John McNulty, Taynuilt Hotel; Emma Clark, Gleneedale House; Alice Gill, Lodge on Loch Goil.

Emma Clark, Basking Shark Scotland, Mull Eagle Watch and Oban Live will now automatically become finalists in the Scottish Thistle Awards in Glasgow next March.



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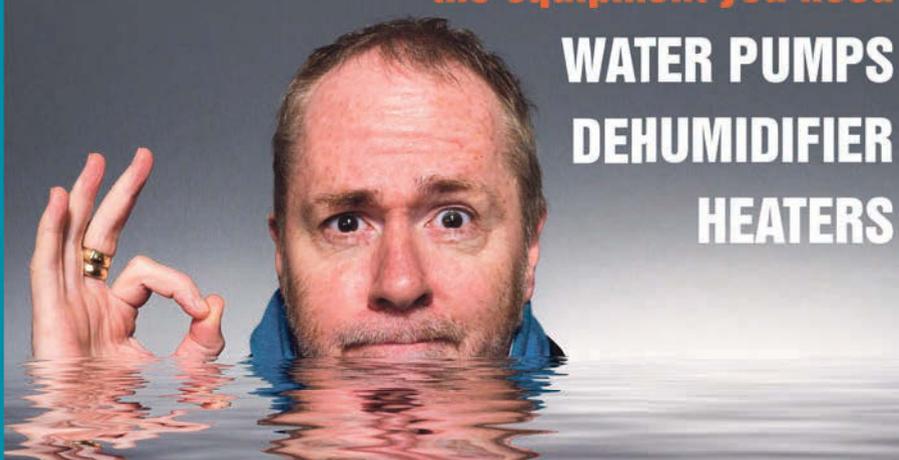


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# BUSINESS NEWS

## IN BRIEF

### Hotel restoration

The owners of Cameron House Hotel have submitted a formal application to carry out restoration work on the building following last year's fatal fire.

A planning statement reveals the full extent of the works which are required at the Loch Lomondside hotel. It includes the retention and restoration of the façade and the construction of a new internal frame within the building.

It is almost a year since the blaze at the hotel which claimed the lives of Richard Dyson and Simon Midgley on Monday, December 18, 2017.

Loch Lomond and the Trossachs National Park Authority's planning department is expected to issue a decision by Christmas.

### Production to halt

Skretting, a market leader in aquafeed, has announced that the company has started a process of consulting with employees with the view to cease production in the UK at the end of April 2019.

### Star quality

The Scottish Salmon Company (SSC) has become the first salmon producer in the UK to be awarded a two-star Best Aquaculture Practice certification.

The company has recently been awarded a second star for its processing sites at Marybank in Stornoway and Cairndow at Loch Fyne. This announcement comes six months after SSC was awarded a star for its marine sites throughout the west coast of Scotland and the Hebrides.

# Apprentice's career defies convention

Most people's idea of a typical apprentice probably wouldn't be a 31-year-old father of four, but Alan Tangny from Tarbet is someone who defies convention.

Having left school at 16, Alan went straight to university, but hated the experience so much he left just two weeks after arriving on campus.

From there, he trained as a chef, working at restaurants and hotels until the age of 27, when he decided to quit the hospitality industry.

Alan said: 'I wanted something different. I was working antisocial hours, getting home late and missing out on precious time with my wife and kids.'

'It was time for a change. My opportunity came when I spotted an advert in my local paper saying Scottish Sea Farms was looking for staff. I've always fancied a career in the great outdoors and this seemed like the perfect fit, so I went for it.'

Alan's decision has been more than justified. After completing his modern apprenticeship and SVQ Level 2 in Aquaculture at Scottish Sea Farms' Fiunary site through Inverness College UHI, he became a biological specialist at Scallastle then the senior husbandry with fish health specialist at Bloody Bay in the north of Mull.

His dedication and commitment led to his manager nominating him for the Aquaculture category in Lantra Scotland's prestigious Land-based and Aquaculture Learner of the Year Awards, which he won.

'Winning a Lantra award was the icing on the cake after a great year. It has helped justify my decision to quit working as a chef, and has



Alan Tangny: hospitality to husbandry.

and safety meetings – every day is different, which is why I love my job. After 10 years' working in a kitchen, I've really enjoyed being out in the open air – even on a wet and windy day, I always feel satisfied hanging up my wet oilskins to dry for the morning, going home tired, but knowing that I've learned something new and how to respond to challenging situations.'

Alan also works as an ambassador for the aquaculture industry, promoting the sector at agricultural shows and Highland games on Mull and the mainland, emphasising the opportunities, the products and economic benefits that are generated.

'I really enjoy my role as an ambassador – which has also provided some funny moments. I was in charge of the barbecue at the Morvern Highland Games with Scottish Sea Farms. We were raising money for the local community choir. I got there early to set everything up, went to put the first batch of salmon on the grill and realised they'd sent boxes of whole 5kg salmon instead of fillets!

'That was the one time my skills as a chef came in handy. I had to fillet all the salmon in a tent in the middle of the show before we could sell anything. I had about 20 onlookers cheering me on so it wasn't all bad!'

What does the future hold for Alan?

'When I started the SVQ my ambition was to move up to senior husbandry, which I've achieved earlier than I expected. The next step up is trainee manager, which is not a position that is applied for – senior husbandry staff are chosen for this role based on their knowledge, experience, commitment and general aptitude.'

given me confidence in my capability. Getting nominated by my boss is a great feeling.'

Alan's role has evolved from hands-on to managerial tasks. He also does more people management and works on fish health.

'I'm heavily involved in monitoring and ensuring the health of the animals, and, in the manager's absence, I'm left in charge of the site, which is a massive responsibility as I have 250,000 salmon, six staff and millions of pounds of equipment and infrastructure to look after.'

'My day-to-day duties range from net changing or washing, feeding fish, ordering feed, fuel or equipment for the site, health checks on the fish, cleaner-fish management, charring health

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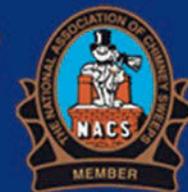
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## Workshops will help businesses embrace digital

Business Gateway Argyll and Bute is here to help businesses start, grow or survive.

Making the most of digital opportunities is becoming increasingly important. One of Business Gateway Argyll and Bute's advisers, Donald Melville, explains how tools like Google Analytics can help.

'In a nutshell, Google Analytics shows you how people found your website, how they explored it, and can help you identify what you can do to make your website better and enhance their experience. Improving website content or making it more interactive can help encourage visitors to stay on a page longer.

'Google Analytics is quite complex, but it's a useful tool once you get the hang of it. I recommend you begin by having a play about with it and over time you'll soon start to piece it all together.

'A lot of people use Google Analytics because it's free and it's a good way to prove what's working or what isn't.

'You can track online advertising effectively and you can check the click-through rate from the Google Analytics account to your website.

'You have probably seen a pop-up sign

on some websites about cookies. These aren't evasive programmes and hold no personal details, instead they are small text files which are used to track activity.

'One of the best elements of Google Analytics is the ability to find out the demographics and geographical location of your customers, allowing you to adjust your marketing plan accordingly.

'Through this you can profile your customers and find out which new markets to target. Google Analytics even does its best to tell you the gender split of who is visiting your website.'

Feedback from a recent Web and Social Media Analytics workshop attendee said: 'I wasn't sure what to expect from the seminar, and was a bit daunted by labels such as Google Analytics but the course turned out to be very practical and hands on, and I have come away with some ideas which I am already implementing.'

Through the DigitalBoost workshop programme, Business Gateway offers a range of free workshops to help businesses exploit online opportunities to engage customers. DigitalBoost workshops available to book in November are:

Web and Social Media Analytics. Google Analytics is a powerful tool for all businesses who have an online presence. By the end of the workshop you should be able to improve your website's performance with more conversions and more visitors to your site becoming customers. 1pm-4pm, Tuesday November 27, Helensburgh.

Paid-for Advertising. Learn what paid-for advertising is, how to define your audience; explore the merits of each platform; how to optimise your ads, monitor and evaluate their success and ensure they are legally compliant. 10am-1pm, Wednesday November 28, Lochgilphead.

Enhance your Business with Digital. What do we mean by digital and why should you bother with it? Find out how digital can make a difference and whether you can afford to wait before getting involved. 10am-1pm, Thursday November 29, Oban.

To find how Business Gateway can help visit [www.bgateway.com/argyll-and-bute](http://www.bgateway.com/argyll-and-bute) or call 01546 808363.

# BUSINESS MATTERS

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## Lochaber Environmental Group can help cut heating costs

Now that it is November, everyone is beginning to feel the serious side of winter. There has already been the first snowfall, though it didn't last long, and the skiing season can't be far off.

It also means increased heating bills and feeling cold in at home, but it doesn't have to be that way.

Lochaber Environmental Group (LEG) is offering free

home energy surveys across Lochaber all winter.

Its thermal imaging cameras are a great way of finding draughts, missing insulation and other features invisible to the eye. LEG can also use its electricity monitors to see exactly where money is leaking out and help stop wasting energy.

The amount of energy wasted

is a very important issue and everyone wants to reduce their bills.

LEG wants people to spend less and be warmer, and there doesn't have to be any compromise.

LEG can bring a variety of draught-proofing kit to get people started and also supply an LED lightbulb. The bulb is just 6W but is as bright as an

old-fashioned 60W, costs 1p for more than 10 hours of light and will last for a decade, making it a great way to minimise usage!

LochaberEnvironmentalGroup is funded by the Scottish Government's Climate Challenge Fund. If anyone would like a free home energy survey or have any home energy questions then get in touch on 01397 700090 or [info@lochaberenviron.org.uk](mailto:info@lochaberenviron.org.uk).

## Volunteering Opportunities Screening awareness



### Screening helps to save lives

There are 4 adult screening programmes in Scotland:

- Bowel Screening
- Breast screening
- Cervical screening
- Abdominal Aortic Aneurysm Screening

NHS Highland encourage as many people as possible to take part. We are currently looking for volunteers and community champions to raise awareness of screening.

### How can I be involved?

If you enjoy meeting new people and have time to spare, why not become a **Screening Awareness Volunteer** or **Screening Community Champion**?

These exciting new volunteering opportunities allow you to:

- Raise awareness of screening in a rewarding way
- Improve the health of your community
- Meet new people and make new friends

### What do the roles involve?

| Volunteer  | Community Champion                                |
|--|---|
| Attending events, clubs and community groups to pass on key messages | Talk to family and friends                        |
| Setting up and manning information stands in the community           | Promote within your work and/or groups you attend |

You do not need any medical knowledge or experience – all we ask is that you are enthusiastic, committed and willing to learn. You will receive training, information and support from health staff to help you carry out your role effectively. We will pay your travel expenses to any activities that you may attend. You can opt out at any time.

### How do I get involved?

For a full role description and more information, please contact your local Screening Promotion Officer, Louise Benson, by one of the following methods:

Email: [louise.benson@nhs.net](mailto:louise.benson@nhs.net)

Phone: 01463 704 790

Post: Public Health, NHS Highland, Larch House, Inverness, IV2 7PA



## Schools given new lolaire book

As part of the Dileab (Legacy) project, all schools in the Western Isles will be gifted a signed copy of the new Acair publication, *The Darkest Hour*, which is the most comprehensive account to date of the lolaire tragedy.

The book, written by Malcolm Macdonald, chairman of Stornoway Historical Society, and the late Donald John MacLeod, was published by Acair Books and launched in An Lanntair on Thursday November 1.

The book is the result of 20 years of research by the authors and contains many personal stories connected to the lolaire, as well as information and theories on what could have gone wrong, in terms of navigation.

Mr Macdonald said: 'It is gratifying to know that the Dileab project has explored the tragedy and given much interest to pupils. In my schooldays the lolaire was not mentioned at all. I really hope that this book will help to ensure that the greatest tragedy to befall the islands will never be forgotten.'

Councillor Angus McCormack, chairman of education, sport and children's services at Comhairle nan Eilean Siar, said: 'We are very pleased to gift a signed copy of this wonderful book to all schools throughout the Western Isles. We felt that it was a very appropriate thing to do.'

'We want our young people to be educated on their local history and to know what men and women went through in the First World War so that we could have the freedom we enjoy today.'



Malcolm Macdonald, left, handing over the new lolaire book to pupils of Laxdale School. Also pictured are Councillor Angus McCormack and Mairi Macleod, Laxdale head teacher.

# Death on an Oban-b

## Morvern lines

IAIN THORNER

[ian.thorner@btinternet.com](mailto:ian.thorner@btinternet.com)



Just over 90 years ago, an accident happened during a train journey between London and Ballachulish in circumstances which had all the hallmarks of an Agatha Christie mystery and one that might have attracted the legendary Hercule Poirot of the well-known mystery drama television series.

On a day in July 1927, an Eton College schoolboy, Douglas Charles Byng-Stamper, only son of Captain E P F Byng-Stamper, formerly of the Royal Welch Fusiliers and whose home was at Rodmell, Lewes, Sussex, died from injuries received through falling from an express train near Beattock, in Dumfries and Galloway, 40 miles from Carlisle. The boy, who had recently been with the Eton OTC camp at Aldershot, left there to catch the 7.20 night express from Euston to Scotland to join his parents at Ballachulish for his holidays.

The following morning he was found unconscious on the railway line in his pyjamas, suffering from severe head injuries and was removed to the Cumberland Infirmary, where he died.

The first class sleeping saloon in which the boy had a berth had been brought by the railway company into the railway siding of the hospital, where it was examined. Initially, it was believed that this was going to be another of those cases in which a night passenger awaking from heavy sleep had gone along the corridor and mistakenly opened the outer door of the train instead of the inner one.

On closer investigation, however, this was ruled out. The window of his berth bore feet and finger marks which were still plainly visible, and the attendant was emphatic that the boy had climbed out through the window. What his intentions were have remained a mystery. One could understand perhaps if he had been with a group of schoolboys because it might have been a dare, but he was travelling alone.

The body was identified by the father who hurried to Carlisle when he received the distressing news. He described him as a cheerful lad who had once walked in his sleep when he was younger, but all the time he had been at Eton he had never heard of such a thing. At

school he excelled as an athlete and was top of his form. At the inquest, Dr Howden, house surgeon at the Cumberland Infirmary, told the coroner and jury that death was due to fracture of the skull. The boy never regained consciousness.

The saloon attendant, Sydney Gerald Morrison, said that when he joined the train he asked Stamper if he wanted anything, and that he had replied: 'Bring me a cup of tea at 8am.'

That was the last time Morrison saw him. On arriving at Stirling the morning after the incident, Morrison was informed by a ticket inspector that someone had been found on the railway line near Beattock.

Between Crianlarich and Tyndrum stations Morrison went to the boy's berth with his cup of tea. He found it vacant, and thinking the boy was in the lavatory he waited about 10 minutes, and then went back again. The berth was still empty. He reported the matter to the stationmaster at Dalmally, which was the first stop afterwards.

When the train arrived in Oban, the doors of the sleeping car under the attendant's charge were inspected and found all intact, as was the boy's clothing and luggage.

The sleeping carriage had no external door giving access to the platform. There was only one door and that led into the inside corridor and could be opened only by the occupant of the berth or the attendant. There were doors at each end of the corridor, but these were locked, and the attendant and the guard only had keys. The berth was unlocked when the attendant took in Stamper's tea.

In the attendant's opinion, the boy either stood on top of a stool or on the corner of the bed, put his feet on the outside sill of the window, and got hold of the gutter of the roof of the carriage. There was the print of a bare foot on the sill, finger marks on the gutter of the roof, and also outside the car.

There were also finger marks near the window inside the berth. The coroner asked Morrison: 'There is no doubt in your mind that he went out of the window?'

To which he replied: 'There is no other possible way. I had the corridor key in my pocket.'

Mr G W Davidson, solicitor, Carlisle, representing the LMS Railway Company, said that if he had got out of the corridor he could not have gone any further as the doors were locked.

The coroner, in his summing up to the jury, said there seemed to be no evidence of any



negligence on the part of the railway officials, but there was some evidence of the boy having deliberately got out of the window of his berth, but for what purpose or under what conditions, they were left to imagine. He thought the jury must dismiss the idea of suicide, as, according to the father's evidence, the boy was bright and cheerful. Of course, he might have got up in his sleep. That they were left to conjecture, but evidently he had walked in his sleep as a small boy.

The jury returned a verdict of accidental death from injuries accidentally received by falling from a moving train, and expressed their sympathy to the relatives.

The funeral took place at Mereworth, Kent. The deceased was a grandson of Rear Admiral Charles Davis Lucas VC, and a godson of HRH The Princess Louise, Duchess of Argyll.

# Stoddarts



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# ound train



Locomotive and carriages on the Oban-Ballachulish line at the time of the fatal accident.

Photograph: Stuart Carmichael, Appin of Yesteryear

On the card attached to her floral tribute were the words, 'He has gone from one young life to another.'

Admiral Lucas from County Armagh in Northern Ireland performed the earliest actions to be recognised with the Victoria Cross.

The Callander and Oban Railway (C&OR) was built with the intention of linking Oban to the national railway network. This involved a long line from Callander through wild and thinly populated terrain, and shortage of money meant that the line was opened in stages from 1866 to 1880. It brought some prosperity to Oban, especially for the fishing trade and for tourism, but the winter traffic was limited.

The company built a branch line to

Ballachulish, which included the construction of Connel Bridge over Loch Etive. The branch opened in 1903 but it was never commercially successful and closed in 1966.

The cantilevered B-listed Connel bridge was engineered by John Wolfe Barry and others and built by Arrol's Bridge and Roof Company. By the time it was opened on August 20, 1903, it had cost almost £43,000.

The main line was crossed by the West Highland Line at Crianlarich, where a connecting spur was constructed in 1897.

The C&OR section between Callander and Crianlarich was closed in September 1965. However, the section between Crianlarich and Oban is still in use today, with trains using the connecting spur at Crianlarich.

## DOWN MEMORY LANE

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



This fantastic photograph was sent to *The Oban Times* by Alec Carmichael from Oban. It shows Oban Saints stalwarts dressed up with their float for the parade at the 1973 Oban gala day. Pictured are, back row, left to right: Archie MacDougall, John Ledwidge, Ewan MacFarlane, Ivor Clark, Iain Steele, Davie Buchanan and Terry Ng; front row, Robert Clark, Willie Madej, John Plunkett, Iain McCoskrie and Alan Morrison.



Fort William's East End in the days before the bypass. Photograph: Roamer

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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 4HBResignation will be  
a major loss to Oban  
commemorations

There was raw emotion on display on Sunday as Oban and Argyll and the Isles marked the centenary of the guns falling silent on armistice day at the end of the First World War.

Hundreds, possibly thousands, of people lined the streets in Oban and other towns and villages as poignant tribute was paid to those who gave their lives in all conflicts.

However, there was special resonance for the Great War given that remembrance day this year fell on the 100th anniversary of the savage killing coming to a close.

In Oban, much credit for the organisation of the commemoration goes to Ian Simmonds, who for years has been chairman of the local branch of the Royal British Legion Scotland.

It is a great shame, though understandable, that he has decided to stand down as a result of poor health.

We commend his efforts. Oban owes him a debt of gratitude.

Go out and enjoy a  
great winter festival

Tomorrow (Friday) sees the opening of another fantastic Oban Winter Festival, with a packed programme of events across numerous venues in the town.

Principal among this weekend's popular happenings will be the reindeer parade with Santa and the switching on of the Christmas lights, always a significant day on the town's social calendar.

A great deal of hard work goes into the organising of the festival, with its very many events. Now in its eighth year, the Oban Winter Festival is going from strength to strength.

The festival deserves the widest support from as many people as possible, and we would urge residents to make the most of it.

What winter contingency  
plans are in place?

On October 30, I attended the Scottish Resilient Communities Conference 2018, organised by the Resilience Division of the Scottish Government.

I went in my capacity as chairman of the resilience committee of the Spean Bridge, Roy Bridge and Achnacarry Community Council and was particularly interested in the session entitled Learning from the 'Beast from the East', especially as the two listed speakers were Inspector Darren Faulds of Police Scotland and William Millar from Transport Scotland.

After hearing what lessons and revised preparations Police Scotland have made in the light of their experiences from last winter, you can imagine how disappointed I was when it was announced that Transport Scotland would not be presenting or even attending this event.

The session was intended to reflect upon the lessons to be learned from last winter and to examine what contingencies had been put in place for any similar weather situation in the future.

I was particularly interested in finding out from Transport Scotland what arrangements had been made to ensure that fuel oil and food supplies for Lochaber were guaranteed this year as, during the now infamous Beast from the East, when all roads from the central belt were either blocked or disrupted, most fuel stations around Lochaber ran out of diesel and the shelves in the supermarkets emptied fast.

As everything we buy in the Lochaber area is delivered by road transport, it seems an obvious and essential contingency to plan to have emergency deliveries of fuel and food by rail, especially as we have road accessible railway sidings available for use at the Liberty Smelter, Fort William Freight Depot and Corpach Harbour.

I am also aware that Ferguson Transport, through its large lorry fleet and rail division, is ideally placed to receive, handle and distribute such emergency deliveries should the need arise.

In view of the no-show by Transport Scotland at the conference, I have now decided to ask the open question: Is Fort William prepared for another Beast from the East? I sincerely hope that someone can assure me, and other readers, that contingency plans based upon last winter's experience have now been put in place and we will, therefore, not have to face another period of isolation from essential supplies during this, or any future winter.

**Ian Langley, Lower Inverroy.**

## YOUR PICTURES



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

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

Regular air connections  
are vital for islanders

Loganair will be introducing a new direct air connection between Islay and Edinburgh in 2019. Much like our ferry service regular flights from Islay are not a luxury they are an essential lifeline service.

This expansion in service will allow much quicker travel time to and from Edinburgh and this will also facilitate air travel between Islay

and other parts of the world which are served more easily via Edinburgh than Glasgow.

Loganair have said this will not impact the Glasgow flight timetable for next year which will continue as it is. This is welcome news and will help see our Islay economy grow further particularly in our tourism sector. Islay is starting to see recognition as a growing entrepreneurial and tourism hub. Transport links to match our economic and industrial growth will help see Islay and Jura's future secured.

**Councillor Alastair Redman, Islay.**

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## Beachd Ailein

ALLAN CAMPBELL

editor@obantimes.co.uk



Fort William. This week's was sent by Duncan Smith from Yorkshire, who said: 'We spent a fortnight on Barra, and took this view looking down on Castlebay from part-way up Heaval.'

posal. The fact that they were willing to give up their time to see this project through is fantastic.

It is a fact of life that this sort of community endeavour is becoming increasingly necessary, probably the result of a combination of austerity, increasing procedural demands and red tape, and a combination of inept officials working alongside over-worked officials – neither of whom are able to do their jobs properly.

I believe this set of circumstances can only be a good thing for us all, forcing us to take greater control of our lives, situations and circumstances, where perhaps there has been a recent tendency to expect someone else to provide everything to which we believe we are entitled.

Let us hope that both sides can learn from this project, and the great many other similar projects being undertaken – that the officials can be willing to work with communities with openness and flexibility, and more groups of volunteers come together to find ways to satisfy the needs of their community in ways which are most appropriate for them and their particular circumstances, and that the process becomes less 'bruising' for all concerned.

Joanne Matheson, Acharacle.

### Rail link to Edinburgh would be a great benefit

I read the article on the potential rail link between Fort William and Edinburgh with great interest (*Lochaber Times*, October 25).

I think it is very interesting and support the idea of carrying out a feasibility study. I believe there also needs to be a new look at the strategic economic development of the Lochaber area and an associated plan for transport and links to other parts of Scotland. Better links to Edinburgh and to London should be a key part of that review.

The West Highland Line extension proposal is an ingenious idea to provide an effective link with Edinburgh. Having such a link would be to the great benefit of the economy of Fort William and surrounding areas. It would open up more business opportunities for Lochaber residents. It would also enable passengers to travel by day to and from London more easily and support the tourist industry, as well as Fort William businesses with links to London.

In the interim, however, there needs to be better provision of public transport to Edinburgh. Currently train and bus services are via Glasgow, which is ludicrous.

Anne Marie MacLaren, by email.

Bho chionn beagan is seachdain air ais rinn mi rud nach d' rinn mi riamh roimhe ged a bha e nam mhiann fad bhliadhnaichean.

Chaidh mi fhin 's mo bhean chun an Oireachtas ann an Èirinn, agus chuir sinn seachad trì latha inntinneach ann an Cill Àirne aig an fhèis Ghaeilge seo.

Mar a bhios fios aig a' mhòr-chuid agaibh tha an Eisteddfod anns a' Chuimrigh agus an Oireachtas ann an Èirinn car coltach ris a' Mhòd Nàiseanta againne anns an t-seadh gur e fèisean nàiseanta cànan a th' anna anns am bheil foillseachadh cànan is dualchais a' gabhail àite an lùib fharpaisean chloinne agus inbheach.

'S e fear de na prìomh eadar-dhealaich eadar an dà fhèis sin agus am Mòd Nàiseanta an ìre gum bheil Cuimris agus Gaeilge nan cànan libhrigidh air na tachartasan fa leth.

'S gann a chluinnear facal Beurla aig fear seach fear dhiubh agus tha coigreach a' faireachadh beagan ciontach nuair a dh'fheumas e neo i an cuid cànan coimheach a chur an sàs.

Dh'fhairich mise sin gu math làidir nuair a thadhail mi air an Eisteddfod, agus ged a bha tomhas den aon trioblaid againn aig an Oireachtas tha de dh'ìre co-ionannachd eadar Gàidhlig agus Gaeilge is gun tèid aig Gàidheil air tomhas de na tha dol a thuigsinn.

Tha a' Ghaeilge gu math eadar-dhealaichte eadar tuath agus deas ann an Èirinn, agus fiù 's eadar Dùn nan Gall agus sgìre Ghaillimhe agus mar a bhiodh dùil nuair a tha thu a' feuchainn ris na tha thu a' cluinntinn a leantainn, tha mòran an crochadh air cò às a tha luchd-labhairt agus dè cho luath 's a tha iad a' bruidhinn.

Ach chòrd na chuala is na chunnaic sinne rinn, agus bha cuid a bha glè eadar-dhealaichte.

Mar a thuirt mi tha an Oireachtas air a libhrigeadh air fad tro mheadhan na Gaeilge agus tha a' chuimse làidir seo air a' chànan ri fhaicinn is ri chluinntinn ann am farpaisean ealantas cainnte. Bha mi farmadach da-riribh!

Tuigidh mi carson a dh'iar-radh cuid barrachd de leithid

seo aig a' Mhòd ach tha am Mòd na sgàthan air neart na Gàidhlig anns a' choimhearsnachd agus ged a tha mise moiteil gum bheil barrachd den a' Mhòd ga liubhairt tron Ghàidhlig gach bliadhna, 's iad luchd-cleachdaidh a' chànan a dhearbhas cuin a thig barrachd fharpaisean còmhraidh air adhart an seo.

Pàirt den dùbhlán a tha romhainn mar Ghàidheil.

Mu bhliadhna an ama seo thèid Oireachtas na Samhna 2019 a chumail ann am Baile Atha Cliath agus tha na sanasan a tha a' nochdadh mar-thà a' gealltainn gum 'beidh na mùrtha fàilte romhat'!

On my first visit to Ireland's annual Oireachtas I was fascinated, and envious, of the strong linguistic focus of the event.

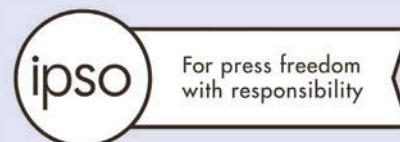
While proud of the increasing use of Gaelic in the delivery of our National Mòd, I look forward to a growth of Gaelic in our communities which can be reflected in Mòd competitions.

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

### New school is a fine example of community endeavour

How fantastic it is to see that the new Strontian Primary School is now open, providing a long-overdue, fit-for-purpose building for the young people of the community.

The volunteers who came together to make it happen should be commended for their vision and perseverance, after Highland Council submitted a flawed and wholly-unacceptable pro-



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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# DISTRICT NEWS

## BENDERLOCH

The Victory Hall in Benderloch was 'buzzing' on October 26 when more than 80 people took part in the parish quiz night.

The 18 teams participating wrestled with a wide variety of fascinating, puzzling and intriguing questions which were set by Allison Davies.

A light supper was provided by members of the church and, thanks to everyone's generosity, the raffle raised £200 for Lorn Homestart.

## TAYNUILT

A drumming and music-making session will take place in the Taynuilt Sports Pavilion on November 19.

Anyone who would like to play and/or learn drums and percussion should head along for 6.30pm, or take along another instrument to weave in and around the beat: harmonica, voice, xylophone and more.

Everyone is welcome, no experience is required.

■ Taynuilt's last whist drive of the year will take place tomorrow (Friday November 16).

Proceeds from the event, which starts at 7.30pm in Taynuilt Village Hall, will go towards Oban Young Carers. Admission is £3 for adults and £2 for children.

## STRATHFILLAN

The next Strathfillan Community Council meeting will take place on December 3 in Crianlarich Hall.

The event will start at 7.30pm and will cover reports from Police Scotland, Loch Lomond and the Trossachs National Park, as well as issues brought to the community council for debate.

## APPIN

After a success event last year, Appin's art and craft fair will return on December 1.

The fair will take place in Appin Hall from 10am until 4pm, with 23 artists and crafters attending from Appin, Lismore and further afield in

## Islay volunteers plant 2,000 new trees

A team of around 50 'hardy volunteers' on Islay braved the weather last week to finish planting a centenary wood.

More than 5,000 trees have been planted in total at Bruichladdich, with the first 3,000 being placed in November 2017, and the remaining 2,000 last week over two days.

Iona Hyde, of Woodland Trust Scotland, said: 'We were delighted to help the community of Islay finish planting a centenary wood last weekend as part of a wide range of First World War-themed events over the past year organised by the local WW100 Islay group.'

'The woodland commemorates the tragic sinking of the SS Tuscania and HMS Otranto with the loss of nearly 700 British and American servicemen in 1918 as well as the 200 Islay men who never returned home from the First World War.'

'WTS is very pleased to have been able to work with Islay community to deliver this lasting living tribute to the servicemen lost and the



Hardy volunteers on Islay helped plant a centenary wood in Bruichladdich.

island's community who were all touched in some way by the tragic events of WWI.'

Councillor Alastair Redman,

who helped on November 3, said: 'I was delighted to join in with the tree planting in Bruichladdich. It was great to work alongside the

Woodland Trust Scotland and numerous volunteers. I'm looking forward to working with the woodland trust in the future.'

Argyll and Lochaber. There should be something for everyone - especially those looking for Christmas gifts. The hall committee will be supplying teas, coffees and their 'irresistible' home baking.

## SOUTH UIST

More than 50 years after he was injured in battle while on a Territorial Army mission, Captain Eoghann Maclachlainn of South Uist will finally receive a General Service Medal with Clasp South Arabia from the Ministry of Defence (MoD).

MP Angus MacNeil received confirmation last week that medals for service will be awarded to members of the 300 Parachute Field Squadron Royal Engineers, 131 Parachute Engineer Regiment TA who were in a battle in Yemen in 1965.

## CRIANLARICH



Cameron and Lucy Taylor with Helen Wright, editor of Passport Stamps UK, who presented the award on the night.

## Village holiday firm is top class

A company offering self-catering cottages in Crianlarich was crowned 'Sweetest Homestay' in this year's Eviivo awards.

Portnellan is run by Cameron and Lucy Taylor, who have had the cottages and chalets for almost four decades.

The couple said: 'We are elated to have won, especially being chosen from such an extensive finals list, selected nationwide.'

'It is testament to the quality of our offering at Portnellan and the service provided.'

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## At random



MARTIN LAING

mlaing@obantimes.co.uk

### Oban Live is back

It seems to have come round with unseemly haste but I was lucky enough to be at the launch of Oban Live 2019 on Thursday night last week.

The launch event for the fabulous music extravaganza was held in The View (formerly Skipinnish Ceilidh House) and was a brilliant hour or so.

It was good to catch up with a number of people, including the Skerryvore boys, Martin and Daniel Gillespie, who are the main movers behind Oban Live, and Neil Mackay.

It was also cheering to blether with Kevin Irvine, better known in these parts as K9 Kev, the rapper who won the first Oban Unsigned competition a couple of years ago along with Rory O'Byrne.

It is fair to say that Oban Live has already become a firm fixture in the local calendar, despite only having had three to date.

For next year's launch, we were treated to a great live set from Ceol an Aire, who will be a massive hit at the gig next June (I'm assuming they will be there though no line-up has yet been announced).

And as we reported last week, the team behind Oban Live were well-deserving winners of the Best Cultural Event at the prestigious Highlands and Islands Tourism Awards in Inverness.

That was great news. I am a huge fan of Oban Live and I'm already getting excited about the prospect of next year's and it's only November.

### Hot stuff

Weren't the fireworks absolutely splendid last week?

I took up a position, along with hundreds of others, on the bay and was treated to a fantastic display of pyrotechnics.

What's more, because of my proximity to the Perle Hotel, I was even luckier. A charming young lady emerged from the hotel – on several occasions – bearing trays of hot chocolate cups.

What a treat to stand there watching the fireworks and sipping hot chocolate.

### 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.

## WESTERN ISLES



A recent Halloween party at the Claddach Kirkibost Centre.

## Lottery funds for Uist play facility

Funds from the Western Isles Lifestyle Lottery (WILL) will allow plans for the first permanent soft play facility in Uist to move forward.

Urachadh Uibhist, which runs the Claddach Kirkibost Centre in North Uist, aims to create a play area to provide a much-needed facility for young families.

Rhoda Trusswell, innovation and development manager with Urachadh Uibhist, said: 'With the relocation of our Saoghal Beag Nursery to Sgoil Uibhist a' Tuath, the centre began looking at ways to re develop the vacated spaces. 'Having spoken with the community, one of the ideas put forward was for a soft play area as there is not one in Uist.'

Proceeds from tickets purchased in Uist will go towards the centre until the end of December.

Rhoda explained that while longer term plans were in place, a temporary play area would be set up later in the winter months which will feature new soft play equipment.

She said: 'Whilst we already have some toys from our Mums & Tots group, we are delighted

to be receiving the support of WILL as this money will allow us to purchase some additional soft play equipment for all age ranges as well as some tables and chairs so as the room becomes an extension of our café allowing parents/carers to watch over their child whilst also giving the opportunity for interaction. This could all be integrated into the permanent installation.

'While visiting facilities such as the Isle of Harris Soft Play and speaking directly with the parents, it was clear the impact this has made on their community which we would look to mirror.

'We believe this would be a beneficial addition to our community hub. Direct feedback has indicated that it would provide a support network for both children and parents/carers, encouraging interaction, stimulation and socialisation while promoting active play. This would be a welcome addition during the winter months when the weather makes it difficult to get outside.

'We are hugely grateful for the support of the Western Isles Lottery to help us achieve this.'

## TIREE



Angus and Catriona MacLennan, owners of MacLennan Motors.

## Party raises £10,000 for island's play park

MacLennan Motors celebrated 40 years of business with a party that raised £10,000 for Tiree play park.

Family, friends and customers were invited along to An Talla on Saturday October 27.

Entertainment was provided by island band Trail West, who kicked the party off and Big Vern N the Shoots finished off with an electric set.

During the event, money was raised for Tiree play park through a raffle and auction.

Ian Smith did a fantastic job

as auctioneer, pushing people to dig that little bit deeper into their pockets.

A spokesperson for MacLennan Motors said: 'We are delighted the auction raised £4,935 and the raffle brought in £2,700. With a selection of other donations and the bar income, the total was £10,000.

'We would like to thank everyone for coming along and making the evening a memorable occasion.

'Special thanks for all the donations we received.'



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# OUTDOORS

## First storm petrel chick for Shiant

A European storm petrel chick has been recorded calling on the Shiant Isles near Harris for the first time.

This is an important step for the Shiant Isles Recovery Project as it is the first known breeding of these seabirds on the islands.

The EU LIFE+ funded project played an artificial call of an adult storm petrel outside the suspected burrow nest site to record the chick's reply call and confirm its presence.

The project, a partnership between RSPB Scotland, Scottish Natural Heritage and the Nicolson family, the custodians of the islands, has been working over the past four years to make these islands, five miles off the coast of Harris, a safer place for Scotland's globally threatened seabirds to breed.

Island restoration projects such as this are a key part of helping Scotland's struggling seabird populations develop resilience to ensure their survival.

Storm petrels were not able to breed successfully at the Shiant because of their vulnerability to predation from the islands' population of invasive non-native black rats. These were eradicated over the winter of 2015/16 and the islands were officially declared free of rats earlier this year.

Following the eradication, the project has been working to attract storm petrels to breed on the islands as it has ideal habitat for their nests in the many areas of boulders around the islands. These birds are little bigger than sparrows and only come to land in summer to breed. Scotland's internationally important population nests at only a few islands because of predators.

During the summer of 2017, calling storm petrels were recorded on the Shiant for the first time. This distinctive 'churring' call was heard from burrows giving a strong indication that the birds were attempting to breed. However, no chicks were recorded so it was unclear whether they had been successful in hatching a chick.

# The Secret Life of the Mountain Hare

The secret life of the mountain hare is revealed in a new book by Highland wildlife photographer Andy Howard, who spent years observing his 'endearing' subject in the Cairngorms.

Now Andy is coming to Oban to sign copies of the book and meet his readers.

'Among the most captivating of creatures, the mountain hare has inhabited Britain's upland landscape since the last major ice age,' the publisher Sandstone explains. 'Andy Howard introduces them not only as a species to be held as precious within the great wheel of nature, but also as individuals with their own, delightful personalities.'

Howard writes: 'Moorland has become my second home because mountain hares live on the high pastures that were formerly used for cattle, and the rougher grazing that lies beside them. By choice, they would live in forests but, in terms of habitat, they share the fate of the red deer. Evolved for forest living, they find themselves in a territory denuded of trees.'

'The word "encounter" became part of my expedition lexicon. Each was different not only because of location, light and weather, but also because each hare is an individual. To look in its eyes is to search and, sometimes, be searched.'

'Their pelage morphs three times a year: from white to brown in spring, brown to grey in autumn, and a return to white for the next winter. Their ears are relatively short, and black tipped, and have four main positions: upright and alert, flat back which displays anxiety, even fear, certainly deep distress, or tucked in to prevent heat loss while they rest.'

'Unlike rabbits, they do not live in holes in the ground, although they may use burrows as bolt holes. Instead, they find undulations where they can turn and make a shape. These locations are called "forms" and some have been used by generations of hares.'

'They are placid in the extreme, wandering outside their inherited territories rarely, if at all. Violence is virtually unknown except prior to mating when they indulge their most



A winter mountain hare running in the Cairngorms, by Andy Howard in his new book *The Secret Life of the Mountain Hare*. Below: hares 'box' as part of the mating ritual.



famous anthropomorphic feature, known as "boxing". This is done between males and females, when the jack will make his approach only to be rebuffed.

'He may believe she is ready when, in fact, she is still not quite in season. He sidles behind

her, sniffs interestedly, and before he knows it she has spun on those powerful hind legs and knocked him flying.

'In an instant both are upright, jabbing away, until they either mate or he runs off, usually in the direction from whence he came. The jill might test the strength of several suitors as she comes into season and makes her choice. The wise jack will wait, not spending his strength in idle play. The special hare I named Bagpuss was adept at this, a master of timing.'

'Above all else, mountain hares are survivors, but their presence is also an indicator of a healthy environment where predators and prey live their lives in a constantly shifting balance. There is no legal restriction on the numbers that may be killed during the hare culling season.'

Andy will be at Waterstones in Oban on Saturday November 17 from 3pm-4pm.



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## This week's walks



Lewis and Harris have some of the darkest skies in the UK and many astronomical sights can be seen.

### Dark skies festival launches photo competition

An Lanntair is inviting photographers from across the Hebrides to submit an image on the theme of 'dark skies' in an exciting new photography competition.

The winning photo will be used in promotional material for the new Hebridean Dark Skies Festival, an ambitious new programme of events at An Lanntair and across Lewis from February 8-21, 2019.

The winning photographer will also receive a unique, VIP festival pass granting them free entry to every event in the programme.

The 10 best photos will be displayed at An Lanntair throughout the festival.

All 10 photographers shortlisted will also be invited to be a VIP at the festival opening reception on Friday February 8, including a free ticket to the opening gala, the German silent film Wunder der Schöpfung featuring a live score performed by Herschel 36 and an introduction by John Brown,

Astronomer Royal for Scotland.

Anyone wishing to enter should send a maximum of two photos by email to darkskies@lanntair.com before the competition deadline of Friday November 23. Images attached to emails should be no more than 6mb. Please note that in order to ensure there is a manageable number of submissions, competition entrants must be either from or currently resident in the Hebrides.

Guests at the first Hebridean Dark Skies Festival will include The Sky at Night's Chris Lintott, international science presenters Heather Couper and Nigel Henbest, and Scotland's Astronomer Royal John Brown. As well as Wunder der Schöpfung, the festival's arts programme includes a Hebridean version of acclaimed multi-media project Whatever Gets You Through The Night, with Emma Pollock, Rachel Sermanni and more, a special screening of Hebridean favourite The Rocket

Post introduced by its star Shauna Macdonald, and Andy Cannon's CATS award-winning children's show Space Ape.

The Hebridean Dark Skies Festival will include stargazing, talks, family activities, film screenings, workshops, an indoor planetarium, and much more, with events at An Lanntair, Gallan Head, and the world famous Calanais standing stones.

The festival is programmed by An Lanntair (part-financed by Outer Hebrides LEADER funding), in partnership with Stornoway Astronomical Society, Calanais Visitor Centre, Gallan Head Community Trust and Lews Castle College, and with support from Outer Hebrides Tourism and Natural Retreats.

Lewis and Harris have some of the darkest skies in the UK.

The full Hebridean Dark Skies Festival programme can be found online at [www.lanntair.com/darkskies](http://www.lanntair.com/darkskies). Tickets are on sale now.

#### LOCHABER AND LORN RAMBLERS

The walk leader is to be contacted before hand 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). Lochaber and Lorn Ramblers Group can be contacted by email on [info@lochaberandlorn-ramblers.org.uk](mailto:info@lochaberandlorn-ramblers.org.uk)

**Sunday November 18:**  
**Troisgeach, Glen Falloch**  
Easy access to a rough and rocky hill that affords views down Loch Lomond and up Glen Falloch, with a panorama of famous Munros from the summit.

Start on the A82 in Glen Falloch at the foot of a track at NN319196, where limited parking is available. Follow the track under the power lines and over the railway. Turn N at the junction at NN308195 and leave the track at the left-hand bend just W of Troisgeach Bheag. Climb WSW up the hillside to the summit of Troisgeach, 733m. Head NW for 0.75Km to Meall nan Caora at 721m.

Three return routes are possible from here:

- Return by the route of ascent.
- Descend NE, steeply down to the track in Gleann nan Caorann. Follow this back to the start.

- Head SW across the rough plateau for 1.4Km to the Corbett Meall an Fhudair, 764m.

Descend SE, making a long traverse directly down to the track at NN295181 and follow it back to the start. This option adds about 100m of height to climb, and another 2Km.

Grade: M+; distance: 11km; height to climb: 790m; map(s): LR56, EX364. Meet at Longsdale car park, Oban, at 8.50am or Glencoe village car park at 9am, for start of walk at 10am. Leader: Rick Atkinson 07587 549731.

#### Thursday November 22: Highbridge to Old Inverlochry Castle, Spean Bridge

A pleasant walk passing through agricultural, natural woodland and riverside scenery.

Some muddy sections – gaiters would be an advantage. Refreshments available at the distillery.

Start from the crossroads on the minor road at Highbridge, NN197819. Limited roadside parking is available

in the vicinity. Head SW on the Military Road for 3Km to a junction at Achindaul.

Turn S and follow the track past some farm buildings and continue SW for a further 3Km to a junction just before Tomacharich at NN145786. Fork W and continue to the public minor road.

Follow it S for 60m, then W through a gate on to a track beside a conifer plantation. The track follows the plantation boundary and bends SW near the bank of the River Lochy. Just before a gate at NN127775, turn W on a footpath towards the river, which follows its bank on open land SW past Dalvenie Fm. The path continues beside the river as it bends SE and eventually rejoins the track.

Continue on the track, winding S to reach the A82 at Carr's Corner. Cross the main road and follow the cycle route down to the roundabout, then alongside the river to Inverlochry Castle.

Grade: L; distance: 11km; height to climb: 85m; map(s): LR41, EX392. Meet at Fort William woollen mill at 9.40am or Spean Bridge woollen mill at 9.50am, for start of walk at 10am. 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 out on the walk please contact club secretary Suzanne Theobald on 01397 701783 or email [enquiries@nevis-hillwalking.club](mailto:enquiries@nevis-hillwalking.club).

#### Saturday November 17:

**Geal Charn, Beinn Sgiath, Laggan Park** just before the Spey dam and follow the track up Glen Markie.

The path crosses the river after the burn has split and continues up the steep hillside.

Leave the path before it crosses the Allt nam Beith and head W up less steep ground to the top of the spur Bruach nam Biodag. Continue W around the corrie rim to the summit of Geal Charn. Descend S then E to Beinn Sgiath. Continue the descent SW then S to pick up the track at NN553945 which leads back to the road at Sherramore.

(15km, 750m ascent) Suggested and co-ordinated by Chris Tracey.

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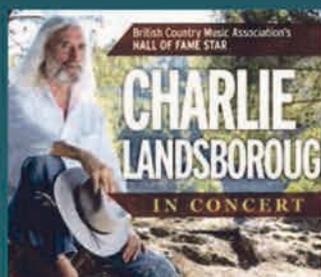


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## NOVEMBER

FRI  
NOV  
09



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SUN  
NOV  
18

### Oban Winter Festival: Food Competitions and Market

10am-4pm All Welcome

SAT  
DEC  
15



### Hipsway

All Tickets £25 +£1 booking fee  
STANDING SHOW

SAT  
DEC  
22



### Skipinnish

8pm Tickets available from  
[www.eventbrite.hk](http://www.eventbrite.hk)



FRI  
NOV  
16

### Oban Winter Festival: Ballet West Winter Wonderland

Doors 6:30 pm Start 7pm  
Tickets £12, Concessions £10  
Reserved Seating



SAT  
NOV  
24

### Oban Winter Festival: Market

10am - 4pm All Welcome

## JANUARY

WED  
JAN  
02



### Manran

Doors 8pm Start 9pm  
All Tickets £20 +£1 booking fee  
STANDING SHOW

FRI  
JAN  
11



### Legends of American Country

SAT  
JAN  
19



### Little Mix Magic

All Tickets £16 +£1 booking fee

SAT  
JAN  
26



### Ballet West present The Nutcracker

Doors 7pm - start 7.30pm  
Tickets Adults £15 Concession  
£13 Reserved Seating



SAT  
NOV  
17

### Argyll Animal Aid Craft Fair

11am-3pm  
Free Admission All welcome

## DECEMBER



THUR  
06  
SAT  
08  
DEC

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# Minister visits new £48m freshwater salmon hatchery

by Kathie Griffiths  
kgriffiths@obantimes.co.uk



A new £48 million state-of-the-art freshwater salmon hatchery takes delivery of its first batch of eggs next week – all the way from Norway.

The 2.5 million eggs will mark the start of operations at the Scottish Sea Farms (SSF) freshwater hatchery at Barcaldine, although the facility will not officially open until next year.

Today the site, still under construction, got a visit from Scotland's Minister for Public Finance and Digital Economy, Kate Forbes MSP.

At least 10 new jobs earning above the Scottish average wage will be created with more to come in future. Around 45 staff will eventually be employed across the hatchery, research projects and other offices.



Minister for Public Finance and Digital Economy Kate Forbes MSP with Scottish Sea Farms managing director Jim Gallagher and project build manager Greg Riddle.

Meanwhile, more than 100 labourers, including many from the Oban and Fort William areas, are on site getting the build ready.

Ms Forbes wished the UK's second largest salmon producer 'every success on their sustainable growth journey' and said it was 'great to see'

SSF investing in innovation to improve environmental control, health issues and production efficiencies.

She added it was 'a hugely

impressive construction' that would bring jobs to the area that can 'only be good for the community'.

Project bosses say the on-shore hatchery will become a centre of excellence improving how fish are farmed in Scotland. Barcaldine was chosen because of the 1.15m cubic metres of fresh water it has available from a nearby reservoir, a good power supply and sea access.

The 17,500sqm hatchery site will run 24 hours a day, supplying young salmon to SSF's 40 farms across Scotland's west coast, Orkney and Shetland.

The eggs are nurtured for about 50 weeks until they weigh in at around 150 grammes and are transported in well-boats to other sea farms. About 98 per cent of water used in the fish growth tanks will be recycled on site

with the help of freeze-dried bugs. As part of a zero-waste policy, waste from the fish will go back to the land as fertiliser.

Scottish Enterprise has awarded £1.28 million to help fund the facility's research and development work into fish health and welfare.

SSF managing director Jim Gallagher said the investment would advance its work raising the 'healthiest fish in the most responsible but also the most environmentally sustainable way'.

'The £1.28 million grant from Scottish Enterprise means we will be able to do more of this planned research and development work even sooner, accelerating both the innovation and the anticipated benefits for fish health and welfare and for the environment.'

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18. Shop Local this Christmas
20. Scottish Gifts
22. Something special
26. Pawfect pets
27. At your service

What better place to celebrate Christmas than the West Highlands and Islands and the area's two main towns Oban and Fort William.

There is something truly magical about Christmas here; perhaps it is the sharp contrast between the dark nights and the brightly lit communities. In the central belt and larger cities you just don't get such an incredible difference.

Travelling at night the countryside is so dark that when you suddenly come across a lone house all brightly decorated it shines like a sudden gem. The darkness of the journey by road and rail makes arriving in Oban and Fort William like an explosion of light, colour and warmth.

That darkness makes the stars all the more brighter and on a cold, frost-crisp night with moonlight reflected off the snow-covered mountain tops is there anywhere better to be?

And let's not forget the heavenly decorations that can beat all our efforts hands-down: the Northern Lights, Aurora Borealis, Na Fir-Chlis, call them what you will, but once seen they are never forgotten.

Amidst all this how are you going to spend your Christmas? Will you coorie doon and be cosy at home or be out

celebrating and partying and enjoying the craic? The best Christmases have a skilful mix of both, so enjoy yourselves.

All those tourists can't be wrong! They come to visit us each year during December and give our local economy a fantastic boost; did you know that hotel occupancy in Oban is higher this month, by percentage, than the spring months?

Plus, research and calculations show that the Oban Winter Festival brings in more than £1.2 million to the town?

It hardly seems that a year has gone by and that once again it is the pleasure of everyone here at The Oban Times and Lochaber Times to wish you the happiest, healthiest and best Christmas ever.

Amongst the pages of this year's Christmas supplement you will discover businesses old and new, which are at the hearts of our communities across the West Highlands, from Oban and Fort William to the villages on the mainland and the islands.

Please give them your generous support and custom this Christmas season and help keep our shopping streets vibrant and full of unique, independent shops, hotels, cafes, restaurants, bars, takeaways and services.

## What's the best gift you can give this Christmas?

**Love Oban** Gift Vouchers can be redeemed at over 80 businesses throughout Oban and are valid for 12 months! Check out **Love Oban** on Facebook for Christmas promotions and Festive Headliners.

You can buy your **Love Oban** Gift Vouchers from:

**The Sports Shop, Argyll Square,  
Phoenix Cinema, George Street,  
Webster of Oban Photographic Centre,  
122-124 George Street  
Alba Arts, Albany Street, Bid4oban,  
Stevenson Street**



**NOW IT'S  
EASIER THAN  
EVER TO  
LOVE OBAN!**

**SEE PAGES 18 + 19 FOR THIS YEARS  
SHOP LOCAL SPECIAL**



**Oban Business Improvement District**  
[www.bid4oban.co.uk](http://www.bid4oban.co.uk)



# The wonder of an Argyll Christmas!

There is so much to do, so much fun to be had and so much to enjoy here in the West Highlands and islands at Christmas time; pantos and parties, ceilidhs and carols, going to the movies or music concerts.

The winter festival committee in

Oban has put together an incredible package of events for its 10-day festival.

Every village hall and community centre across the area, in villages and on islands are all offering events and celebrations.

Sports clubs will be in action and there are plenty of walks, races and matches to go along, take part or just cheer them on.

It is a great time to be celebrating in communities large and small, come along and join in the fun.

Ballet West perform at last year's Oban Winter Festival.

Photograph: Kevin McGlynn. 15\_T47\_ObanWinterFestival15



**Ballet West**  
**The Nutcracker**

*The perfect Christmas Gift*  
**Touring Scotland Jan - Feb 2019**  
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**BRINDLE**  
BEAUTY

# Lochaber gets ready to party!

Nevis Radio and the Rotary Club are both hard at work so you can have a good time...



The team at Nevis Radio are once again bringing their skills to the community to help celebrate Christmas in Fort William.

The radio station and Lochaber Rotary Club will be staging complementary events and together create a fantastic festive atmosphere for the town.

'Last time we did the Christmas events we had a crowd of 1,300 and this year we hope to top 2,000 and we hope that the weather plays nice!' said Simon Abberley, who is the business development and sustainability manager for Nevis Radio. 'We had

a fantastic party in the High Street for the mountain bike world cup in the summer and you could say that this is going to be the winterised version of that.'

The big night is Friday November 23; people should aim to gather from 5.30pm for the music which will run from 6-8pm (ish). Santa will be making a guest appearance at 6pm to turn on the town's lights.

Nevis Radio Live from Cameron Square will feature a range of artists and bands from the area of all ages with the emphasis firmly on local talent.

Many of the town's shops will be staying open for

late night shopping, featuring special offers on the night and refreshments.

The radio station has collaborated with Nevis Landscape Partnership and Costa Coffee hosting Santa's Grotto, supported by The Granite House and raising funds to maintain the hard work by those at the Landscape Partnership keeping the Ben and Glen Nevis looking their best.

The Alexandra Hotel will be hosting big screen games for some good old multiplayer fun along with glitter tattoos and face paints - complete with food and drink available.

The Studio 2 - The Buzz Project is also going to get involved. 'We will be collecting change on the street for donations for Nevis Radio - your local community station as it helps us do what we do, and enables us to put on events like this,' said Simon. 'We are still adding events, so keep tuned to

the station and checking out our Facebook.'

The following day Lochaber the Rotary Club is hosting its ever-popular Christmas Festival with its one-day annual marketplace celebrating the best of Lochaber arts, crafts, music, food and drink, with Santa and his Cairngorm reindeer, and Lochaber Pipe Band.

'My Rotarian colleagues and I are delighted to welcome you to our 11th annual festival - an exciting event for the whole family. This year will see an even bigger range of unique stalls laden with local crafts, gifts and food products, and our charity raffles offer quality prizes.

'We are passionate about providing a marketplace for our local craft workers and food producers who have put a huge effort into making this the premier Christmas event in Lochaber.' Iain Johnston President of Lochaber Rotary Club.'

Friday and Saturday Dec 14th & 15th  
at 7pm and Saturday Matinee at 1pm  
Kilmallie Community Centre - Lochaber Hope's Production of... Act 1...

## PANTOMINE

SHOWCASING LOCHABER TALENT  
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Tickets; Adults £8 Children £5 can be bought from Lochaber Hope, Nevis Radio and Fort William Library. Special Sat Matinee price for school groups. Raffle and Refreshments. Kilmallie Community Centre, Corpach PH33 7JH

**Christmas Festival**  
24th November - Designer craft & food fair 9.30am - 4.30pm.

**Tidelines**  
1st December, 7pm-11pm, £15 (although not many left)  
**Red Hot Chilli Pipers**  
14th December, 7:30pm-10:30pm, £29

# Hogmanay Ceilidh

31st December 8.30pm - 1am tickets £25.00  
Music with Fergie MacDonald with a piper to bring in the bells  
**Skerryvore and Skipinnish**  
2nd January - £26 Tickets  
available from Nevis Centre Reception

**Nevis Centre reception: 01397 700707**

**Rotary Club of Lochaber**  
**2018**  
**Christmas Festival**  
Designer Craft & Food Fair

**Saturday, 24th November**  
**Cameron Square**  
From 10:30 am. Santa & his Reindeer  
Parade leaves at 11:00 am

**Nevis Centre**  
Designer Craft & Food Fair  
9:30 am - 4:30 pm

**Santa's Grotto 12:00 pm - 3:30 pm**  
Buskers' Corner and much more...

The Rotary Club of Lochaber Benevolent Fund  
Charity Number SC007767



Did someone say  
**cocktail**

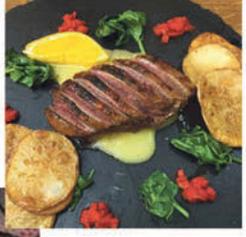
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NEW Christmas  
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**Bar Rio!!!**

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# Dining out



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darrell@regenthoteloban.co.uk*

*Menu available*

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**Falls of Lora**  
**Hotel** CONNEL FERRY, BY OBAN,  
ARGYLL, PA37 1PB

*PRE CHRISTMAS FESTIVE MENU*

*2 course £17.50 3 course £20.50*

Starts **Thursday 29th November**  
Ends **Saturday 15th December**  
Served in the Bar-Bistro. Open log fire

*Bookings recommended*  
**Phone 01631 710483**

# this Christmas

Yes, it's nice to stay home at Christmas but there's a lot to be said for going out and making table reservations!

For a start there is so much choice and the menu will always contain exciting new things you haven't tried or don't feel like taking that long to cook, and the kitchen stays so much tidier.

It means you can spend all your time with your family and friends, not chained to the stove. It is

such a relaxed and friendly feeling.

Getting ready and dressing in your best is part of the fun – who wants to stay at home in their onesies all the time!

The great thing about eating out is that chefs have all these incredible ingredients available here in the West Highlands at their fingertips, from artisan bakers, local breweries, meat and veg producers, cheese makers, smokehouses, game suppliers and the freshest, locally caught and landed fish and seafood. Not forgetting all our wonderful whiskies and the new, inspired, gins.

When you go out you can invite friends along and have everything from bar snacks to a light lunch or supper to a full-blown dinner party or Christmas feast.

There is so much choice when out eat out: restaurants and hotels offer food from all round the world, creating fantastic dishes with our local produce.

The bars, hotels, restaurants of the West Highlands have seriously upped their game and décor is so good. No wonder there are so many award winners in this area! And they all put such a great effort into their Christmas decorations.

Everyone is competing for your business so they have really competitive wine lists and keen prices – shall we order come cocktails?

Everywhere today is so child-friendly and it is never too soon to teach your children to enjoy eating out, plus it's nice to have some us-time together and get a baby sitter

booked for an all-grown-ups' night out.

Best of all you can book a taxi and relax and have a drink without the fear of getting breathalysed.

As much as we all enjoy going out to eat it is good to have a nice meal at home during the Christmas season, so we'd better start the shopping list.

Loch Melfort Hotel  
COUNTRY HOUSE BY THE SEA



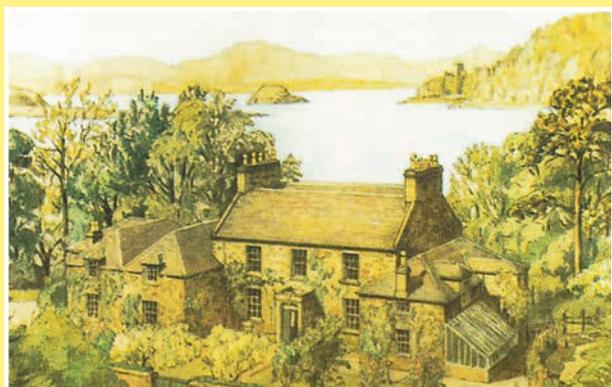
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 Children's Menu  
 Age 11-16 £17.95  
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# Festive Dining in Lochaber

## SUMMIT GOOD THIS CHRISTMAS



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[www.bennevisdistillery.com](http://www.bennevisdistillery.com)

### Shop and dine in Lochaber for the best nature can offer

Take a look around you at all that magnificent countryside – it tastes delicious!

The land, sea and fresh water in Lochaber is as clean and as pure as you will find anywhere in the UK, or Europe come to think of it. So it goes without saying that food raised and caught here is as good as it gets when you talk about purity and quality.

All those tourists can't be wrong; they come in their thousands every year to visit us just to experience our countryside.

The fishing fleet at Mallaig is landing shellfish and fish from the clearest waters off the West Highland coast; refrigerated lorries are a common site on our roads, taking the highly-prized catch to market; everyone wants our seafood.

Our fish farms also help

produce some of the finest salmon and trout; did you know that Scotland's entire aquaculture supply chain, which includes Atlantic salmon, trout and shellfish production, contributes £620 million every year to the Scottish economy, and supports more than 12,000 full time jobs.

This is also the heartland for the nation's most famous product both at home and abroad, whisky. The Lochaber glens have been home to whisky stills both, legal and illegal, for centuries.

Our livestock provide excellent beef and lamb, before the trend for organic appeared our cattle and sheep were just that, what is more natural than livestock left on the hill to graze contentedly.

And the game from our estates and countryside is

highly-prized and makes its way to the finest chefs in the land.

Against this background of natural produce Lochaber has also been raising another fine breed: the food entrepreneur.

Whether they are running their own business creating artisan produce or cooking up a storm in cafés, restaurants or bars, they are making a name for themselves and putting Lochaber firmly on the food map.

So fishermen, farmers, fish-farmers, businessmen and women and chefs of Lochaber we salute you.

And whether you are shopping for your own Christmas feast or going to have one cooked for you by family, friends or a professional kitchen, think – and eat and drink – Lochaber this Christmas.

# Dining in this Christmas

Yes, it's nice to go out at Christmas but there's a lot to be said for staying home and cracking open the cook books!

For a start you will always know and like what's on the menu and it will be cooked the way you prefer, and it's nice the way people can stand and chat, glass in hand, while you're cooking. It is such a relaxed and friendly feeling.

Remember the golden rule of cooking for a party or big event such as Christmas dinner: buy a third, prepare a third in advance and make a third on the night.

The great thing about cooking at home is that you have all these incredible ingredients available here in the West Highlands at your fingertips, from artisan bakers, local breweries, meat and veg producers, cheese makers, smokehouses, game suppliers and the freshest, locally caught and landed fish and seafood. Not forgetting all our wonderful whiskies and the new, inspired, gins.

When you dine in and invite friends round you can do everything from nibbles to a light lunch or supper, to a full-

blown dinner party or Christmas feast.

There is so much choice: you can buy the ingredients and find recipes for food from all round the world and mix it with local produce to create some fantastic dishes.

You have worked so hard to make your home the way you like it and so cosy, and your Christmas decorations and flowers are so nice, it seems a shame to go out.

Retailers are in such fierce competition that they have incredible wine lists at reasonable prices and such a wide choice of drinks – let's make some cocktails!

The children enjoy themselves more in their own homes and in the evening we don't have to worry about getting a baby sitter or relying on grandparents or guilt-tripping your sister to look after them.

Best of all you can relax and have a drink, knowing you don't need to get into your car.

As much as we all enjoy staying in it is good to have a nice meal out during the Christmas season, so let's get the table booked.



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**Wh  
Chri  
Tav**

**Bubbly**  
champagne



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Christmas  
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Argyll

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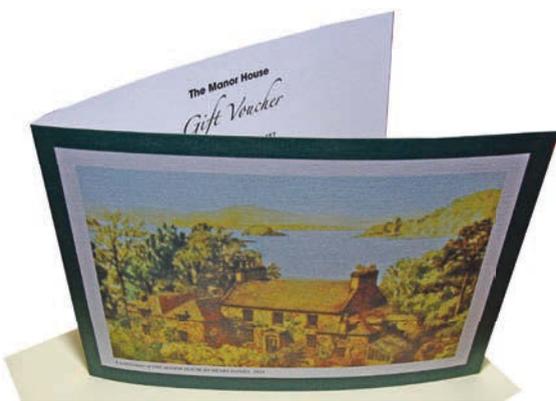
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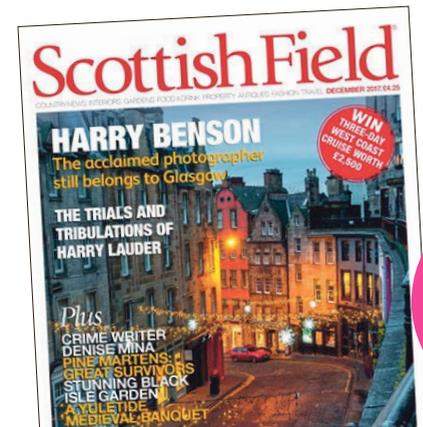
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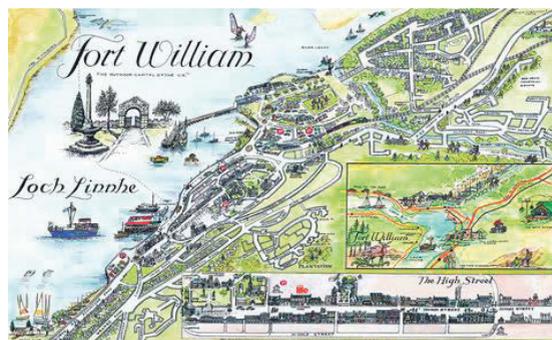


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# oban WINTER FESTIVAL



## Another great Oban Winter Festival is on the way!

Stand by for 10 days of fantastic fun and celebration of all that's best in and around the town

Get in the Christmas mood and ready for the big day by joining in Oban Winter Festival, which runs for 10 days from tomorrow (Friday November 16) to Sunday November 25.

This year the themes are shimmer and shine and make a big racket, for the shop windows and final parade respectively.

A member of the committee said: 'We appreciate all the

time and effort the traders put into decorating their windows to make the town look nice over the Christmas period. We know from feedback from local people and visitors alike that this is something they enjoy.'

Late night shopping is just one of the success stories of the festival, this year it will be on Thursday 22 November and promises to be even bigger and better than before.

'Last year there was a great buzz about the town during late night shopping,' said a committee member. This is Oban's equivalent of Black Friday! Traders have given special discounts on the night, samples, or goody bags or free mince pies and the like.'

The Oban Winter Festival is a volunteer-run event with a volunteer committee and their helpers.

It has won several awards within the tourism sector and also The Queen's Award for Voluntary Service.

'I was convinced that the Oban Winter Festival should be nominated for the award. This was reinforced by the assessment prepared for me by Andrew Campbell, a Depute Lieutenant of Argyll and Bute,' said Lord-Lieutenant of Argyll and Bute, Patrick Stewart MBE.

'The award is the equivalent of an MBE awarded to an individual and in this case is richly deserved for its support of the Oban community and businesses.'

This year's festival promises all the old favourites plus some exciting new events. There is a great mix for all ages and interests and over the years the festival has grown as organisations around the town add events

and activities within the 10-day festival period. Some are gaining national status, like the Golden Haggis Award, which has seen butchers from across Scotland join in.

The incredible number of events – the entertainment includes everything from ballet to a silent disco – are listed on the following pages and you can read more at the festival website: [www.obanwinterfestival.co.uk](http://www.obanwinterfestival.co.uk)



WWW.OBANWINTERFESTIVAL.COM  
@OBANWINTERFEST

**16-25TH NOVEMBER 2018**

Enjoy a 10 day celebration of Oban's unique culture with parades, markets, ceilidhs, live music, art exhibitions and much more.

**NEW THIS YEAR! LOTS TO LOOK OUT FOR....**

**SATURDAY 17TH**

- OBAN WINTER BRICKS - St Columba's Cathedral Hall
- A MEDIEVAL YULE - Dunstaffnage Castle
- SNOW BOARD SIMULATOR - Atlantis Leisure
- WEST COAST GIN SHOW - The View

**FRIDAY 23RD**

- MOSSFIELD MUSIC NIGHT IN THE DOME - Mossfield Carpark

**SATURDAY 24TH**

- WINTER IN THE WOODS - Walled-garden and grounds of Glencruittten -

**AND MUCH MORE....**

Come and join the biggest winter party in the West of Scotland. Festival programme now available from VisitScotland Oban Office & shops.



as part of  
**oban WINTER FESTIVAL**

**Saturday 17th and 24th November**  
11am-12pm 12pm-1pm

**Roller Disco**

£4 including skate hire or £2.20 if you bring your own roller skates (rubber wheels only).  
Family session - £14  
(2 adults and 2 children or 1 adult and 3 children).  
Age 5+  
Sign up at Atlantis reception  
Sizes range from Childrens 10 - Adults 12  
Disco with George Noble

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**Snowboard Simulator**

**Saturday 17th and Sunday 18th November**  
11am - 3pm 3 tries for £3

Come and try your Snow Boarding skills with our Snow Board simulator provided by The Ice Factor, Kinlochleven, home to the world's biggest indoor Ice Wall and Snow Factor Braehead home of the UK's biggest indoor real Snow Slope.  
Come along to have a chance to win an Instructed Snow Boarding session at Snow Factor Braehead.





# oban WINTER FESTIVAL

**ARGYLL ANIMAL AID**  
*Rehoming animals in Argyll & the Isles*  
Can you offer a home to a new family member?  
www.argyllanimalaid.org.uk  
01631 566406  
Registered charity since 1991 SC013211

**CHRISTMAS FAYRE**  
17th November 2018  
BRIC-A-BRAC & BOOKS  
38 Craft & Gift Stalls  
TEA & COFFEE  
Home Baking  
Corran Halls Oban 11-3pm



**THE MODERN CROFT**

Mince pie and mulled cider afternoon on 17th November  
10% off all full price textiles 17-24 November  
Late night opening Thurs 22nd November  
North Pier, Oban



**MARY POPPINS**  
Saturday 17th  
10:45am  
SIMBA: MARY POPPINS  
133 MIN  
Oban Phoenix and SIMBA present:  
The Original Mary Poppins. Everybody's favourite Nanny!

**OBAN PHOENIX CINEMA**  
Telephone: 01631 562905

Starting Friday 16th 00.01 (see listings for further showings)  
**FANTASTIC BEASTS: THE CRIMES OF GRINDELWALD**  
| 12A | 155 MIN  
At the end of the first film, the powerful Dark wizard Gellert Grindelwald (Johnny Depp) was captured by MACUSA (Magical Congress of the United States of America), with the help of Newt Scamander (Eddie Redmayne). But, making good on his threat, Grindelwald escaped custody...

[www.obanphoenix.com](http://www.obanphoenix.com)



Something different this **CHRISTMAS**

Variety of bespoke pieces.  
Items for sale OWF distillery 17th November

**RONI'S CHAINSAW ART** Kilmore, Oban  
Find us on Facebook or call 01631 770206 / 07748 414945



**FRIDAY 16th NOVEMBER**

**MOVING MINDS EXHIBITION**  
New Hope, Soroba Road, Oban  
16th November  
7-9pm

**WHEN I WAS YOUNG MY HEART WAS AN OPEN BOOK ART EXHIBITION**  
16-25 November  
Claremont Villa, Craigard Road Oban

**MONTHLY BLETHER/OLD RECIPES & FAVOURITE FOODS**  
The Rockfield Centre  
2-4 pm

**BALLET WEST WINTER WONDERLAND**  
Corran Halls, Oban at 7pm  
Doors open 6.30pm

**CHARITY FASHION SHOW**  
M & Co Station Square  
6.30pm

**A LITTLE LIGHT MUSIC**  
St John's Cathedral George Street Oban  
7.30pm

**THE OBAN INN**  
Lizard will be playing a mix of classic music at The Oban Inn  
9-11.30pm

**SATURDAY 17th NOVEMBER**

**WHEN I WAS YOUNG MY HEART WAS AN OPEN BOOK ART EXHIBITION**  
16-25 November  
Claremont Villa, Craigard Road Oban

**VICTORIAN MARKET**  
The Perle Hotel, Station Square  
10am-4pm

**OBAN WINTER FESTIVAL FOOD & CRAFT MARKET**  
Oban Distillery Cask Room and Visitor Centre. 10am-4pm

**ARGYLL ANIMAL AID CRAFT FAYRE**  
Corran Halls, Oban  
11am-3pm

**OBAN WINTER BRICKS**  
St Columba's Cathedral Hall  
10am-4pm (Last Entry 3.30pm)

**A MEDIEVAL YULE**  
Dunstaffnage Castle  
Open 10am-4pm (last admission 3.30pm)

**CHARITY SWIM**  
Falls of Lora Connel 2.20pm

**ATLANTIS LEISURE ROLLER DISCOS**  
11am-1pm

**SNOW BOARD SIMULATOR**  
Atlantis Leisure  
11am-3pm

**WEST COAST GIN SHOW**  
The View, George Street Oban  
1-4pm  
Entry £15

**THE MODERN CROFT**  
North Pier, Mulled Cider, savoury shortbread and mince pies  
1-4pm

**REINDEER PARADE**  
Leaves Corran Halls at 5pm for Station Square  
Christmas Lights 'Switch on' at 6pm Station Square

**BIG QUIZ NIGHT**

Corran Halls Oban  
7pm Tickets

**MCCAIG'S**  
Lizard playing a mix of classic music at McCaig's  
9-11.30pm.

**DJ WILL ATKINSON - 'WASTED YOUTH'**  
The View, George Street, Oban  
8pm-3am

**SUNDAY 18th NOVEMBER**

**WHEN I WAS YOUNG MY HEART WAS AN OPEN BOOK ART EXHIBITION**  
16-25 November  
Claremont Villa, Craigard Road Oban

**THE BIG FOOD & CRAFT MARKET**  
Corran Halls Oban  
10am-4pm

A hall bursting with food stalls, craft stalls, children's workshops and live music.

**FOOD COMPETITIONS**  
Corran Halls  
10am-4pm

**MUCKAIRN BELLRINGERS**  
10am-4pm

**A MEDIEVAL YULE**  
Dunstaffnage Castle  
Open 10am-4pm (last admission 3.30pm)

**SNOW BOARD SIMULATOR**  
Atlantis Leisure  
11am-3pm

**A COUNTRY CHRISTMAS**  
Argllshire Gathering Halls, Oban.  
2pm, doors open at 1.30pm

**DUNOLLIE MAKES CHRISTMAS**  
Dunollie Museum, Castle and grounds. 10am-5pm

**FORAGED FOOD AND WHISKY PARING AT OBAN DISTILLERY**  
Oban Distillery  
7pm

**MONDAY 19th NOVEMBER**

**MOVING MINDS EXHIBITION**  
Monday - Friday 11am-6.30pm  
New Hope, 2 Soroba Road, Oban

**WHEN I WAS YOUNG MY HEART WAS AN OPEN BOOK ART EXHIBITION**  
Claremont Villa, Craigard Road Oban

**HIGHLAND GLASS WORKSHOPS**  
Boat Store, Lower Dunollie  
noon-4pm  
6-9pm

**JEWELLERY WORKSHOP**  
BOLLIWOOD THE SMIDDY  
George Street, Oban  
6.30pm

**WINTER PRAISE**  
Food served from 6.30pm and musical programme at 7.30pm  
St Johns Cathedral George Street Oban

**ANDY'S MAN CLUB**  
Hope Kitchen, Soroba Road Oban  
7pm

**TUESDAY 20th NOVEMBER**

**MOVING MINDS EXHIBITION**  
Monday- Friday 11am-6.30pm  
New Hope, 2 Soroba Road, Oban

**WHEN I WAS YOUNG MY HEART WAS AN OPEN BOOK ART EXHIBITION**  
Claremont Villa, Craigard Road Oban

**HIGHLAND GLASS WORKSHOP**  
10am-2pm  
2-5pm

Bookings can be made through [www.highlandglass.co.uk/workshops](http://www.highlandglass.co.uk/workshops)

**OLD OBAN SLIDE SHOW**  
Tea and mince pies  
Oban Commercial Lodge 180  
7.30pm, £4, Albany Street Oban

**WEDNESDAY 21st NOVEMBER**

**MOVING MINDS EXHIBITION**  
Monday - Friday 11am-6.30pm  
New Hope, 2 Soroba Road, Oban

**WHEN I WAS YOUNG MY HEART WAS AN OPEN BOOK ART EXHIBITION**  
Claremont Villa, Craigard Road Oban

**COOLIO'S COASTAL CLEANS**  
George Street Beach  
12.30pm

**NIPS AND NIBBLES@ OBAN DISTILLERY**  
Call Distillery to book 01631 572004

**HIGHLAND GLASS WORKSHOP**  
Boat Store, Lower Dunollie  
10am-2pm, 2-5pm

**PLAN B FOR UTOPIA**  
(Theatre dance performance)  
Corran Halls Studio Theatre

**THURSDAY 22nd NOVEMBER**

**MOVING MINDS EXHIBITION**  
Monday- Friday 11am-6.30pm  
New Hope, 2 Soroba Road, Oban

**WHEN I WAS YOUNG MY HEART WAS AN OPEN BOOK ART EXHIBITION**  
Claremont Villa, Craigard Road Oban

**HIGHLAND GLASS WORKSHOP**  
Boat Store, Lower Dunollie  
10am-2pm  
2-5pm

**A WOMBLING WONDERFUL CHRISTMAS.....**  
Perle Hotel Oban  
6.30-9.30pm

**KINTYRE GIN AND OBAN CHOCOLATE**  
Oban Chocolate Company, Espanade Oban  
7-9pm

**LATE NIGHT SHOPPING**

**THURSDAY 22nd NOVEMBER**

**OBAN PHOTOGRAPHIC**  
George Street Oban  
Open until 8.30pm

**FANCYTHAT & SCI FI PLANET**  
Open - 8pm

**BEST WISHES**  
George Street Oban  
Open until 8pm

**CRAZE**  
George Street, Oban  
Open until 8pm

**JEWELLERY MAKING DEMONSTRATION**  
Bolliwod/The Smiddy  
George Street Oban

**THE JETTY GALLERY**  
George Street, Oban  
Open until 8pm

**THE GEM BOX**  
Open 9am-7.30pm

**CANCER SHOP OBAN**  
Christmas nibbles  
Open until 8pm

**OBAN CYCLES**  
Late night shopping

**MAISON CHIC**  
82 George Street, Oban  
Join us for late night shopping

**OBAN BAY GIFTS**  
George Street, Oban  
Open 9am-8pm

**OBAN WHISKY AND FINE WINES WINE TASTING**  
Oban Whisky and Fine Wines  
Stafford Street Oban  
6-8pm

**ROOM 15**  
15 Stafford Street Oban  
Open 6-9pm

**LITTLE BAY CAFE**  
Open for late night shopping, soup, coffee, tea, cakes.  
Open until 8pm

**GALLERY ON THE NORTH PIER**  
Open 2-9pm afternoons  
5-9pm for late night shopping

**THE MODERN CROFT**  
North Pier Oban  
10% off all full price textiles  
17-24 November  
Open 10am-8pm

**OBAN DISTILLERY**  
Open 6-9pm

**HIGHLAND SOAP COMPANY**  
Open - 9pm

**DOLCE VITA**  
Open until 9pm.

**ORSAY**  
Open 5.30-8pm

**SPORTS SHOP**  
Open 5.30-9pm

**BRITISH HEART FOUNDATION**  
Open late

**MARY'S MEALS**  
Join us for a night of entertainment, nibbles and refreshments



# 2018 guide

For further details on all events and to book Winter in the Woods transport, please see the event guide at [obanwinterfestival.com](http://obanwinterfestival.com)

## MCCAIG'S WAREHOUSE

Come in and see our lovely Autumn/Winter collection. Live models open – 8pm

## COSTA COFFEE

We are open for late night shopping – pop in and see us. Open until 7.30pm

## ALBA

Albany Street Oban  
Open – 8pm

## CARERS CENTRE

Late night shopping  
Open – 8.30pm

## OBAN CRAFT COLLECTIVE

We will be open for late night shopping  
Open – 9pm

## OUTSIDE EDGE

We are open until 8pm for late shopping

## SQUEEZE JUICE BAR

Open – 9pm

## BRUCE LOW HAIR

Open 6.30-9pm

## THE DOVE CENTRE

5-8.30pm

## BUTTON NOSE BOUTIQUE

Open from 10am-8.30pm

each way, strictly no public parking or drop off at event. All children must be accompanied by an adult.

## WINE CALL MY BLUFF NIGHT

Taynuilt Golf Club  
Doors open 7pm for 7.30pm start

## WHISKY TASTING

Oban Whisky and Fine Wines,  
Stafford Street Oban  
8pm

## WINTER FESTIVAL DISCO FOR P7-S2

The View  
7-9pm

## THE ULTIMATE CLUB EXPERIENCE FOR S3-S6

The View  
9.30-11.30pm

## DUNOLLIE AFTER DARK

Dunollie Castle  
7.30pm

## MOSSFIELD MUSIC NIGHT

Mossfield car park  
Starts 7pm Curfew 10pm

## SATURDAY 24th NOVEMBER

### WHEN I WAS YOUNG MY HEART WAS AN OPEN BOOK ART EXHIBITION

Claremont Villa, Craigard Road  
Oban

### OBAN WINTER FESTIVAL FOOD & CRAFT MARKET

Oban Distillery Cask Room and Visitor Centre. 10am-4pm

### OBAN WINTER FESTIVAL MARKET

Corran Halls Oban  
10am-4pm

### WINTER FESTIVAL FREE WORKSHOP

Boat Store, Lower Dunollie  
Come and make a shaker with Highland Glass to carry in the Winter Festival Finale Parade

### SNOW BOARD SIMULATOR

Station Square Oban  
11am-3pm

### COFFEE MORNING AND CHRISTMAS FAYRE

Oban Congregational Church,  
Argyll Street Oban  
10.30am-3.30pm

### ATLANTIS LEISURE ROLLER DISCOS

11am-1pm

### BOOKED THEMED CRAFTY CAFE & BOOK EXCHANGE

Youth Cafe, George Street, Oban  
noon-4pm

### TARTAN DASH

Ganavan 9.30am  
Free

### HAGGIS HURLING

£1 per throw  
10am-noon at the Shinty pitch,  
Ganavan

### MAREK KOCHMANSKI - PIANO RECITAL

Glencruitten Church Hall, Oban  
Doors open from 6.45pm

### WINTER IN THE WOODS

Glencruitten Woods and Greenshoots by Oban  
Entry strictly by regular minibus shuttle from station square (outside bank of scotland)  
5pm – last bus leaves 7pm. Entry by donation five minute journey

each way, strictly no public parking or drop off at event. All children must be accompanied by an adult.

## OCEAN FOOD FOR CHRISTMAS

Ocean Explorer centre at!  
11am-3.30pm

## REBEL WRITING FAIR: POP-UP ART & BOOK FESTIVAL

The Rockfield Centre  
noon-4pm

## WURDPLAY #4 REBEL WRITERS

The Rockfield Centre

## CUAN MOR

George Street, Oban  
Trio of Haggis starter and Haggis Neeps and Tatties main course.

## ANNUAL ST ANDREW'S PIPE BAND CEILIDH

Argyllshire Gathering Halls, Oban,  
7.30pm for 8pm

## MOSSFIELD DISCO NIGHT

Mossfield car park  
6pm til 10pm

## BREW & CO

Perle Hotel, Station Square, Oban.  
Gregor Coleman – finalist on Xfactor  
8-11pm

## SUNDAY 25th NOVEMBER

### WHEN I WAS YOUNG MY HEART WAS AN OPEN BOOK ART EXHIBITION

Claremont Villa, Craigard Road  
Oban

### SNOW BOARD SIMULATOR

Station Square Oban  
11am-3pm

### HAGGIS FESTIVAL

Cask Room, Oban Distillery  
1-3pm

### WHISKY FESTIVAL

Old Filling Store Oban Distillery  
1-3pm

### COOLIO'S CREATIVE COASTAL CLEAN-UP

George Street Beach  
12.30pm-3.30pm

### WINTER IN THE WOODS

Glencruitten Woods and Greenshoots by Oban  
Entry strictly by regular minibus shuttle from station square (outside bank of scotland)  
5pm – last bus leaves 7pm. Entry by donation five minute journey each way, strictly no public parking or drop off at event. All children must be accompanied by an adult.

## ST ANDREW'S DAY CELEBRATIONS

### FRIDAY 30 NOVEMBER

#### ST ANDREW'S DAY CEILIDH

The View, George Street, Oban, 7.30pm

#### SALTIRE

Look out for Saltires on McCaig's Tower for St Andrew's Day

#### ST ANDREW'S FAIR SATURDAY

#### ROCKFIELD GAELIC CHOIR

Perle Hotel  
Station Square, Oban, 2pm

#### YOUNG ENTREPRENEUR MARKET

Oban Distillery Old Filling Room  
10am-4pm

## VIP G&TEA @ THE PERLE

Brew & Co, Perle Hotel Oban  
2-4pm

## SANTA'S GROTTTO AT THE ROCKFIELD CENTRE

1-4pm

Visit Santa's Grotto at the Rockfield Centre. All ages welcome!  
Christmas and bric-a-brac sale also on – get your Christmas decorations and Christmas presents sorted!  
Entry £3 (includes Christmas Gift from Santa)

## CUAN MOR

George Street, Oban  
Trio of Haggis starter and Haggis Neeps and Tatties main course.

## FINALE

### PARADE – THE BIG RACKET

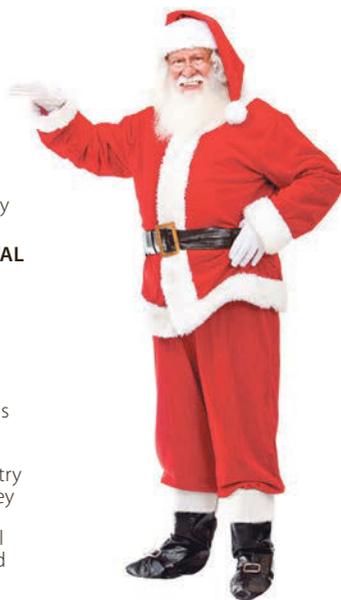
Led by Oban High School Pipe Band  
Leaves Corran Halls 5pm  
5.10pm parade arrives at Oban Distillery Finale Gathering

### FIREWORKS 7PM

View of McCaig's Tower essential  
Best viewed from Station Square or Stafford Street

### MICHAEL CASSIDY

9pm Brew & Co.



## FRIDAY 23rd NOVEMBER

### MOVING MINDS EXHIBITION

Monday- Friday 11am-6.30pm  
New Hope, 2 Soroba Road, Oban

### WHEN I WAS YOUNG MY HEART WAS AN OPEN BOOK ART EXHIBITION

Claremont Villa, Craigard Road  
Oban

### HIGHLAND GLASS WORKSHOP

Boat Store, Lower Dunollie  
10am-2pm 2-5pm

### CHOIRS AND CANDLES

Oban Gaelic Choir, Taynuilt Gaelic Choir, Bach Choir, Lorn Chorus and other local choirs  
St John's Cathedral Oban 7.30pm

### OBAN WHISKY SHOP

George Street Oban  
Whisky tasting 6.30pm

### WINTER IN THE WOODS

Glencruitten Woods and Greenshoots by Oban  
Entry strictly by regular minibus shuttle from station square (outside bank of scotland)  
5pm – last bus leaves 7pm. Entry by donation five minute journey

**MAURICE LOCKHART**  
ELECTRICAL CONTRACTOR  
SELECT REGISTERED  
All types of electrical work undertaken  
T: 01631 564628 M: 07766428380  
mauricelockhart2@aol.com  
GOOD LUCK TO OBAN WINTER FESTIVAL

**ocean EXPLORER CENTRE**  
Saturday, 24 November 2018  
11 am – 3.30 pm  
Ocean Explorer Centre @ SAMS  
Next to Dunstaffnage Castle  
Entry £3 (kids are free)  
DISPLAYS, GAMES, STORYTELLING, TASTINGS.  
FIND OUT ABOUT YOUR SEAFOOD!  
A FUN FAMILY EVENT  
BY OBAN UNIVERSITY TOWN STUDENTS

# C'mon and coorie doon!

*Why go Nordic and hygge when you can go Scottish and coorie?  
Welcome to the fine art of being chilled yet cosy and warm at the same time!*



You want to know the difference between hygge and a coorie doon? The answer might well be a Tunnocks teacake, that most Scottish of treats.

We all know about hot chocolate and marshmallows but how about this: make your cocoa in the usual way but ignore those nonsense pink and white marshmallows. Take one Tunnocks teacake, remove biscuit base and float the remaining marshmallow and chocolate dome on the top of your drink. Sip and enjoy while dunking the biscuit.

[A brief housekeeping tip: soak then scrub the mugs afterwards before loading into dishwasher or the poor machine will have conniptions. Likewise scrub small children or face the consequences of a sticky sofa.]

One thing we can agree with our Scandinavian cousins on is that to coorie doon at its best you need a wood burning stove.

Candles are good too, especially as so many businesses in the West Highlands make their own and they smell wonderful.

Is there anything better than everyone being

cuddled up together on the sofa – someone should be wearing a onsie, that is almost compulsory – and somewhere there should be a pair of outrageously silly slippers.

Scottish food and drink was made for comfortable nights in like this, with supper on a tray on your knee – think of great traditional soup recipes, sausages, casseroles, venison stew, fish pie, a big helping of kale – recognised as a super food to help you beat the winter colds and flu – and, of course, a wee dram or a bottle of locally brewed beer or a nice botanical gin.

But remember that underneath all the cosy relaxedness you need to have some important things in place for it to work: a properly installed stove, a well-swept chimney, and an energy efficient and insulated home.

The good thing is that this is the West Highlands and we know about these things – we have had plenty of practise.

Across the area we have skilled tradesmen and women to install, service and repair your home and so the only chilling that will be done is you on the sofa, watching Strictly.

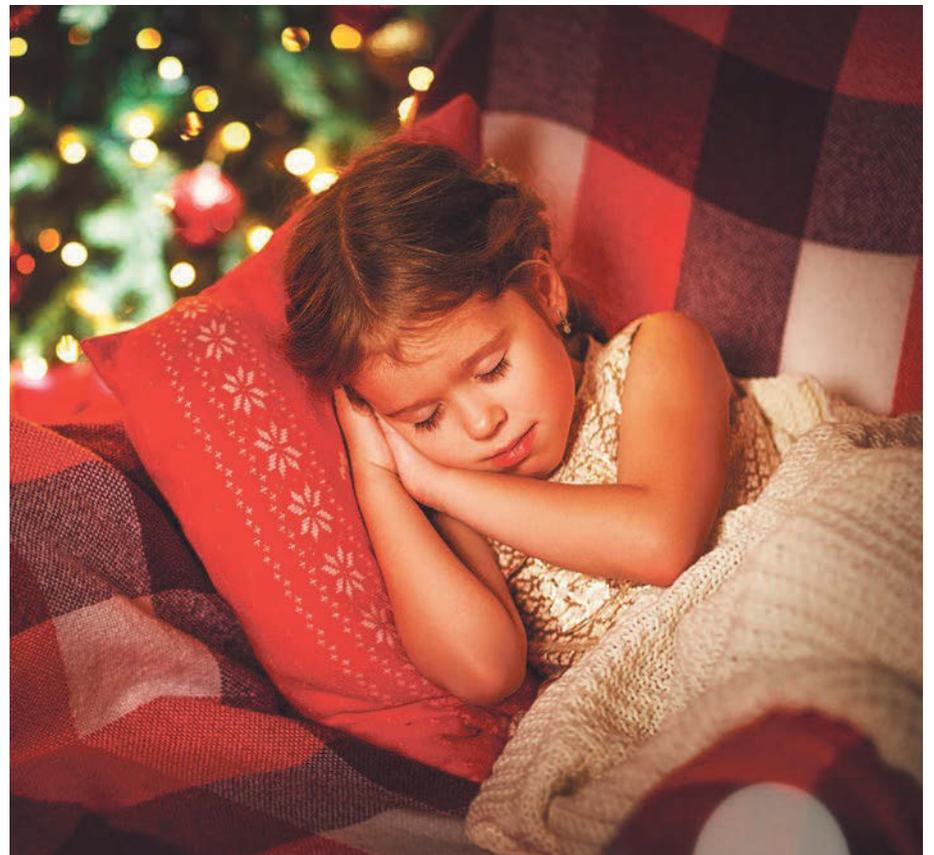
## Argyll Woodfuels

01631 563271

- Briquettes, Pellets
- Hard and Softwood Logs
- Delivered or Collected
- 2 miles South of Oban

argyllwoodfuels.com

01631 563271





ADVERTORIAL



**Backwoodsman**

## COSY FOR CHRISTMAS



Our family run business has distributed stoves and chimneys and provided a heating consultancy service for Argyll, Lochaber and the Western Isles for over 40 years.

Quality Stoves - contemporary & traditional  
Water Heating Options  
Complete Chimney Systems  
CAD Design  
Surveys & Specifications  
Retail & Trade Supplies  
Showroom by Appointment

Please call us for further details or visit our website.

[www.backwoodsman-stoves.co.uk](http://www.backwoodsman-stoves.co.uk)

Barcaldine OBAN Argyll PA37 1SG Tel. 01631 720539

There really is no cosier way to see Christmas through than in front of a wood burning stove; flames flickering, stockings hanging, tinsel twinkling. But while we relax, glass of wine in hand (at least in our dreams), the kids have a niggling worry that needs to be dealt with: Will Santa actually be able to get through the stove with his sack of presents intact? Fortunately, as we all know, his magic is well up to the challenge of squeezing through a small stove door, and to our knowledge there have never been any serious incidents.

And we really ought to know by now because Backwoodsman have distributed wood burning and multi fuel stoves to household customers in Oban, Fort William, Lochgilphead and throughout the West Highlands and Islands for over 40 years. We also work closely with architects, trades, developers and local authorities. With this many years of knowledge in the industry we are able to offer a high level of technical advice and support.

We have a showroom at our premises on the edge of Barcaldine forest, 13 miles north of Oban and are delighted to welcome you here. Please call to make an appointment before hand to ensure there will be someone available to see you.

For further details or to arrange a free survey please call us on 01631 720539 or check out our website which offers a wealth of information [www.backwoodsman-stoves.co.uk](http://www.backwoodsman-stoves.co.uk)





**WEBSTER OF OBAN PHOTOGRAPHIC CENTRE**

- UNIQUE GIFTS
- PRINTS
  - FRAMES
  - CAMERA ACCESSORIES
  - PASSPORT PHOTOS

122-124  
GEORGE STREET,  
TEL: 01631 562917



# Stay at home, shop locally and stress not!

What on earth are you hammering down the road to the big cities and shopping centres for? There is all you need right here at home

Here is a quick tip on how to add to your Christmas spending money instantly: stay home and shop local.

And if the extra cash in your pocket saved on fuel doesn't convince you, then how about the extra hours to spend doing the

actual shopping instead of sitting behind the wheel?

Oban has a perfect blend, we believe; a good selection of national retailers and a core of some of the finest private, independent retailers in the Highlands.



**JEWELLERY BY FIONA FRASER**

Beautiful hand crafted bespoke jewellery and gifts for a wonderful time. Happy Festive Season

available at  
BOLLIWOOD  
112 GEORGE STREET  
TEL: 07895 213367



**GORDON'S CHEMISTS**

TREAT YOUR LOVED ONE TO A RANGE OF BEAUTIFULLY SCENTED PERFUMES THIS XMAS

16 GEORGE STREET  
TEL: 01631 562063



**DAVID GRAHAM CYCLES AND TACKLE**

FOR CHRISTMAS BIKES & TACKLE

13-15 COMBIE STREET,  
TEL: 01631 562069



**CRAIGARD DECOR**

PHONE, PAY AND COLLECT, - NO WAITING!

SHOPPING MADE EASY AT CRAIGARD DÉCOR CALL TONY TODAY

10-12 CRAIGARD RD  
TEL: 01631 562680



**JACKSON BROS MASTER BUTCHER**

We are now taking Christmas orders Available from Jackson Brothers Master Butcher

2 GEORGE STREET  
TEL: 01631 562917



**Oban Business Imp**  
**www.bid4o**

Think about it: yes, times are still hard economically, but there is a nucleus of shops in Oban which remains, year-in-year-out; some of them have been here for decades, others generations.

They stay in business because of their skills in selecting the right stock because they know their client base and what they want and the friendliness of their service.

We all know each other; our kids all go to school together we are all in the same choirs, shinty teams, pipe bands, golf clubs – you name it.

Armed with these skills these traders have reduced the stress levels of shopping for us already before we have even set foot inside the door. Now, compare and contrast that with the impersonal, just-a-face-in-this-Christmas-crowd attention you will receive in a huge branch of a chain store in the central belt.

And admit it: how many times have you got back home after a Christmas visit to the big city and thought: never again! Or did you come home and say: 'We went all that way and didn't get half of what we wanted!'

What is more unpleasant than a nippy wee squabble in the middle of a shopping trip because everyone is so stressed? (Come on, own up – we've all had one.)

Ask yourself, how much did you spend on fuel or tickets; how much did that cup of coffee or indifferent lunch amidst crowds of similarly stressed people cost and did you enjoy it?

Remember, while you are hammering down the A82 dodging all the traffic be-

tween Inverness and Glasgow, or tackling the Rest and Be Thankful, we'd just like to say that some of us will be staying home.

We will be wandering down George Street, bumping into friends and saying 'Hello, how y'getting on?' Meeting people we haven't seen in years who have come over on the ferry from the islands for an overnight trip to shop. Listening to whoever is out singing, or busking. Stopping for a coffee or a pot of tea and a blether, doing a little bit more shopping then having lunch and finishing off the shopping before driving the few miles home or treating ourselves to a taxi so we could have a wee drink. So this year, why don't you join us?



**OBAN CHRISTMAS SHOP**

**NOW OPEN**  
Product selections at competitive prices

89-21 George Street, previously know as Yorkshire Building Society



**ORSAY OBAN**

Artisan jewellery, gifts, crafts and cards

Winter Wonderland ceramics just in....only a few left in stock.

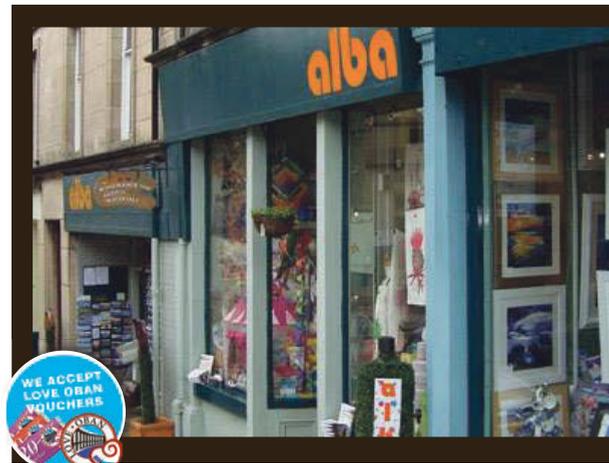
2 STEVENSON STREET, TEL: 01631 569988



**SCOTTISH ISLAND JEWELLERY**

Handmade in Oban, Contemporary retail stock  
Beautiful for gifts for everyone

23 ARGYLL SQUARE, TEL: 01631 570005

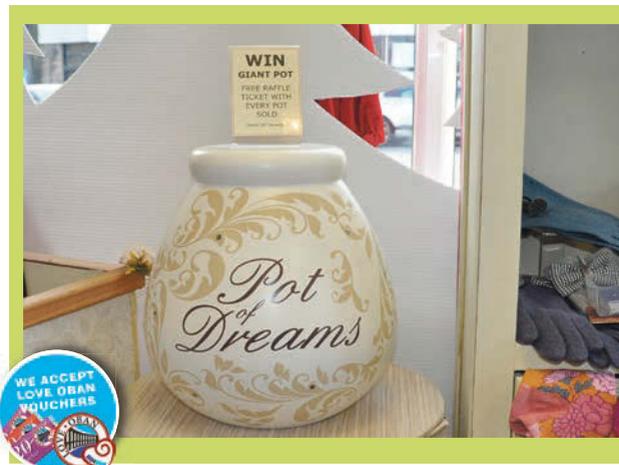


**ALBA**

**THE ONE STOP CHRISTMAS SHOP**

calendars, crackers, candles, cards, decorations, gift wrap hobbies, gifts, toys

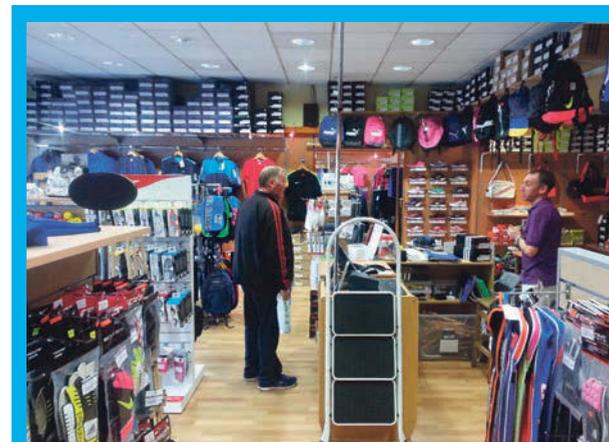
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**BUTTON NOSE BOUTIQUE**

WIN A GIANT POT OF DREAMS  
Baby gifts & clothes, handbags, jewellery, greetings cards, scarves, umbrellas, candles, purses, men's gifts and much more!!!

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Whatever your sport we have a great gift for you

- Clothing
  - Equipment
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- Ladies, Mens, Boys, Girls

Shop local and have a great Christmas

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# Talented and gifted

When you live in Scotland, you do not have to look far from home to find some unique and very special gifts

You know what the big problem is with buying gifts? Christmas comes round every year.

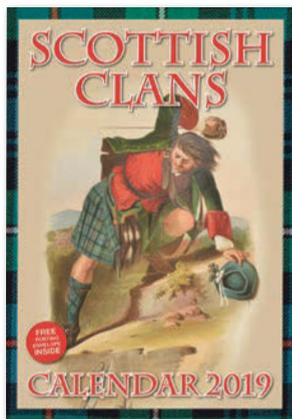
A year from now you will be facing the same dilemma: what on earth do I buy for them? Because, let's face it, you are buying a gift for the same person, year in and year out, and your gift giving ideas can often run dry.

Fear not! We have, right here on our doorsteps, some very special unique gifts.

Scotland is world-famous as a producer of quality goods in so many categories.

First off: whisky. We wrote the book, we walk the walk, we talk the talk; while generously recognising that other countries do have similar traditions of distilling grain alcohol, we have to admit it, without any false modesty, that Scottish whisky is superb. If you know a whisky drinker who appreciates the finer aspects of the craft, then take the time to buy them a special blend or bottling.

Likewise, smoked fish. If you are dining out and look at the menu, what is going to tempt you: reading the words Norwegian-smoked or Canadian-smoked? No, sorry, if it doesn't say Scottish then we will probably order another dish.



## Scottish Clans 2019 Calendar

*The beautifully illustrated Scottish Clans 2019 Calendar*

is available from [www.scottishcalendars.co.uk](http://www.scottishcalendars.co.uk)

from **£7.95** P&P charges may apply

This leads us to other Scottish produce. Meat, fish, cheeses – the exciting thing about Scotland is the number of people starting up quality food businesses. You do not have to go far in the West Highlands to find one, including breweries and the new trend for gins.

And this is before we go into the Scottish grocery department – shortbread, artisan bakeries and preserves. Why do you think all the tourist shops are packed full of the stuff? Because people across the UK and the world recognise and trust Scottish produce as high quality.

It is the same for our textiles. Scottish spinning and weaving are also recognised as world-class. Scottish cashmere has to be the best going. Harris Tweed is an iconic material recognised by the world's top fashion houses, and never forget the fabric still being woven by genuine woollen mills around the county.

Alongside this you have an army of creative people producing pottery, photography, paintings and prints all waiting for you to pick the perfect one as a gift for someone special.

Special people deserve special things; shouldn't you be buying them a gift made in Scotland?

**HIGHLAND TITLES**  
Conserving Scotland One Square foot at a time  
Own a piece of Scotland from as little  
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**SPECIAL OFFER:** Who doesn't dream of being the Lord or Lady of his or her very own Highland estate? Give the gift of nobility this Christmas from Highland Titles. With their discount code, get 10% off a plot of land, which allows owners to style themselves as the Lord or Lady of Glencoe, as well as a discount on anything in the Gifts and Accessories shop. Visit [highlandtitles.com](http://highlandtitles.com) and enter the code **OBANTIMES**.

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Style yourself as a Laird, Lord or Lady  
Visit [www.highlandtitles.com](http://www.highlandtitles.com) and use discount code  
**OBANTIMES** at checkout

**Islay Woollen Mill**

## Christmas at Islay Woollen Mill

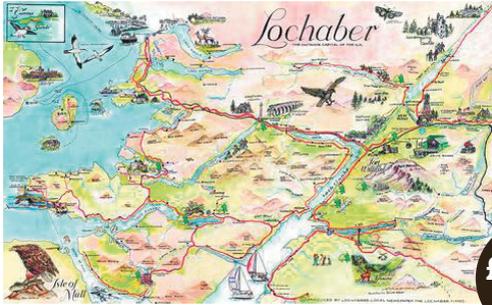
We have a multitude of Christmas Gift ideas.

- Scarves in both Wool and Cashmere.
- Mens & Ladies Shirts, Gloves, Caps, Fleecy Body Warmers.
- A limited number of Sports Jackets and Trousers @ 50% off
- Knitwear & Jewellery
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We have made some new long super soft scarves in Fine Cashmere, three times round your neck, down to the floor.

Islay Woollen Mill, Bridgend, Isle of Islay, PA44 7PG  
Tel: 01496 810563 | Fax: 01496 810677  
Email: [mill@islaywoollenmill.co.uk](mailto:mill@islaywoollenmill.co.uk) | Web: [www.islaywoollenmill.co.uk](http://www.islaywoollenmill.co.uk)

Quality Giclee A3 Printed Map  
Lochaber Quality Giclee Printed Map hand drawn by  
Anne Gardner. Available from [www.krispcards.co.uk](http://www.krispcards.co.uk)



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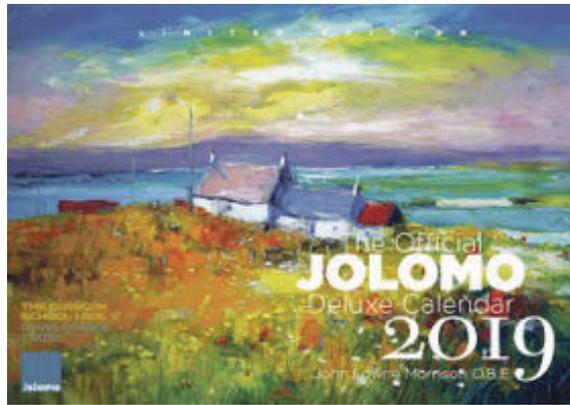
\*other towns / areas available

Chrystal's Hand-made Shortbread  
Delicious hand-made shortbread available from  
The Courier Centre, Campbeltown. Tel: 01586 554646



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## Official Jolomo Deluxe Calendar



Now available an exciting new calendar  
of John Lowrie Morrison's images for 2019.

Available from  
**The Jolomo Studio**

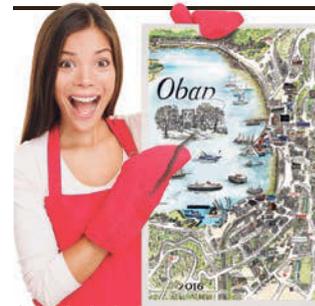
Tayvallich, PA31 8PN  
Tel: 01546 870303  
[www.jolomo.com](http://www.jolomo.com)

**£17.99**  
+ postage



Scottish Field  
2019 Calendar  
The beautifully photographed  
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\*from  
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tea towel

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Oban map tea towel  
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\*from  
**£6.95** P&P charges may apply  
\*other towns / areas available

The Oban Times 2019 Calendar



The beautifully  
photographed Oban Times  
2019 Calendar  
is available from  
[www.scottishcalendars.co.uk](http://www.scottishcalendars.co.uk)

\*from  
**£6.95** P&P charges may apply

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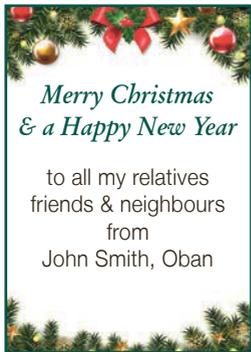
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# CHRISTMAS GREETINGS

Published on 13th December

SEND A SPECIAL CHRISTMAS MESSAGE TO FRIENDS FOR JUST £20

**A**



**B**



**C**



Simply fill in the coupon below with your special festive message and send or hand in to:-

OBAN TIMES, LOCHAVULLIN IND EST, OBAN TEL: 01631 568000  
OBAN TIMES, 22 HIGH STREET, FORT WILLIAM TEL: 01397 703003

**ONLY £20 (inc. VAT.) OPTIONS A,B OR C.**

PAY BY CHEQUE / PO or Phone in your message quoting your Master Card/Visa Number  
Deadline Friday 7th December. To appear Thursday 13th December

MESSAGE 20 words maximum

\*NAME ..... **A**  **B**  **C**   
ADDRESS ..... PLEASE TICK A BOX FOR THE  
..... TEMPLATE YOU WISH TO USE.  
Tel ..... \*(NOT FOR PUBLICATION)  
20 words maximum PRIVATE ADVERTISERS ONLY



**Treat the family this Christmas with a truly memorable experience and stay on board your own luxury, wide-beam canal barge in Edinburgh city centre.**

Come and experience Edinburgh in a unique way this festive season. Whether you are coming to see the stunning Christmas lights display or soak up the atmosphere at the famous German Christmas market The Four Sisters Boatel is the perfect base to explore all of the festivities.

Moored in Edinburgh city centre, within walk-

ing distance of all of the delights Edinburgh has to offer, she can accommodate up to four adults and two children under 10 years old. There is also a double sofa bed in the lounge to accommodate a further two adults and you can bring your four-legged friend with you for free.

Awarded a four-star, luxury, self-catering accommodation award

from VisitScotland and the Scottish Tourist Board, she has all of the modern conveniences you would expect in any luxury hotel plus much more.

Make your trip to Edinburgh truly special that the whole family will love.

Prices start from £160 for up to four adults and two children. Open all year round.



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**Please quote OT01 when booking to receive free bottle of bubbles upon arrival.**



# Something *Special*

Oooohhhh! You shouldn't have!

What would you rather have? One extra-special, luxurious gift or a number of other, smaller, gifts?

Sometimes less is more!

This is especially true today when people have so many possessions that homes need to be 'decluttered' and charities start asking for 'unwanted' or duplicated gift donations as soon as the holiday is over.

It can be a good idea to put all your eggs in one basket, or rather all your present buying into one special, luxurious gift.

The gift buying formula of 'want, need, wear or read' applies just as equally to a luxury gift in so many ways and so does the other mantra of 'buy once, buy well, wear out'.

And there is the other gift

category: 'possession, consumption or experience'.

So what will it be? A luxury possession made of cashmere (remember, Scottish is the best in the world) or sheepskin or leather or jewellery – those are other categories where Scottish craftsmen and women excel and specialise.

Or maybe it is something to consume, be it fine food, an extra-special malt whisky

## S&S SERVICES

ALL ROADS LEAD TO S&S

**Put a Subaru  
under your tree.**

**S&S Services, 8 Old Bridge Road, Ayr KA8 9SX**  
**Tel: 07831 808702 or 01292 880080**

**a warm welcome awaits...**

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|  | <b>Luxury Caravans</b><br>Double glazed option.<br>Book stunning views.<br>Sleeps up to 6 people<br>Full week or short breaks.               |  | <b>Linthe Lochside Holidays</b><br>Corpach, Fort William, PH33 7NL<br>Tel: 01397 772376<br><a href="http://www.linthe-lochside-holidays.co.uk">www.linthe-lochside-holidays.co.uk</a> |  | <b>Luxury Chalets</b><br>Full week or short breaks.<br>All heating, linen and towels included.<br>Sleeps 4,5 or 6 people. |
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# Merry Christmas

*From Our Family To Yours*

We look forward to seeing you all over the festive period and beyond!

Call in and shop our EXCLUSIVE Gift Range 7 Days a Week

*Team Avalon*



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The Official  
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Deluxe Calendar  
**2019**  
John Lowrie Morrison O.B.E.



**THE GLASGOW  
SCHOOL OF ART  
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TRUST**



Announcing the official calendar of John Lowrie Morrison's images for 2019.

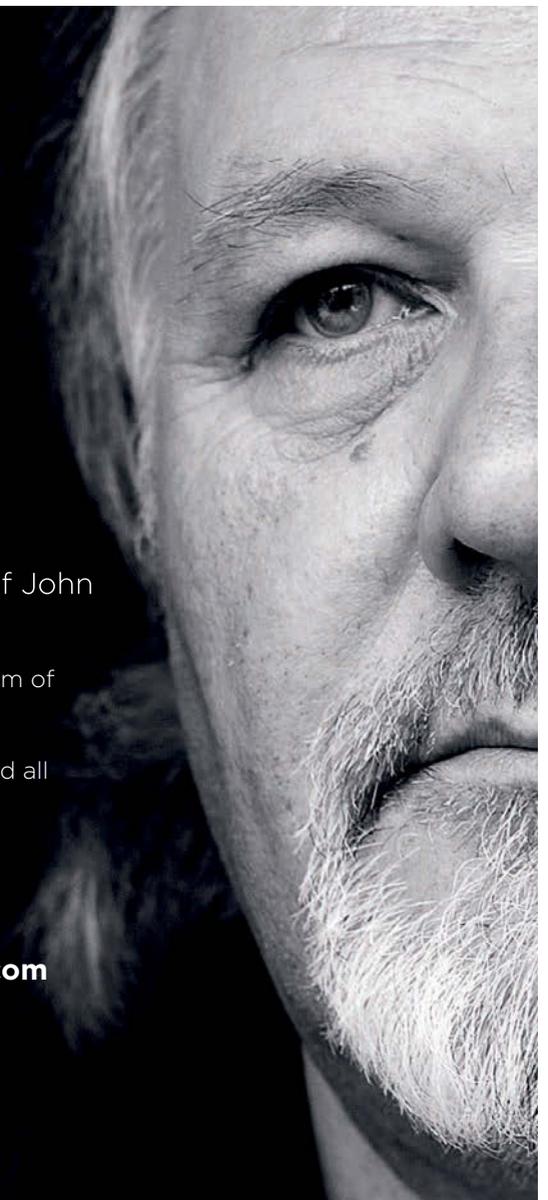
The calendar has been released with the aim of helping the **The Mackintosh Appeal**

This is a strictly limited edition of 2,000 and all royalties will be donated to the Appeal.

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email: [sales@jolomo.com](mailto:sales@jolomo.com)  
phone: **01546 600020**  
or **01546 870303**

Price: **£17.99** plus postage

And other selected outlets.





or artisan gin or a bottle of really luxury perfume or box of cosmetics?

Then there is experience. Will this be a treat at one of the area's many five-star or boutique hotels, or fine dining, or a pampering day at a spa or beautician's? A visit to one of the islands you have

never been to or haven't visited in years and have always promised yourself?

Or a flight or helicopter ride to see incredible views of the great place we call home.

The good thing about a luxury gift is that it can help ease present-buying problems for a family with a suggestion of

'Why don't we all get together and buy them a...'

A one-off luxury gift for a special occasion or anniversary can create wonderful memories and let people know how much you care.

And besides which, a little bit of luxury never hurt anyone special!

## Argyll Tapestry

Home to exquisite handmade tapestry, beautiful soft furnishings, and a lovely range of unique gift ideas for friends and family.

Customer comments:

"...beautiful artwork, stunning"  
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# Have a pawfect Christmas and a happy Hogmaneigh...

Four-legged, furry or feathered, they are all as much a part of the family as the humans . . . and sometimes better behaved at parties

You can bet that one member of the family will be happy with every present you buy them to eat, wear, play with or snuggle up in – your pet.

There will be no polite smiles and then quietly taking you to one side and asking if you still have the receipt!

We all love our family pets – sometimes that can be the one thing everyone in the family can agree upon and a family pet can be a great stress buster and unifying force.

So what do you buy everyone's best pal for Christmas? Just like your human friends and family, some nice new clothes will be welcome; a coat to keep out the cold and wet, and a smart new collar or lead is a nice safe, sensible gift choice, but when it comes to our pets who needs sensible? Fantastic and crazy fancy dress outfits are sure winners and there are so many Christmas jumpers and coats to choose from.

When it comes to treats, there are also selection

boxes and hampers for pets that are such a good idea because chocolate is toxic to pets – no matter how much your dog looks at you with pleading eyes and begs.

And, just like their owners, so many pets love to go to the dog groomers and canine beauticians. Getting their coats trimmed and nails and claws clipped makes them feel good.

So many people now are running businesses catering for family animals, be it dog walkers, pet sitters or the traditional kennels.

One thing to remember: if you have bought your dog something to eat, it is not the best idea to put the gift under the Christmas tree.

A dog's nose has 300 million olfactory receptors, while humans have about six million and the part of their brain interpreting these is about 40 times larger than ours. So don't be surprised if they decide to pick out their present and open it early. Come to think about it, all food gifts should be kept well out of reach and not under the tree.

**NARROWFIELD BOARDING KENNELS** 

Liz and Keith welcomes your beloved pet to Narrowfield Boarding Kennels and Cattery - fully licensed by Argyll & Bute Council. Also Kennel Club Assured Breeders of German Shepherds.

*Wishing our cuddly customers and their lovely owners a wonderful Christmas - thank you for your custom in 2018.* 

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www.narrowfield.co.uk



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Save money by learning how to Groom your own dog.

Contact Julie: 07703127956

# Essential services this Christmas

## EMERGENCY SERVICES

|                        |     |
|------------------------|-----|
| Police (non emergency) | 121 |
| Police emergency       | 999 |
| Fire                   | 999 |
| Ambulance              | 999 |
| Coastguard             | 999 |
| Mountain rescue        | 999 |

## HOSPITALS

|                           |              |
|---------------------------|--------------|
| Lorn and Islands District |              |
| General, Oban             | 01631 567500 |
| Belford, Fort William     | 01397 702481 |

## DENTIST

Telephone your usual surgery number and listen to recorded message for out of hours contact details

## VETS

Telephone your usual surgery number and listen to recorded message for out of hours contact details

## TRAVEL

|                   |               |
|-------------------|---------------|
| West Coast Motors | 01586 552319  |
| CalMac            | 0800 066 5000 |

## LOCAL AUTHORITY

When council offices are closed these are the out-of-hours numbers to use in an emergency

## ARGYLL AND BUTE COUNCIL

|                        |               |
|------------------------|---------------|
| Social services        | 01631 566491  |
| Homelessness           | 0345 056 5457 |
| Housing repairs (ACHA) | 0800 028 2755 |
| Roads or lighting      | 0800 373 635  |

## HIGHLAND COUNCIL

|                          |               |
|--------------------------|---------------|
| Health and social care   | 0845 601 4813 |
| Roads and lighting       | 01349 886690  |
| Housing and homelessness | 01349 886691  |

## UTILITIES

|                |                       |
|----------------|-----------------------|
| Gas            | 0800 111 999          |
| Electricity    | 0800 31 63 105 or 105 |
| Scottish Water | 0800 0778 778         |
| SEPA Floodline | 0345 988 1188         |
| SEPA pollution | 0800 80 70 60         |

## CRISIS

|                      |               |
|----------------------|---------------|
| Samaritans           | 116 123       |
| Breathing Space      | 0800 83 85 87 |
| Scottish Women's Aid | 0800 027 1234 |
| Alcoholics Anonymous | 0800 9177 650 |
| Gamblers Anonymous   |               |
| Scotland             | 0370 050 8881 |



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**Panto!**  
featuring  
OBAN DANCE  
ACADEMY

# Cinderella

THURSDAY 6<sup>th</sup> , FRIDAY 7<sup>th</sup> ,  
SATURDAY 8<sup>th</sup> DECEMBER

at 7.30pm

& 2pm SATURDAY MATINEE

**CORRAN HALLS, OBAN**

**Tickets :**

**£10 & £8**

see Corran Halls  
for group bookings.



# LEISURE & ENTERTAINMENT

YOUR GUIDE TO WHAT'S ON IN ARGYLL AND LOCHABER

## Belhaven shortlist announced

The shortlist has been announced for the Belhaven Bursary for Innovation Award 2019 which recognises Scottish folk and traditional artists who are innovating and distinguishing themselves in their field.

The prestigious fund is the largest cash prize in Scotland. Financially matched only by the Mercury Prize, the £25,000 rewards innovation and will support the winning act to progress unique ideas and empower creation through this career-changing sum of money.

On top of this, the award is also accompanied by the brewing of a collaboration ale with the winner's name alongside an appearance at the legendary Belhaven Brewery Post Parade Party in New York



during Tartan Week in April 2019. The winning artist will also be propelled into the spotlight through a televised advertising campaign

The Elephant Sessions were last year's winners of the Belhaven Bursary for Innovation Award, and had an ale named after them.

featuring their music. Neo-trad quintet Elephant Sessions were selected for the inaugural award last year and have since used the cash to amplify their talent and showcase their sounds internationally.

The fund is supported by Showcase Scotland Expo, an organisation backing the international development of Scottish-based artists and the bursary is awarded to bands or artists chosen through a panel of industry experts.

The shortlist this year is as follows:

Glasgow band Breabach; Gaelic supergroup Daimh; Orcadian quartet Fara; fusion five-piece Inyal; Nae Plans – duo Hamish Napier and Adam Sutherland; award-winning Niteworks, from Skye; singer, harpist and founder member of The Shee, Rachel Newton; multi-award winning Talisk; Siobhan Miller: The only three-time winner of Scots Singer of the Year; and Tide Lines, who meld rural life with a record collection of classic American songwriters.

The winner of the award will be announced at MG ALBA Scots Trad Music Awards at Perth Concert Hall on Saturday December 1, which will be broadcast live on BBC ALBA, BBC Radio Scotland and globally through the BBC ALBA website.

regular music presents

PLUS SPECIAL GUEST  
**STEPHANIE**  
— C H E A P E —

SATURDAY 15 DECEMBER  
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'SMOKE & DREAMS'  
OUT NOV 2018

chipotle steak  
with sweet potato  
chips

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**Lunch:** Five-bean jacket. Fill a cooked jacket potato with Heinz Five Beans and top with 30g cheddar cheese, grated. Serve with a big bag of mixed lettuce leaves, grated carrot and drained canned sweetcorn, drizzle with fat-free vinaigrette.

**Snack:** Enjoy a Milky Way (5 Syns for a 21.5g bar)

**Dinner:** Chipotle steak with sweet potato chips. There's no need to limit steak to special occasions with this colourful midweek supper – find the recipe at [www.slimmingworld.co.uk](http://www.slimmingworld.co.uk)

**Free Food**  
**Snack:** Boil or bake fresh corn on the cob, season well and munch!

|  |  |   |
|--|--|---|
| <b>OBAN</b><br>Glencruitten Church Hall,<br>Glencruitten Road<br>Wednesday 9.30am, 11.30am,<br>5.30pm & 7.30pm<br>Tel: Gillian 07796 040 803 | <b>LOCHGILPHEAD</b><br>Lochgilphead Baptist Church<br>Union Street/ Argyll Street<br>Mondays 5.30pm & 7.30pm<br>Tel: Rhona 07880 878 906 | <b>CAMPBELTOWN</b><br>Masonic Recreational Lodge<br>St John Street<br>Tuesdays 1pm, 5.30pm & 7.30pm<br>Tel: Rhona 07880 878 906 |
|--|--|---|

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## Festival fun at Furan Gaelic Centre

Furan Gaelic Centre is running a series of events during Oban Winter Festival, including:

■ Gaelic Bookbug, Saturday November 17 and 24, 10.30am.

■ Cearcall Còmhraidh (Conversation Group), Saturday November 17 and 24, noon-1.30pm.

■ Blasad Gàidhlig (Gaelic Taster Session), Tuesday November 20, 7-8.30pm – a basic introduction to Gaelic words and phrases.

■ Bùth-obrach Dràma (Gaelic Drama Workshop), Wednesday November 21, 7-9pm. Suitable for adults with all Gaelic abilities and beginners.

■ Fealla-dhà Furan (songs and rhymes for children aged up to five years), Thursday November 22, noon-1pm.

■ Leugh Leabhar – children's reading group, Friday November 23, 4-5pm.

All sessions will take place in Furan Gaelic Centre, Corran Halls, Oban. For more details, call 01631 567886.

# Weekend of art at An Tobar and Mull Theatre

An Tobar and Mull Theatre are holding a number of events over the next couple of weeks.

Art In Motion: The Completion is an exciting new collaborative and inter-generational project incorporating contemporary dance and art in all its forms.

The vibrant programme was developed and delivered by project leaders Alicia Hendrick and Andi Stevens and brought together young artists and dancers, and established artists and performers, to create new, exciting pieces which were selected for a successful exhibition at An Tobar Gallery in February 2018.

Art In Motion: The Completion will be performed by dancers from Tidal tonight (Thursday November 15), at 8pm in Mull Theatre.

The event is free but book-

Art in Motion: The Completion is a collaborative, inter-generational project.



ing is essential. A drop-in writing workshop is being held at An Tobar on Saturday November 17 and Saturday 1 December, from 11am-1pm, with Juliet Antill.

Beginners are welcome and the class is suitable for all

levels of experience – explore a creative landscape with these single day sessions.

And on Saturday November 17, An Tobar will launch its annual open exhibition.

This year's exhibitions at

An Tobar Gallery have all featured work by artists who use found materials. With this in mind, organisers have invited artists and makers from Mull, Iona and Argyll to contribute work on the theme of FOUND for

the gallery's annual open exhibition.

The launch event takes place on Saturday, November 17 from 6-8pm in An Tobar Gallery. All welcome.

The exhibition runs until Saturday December 22.

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# Glasgow Letter

ROBERT ROBERTSON

robert.d.robertson@hotmail.co.uk



## 118th Tìre Gathering

I believe there are very few tickets left for the Tìre Association dance this Friday evening in the Glasgow University Union.

I read last week there were only 60 tickets left and I can only imagine that number will have reduced greatly since.

It is fantastic to see annual gatherings such as this one being so well supported and I'll certainly be wishing I was there while I'm playing in Oxford for what will be the 13th gig of our Tide Lines UK tour.

As is traditional, the Tìre Association has its concert the evening before the dance – an arrangement that I always feel allows for a much more relaxing atmosphere without the need to rush to be finished in time for the dance.

This Thursday's concert looks set to be a real gem. Chairman Ian Gillies will introduce singers James



Màrtainn Skene.

Graham, Alasdair Currie and Josie Duncan, and Màrtainn Skene will give a few tunes on the box.

All singers will be accompanied on the piano by Kathryn Callander, who usually treats the audience to a selection of sing-along Gaelic choruses at some point in the course of the evening.

The dance on Friday this year is to be played by the Dùn Mòr Cèilidh Band led, of course, by proud Tìrisdeachs Eilidh MacFadyen on box and

Jamie MacDonald on fiddle. The remaining tickets are available at the Park Bar or by contacting the association via Facebook.

## Wester Rum launched

I wrote some time ago in this column about the establishment of Wester Spirit Company by young entrepreneurs from Ardnamurchan Allan Nairn and Zander MacGregor.

There was a gathering last weekend in Partick to celebrate the official opening of their very own rum distillery.

Recently, we filmed a Tide Lines music video in the distillery so I know for a fact what an impressive set up the boys have in there. I can't say I've ever been a rum drinker, but I am told by those who are that the product is excellent – particularly when used for the types of elaborate cocktails that were on sale at the launch.

I wish the boys success in the future and hope that

Wester Rum will go as far as it deserves to.

## What's on

Thursday November 15: Tìre Association annual gathering concert in the Partick Burgh Hall at 7.30pm.

Friday November 16: Tìre Association annual gathering dance in the Glasgow University Union at 9pm.

Thursday November 22: Comunn-An-Taobh-an-Iar haggis supper at 7.30pm in the Ellangowan Social Club.

Friday November 23: The Glasgow Uist and Barra Association dinner dance at 7.30pm – venue TBC.

Saturday November 24: Uilleam Againne (Oor Wullie) in the Mitchell Theatre at 11am.

Saturday November 24: The Glasgow Islay Association quiz night at 7.30pm in the West of Scotland Cricket Club, Partick.

Friday December 7: Glasgow Skye Association annual concert and dance at 7.30pm in the Glasgow University Union.



The Oban cover band The Antics

## Oban band The Antics to play Benderloch Palladium

Oban band The Antics will headline a gig in the Victory Hall, Benderloch, tomorrow evening (November 16), writes Jack MacGregor.

This is just one of many gigs for The Antics, who consist of lead vocalist Jack MacGregor, guitarist and vocalist Colin Mackenzie, drummer Donald Campbell, keyboard and vocalist James Gray and bassist and vocalist Andy Bruce.

The cover band play a variety of modern hits and older more vintage songs, with lead singer Jack

MacGregor describing it as 'a mixture of classic rock and soul', adding: 'We have a wide range of musical influences such as The Foo Fighters, Michael Jackson, The Eagles, The Jayhawks, Prince and much more.'

The Antics have been busy preparing for the gig and have added a number of new covers to their set list for Benderloch.

The doors will open at 7.30pm and drinks will be served at the bar before the gig starts at 8pm. Tickets are £10 in advance or £12 on the door.

# The Kaptan Trio will be playing in Oban on Sunday November 18 at 3pm in St John's Cathedral

Kristi Kaptan, piano, Rachel Spencer, violin, and Duncan Strachan, cello, are three outstanding graduates of the Royal Conservatoire of Scotland, the Estonian Academy of Music and Theatre, and Oxford University. The trio formed in 2011 whilst students at the Royal Conservatoire of Scotland, where they were chosen as Young Artists in Residence. They have since gone on to develop a reputation as one of the top piano trios in the country, known for their energetic, passionate and exciting performances across the UK and further afield. In 2017 the Kaptan Trio was selected as Ensemble-in-Residence for Enterprise Music Scotland, a prestigious post which they will hold until 2019.

They will be playing works by Beethoven, Debussy, Hatzis and Mendelssohn. This will be another opportunity to hear the Oban Music Society's magnificent Steinway piano.



The Oban Music Society welcomes all music lovers to their concerts, details of future performances can be found on their website [oban-musicsociety.org](http://oban-musicsociety.org).



## Winter Warmer Menu

Our restaurant will be open on Saturday evenings only with a fantastic new menu on offer which will change each month. With a specific focus on locally sourced produce, this is a chance to sample some really different dishes.

### Restaurant Menu

#### 2 OR 3 COURSE OFFER

£30 for 2 courses £35 for 3 courses  
Vegetarian: £19.50 2 course / £24.50 for 3 course

**Starters**

- Cullen skink soup served with warm soda bread
- Pan fried Argyll lambs liver, caramelised onions and a potato salad
- Warm goats cheese salad with honey and mustard dressing
- Potted prawn and crab with toasted ciabatta

**Mains**

- Tayvallich Estate venison bourguignon with garlic crushed baby potatoes, braised red cabbage and seasonal vegetables
- 10oz Scottish sirlon steak on a bed of chargrilled asparagus with Lyonnaise potatoes, onion rings and peppercorn sauce
- Seared Tayvallich landed king scallops with crispy pancetta, chilli & white wine on a bed of linguine served with garlic bread
- Pan fried Gigha halibut fillet with sautéed potatoes, green beans and sauce vierge
- Oven baked aubergine stuffed with vegetable ratatouille served with green pesto risotto and steamed asparagus

**Desserts**

- Kintyre gin crème brulee with homemade shortbread
- Fruit crumble with crème anglaise
- Sticky toffee pudding with Isle of Gigha ice cream and toffee sauce
- Choice of Wee Isle Dairy ice cream or lemon sorbet



Tayvallich, Lochgilphead, PA31 8PL [www.tayvallichinn.com](http://www.tayvallichinn.com)

For reservations contact us on **01546 870282**



# M'ALBA

## MY ALBA

### DIARDAOIN 15 AN T-SAMHAIN

#### THURSDAY 15 NOVEMBER

17.00 Prògraman Chloinne – Children's programming  
19.00 Vets: Gach Creutair Beò (rpt)  
19.30 Speaking our Language (rpt)  
19.55 Earrann Eachdraidh (rpt)  
20.00 An Là – News  
20.30 **UR | NEW:** Eòrpa  
21.00 HMS Timbertown (rpt)  
22.00 An Sgrùdaire (rpt)  
22.15 Sgeul Seirbheis (rpt)  
22.30 Leabhraichean-latha a' Chogaidh Mhòir (rpt)  
23.30 Seòid a' Chidsin (rpt)

### DIHAOINE 16 AN T-SAMHAIN

#### FRIDAY 16 NOVEMBER

17.00 Prògraman Chloinne – Children's programming  
18.35 Machair (rpt)  
19.00 An Là – News  
19.25 Binneas – Na Trads (Duncan Chisholm) (rpt)  
19.35 **UR | NEW:** SPFL Challenge Cup – Queen's Park v Connah's Quay Nomads  
21.45 An Sgrùdaire (rpt)  
22.00 Trapped 8 (rpt)  
22.55 Na Worlds 2018 (rpt)

### DISATHAIRNE 17 AN T-SAMHAIN

#### SATURDAY 17 NOVEMBER

16.00 Prògraman Chloinne – Children's programming  
17.45 An Là – News  
18.00 Òran na Mara (rpt)  
19.35 Cearcall (rpt)  
20.00 Machair (rpt)  
20.30 Ceathrar air a' Chuiltheann (rpt)  
21.00 Lorient is Alba: HEBCELT (rpt)  
22.00 Leabhraichean-latha a' Chogaidh

Mhòir (rpt)

23.00 Nathan Carter (rpt)  
00:25 Belladrum 2017: Torridon (rpt)

### DIDÒMHNACH 18 AN T-SAMHAIN

#### SUNDAY 18 NOVEMBER

16.00 Prògraman Chloinne – Children's programming  
18.15 An Là – News  
18.30 Seachd La – News Review  
19.30 Alleluia (rpt)  
20.00 Eòrpa (rpt)  
20.30 Dealbhan Fraoich (rpt)  
21.00 Opry Dhoire (rpt)  
22.00 Lorient is Alba: HEBCELT (rpt)  
23.00 Trapped 8 (rpt)  
23.50 Dhan Uisge (River Douchary) (rpt)

### DILUAIN 19 AN T-SAMHAIN

#### MONDAY 19 NOVEMBER

17.00 Prògraman Chloinne – Children's programming  
19.00 An Lot (rpt)  
19.30 Speaking our Language (rpt)  
19.55 Earrann Eachdraidh (rpt)  
20.00 An Là – News  
20.30 **UR | NEW:** Fuine S5  
21.00 Trusadh – Cathair na Ceiltis (rpt)  
22.00 **UR | NEW:** Ceòlmhor@ Piping Live!  
22.30 Cailleagan a' Chogaidh Mhòir (rpt)  
23.30 An Sgrùdaire (rpt)  
23.45 Sgeul Seirbheis (rpt)

### DIMÀIRT 20 AN T-SAMHAIN

#### TUESDAY 20 NOVEMBER

17.00 Prògraman Chloinne – Children's programming  
19.00 Vets: Gach Creutair Beò (rpt)  
19.30 Speaking our Language (rpt)

19.55 Earrann Eachdraidh (rpt)

20.00 An Là – News  
20.30 Ceathrar air a' Chuiltheann (rpt)  
21.00 **UR | NEW:** Opry Dhoire  
22.00 Trusadh – Cathair na Ceiltis (rpt)  
23.30 Alleluia (rpt)

### DICIADAIN 21 AN T-SAMHAIN

#### WEDNESDAY 21 NOVEMBER

17.00 Prògraman Chloinne – Children's programming  
19.00 An Lot (rpt)  
19.30 Speaking our Language (rpt)  
19.55 Earrann Eachdraidh (rpt)  
20.00 An Là – News  
20.30 Dealbhan Fraoich (rpt)  
21.00 Around Scotland: Hebrides (rpt)  
22.00 Seòid a' Chidsin (rpt)  
22.30 Ceòlmhor@ Piping Live! (rpt)  
23.00 HMS Timbertown (rpt)

### DIARDAOIN 22 AN T-SAMHAIN

#### THURSDAY 22 NOVEMBER

17.00 Prògraman Chloinne – Children's programming  
19.00 Turas a' Bhraidain (rpt)  
19.30 Speaking our Language (rpt)  
19.55 Earrann Eachdraidh (rpt)  
20.00 An Là – News  
20.30 **UR | NEW:** Eòrpa  
21.00 Robert Mone – Saorsa Gu Siorraidh (rpt)  
22.00 An Sgrùdaire (rpt)  
22.15 Sgeul Seirbheis (rpt)  
22.30 Hitler v Churchill (rpt)  
23.15 **UR | NEW:** Belladrum highlights  
23.30 Seòid a' Chidsin (rpt)



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# Lego show is for everyone

## Winter festival brings popular event to Oban for the first time

Oban will host its first Lego show as part of this year's Oban Winter Festival.

Oban Winter Bricks 2018 is being held in St Columba's Cathedral Hall on Saturday, November 17.

As well as fantastic Lego displays by The Tartan LUG (Lego User Group) – a Scottish group of adult Lego fans – the Brick to the Past team will also attend the event.

Brick to the Past displays at all the major Lego shows around the world. The team creates large and very detailed historically-themed Lego models, and one of its models is coming to Oban for the one-day exhibition.

Added to this, there will also be a 'pop-up' shop selling retired, new and hard-to-find sets.

There will be an 'everyone wins' tombola, as well as a Brickzone, with tables of Lego and Duplo for children and adults to enjoy.

The event will also be running a competition for children up to the age of 16. Under the theme of winter/festive, youngsters are invited to bring along models based around the theme that they have created themselves.

This contest is in addition to the competition being run by Oban Winter Festival to coincide with the event

where local primary school children can design a minifigure.

All profits from the event will be donated to the charity Fairy Bricks, an organisation that brightens the lives of sick children in hospices and hospitals across the UK by donating Lego sets.

The event will take place in St Columba's Cathedral Hall on Saturday, November 17, from 10am-4pm.

Entry £3, under fours go free.

**YOURSTORY**  
sharewithus:editor@obantimes.co.uk  
telephone 01631 568000

## Smoke and dreams –

In 1987 a young band from Scotland seemingly had the world at their feet. With a hit single (Honeythief) in both the UK and America, 500,000 albums (Gold in UK) sold worldwide and successful tours of Europe and the States, their future path was surely one to glory.

Two years later they disbanded before their second album had even been released; bass player Johnny McElhone formed Texas, while drummer Harry Travers left to pursue his studies.

This left singer Grahame Skinner and guitarist Pim Jones with an album they no longer cared about and a record company that no longer cared about them.

These stories are legion in the music business but every now and again redemption pops its unlikely head above the parapet.

Cut to 2016 and to celebrate the deluxe 30th anniversary re-release of the HIPSWAY debut album, Skinner and Jones decided to play a one-off show in Glasgow, which quickly sold out as did two further gigs – to date the band has now sold more than 10,000 tickets in



Hipsway are touring their new album, *Smoke and Dreams*, with singer Stephanie Cheape in support.

Scotland. This caused the 'boys' to reason that it might be worth making a new record which brought them to *Smoke and Dreams*, the new release from HIPSWAY.

The band are taking the new album on the road and will play the Corran Halls, Oban on Thursday December 15.

Speaking ahead of the gig, Grahame Skinner (vocals) said: 'We've been playing some less well travelled plac-

es recently and the reception has been great. We are looking forward to hitting Oban for the first time.'

And broadcaster Mark Ellen said of the new material: 'It's refreshing to hear this kind of music right now as it doesn't feel processed or machine-driven.'

'And it sparks a nostalgia for both the '70s and '80s. I love the crisp guitar and the slightly Steely Dan vocal harmonies.'

## Hogmanay at The Nevis Centre

Bring in 2019 with music from Fergie MacDonald and a piper to bring in the bells

31st December 2018

Doors 8:30pm

Show 9:30pm - 1:00am

Over 18s only\*

Smart Dress Code

Tickets £25

Tables of 8 Available

Phone 01397 700707 to book



\*16-18s may be permitted if accompanied by parent/grandparent, please ask reception for more info

# Ingredients of a novel – author brings talk to Oban and Fort

What do you get when you put a boarding school musical, a meringue pie and 100 beetles into one Indian hill-station and cook them slowly over a century?

The answer is *A House Called Askival*, Merryn Glover's debut novel that will be featured in a series of events across Argyll and Highland for Book Week Scotland.

Spanning India's troubled history from Partition to the present day, the novel traces three generations of an American missionary family who are caught up in the conflicts around them and forever marked by tragedy, rebellion and guilt. Is reconciliation possible and what is the price of forgiveness?

An Australian citizen, Merryn Glover was born and brought up in South Asia and now lives in the Highlands where she works in Kingussie High School library two days a week and writes whenever she can. In her talk, *The*



Merryn Glover will be at Oban Library and Highland Bookshop, Fort William, during Book Week Scotland.

*Ingredients of a Novel*, she will share the story behind the story and how she came to write a novel that has, at its heart, an extra-ordinary cookbook.

Merryn will also be giving a writing workshop on Tیره called *Hands and Feet*, organised by North Argyll Carers' Centre.

Reflecting on things people

do with their hands and feet, the workshop will develop ideas for creative writing that explore identity, sense of giving and direction, and people's 'prints' in the world. No previous writing experience is necessary for this free workshop including refreshments and lunch.

Merryn's book tour will see her in Tیره Library, Tuesday November 20, 7pm, free, booking required. Call 01436 657664 or email marion.burns@liveargyll.co.uk; Alan Stevenson House, Tیره, Wednesday November 21, 11am-1pm, free, booking required, call Louise on 07393 992842; Oban Library, Friday November 23, 2pm, free; Highland Bookshop, Friday November 23, 6pm, tickets £5 which includes refreshments and £2 off purchase of *A House Called Askival*. To book tickets visit [bit.ly/HighBkShp](http://bit.ly/HighBkShp)

Personally signed copies of *A House Called Askival* will be on sale at all events.

# Hipsway to play Oban

Supporting the band on their seven-day tour will be singer Stephanie Cheape.

The flame-haired, fiery singer is the current holder of the hotly contested Capital FM Best Unsigned Act title, having blown away a panel of judges and wowed the Scottish music industry at the Scottish Music Awards for Nordoff Robbins late last year.

Since then she's been tearing it up at festivals including TRNSMT, Belladrum and Party At The Palace, headlining the legendary King Tut's in Glasgow and supporting the likes of Bryan Ferry in front of thousands at Glasgow's iconic Kelvingrove Bandstand at Regular's Summer Nights, where the Roxy Music legend said on stage he was blown away by her performance.

There's even more going on behind the scenes, where she's transformed from a girl with a guitar to a dark pop vixen, backed by her electrifying band Jonny Queen, Garry Aird and Don Wilson.

Tickets for all shows available from [www.ticketmaster.co.uk/Hipsway-tickets/artist/745641](http://www.ticketmaster.co.uk/Hipsway-tickets/artist/745641) or telephone 0844 844 0444.



# WHAT'S ON IN OBAN

In partnership with Oban Town Diary [bid4oban.co.uk](http://bid4oban.co.uk)



## THURSDAY 15TH NOVEMBER

**Oban Health Walk**  
Oban Congregational Church Hall  
10am - 11.30am

**Live Music & Entertainment @ Markie Dans**  
FREE JUKEBOX EVERY THURSDAY

## FRIDAY 16TH NOVEMBER

**Oban Dance Academy - Cheerleading**  
Glencruitten Church Hall. All Day

**Friendship Club Heritage Blether**  
The Rockfield Centre . 2.00pm - 4.00pm

**Live Music & Entertainment @ Markie Dans**  
Lazy Jams . Open till 2am

**Live Music & Entertainment @ The Lorne Bar Oban**  
From 9pm . Free Entry

## SATURDAY 17TH NOVEMBER

**Oban Dance Academy - Cheerleading**  
Glencruitten Church Hall. All Day

**Taynuilt Winter Ceilidh**  
Taynuilt Village Hall. 7.30pm

**Live Music & Entertainment @ Markie Dans**  
Ceol an Aire. Open till 2am

**Live Music & Entertainment @ The Lorne Bar Oban**  
From 9pm . Free Entry

**Christmas Fayre**  
Corran Halls, 11am-3pm

## SUNDAY 18TH NOVEMBER

**Live Music & Entertainment @ Markie Dans**  
QUIZ NIGHT at 9.30pm

£1 per person, max of 6 per team  
Win £20 bar voucher

## MONDAY 19TH NOVEMBER

**Slimming World**

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

## WEDNESDAY 21ST NOVEMBER

**Slimming World**

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

**Plan B for Utopia**

The Corran Halls, Oban. 7.30pm

**Live Music & Entertainment @ The Lorne Bar Oban**

Lorne Pub Quiz. Starting at 9pm  
£25 bar voucher prize and free pizza at half time

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**

## WHAT'S ON AT YOUR LOCAL CINEMA THIS WEEK

Tel: 01631 562905 or see [www.obanphoenix.com](http://www.obanphoenix.com) for more details

If we are able to get screen 2 up and running by Friday there will extra films that people can find on the website - [www.obanphoenix.com](http://www.obanphoenix.com)

### FRIDAY 16

12:01AM/13:30/15:15/16:30/19:30  
FANTASTIC BEASTS;THE CRIMES OF GRINDWALD 12A  
18:00 NAE PASARAN! 12A  
20:15 BOHEMIAN RHAPSODY 12A

### SATURDAY 17

10:45 SIMBA: MARY POPPINS  
11:00 SMALLFOOT U  
13:00 JOHNNY ENGLISH STRIKES AGAIN PG  
13:30/16:30/19:30  
FANTASTIC BEASTS;THE CRIMES OF GRINDWALD 12A  
15:00 FIRST MAN 12A  
18:00 NAE PASARAN! 12A  
20:15 BOHEMIAN RHAPSODY 12A

### SUNDAY 18

10:30/13:15/19:30  
FANTASTIC BEASTS;THE CRIMES OF GRINDWALD 12A  
11:30 FIRST MAN 12A  
14:30 NAE PASARAN! 12A  
16:00 WINTERFEST MUSICAL PG  
16:45 BOHEMIAN RHAPSODY 12A  
19:30 HUNTER KILLER 15

### MONDAY 19

14:00 BOHEMIAN RHAPSODY 12A  
13:30/16:30/19:30  
FANTASTIC BEASTS;THE CRIMES OF GRINDWALD 12A  
17:00 FIRST MAN 12A  
20:00 HUNTER KILLER 15

### TUESDAY 20

13:45 FIRST MAN 12A  
13:30/16:15/19:30  
FANTASTIC BEASTS;THE CRIMES OF GRINDWALD 12A  
16:45 BOHEMIAN RHAPSODY 12A  
19:00 NATIONAL THEATRE LIVE: MADNESS OF GEORGE III

### WEDNESDAY 21

14:00 BOHEMIAN RHAPSODY 12A  
13:30/16:30/19:30  
FANTASTIC BEASTS;THE CRIMES OF GRINDWALD 12A  
17:00 FIRST MAN 12A  
20:00 HUNTER KILLER 15

### THURSDAY 22

16:45 BOHEMIAN RHAPSODY 12A  
13:30/16:30/19:30  
FANTASTIC BEASTS;THE CRIMES OF GRINDWALD 12A  
13:45 FIRST MAN 12A  
19:30 HUNTER KILLER 15

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# Highland student Sheila photography at Scottish

Artwork from some of the Highlands and Islands' most talented amateur photographers is to go on display later this month as part of a new exhibition at the Scottish Parliament.

The exhibition, Higher Vision, will showcase some of the best images taken by 26 students from schools and colleges from all over the country who have completed the Scottish Qualifications Authority's Higher Photography course over the past year.

The exhibition provides a unique insight into what life in Scotland is like through the lens of these students and captures people and places from their own outlook. From Scotland's diverse landscapes and environment to portraiture of people who have made an impact on their lives. These images also



explore issues of identity, adolescence and mental health. Held in partnership with SQA, and the Scottish

Society for the History of Photography, the exhibition captures a selection of the talent that has been displayed

by more than 2,300 Higher Photography candidates over the past academic year.

Taken from students'

projects, produced as part of their course assessments, which counted towards their final grades, a panel con-

**Sheila Matheson's work focuses on people of different ages living in Highland communities displaying their traditional and contemporary skills.**

sisting of photography and industry experts chose the images that will be featured.

The Presiding Officer, the Rt. Hon. Ken Macintosh MSP said: 'This is a really impressive exhibition which tells a moving story about what life in Scotland is like from the viewpoint of these students. Photography is such a powerful medium and I am delighted that the Parliament can showcase the talent of these amateur photographers by putting their work on public display.'

'I hope this exhibition inspires but also challenges us to think about what life in Scotland is like from a different perspective. The images offer an honest but also an uplifting story of what matters most to these young people from every corner of the country.'

Dr Janet Brown, SQA chief

## RED HOT CHILLI PIPERS

**Fri 14th Dec 2018, 7.30pm  
Nevis Centre, Fort William**



**Tickets: [ticketmaster.co.uk](http://ticketmaster.co.uk) or from the Nevis Centre reception: 01397 700707**

## OFFERS & competitions

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 November 2018. **Winners drawn from all competitions also enter a prize draw to win a bottle of Berry Bros. & Rudd Islay Reserve whisky.**

### WIN

#### A BOTTLE OF EDINBURGH GIN SEASIDE

Edinburgh Gin and Scottish Field have teamed up to give away a bottle of Edinburgh Gin Seaside to one lucky reader.

Inspired by the beautiful east coast beaches that lie just a few miles from the capital, Edinburgh Gin Seaside is a unique London Dry style gin defined by juniper, soft salinity and sweet notes.

Created using foraged coastal botanicals, including scurvy grass, ground ivy and bladderwrack, this is a gin with distinctive

minerality. These unique flavours are complemented by aromatic spice notes from grains of paradise, coriander and cardamom.

The flavoursome end result is a gin with a slightly sweet, yet refreshing salinity. Ideal for serving as a classic G&T or as a Seaside Gin Martini with samphire or lemon peel to create a pleasing drink.

To be in with a chance of winning a beautiful bottle of this maritime-inspired tippie, all you have to do is answer the question below.



**FOR YOUR CHANCE TO WIN, just answer the following question: Name one of the coastal botanicals used in making Edinburgh Gin Seaside?**

One winner will receive one 70cl bottle Edinburgh Gin Seaside. Competition open to over 18s only. The prize package can only be delivered to a UK mainland address. The prize will be sent by courier. No cash alternative is available.

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 (Wyrex 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.

# showcases her Parliament



executive, said: 'Higher Photography is a demanding qualification, and it asks a lot of the learners who undertake the course. Candidates are expected to plan, develop and produce creative and technically proficient photographs, and develop skills that are valuable for learning, life and work. The images produced by the 26 candidates who were selected for the exhibition are simply stunning. The Higher Photography course allows candidates the chance to broaden their skills and creative talents, and to widen their horizons about opportunities for em-

ployment within the creative industries.'

Alexander Hamilton, chairman of Scottish Society for the History of Photography, said: 'A generation of young people are getting a wonderful introduction to the world of photography, especially Scotland's important role in its evolution. The Higher Vision exhibition is an impressive demonstration of photographic talent from across Scotland. We look forward to featuring the work in our journal Studies in Photography, which offers insights into the historic as well as the new contempo-

rary voices that are shaping the direction of photography in Scotland.'

Sheila Matheson, of West Highland College UHI, Highlands and Islands, is one of the students whose work is being exhibited in Edinburgh.

Talking about her work, People at work and play, Sheila said: 'I've always admired and been interested in both portrait and black and white photography, but with practically no experience of either, decided to incorporate both in a social documentary style for my project.

'I thought it would be challenging and increase my knowledge while learning about photography. I wanted to show the people of different ages living in our local communities displaying their traditional and contemporary skills.

'Some are doing something traditional, others something more unusual or new to the area, but together these make rural Ross-shire what it is today.'

The exhibition will be on display to the public from Tuesday November 20 to Friday February 8, 2019, and entry is free.

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

**MONDAY:** 08.00 AM on FM, 08.10 Breakfast Show, 9.00 Monday Morning with Stephen, 11.00 Ian Simmonds on Monday, 17.00 Drivetime, 19.00 Rosie's Highland Fling with Rosie Macoll, 20.00 John McLuckie's Show, 21.00 David Cullen show, 23.00 Station close down

**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 Jim Lynch, 19.00 Highest Praise - Stuart Chalmers, 20.00 Archie Darlings's Mix, 22.00 Clyde 2

**WEDNESDAY:** 08.00 AM on FM, 08.10 Breakfast Show, 09.00 Sound Scottish Repeat, 10.00 Comfort Zone, Doug Carmichael, 11.00 Comfort Zone, 12.00 Comfort Zone, 17.00 Drivetime with Campbell, 19.00 Country Meets Rock & Roll - Len + Ken, 20.00 Country Meets Rock & Roll, 21.00 Gordon's Grooves with Gordon Macintyre

**THURSDAY:** 08.00 - 11.00 Breakfast with Andy and Sarah, 11.00 Molly's Mix with Molly Black, 13.00 Molly's Mix, 15.00 Drivetime with Stephen, 17.00 Drivetime with Stephen McPhee, 18.00 Drivetime with Stephen

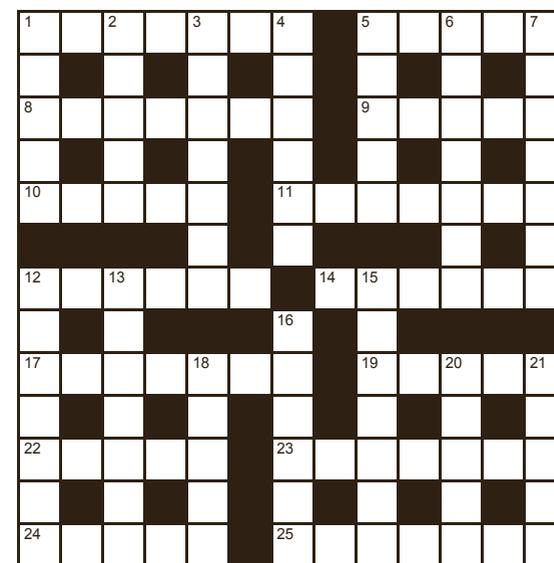
McPhee, 19.00 Christines Collection, 20.00 Christine's CD Collection, 21.00 Ann's Ceilidh, 22.00 Margo Till Midnight, 11.00 Margo Till Midnight

**FRIDAY:** 08.00 Breakfast Show with Laura, 10.00 Teeny and Tiny, 17.00 Drive Show with Jim Lynch, 17.30 Drive Show, 18.45 Sports View, 19.00 Country Meets Country with Jackie Craig, 20.00 Lewis Bingham, 21.00 Peter Rainnie

**SATURDAY:** 08.00 Breakfast Show with Stephen  
10.00 Sat Morning Live, 11.00 Saturday Morning, 12.00 Saturday Morning Live with Linda Crowsher, 12.03 Sat Morning Live, 12.05 Saturday Morning Live, 13.30 Clyde, 18.00 Sports View - Dream Team, 19.00 Sounds Scottish with Archie Darling, 20.00 Dave Lewis, 22.00 Margo Till Midnight

**SUNDAY:** 09.00 Sunday Morning With Breege, 10.00 Sunday Morning, 11.00 Sunday Brunch With Archie, 12.00 Sunday Brunch, 16.30 Archie Darling, 18.00 Ken's Friends - Ken Hunter, 19.00 New Country Show - David Entwistle, 21.00 Drum & Bass - Graham Scott, 23.00 Station Close Down

## Crossword



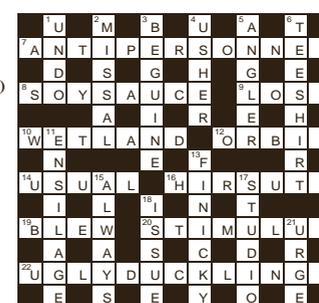
### Across

- 1 Where the spoken word is read (7)
- 5 Snuff (5)
- 8 Extravagant language (7)
- 9 Allow moneys forthcoming? (5)
- 10 Finishes in US city? (5)
- 11 Read as order (4,3)
- 12 Label (6)
- 14 Sail through (6)
- 17 Wild animal of North America (7)
- 19 South American drink (5)
- 22 Fold (5)
- 23 Study of arterial world (7)
- 24 Saltpetre (5)
- 25 Just grabbing on by digit (7)

### Down

- 1 Food for a ladybird. (5)
- 2 Confuse (5)
- 3 Colour of blushes (7)
- 4 Check (6)
- 5 Out of sight (5)
- 6 Napping, so to speak (7)
- 7 Authorize (7)
- 12 Target for Donald? (7)
- 13 Impassioned (7)
- 15 Celebrate (7)
- 16 Insert to enlarge (6)
- 18 Mountain (5)
- 20 Jargon (5)
- 21 Beg (5)

### LAST WEEK'S SOLUTION



## COMMUNITY NOTICEBOARD

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**CHRISTMAS FAYRE**  
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Iain Gordon  
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Eileen Duncan  
(2018 Silver Pendant Winner)  
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Adults - £4 Children £2

**Christmas Lunch**  
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## NFUS calls for governments to resolve issues

NFU Scotland has called upon the UK and Scottish Government to resolve their differences on the Agriculture Bill.

The union has urged the respective governments to end the impasse and to work constructively to ensure Scotland can develop and implement a new national agricultural policy after Brexit.

In letters sent to the Secretary of State for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs Michael Gove, and the Cabinet Secretary for Rural Economy Fergus Ewing, NFUS president Andrew McCornick called for progress to break the political logjam between both governments on how to agree future policy, financial frameworks and repatriation of powers.

The UK's Agriculture Bill was published in September and is currently receiving scrutiny in the House of Commons.

The Bill is 'enabling' legislation, providing broad powers to current and future governments to provide financial



Jonnie Hall.

assistance and make other policy interventions around land use and agriculture after the UK's departure from the Common Agricultural Policy (CAP).

However, the Bill has also given rise to legitimate questions about the ability for governments to continue to make agricultural payments in the immediate aftermath of EU exit in 2019 and 2020. Governments must provide clarification on this in order to give much-needed certainty and stability to farmers and crofters.

It is the view of NFUS that, due to the continued impasse

between governments, the Bill has become very politicised and the required policy measures that will secure the best outcomes for Scottish agriculture are being put at risk.

NFUS director of policy Jonnie Hall said: 'Less than five months from Brexit, our members are desperate for certainty and confidence. The politicisation of the process has, so far, been unhelpful and we must see meaningful progress between the two governments soon.'

'We need the very best outcomes for Scottish agriculture, so it is vital that both Holyrood and Westminster act with urgency and establish a satisfactory outcome for all sides.'

'The real prize from exiting the EU is to move away from the CAP, while developing and implementing new agricultural policies that are bespoke to the unique and differing needs of the UK. This will only happen if both governments break the current impasse and play their respective and complementary roles.'

## Around the markets

**Fort William** – Dingwall and Highland Marts Ltd on November 2 sold 500 rams at its annual sale.

Blackface ram lambs (76) averaged £478.22 and sold to £5,500 gross from Elmscleugh, Dunbar.

Blackface shearlings (259) averaged £265.44 and sold to £1,000 gross from Clashnoir, Glenlivet.

Blackface two shears (44) averaged £231.90 and sold to £700 gross from Craig Farm, Straiton.

Blackface three shears (21) averaged £165.71 and sold to £450 gross from Craig Farm.

Blackface aged rams (8) averaged £222.50 and sold to £700 gross from Allanfauld Farm, Kilsyth.

Swales (4) averaged £232.50 and sold to £380 gross from 3 Cara View, Taylinoan.

Cheviots (51) sold to £400 gross twice for two shears from Keppoch Farm, Dundonnell. Beltex (8) sold to £500 gross for a shearling from Crookston, Heriot.

Blue Faced Leicester (6) sold to £400 gross for a shearling from Crookston.

Texels (13) sold to £320 thrice for shearlings from Balmaglaister, Spean Bridge and 3 Glenrath, Kiarkton.

Suffolks (7) sold to £320 gross for a shearling from The Arr, Lethen.

Lleyn (3) sold to £250 gross for a 2 shear from Kirkton Farm, Crianlarich.

Other leading prices per head:

BF ram lambs – Elmscleugh, £4,200, £1,800, Dalchirla Farm, Muthill, £2,400, Midlock Farm, Crawford and Dalchirla Farm, £1,600, Laigh Balernick, Shandon, £1,400, Midlock Farm, £1,000 (twice).

BF shearling – Elmscleugh and Clashnoir, Glenlivet, £800, Elmscleugh, £700 (twice), Balrazzie Farm, Ballantrae, Croughly, Tomintoul and Clashnoir, £650.

BF two shear – Knockdon, Straiton, £550, Crookston, Heroit and Dall Farm, Killin, £500, Crookston, £420, Craig Farm and Shenlarich, Lawers (twice), £400.

BF three shear – Burnfoot Farm, Muirkirk and Shenlarich, £300, Allanfauld Farm, £220, Dall Farm (twice) and Allanfauld Farm, £200.

BF Aged – East Bracklin, £450. Swale shearling - 3 Cara View, £220.

Chev shearling – Balmaglaister, Spean Bridge, £250 (twice), £220, Pat Wilson Farms, Kinlochewe and Balmaglaister, £200, East Durran, Castletown, £180.

Chev two shear – East Bracklin and Keppoch Farm, £350, 80 Strathcaniard, Ullapool, £280, Ose Farm, Struan and Keppoch Farm, £250.

Chev three shear – Achnasaul, Drimnin and Keppoch Farm, £200, Ose Farm, Struan, £150. Beltex shearling – Clashnoir, £250 (twice).

Blue Faced Leicester shearling – Crookston, £300, £250, The Arr, Lethen, £240.

Texel shearling – No 3 Glenrath, Kiarkton, £280, East Bracklin, £220.

Texel two shear – Shenlarich, £220.

Suffolk shearling – Newton of Crathie, Ballater, £300, Ardchattan Home Farm, Connel and Newton of Crathie, £280.

**Stirling** – United Auctions on Thursday November 8 sold 5,202 prime sheep comprising of 3,670 prime lambs selling to an average of 156.50ppk and 1532 ewes and rams.

Lambs (3,670) – Harviesmailing (B'Tex) £92.00; Letar (Tex) £90.50; Culdees (Cont) £85.50; Groan (Cross) £81.00; Pitkindie (Suff) £78.50; Marvingston (HB) £74.50; Pathhead (Char) £74.50; Killearn (Chev) £74.00; Hillhead (Mule) £75.50; Knock O Ronald (BF) £67.50.

Lambs (3,670) – Harviesmailing (B'Tex) 212.00ppk; Letar (Tex) 203.00ppk; Culdees (Cont) 194.00ppk; Blackburnrigg (Suff) 181.00ppk; West Kirkton (Cross) 176.00ppk; Killearn (Chev) £174.00ppk; Doune Farms (BF) 165.00ppk; Strathgarry (Mule) 156.00ppk.

Ewes (1,532) – Humeston (Tex) £140.00; Fleurs (Suff) £88.00; Easter Middleton (HB) £86.00; Toxside (Chev) £86.00; Lochend (B'Tex) £78.00; Castleton (Dor) £67.00; Upper Kinneil (Mule) £64.00; Sauchrie Mains (BF) £54.00.

Tups – Marvingston (Suf) £75.00; Wester Bowhouse (BFL) £64.00; Cleaves (Tex) £55.00

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| 65 Dacia Logan EST, LAU TCe, Blue, 23,000 miles .....              | £7,500  |
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| 15 Nissan Micra Visia 1.2, White, 24,600 miles .....               | £5750   |
| 64 Renault Clio DYN TCE Red 16,000 miles .....                     | £7,500  |
| 64 Renault Clio DYN NAV 1.2, Black, 32,000 miles .....             | £7,150  |
| 64 Vauxhall Corsa SXi, 5 dr, Silver, 35,000 miles .....            | £5,500  |
| 14 Skoda Rapid TDi white, 27,000 miles .....                       | £6,950  |
| 13 Renault Megan DYN DCi TOMTOM EST Car, Black, 75,000 miles ..... | £5,750  |
| 13 Kia Rio, Petrol, Black, 44,000 miles .....                      | £4750   |
| 62 BMW Series SPH 1.6, Black, 48,000 miles .....                   | £8,950  |
| 12 Nissan Micra Visia 1.2. Blue, 42,000 miles .....                | £4,000  |
| 09 Suzuki jimny JLX Plus, Grey, 58,000 miles .....                 | £4,850  |

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01383 668 195 www.westendskoda.com

**West End Garage Edinburgh**

4 Cultins Road, Sighthill, Edinburgh EH11 4DG  
0131 297 0739 www.westendskoda.com

**West End Garage Stirling**

Forthside Way, Stirling FK8 1QZ  
01786 235 238 www.westendskoda.com

Images are for illustrative purposes only. Model shown is not UK specification and may include features or options which are not available in the UK.

West End Garage is a broker and not a lender and can introduce you to a limited number of lenders, who may pay us for introducing you to them.

\*At the end of the agreement there are three options: i) pay the optional final payment and own the vehicle; ii) return the vehicle: subject to excess mileage and fair wear and tear, charges may apply; or iii) replace: part exchange the vehicle.

With Solutions Personal Contract Plan. 18s+. Subject to availability & status. T&Cs apply. KAROQ petrol engines receive £1,500 deposit contribution and all diesel engines receive £2,000. Excludes SE Technology. Offers available when ordered by 2 January 2019 from participating retailers. Indemnities may be required. ^Service plan covers first two consecutive services limited to 1 x Oil and 1 x Oil and Inspection service. Offers are not available in conjunction with any other offer and may be varied or withdrawn at any time. Accurate at time of publication. Freepost ŠKODA Financial Services.

Official fuel consumption for the ŠKODA KAROQ range in mpg (litres/100km): Urban 41.5 (6.8) to 61.4 (4.6); Extra Urban 56.5 (5.0) to 65.7 (4.3); Combined 50.4 (5.6) to 64.2 (4.4). CO<sub>2</sub> emissions for the ŠKODA KAROQ range are 138 to 117 g/km.

This vehicle is a WLTP (Worldwide Harmonised Light-Duty Vehicles Test Procedure) type approved vehicle. More information is available at [www.skoda.co.uk/owners/wltp-info/nedc-vs-wltp](http://www.skoda.co.uk/owners/wltp-info/nedc-vs-wltp). However, in line with government guidance, to facilitate comparison between different models from different manufacturers and to accommodate the full transition to this new testing regime, we have displayed NEDC figures. These NEDC figures are the values for this vehicle used in registration and taxation documentation until further notice from the UK authorities. These NEDC figures have been derived from WLTP testing, and may not be equivalent to NEDC figures from NEDC testing, so comparisons may be unreliable. Fuel consumption and efficiency figures are provided for comparative purposes only and may not reflect 'real world' driving results. Choice of wheels and other options may affect fuel consumption and emissions data.

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✉ [HRScotland@forestry.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:HRScotland@forestry.gsi.gov.uk)

Please quote ref 1606924. Closing date: 18 November 2018  
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  [www.forestry.gov.uk/vacancies](http://www.forestry.gov.uk/vacancies)

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The successful candidate will have overall responsibility for the running, safety and quality in delivering our Housing Development in Oban area.

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We require a QS to manage various projects & contracts throughout Argyll & the Isles.

Please apply by email with C.V. to [jobs@mkmacleod.co.uk](mailto:jobs@mkmacleod.co.uk) or address below.  
Kilmory Industrial Estate, Lochgilphead, Argyll, PA31 8RR

**ISLAY ESTATES COMPANY**  
**HOTEL MANAGER REQUIRED**  
**BRIDGEND HOTEL, ISLAY**

To continue the progression and development of our Hotel situated in the heart of a vibrant Estate on Islay.

A vacancy has arisen for an experienced Hotel Manager to manage our 11 bedroom hotel, bar and restaurant.

An honest, friendly individual with a positive, resourceful attitude is essential.

It is imperative to have the ability to lead and work as part of a team.

An attractive remuneration package and house is available.

Apply with CV and references to:  
Gillian Bignal, Islay Estates Company, Estate Office, Bridgend, Isle of Islay, PA44 7PB  
**Tel: 01496810221**  
**Mobile: 07747032360**  
**Email: [gillian@islayestates.com](mailto:gillian@islayestates.com)**  
**Closing date for applications**  
**28th November, 2018**

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|--|-------------------|--|--|

**39 McIntyre Terrace**  
**Lochgilphead**



**PRICE REDUCTION**

**3-bedroom terraced house**  
**Fixed Price: £79,950**

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# RECRUITMENT

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**HIJOBS**



## General Maintenance and Effluent Plant Cover

South Shian, Argyll and Bute.

**Scottish Sea Farms** are an internationally recognised farmer of superior quality Scottish salmon. We pride ourselves in providing industry leading and highly personal development paths which build into fulfilling professional careers. If you are committed to developing our industry and are driven to put your strengths to work we would very much like to hear from you.

We are currently looking to recruit a General Maintenance and Effluent Plant Cover at our Processing Factory in South Shian, Argyll and Bute.

**The successful candidate** will have a knowledge of general maintenance, experience in hand held electrical tools, general fabrication from pest control to cladding and any other relevant experience in various aspects of gardening, electrical and/or plumbing maintenance.

**We expect** the successful candidate to be highly motivated with a positive 'hands on' attitude. They must also ensure that all tasks are completed in a professional manner adherent to strict health and safety requirements and practice good house keeping throughout all activities. Good communication skills are essential.

In return, we will offer an attractive salary dependant on experience including pension scheme, life cover, occupational health support, subsidised gym membership and cycle to work scheme.

**For further information on this role, please contact Donald MacAulay on [Donald.MacAulay@scottishseafarms.com](mailto:Donald.MacAulay@scottishseafarms.com) or 07917470189.**

**To apply, please visit our website [www.scottishseafarms.com](http://www.scottishseafarms.com) and fill in an application form.**

**Closing date for applications: Friday 16th November 2018**



## Receptionist & Office Administrator

Based at Barcaldine, Argyll and Bute

Scottish Sea Farms are an internationally recognised farmer of superior quality Scottish salmon. We pride ourselves in providing industry leading and highly personal development paths which build into fulfilling professional careers. If you are committed to developing our industry and are driven to put your strengths to work we would very much like to hear from you.

**We are currently recruiting for a Receptionist & Office Administrator** at our new hatchery in Barcaldine, Argyll and Bute. This is a fantastic opportunity for someone that is highly motivated, efficient and proactive to join a welcoming and professional team who provide valuable support to our business. The general duties of the Receptionist/Office Administrator include (but are not limited to): -

- Manage and maintain a professional reception area
- Greeting visitors in a professional manner
- Co-ordination of customer visits and on-site meetings
- Managing the company switchboard, directing calls accordingly
- Maintaining stationery stock levels
- Managing the post in/out
- Assisting with the administration of health and safety;
- Assisting with the administration of Learning and Development

You will be smart and professional, have excellent communication and be able to work well under pressure.

Please note that while the primary location for this role is Barcaldine, the successful applicant will be expected to cover at the South Shian office as needed - therefore, applicants must be able to travel between the two locations.

**In return**, Scottish Sea Farms will offer an attractive remuneration package including pension scheme, life cover, discretionary bonus, occupational health support, subsidized gym membership and cycle to work.

**If you would like to be considered for this role, please visit our website [www.scottishseafarms.com](http://www.scottishseafarms.com) and fill in an application form. Alternatively, should you have any questions about the role, you can email [recruitment@scottishseafarms.com](mailto:recruitment@scottishseafarms.com)**

**Closing Date for applications: Friday 16th November 2018.**



## RECRUITMENT RECRUITMENT HIJOBS HIJOBS

**Easdale Seafoods Ltd are an exporter of live shellfish seeking an additional person to join our expanding team based at Balvicar, Isle of Seil.**

Candidates will play a team role in addition to some independent work with split shifts and some weekends required.

There is a necessity for physical fitness in this labour intensive role.

A Full UK Driving Licence and own transport are essential.

£400 per week + bonus.

Permanent full time position with immediate start potential.

Accommodation may be available.

**Please send applications in writing with CV to [connie@easdaleseafoods.co.uk](mailto:connie@easdaleseafoods.co.uk)**



## BOOKKEEPER

We are looking to recruit a bookkeeper to join our busy team. Whilst previous experience would be helpful we are also able to provide comprehensive training to the successful candidate.

Our bookkeeping team make use of all the main cloud based software which ensures that we are well placed to help our clients comply with the forthcoming Making Tax Digital requirements.

**Interested candidates should email their CV for the attention of Duncan Grout, Managing Partner at [mail@raclement.co.uk](mailto:mail@raclement.co.uk)**



# PUBLIC NOTICES

## MARINE (SCOTLAND) ACT 2010 VARIATION TO EXISTING FINFISH FARM, KINGAIRLOCH, MORVEN

Notice is hereby given that Marine Harvest (Scotland) Ltd has applied to the Scottish Ministers of the Scottish Government, under Part 4 of the Marine (Scotland) Act 2010, in respect of an additional raft at an existing finfish farm at:

| Cost                                | <£100         |                |
|-------------------------------------|---------------|----------------|
| Location                            | Latitude      | Longitude      |
| Kingairloch, Loch a' Choire, Morven | 56° 36.842' N | 005° 29.854' W |

(WGS84)

Plans showing the position of the works may be inspected at The Post Office and Shop, Strontian, Inverness-shire, PH36 4HZ (Mon, Tue, Thu & Fri - 09:00-17:30 & Wed & Sat - 09:00-13:00).

Objections relating to safety of navigation in respect of the application should be made in writing to:

Licensing Operations Team, Marine Scotland, Marine Laboratory, 375 Victoria Road, Aberdeen, AB11 9DB within 28 days of the date of this notice or by email to:

MS.MarineLicensing@gov.scot, quoting reference: 05553V and Marine Harvest (Scotland) Ltd

### 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.



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### TRANSPORT SCOTLAND

#### A82 BALLACHULISH BRIDGE: FIVE YEAR MARINE LICENCE ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT DETERMINATION BY THE SCOTTISH MINISTERS UNDER SECTIONS 20A AND 55A OF THE ROADS (SCOTLAND) ACT 1984

The Scottish Ministers hereby give notice that they have determined that their proposal to carry out maintenance works on the Ballachulish Bridge is -

- (a) not a project which falls within Annex I of Council Directive No. 85/337/EEC on the assessment of the effects of certain public and private projects on the environment as amended by Council Directive No. 97/11/EC and Council Directive No. 2003/35/EC of the European Parliament and Council;
- (b) a relevant project within the meaning of Sections 20A(9) and 55A(7) of the Roads (Scotland) Act 1984, and falls within Annex II of the said Directive but that having regard to the selection criteria contained in Annex III of the Directive it should not be made subject to an environmental impact assessment in accordance with the Directive, and accordingly the project does not require the publication of an Environmental Statement.

#### C. B. GAIR

A member of staff of the Scottish Ministers

Transport Scotland, Buchanan House, 58 Port Dundas Road, Glasgow G4 0HF  
06 November 2018



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gov.scot

### TRANSPORT SCOTLAND

#### A87 SKYE BRIDGE: FIVE YEAR MARINE LICENCE ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT DETERMINATION BY THE SCOTTISH MINISTERS UNDER SECTIONS 20A AND 55A OF THE ROADS (SCOTLAND) ACT 1984

The Scottish Ministers hereby give notice that they have determined that their proposal to carry out maintenance works on the Skye Bridge is -

- (a) not a project which falls within Annex I of Council Directive No. 85/337/EEC on the assessment of the effects of certain public and private projects on the environment as amended by Council Directive No. 97/11/EC and Council Directive No. 2003/35/EC of the European Parliament and Council;
- (b) a relevant project within the meaning of Sections 20A(9) and 55A(7) of the Roads (Scotland) Act 1984, and falls within Annex II of the said Directive but that having regard to the selection criteria contained in Annex III of the Directive it should not be made subject to an environmental impact assessment in accordance with the Directive, and accordingly the project does not require the publication of an Environmental Statement.

#### C. B. GAIR

A member of staff of the Scottish Ministers Transport Scotland,

Buchanan House, 58 Port Dundas Road, Glasgow G4 0HF  
06 November 2018



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## DONALD CAMERON MSP

Member of the Scottish Parliament for the Highlands and Islands Region

### MSP SURGERIES

Monday 19th November

#### OBAN

MSP Office, 108 George Street - 12pm - 1pm

#### LOCHGILPHEAD

Lochgilphead Community Centre - 2pm - 3pm

#### INVERARAY

Club Room, Loch Fyne Hotel - 3.30pm - 4.30pm



The Scottish Parliament  
Pàrlamaid na h-Alba

If you are unable to come along, but would like assistance from Donald, please call our office on 01631 563474. All surgeries are first come first serve.

The cost of this publication has been met from Parliamentary resources

### Goods Vehicle Operator's Licence

Bruichladdich Distillery Co Ltd trading as Bruichladdich Distillery Co Ltd of Bruichladdich, Isle of Islay, PA49 7UN, Argyll & Bute is applying to change an existing licence as follows: -

- To keep an extra 0 goods vehicles and 2 trailers at the operating centre at Bruichladdich Distillery, Bruichladdich, Isle of Islay, PA49 7UN, Argyll & Bute
  - To add an operating centre to keep 0 goods vehicles and 2 trailers at Port Charlotte Garage, Port Charlotte, Isle of Islay, PA48 7TU, Argyll & Bute
- Owners or occupiers of land (including buildings) near the operating centre(s) who believe that their use or enjoyment of that land would be affected, should make written representations to the Traffic Commissioner at "Office of the Traffic Commissioner Scotland, Level 6, The Stamp Office, 10 Waterloo Place, Edinburgh, EH1 3EG" stating their reasons, within 21 days of this notice. Representatives must at the same time send a copy of their representations to the applicant at the address given at the top of this notice. A guide to making Representations is available from the Traffic Commissioner's Office.

### Argyll and Bute Council

#### DEVELOPMENT AND INFRASTRUCTURE

ARGYLL AND BUTE COUNCIL (SALEN LOOP ROAD (UC81), SALEN, ISLE OF MULL) (30MPH SPEED LIMIT) ORDER 201...

Argyll and Bute Council proposes to make a Traffic Regulation Order to amend the existing 30mph speed restriction on the Salen Loop Road in Salen Village, Isle of Mull. The new speed limit will cover the entire length of the road.

Full details of the proposal, together with a Statement of Reasons for proposing to make the Traffic Regulation Order can be inspected by logging onto the Council's website at [www.argyll-bute.gov.uk](http://www.argyll-bute.gov.uk) or viewed during normal office hours at the offices of:

- (i) Salen Post Office and Stores, Salen, Isle of Mull;
- (ii) Argyll and Bute Council Offices, Breadalbane Street, Tobermory, Isle of Mull;
- (iii) Argyll and Bute Council Offices, Kilmory, Lochgilphead.

Any person wishing to object to the proposals should send details of the grounds for objection in writing providing their name and address, to the Head of Governance and Law, Argyll and Bute Council, Kilmory, Lochgilphead, Argyll, PA31 8RT or by emailing [TRO-Objections@argyll-bute.gov.uk](mailto:TRO-Objections@argyll-bute.gov.uk) by 7th December 2018. Letters of objection will be replied to after the closing date of the period for objections.

Roads and Amenity Services, 1A Manse Brae  
Lochgilphead, PA31 8RD.

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



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# PUBLIC NOTICES

## CROFTING COMMISSION COIMISEAN NA CROITEARACHD DECROFTING APPLICATIONS

L Pate  
1 & 2 Muirshearlich, Kilmallie  
0.012 ha –Amenity ground  
Case 92944

L Sutherland  
1 Ranachan, Ardnamurchan & Sunart  
0.068 ha – Site for micro hydro scheme  
Case 92768

Written comments from any member of the crofting community within the locality of the croft and any expressions of demand for the croft (which may be made public), may be sent to the Crofting Commission by 14/12/18. Crofting Commission, Great Glen House, Leachkin Road, Inverness IV3 8NW, info@crofting.gov.scot

The Crofting Commission takes the protection of your privacy seriously. To safeguard your personal data and make sure that it is accurate, we only collect and/or store the data necessary to carry out our functions as a regulatory body. You can find a copy of our Privacy Notice at [www.crofting.scotland.gov.uk/openness-and-customer-care](http://www.crofting.scotland.gov.uk/openness-and-customer-care).

Full details at [www.crofting.scotland.gov.uk](http://www.crofting.scotland.gov.uk)

## PROPOSED ASSIGNMENT OF A GRAZING SHARE

Alexander MacDonald is applying to the Crofting Commission for consent to assign the tenancy of the grazing share pertaining to the croft at 5 Treslaig, Kilmallie to Ian Cameron, in the Treslaig Common Grazing, of 2 Treslaig, By Fort William, PH33 7AJ.

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 by December 13, 2018.

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## 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 share details of plans for the linkspan replacement projects. Communities are invited to attend their local meeting:

**An Cridhe**  
Coll Community Centre, Coll  
Monday 3rd December 2018  
4.00pm – 7.30pm

**An Talla Community Hall**  
Tiree  
Tuesday 4th December 2018  
4.00pm – 7.30pm

Individuals are welcome to drop-in at any time during the meetings.

Representatives from CMAL, Calmac Ferries Ltd and engineering firm, Mott MacDonald will discuss the timing of the construction projects, details of the replacement process and the alternative ferry services to be in place during the works. It is anticipated the work will take place in late autumn 2019 at Coll and in early spring 2020 at Tiree.

Caledonian Maritime Assets Ltd, Municipal Buildings,  
Fore Street, Port Glasgow PA14 5EQ

01475 749920 | [operations@cmassets.co.uk](mailto:operations@cmassets.co.uk)



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## TRANSPORT SCOTLAND

### A87 CARRICH BRIDGE: FIVE YEAR MARINE LICENCE ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT DETERMINATION BY THE SCOTTISH MINISTERS UNDER SECTIONS 20A AND 55A OF THE ROADS (SCOTLAND) ACT 1984

The Scottish Ministers hereby give notice that they have determined that their proposal for maintenance works on the A87 Carrich Bridge is -

- not a project which falls within Annex I of Council Directive No. 85/337/EEC on the assessment of the effects of certain public and private projects on the environment as amended by Council Directive No. 97/11/EC and Council Directive No. 2003/35/EC of the European Parliament and Council;
- a relevant project within the meaning of Sections 20A (9) and 55A(7) of the Roads (Scotland) Act 1984, and falls within Annex II of the said Directive but that having regard to the selection criteria contained in Annex III of the Directive it should not be made subject to an environmental impact assessment in accordance with the Directive, and accordingly the project does not require the publication of an Environmental Statement.

#### C. B. GAIR

A member of staff of the Scottish Ministers  
Transport Scotland, Buchanan House,  
58 Port Dundas Road, Glasgow G4 0HF  
6th November 2018



[www.highland.gov.uk](http://www.highland.gov.uk)



## TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING (SCOTLAND) ACT 1997 PLANNING (LISTED BUILDING AND CONSERVATION AREAS) (SCOTLAND) ACT 1997

The applications listed below, along with plans and other documents submitted with them, may be examined online at <http://wam.highland.gov.uk>; electronically at the AREA PLANNING AND BUILDING STANDARDS OFFICE, CHARLES KENNEDY BUILDING, ACHINTORE ROAD, FORT WILLIAM, PH33 6RQ; or electronically at your nearest Council Service Point. You can find your nearest Service Point via the following link [https://www.highland.gov.uk/directory/16/a\\_to\\_z](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   |
|------------------|---|--|
| 18/04256/FUL     | Glenfinnan House Hotel<br>Glenfinnan                    | Alterations and extensions to hotel  |
| 18/05119/FUL     | Craigard<br>Banavie, Fort William                       | Installation of glamping pod for holiday letting   |
| 18/04615/LBC     | Invergarry Primary School<br>Invergarry                 | Internal alterations and erection of classroom extension to school   |
| 18/04959/FUL     | Former Cameron Centre<br>Cameron Square<br>Fort William | Erection of two screen cinema and cafe/bar and provision of temporary site compound and vehicular access for construction purposes |
| 18/05109/PIP     | Land 50M East Of The<br>Corran, Onich                   | Erection of house  |

Time period for comments is 14 days except for 18/04615/LBC, 18/04959/FUL & 18/04256/FUL which are 21 days

ePlanning Centre, The Highland Council, Glenurquhart Road, INVERNESS IV3 5NX  
Email: [eplanning@highland.gov.uk](mailto:eplanning@highland.gov.uk)

## Argyll and Bute Council

### PLANNING

These applications listed below may be inspected between 09:00-12:30 -13.30-16:00 hrs Monday to Friday at Municipal Buildings Albany Street Oban PA34 4AW, 1A Manse Brae Lochgilphead PA31 8RD, your Local Customer Service Point and by logging on to the Council's website at [www.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   |
|--------------|---|--|
| 18/02311/LIB | Removal of OSB board and replace with timber door   | St Conans Church Lochawe Dalmally<br>Argyll And Bute PA33 1AH  |
| 18/02364/PP  | Erection of dwellinghouse, summerhouse and shed (temporary use of summer house as living accommodation for the duration of the house build)   | Land North Of Cuilgown Salen<br>Isle Of Mull Argyll And Bute   |
| 18/02272/PP  | Erection of dwellinghouse and installation of septic tank   | Plot B Land North East Of Ardchivaig<br>House Bunesan Isle Of Mull<br>Argyll And Bute                    |
| 18/02388/PP  | Erection of dwellinghouse, installation of septic tank and formation of vehicular access  | Plot 5 Lagganmore Kilniver Oban<br>Argyll And Bute   |
| 18/02385/LIB | Temporary removal with future re-instatement of section of stone boundary wall for duration of Phase 2 Iona Abbey Works to allow site access  | Iona Abbey Isle Of Iona Argyll And Bute<br>PA76 6SQ  |
| 18/02201/PPP | Site for the erection of dwellinghouse  | Plot 2 Land North West Of Ar-Dachaidh<br>Bunesan Isle Of Mull Argyll And Bute                            |
| 18/02166/MFF | Replacement of existing steel square cages with 7 x 100m circumference cages and replacement feedbarge (with no increase in biomass)  | Fishnish B Fish Farm Fishnish Bay<br>Sound Of Mull Argyll And Bute                                       |
| 18/02222/PP  | Erection of dwellinghouse, installation of septic tank and formation of vehicular access  | Land South West Of Upper Cragabus The<br>Oa Isle Of Islay Argyll And Bute PA42 7AX                       |
| 18/02365/PP  | Phased provision of an adoption standard remote pedestrian footpath (provision required to satisfy terms of Planning Permissions 13/02184/PP (Condition 9), 15/00247/PP (Condition 13) & 16/02201/PP (Condition 11) - Amendment to Permission 16/02291/PP | Land North Of Phase 1, 2 And 3 Housing<br>Development Stanalane Bowmore<br>Isle Of Islay 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.

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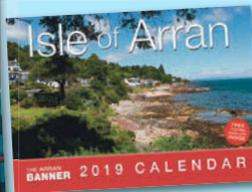
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**BIRTHS**

**MAIN** - Stephen and Gemma (née McMaster) are delighted to announce the birth of their daughter Katie Rae, on October 18, 2018. Wee sister for Ellie, second granddaughter for Matthew and Morven, Oban and Colin and Brenda, Aberdeen.

**DEATHS**

**SLEEMAN** - Suddenly, but peacefully on October 28, 2018 at home at Bowman Court, Craignure, Diana Sleeman, aged 82. Will be sadly missed. Funeral to be held at Salen Church on Thursday, November 15 at 11.30am. All welcome. Family flowers only please. Donations if desired to Tobermory Church.

**ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS**

**MACDONALD** - Allison, Allan and family wish to thank all for the kind expressions of sympathy shown to them at the sad loss of Annie. Our grateful thanks to the Reverend Neil MacGregor, Ian Esslemont and staff of Ian Esslemont Funeral Services, the Castle Hotel, Huntly and R. Barron & Son Florist. Sincere thanks to the staff at Balhousie Care Home Huntly for the wonderful care and kindness shown to Annie and John.

**MACGILLIVRAY** - John, Teen and all the family would like to sincerely thank everyone for their kindness and messages of support following the sad loss of their mother, Mary. Special thanks to the Rev. Fiona Ogg for such a comforting service and to Ella Gill, organist. To Campbell Brown, accordionist, for such lovely tunes at the service. To Kilchoan nurses and carers for such devotion and compassion prior to Mary going into long term care. To all the staff of Invernevis House, Fort William for their love and care to Mary. Warm thanks to all the staff at Kilchoan Community Centre for both the funeral service and excellent catering. To Scott and Linnie at John McLellan Funeral Directors for their professionalism, care and assistance with the funeral arrangements. To McDonald Brothers, Inverloch for the beautiful flowers. To Calum MacColl for such fitting pipe tunes at the graveside, and to everyone who came along to pay their last respects to Mary. The retiral collection raised the sum of £421.39 to be split between Kilchoan Nurses Resource Fund and Invernevis House.

**RODGERS** - Cathy and family would like to thank everyone for their gestures of support following the loss of our dearly loved, husband, dad, father-in-law and granda. Warm thanks to Catriona Hoey and staff for efficient and caring funeral arrangements, Petals for beautiful floral tributes, Rev. Chris Fulcher for a beautiful service, Gary McEwan for piping at graveside and all who paid their last respects at the church and Achnaba. Very special thanks to Aeltsje and staff of Macmillan Day Bed Unit, district nurses, Marie Curie nurse and Gaynor Wotherspoon who all made it possible to have Ian at home with us. The sum of £600 was raised in collection for Macmillan Day Bed Unit, Oban. Thanks also to the Royal Hotel for catering. Ian will be very sorely missed by us all.

**MEMORIALS**

**DICKSON** - In loving memory of Annabel, who died November 13, 2016. A dearly loved wife of Hugh, a loving mother to John, Norman and Alison, a dear gran to Ainslay, Karen, Euan, and Lucy. Always in our hearts.

**EMSLIE** - In remembrance of my beloved wife Anne, who was taken away on November 16, 2002. We never part from those we love No distance can divide In memory's garden day by day We still walk by your side - Hamish.

**EMSLIE** - Remembering with love and gratitude our mother, mother-in-law and granny Anne, who passed on November 16, 2002. A light is from our household gone A voice we loved is stilled A place is vacant in our home Which never can be filled - Your family.

**FRASER** - Cherished memories of Jim, a loving husband, father and father-in-law, who passed away on November 15, 2017. Thank you for the years we shared The love you gave, the way you cared Sincere and true in your heart and mind Beautiful memories you left behind Love always - Janice, Graeme, Lorne, Catriona, Angela.

**GRAY** - Dolina (Dolly). In loving memory of our dear mum and granny Dolly, who passed away on November 14, 2017. It broke our hearts to lose you, But you did not go alone, A part of us went with you, The day God took you home. Forever in our hearts - James, Rachel, Gerrard and families.

**LIVINGSTONE** - In remembrance of Archie, who passed away November 3, 2008 and of his wife Barbara, who died on March 12, 1999. Also remembering Maggie and Duncan, who died on June 28, 1979 and April 18, 1963, respectively. Sadly missed. - John and Stuart.

**MACDOUGALL** - In loving memory of Malcolm, adored husband and dad. A year ago our lives changed forever We miss you more with each passing day You will always be with us, in our thoughts and hearts. - Marion, Malcolm and Pamela. Never forgotten. - Love Mum. Fond memories. - Jean.

**MACDOUGALL** - In loving memory of our dear friend Malcolm, who passed away on November 16, 2017. Forever in our thoughts. - Jayne, John and family.

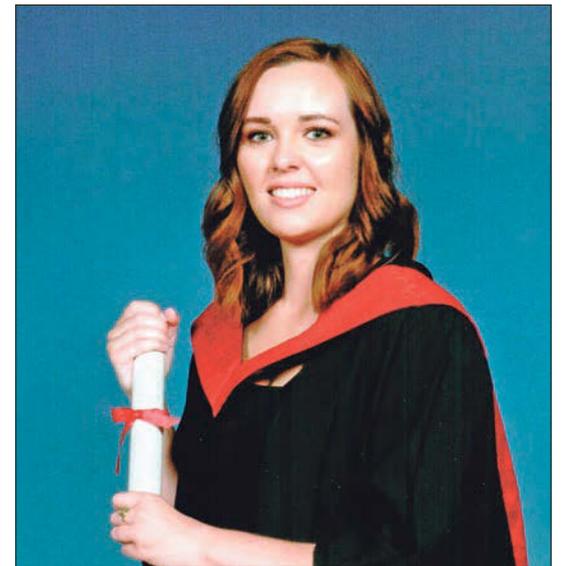
**MACKAY** - Treasured memories of Christine, who passed away November 18, 2006. Adored mum, nana and beloved wife of the late Donnie. Remembered every day with love. - Donna, Finlay, Rebecca and families.

**MACNICOL** - In loving memory Ishbel M MacNicol, 27.2.45 - 14.11.13.

No longer in our lives to share But in our hearts, you are always there - Love Hamish and family.  
**PEARSON** - Proud and precious memories of our loving son Garry, taken from us so tragically on November 13, 1999, aged 22 years. We think of you as living In the hearts of those you touched For nothing loved is ever lost And you are loved so much. In our hearts and thoughts always - All your loving family xxx

Oban Times  
BIRTHS, MARRIAGES, DEATHS

**GRADUATION**



**KIRSTY BOYD**

Graduated from the University of the West of Scotland Ayr Campus with a Professional Graduate Diploma of Education (P.G.D.E Primary). Kirsty is the daughter of Iain and Isobel Boyd, Connel and the granddaughter of Myrtle and the late Angus Smith, Dunbeg and the late Dugie and Cathie Boyd, Oban. Kirsty is a former pupil of Achaleven Primary School and Oban High School.

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# Praise be for Oban Winter Festival



Provost for St John's Cathedral Margi Campbell welcomes all to Winter Praise.

Choirs, candles and a big quiz are among a series of winter praise events being lined up by Oban churches.

The events are all part of this year's Oban Winter Festival starting from tomorrow, Friday November 16.

Lorn Chorus will be at St John's Cathedral in George Street from 7.30pm to present A Little Light Music raising funds to be shared between the cathedral and Marie Curie cancer charity. Admission is by donation with tea,

coffee, cakes and chat to end the night.

Everyone is welcome to join in a pop-up art workshop at the cathedral on Saturday November 17 from 10.30am to 12.30pm turning recycled beach glass into a Celtic cross that will go on display outside until the end of the festival on Sunday November 25.

Monday November 19 sees an evening of winter food and praise at St John's Cathedral again, organised by Hope2Oban and local churches. There will be a mix of some old

favourites and contemporary songs as well as other musical performances and prose. Food will be served from 6.30pm with music starting at 7.30pm. Entry is by donation.

Provost of St John's, the Rev Margi Campbell said: 'I am delighted to welcome everyone to the activities and musical events happening at St John's Cathedral during the winter festival, especially to the exciting new venture of Winter Praise.

'Come for food from 6.30pm and songs and performances from 7.30pm as we look to brighten the darkness of our winter nights. Led by some wonderfully talented folk from in and around our area, it promises to be an incredible evening.'

Back by popular demand in atmospheric St John's is a Choirs and Candles night on Friday November 23 featuring Oban Gaelic Choir, Taynuilt Gaelic Choir, Bach Choir, Lorn Chorus and others from 7.30pm.

Oban Congregational Church has a coffee morning and Christmas fair on Saturday November 24 from 10.30am to 3.30pm in Argyll Street.

Glencruitten Church Hall is also hosting a Macmillan coffee morning on November 24 from 10am to noon raffling off a big hamper. Later at the hall, Marek Kochmanski will be giving a piano recital. Doors open at 6.45pm ready for the performance at 7pm. Tickets on the door are £10, children can get in free.

## THOUGHT for the week

'Making peace through the Blood of His Cross' - Col.1:20

There was a padre who lived with his men in the trenches, sharing their risks, whose name was Geoffrey Studdert Kennedy, affectionately known as Woodbine Willie.

Sharing the horrors of the Somme and Passchendaele, he tended the wounded and buried the dead for which he was awarded the Military Cross. The citation reads that he had shown the greatest courage and disregard for his own safety by attending the wounded under heavy fire.

He wrote simple rhymes, reflecting the question found on the lips of many: 'Where is God in all this?' In the famous line: 'I was crucified at Cambrai and again outside Bapaume', Geoffrey reflected on that perfect sacrifice given, once for all, for the sin of the world.

If Geoffrey wanted to be with his men under fire, so would Jesus want to be with them as one who had suffered and given up His life for those He loved.

In the horror or war, Geoffrey glimpsed hope, sin atoned and the victory of the Cross.

'Blessed are the eyes that see the agony of God

Blessed are the feet that tread the paths that He has trod

Blessed are the souls that solve the paradox of pain

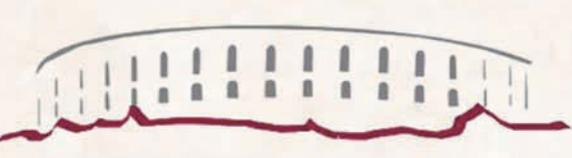
And find the path, that piercing it, leads through to Peace again.'

May we in our suffering be granted a glimpse of hope, a pathway through pain.

David James, Glencruitten House.

**JOHN McLELLAN**  
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# SHINTY NEWS

Best for all shinty news, results and fixtures

## Scottish performance pleases manager MacRae

Scotland U21 boss Alan MacRae couldn't hide his pride at his squad's 25-13 victory over Ireland U21.

The games on Irish soil have been notoriously difficult over the years and the Scots knew they were in for another tough contest when the Irish squad was announced.

MacRae said: 'Ireland always pick a good squad at this level and their pace is phenomenal. They included five All-Star nominees and they always field a strong side at this level. They were able to call on Claire's Aron Shanagher. He's a big name in Ireland and he was a real handful. However, I must say that Blair Morrison got the better of him over the course of the game. Their players were told to take five hurls to the match as they knew they would keep breaking them.'

### Important

The game itself was not for the faint-hearted and MacRae said the conditions also played their part.

'We had the wind advantage in the first half and I was worried that our 7-2 lead at the break might not be enough as you wondered how the strong wind might affect the outcome. However, Findlay MacDonald scored probably the most important goal of the match a minute into the second half which really gave us a boost. There were a couple of phases in the second half where the Irish came back at us and scored some terrific points. There was little we could do but applaud their scorer but we came fighting back which was great to see.'

It was also an afternoon when the full squad played their part.

'The boys did all we asked of them and more. It really is a squad game and we used all the players to good effect. They all got a lot of game time. We had to make a couple of early changes. Will Cowie suffered a clatter to the hand/arm area and although he came back on towards the end of the match, there were cuts and a lot of swelling. Alexander MacMillan replaced Will [Cowie] and really impressed.

Ross MacMillan also came on early in the match for Craig Ritchie, who suffered a knee knock in training and I didn't want to push him. Ross [MacMillan] did well and Craig [Ritchie] was able to come back on later in the game.

'In fact we picked up so many knocks during the game that Lachie Smith had to come on at full forward for the last minute as he was literally the last man standing amongst the substitutes.

'We also had to make changes to



Pictured (l to r) are the principal prize winners at the Taynuilt shinty club awards night: Mark Reid, (Most Improved Player; Blair MacFarlane, (Young Player of the Year; John Keeney, Dawnfresh; Steven Parr, (Players' Player of the Year and also Player of the Year).

counter the Irish threat, particularly in the second half when they came back at us but pushing Craig Richie into midfield and bringing on Iain Richardson into the middle of the park helped us regain control.'

### Excited

Before the match, MacRae said that he was excited about the firepower his side had to offer and his forwards didn't disappoint. 'We played some good shinty on the ground and Roddy [Young] and Iain [Robinson] did so well and they regularly turned their men and the Irish didn't like that. They were well supported by the likes of Calum Shepherd and Innes Blackhall who regularly got the ball up top to the full forwards. Most people are unaware that the goals over in Ireland are lower so it was all the more enjoyable to score six goals. We looked at it before throw-in and Scott [MacLachlan] could get a good reach even without his stick.'

There were also key contributions in other areas of the park including from Oban Camanachd starlet Daniel Sloss. 'At 16 years of age, Daniel was by far the youngest player in the Scotland squad,' MacRae said. 'Daniel [Sloss] broke two sticks early in the contest and I think he was borrowing sticks before the end to keep playing. He did really well and his combative style was so effective that the Irish coaches were asking about him afterwards, especially after hearing he was so young. They

were keen to meet him and I think they thought he could have a future as a hurler if he moved over there.

'Scott MacLachlan in goal made a couple of terrific saves. He saved a penalty and also made a brilliant stop to push away a shot from Aron Shanagher who was right through on goal.

'Blair [Morrison] played a captain's role, especially in the second half where he cleared a lot of ball from his buckshee back position.

'However, they all played their part. Iain Robinson grabbed a dozen points and he chipped in with single points which helped keep the score ticking over and that was important. It's not easy to find the next Kevin Bartlett as steering the ball between the posts is a difficult skill.'

### Flexible

It's often asked what the Scots get from these games and MacRae gave an example of how they have to develop their skills. 'You have to be flexible as this is a very fluid game. You have to be able to play anywhere as the game moves so fast and the players get that. There's little time to think where you are going and you have to roll so quickly. It's not like your regular shinty match where you are able to study the opposition to see where there are any weaknesses and try to capitalise on them. You have to be full on all over the park which is a test and some players struggle to handle that.

'It was exciting, physical and very

skilful and it's just a shame the match wasn't filmed so everyone could see it.'

The squad transition was such that the Scots had a level of continuity with only six new caps this time around and MacRae expects it to be similar next year. 'I expect we'll lose six or seven players next season so it's a similar turnover meaning the continuity should still be there.

'Especially when you consider the players who can come in who have all had experience playing shinty/hurling at U17 level. Kingussie's Ruaridh Anderson and Alexander Michie weren't considered this time around as they were abroad on holiday and missed the practise sessions.

'They could help compensate for the losses next year as could the likes of Calum MacDougall from Kilmallie, who I've been keeping an eye on; Bute's Ryan Craig, who really impresses; Fort William boys Lachie Shaw and Ryan Boyle and Oban Camanachd players Daniel MacVicar and Daniel MacCuish. They are amongst several good players who can stake a claim for a place next year.

'Ireland don't have the same consistency in selection but they tend to pick players at the upper end of the age group so their squad will be aged 20 and 21 years whilst our guys will often be younger which marries things up.'

Just as a full squad was required on

the pitch, the backroom team also played its role ahead of and during the international as MacRae confirmed. 'I received a lot of help from Davie McVey and our physio Lorna Forsyth, who even had the players doing stretching exercises in the hotel beforehand. Callum McLeod also did a power of work in the lead up to the game and he was unable to travel because of family reasons.'

As thoughts turn to the future, there are encouraging signs. 'The Irish were complimentary about our performance afterwards which is always nice to hear but they gave us a thorough test.'

### Influential

'I hope they keep the internationals going. The Irish were very positive about it and Pat Daly, who is very influential within the GAA, was very certain in his hope to keep it going. Some folk don't understand how big a deal this game is to the players.

'They take so much from it and they become better players from aged 17 upwards thanks to the experience. There is much to gain from seeing at close quarters the professional the hurlers show. These guys are either training or playing five nights a week, 10 months of the year and that rubs off on our guys.

'There was also an interesting discussion after the game around the potential benefits of taking the games to different venues throughout Ireland and Scotland. There would be huge interest if these internationals took place in say Kilkenny or Cork in Ireland or Oban or Skye in Scotland.'

With three wins this year at senior, U21 and ladies' levels, it has been a good year for Scotland in the shinty/hurling/camogie series and indeed a positive ending to the 2018 competitive shinty season.

### Taynuilt Player of the Year awards

Taynuilt Shinty Club held its end of season prize giving in the Golf Clubhouse, Taynuilt.

Players, their partners and sponsors enjoyed a meal provided by the ladies of the committee. The trophies were presented by John Keeney from Dawnfresh Seafoods Ltd, the club's main sponsor.

### Caberfeidh Player of the Year awards

Caberfeidh announced their player of the year winners at the awards

dinner dance at Strathpeffer Golf Club on Saturday 10 November 2018.

Scotland U21 captain Blair Morrison, who was also Marine Harvest National U21 player of the year, was the big winner, scooping three prizes.

The winners were: U14 Players of the Year - Arran Grant and Logan Beaton; U17 Players of the Year - Connor MacGregor and Russell MacKenzie; Trainer of the Year - Blair Morrison.

Second team Player of the Year - Declan Wilson; First team Player - Blair Morrison; Players' Player of the Year - Blair Morrison.

## Aberdour awards

Aberdour hosted their annual awards night at Aberdour Community Centre on Friday 9 November.

The evening also included a meal and a ceilidh dance and provided a much-needed fund raising opportunity.

The winners were: U8 Most Endeavour - Ethan Latimer; U8 Coaches' Player - Caleb Curry; U10 Most Endeavour - Lewis Thorington; U10 Players' Player - Sean Paul Burns; U10 Coaches' Player - Cieràn Burns; U12 Most Endeavour - Rebecca Thorington; U12 Players' player - Tom Shenfield; U12 Coaches' Player - Joe Burns; U14 Players' Player - Eòin Burns; U14 Coaches' Player - Eòin Burns; U17 Players' Player - David McDougall; U17 Coaches' Player - Tom Aitchison; Women's Second (Development) Team Coaches' Player - Lorna Cooper; Men's Second Team Coaches' Player - Sean Burns; Women's Players' Player - Katie Booth; Women's First team Coaches' Player - Katie Booth; Men's Players' Player - Kieran Burns and Cammy McCue; Eddie Norman Memorial Trophy for Men's First team Coaches' Player - Cammy McCue.

## Inveraray celebrations

Inveraray's annual awards dinner takes place at the Inveraray Inn on Saturday 17 November 2018.

The club will present their player of the year awards and reflect on a season in which they achieved promotion back to the Marine Harvest Premiership after a three-year gap.

## Shinty at Mossfield this weekend

The Oban Camanachd end of season fun day takes place at Mossfield on Saturday 17 November 2018.

The fun starts at 12.30pm with the first games at 1pm and there are eight teams taking part, split into two groups to play in an initial round-robin format.

The club's end of season prize giving takes place at Glencruitten Golf Club afterwards.

## Oban Camanachd AGM

Oban Camanachd's annual general meeting takes place at The Rockfield Centre on Thursday November 22.

The AGM starts at 7pm and all supporters and friends of the club are welcome.

## Scotland Squads confirmed for Iomain Cholmille XI

The Scotland squads have been confirmed for Iomain Cholmille XI which takes place in Derrybeg, County Donegal, Ireland on Saturday November 17.

Glasgow Mid Argyll's Angus MacInnes and Lewis Camanachd's Sean MacLeod will look after the Scots men's side for this Gaelic speaking shinty/hurling contest.

Thuirtean Sean: 'Tha mi gu math riaraichte a bhith ag obair cuide ri Aonghas a tha gu math eòlach air stiùireadh sgiobaidhean.

'Tha sguad math againn le eòlas, òige agus cluicheadairean a bhios a' dèanamh oidhirp mhath Gàidhlig a bhruidhinn. Tha sinn a' coimhead air adhart ris agus tha sinn an dòchas gun toir sinn Còrn Cholmille air ais a dh'Alba.'

Alba men from: John Angus MacInnes - Skye Camanachd; David MacInnes - Skye Camanachd; Ally MacLeod - Skye Camanachd; Jamie Gillies - Skye Camanachd; Ryan Morrison - Skye Camanachd; Calum Gibb - Skye Camanachd; Crisdean MacRae - Lewis Camanachd; Paul Duke - Lewis Camanachd; Sean MacLeod - Lewis Camanachd; Stuart Campbell - Lewis Camanachd; Rhuairaidh MacDonald - Glengarry; Graham Black - Aberdeen University Camanachd; Mark Fraser - Fort William; Jack Fraser - Fort William; Pdraig McNeil - Fort William; William MacKinnon - Boleskine; Eoghan Stewart - Strathglass; Alex Dunning - Taynuilt; Angus MacInnes - Glasgow Mid Argyll; Angus MacInnes (junior) - Glasgow Mid Argyll; Somhairle MacDonald - Inverness; Joseph MacInnes - Uist Camanachd/English Shinty Association.

The ladies' squad has also been confirmed for the shinty/camogie clash.

Catriona Gibb is in charge and she said: 'Tha sguad beag againn agus tha cuid a chluich roimhe a dhith, ach tha an cothrom againn cluicheadairean ùra a thoirt an lùib a' ghnòthaich airson a' chiad uair.'

Alba ladies from: Catriona Gibb - Skye Camanachd; Emma Gordon - Skye Camanachd; Isabelle Law - Skye Camanachd; Kate Bradley - Ardnamurchan; Claire Ford - Ardnamurchan; Rachel Ford - Ardnamurchan; Joanne Ford - Ardnamurchan; Karen MacKinnon - Oban Lorne; Ashleigh Fraser - Fort William; Lauren Doherty - Fort William; Kayleigh Marie Woods - Fort William; Christy MacIntyre - Lochaber; Mairi Duncan - Lochaber; Orla McCarthy - Glasgow Mid Argyll; Katie MacDonald - Glasgow Island; Annabel Budge - Glasgow Island; Shannon Cowie - Glasgow Island.

The round-robin matches against Micheal Breathnach and Fir Uladh get underway at 10am.

# SPOT THE SHINTY BALL

THIS WEEK'S JACKPOT £500

We have removed the shinty ball from the photograph opposite. Now look carefully at the position of the players and use your skill and judgement to place a cross at the exact point where you think the centre of the ball was. You may have a maximum of 20 attempts on this coupon at a cost of £1. If you wish to have more attempts, you must enter on separate coupons.

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 noon Tuesday. No refunds will be given for entries received after the deadline.

You may hand it into The Oban Times Head Office, Lochavullin, Oban by the same time. Otherwise all entries must be posted.

### Competition rules

No responsibility will be accepted for entries which are delayed, mislaid or lost, and proof of posting cannot be accepted as proof of delivery.

The Company's decision is final on all matters relating to the 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

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We have a winner  
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L Currie, Lochgilphead  
who wins the jackpot of £800

\*Winner has been notified

OT

# Otters hold family ceilidh

Oban Otters family ceilidh took place on Friday November 9 at the Argyllshire Gathering Halls and was heaps of fun for all the family.

The event was organised by the Young Leaders team, including Sam Coates, Ella MacKechnie and Freya MacKechnie, and was sponsored by Create18 Year of

Young People, who provided grant money to cover the costs of the evening.

The aim of the Young Leaders was to provide a social event to engage families and retain young swimmers in the sport through their teenage years.

In the spirit of the Year of Young People, all entertainment was provided by young

people and included members of Oban High School Pipe Band, OHS Traditional Music Group and Highland dancers who were swimmers from the club alongside some of their friends.

A DJ session finished the evening, equipment kindly loaned by Atlantis Leisure.

All tunes provided a chance for the younger swimmers

## SWIMMING

and their families and friends to take to the dance floor and enjoy the mixture of musical genres and entertainment.

The home baking and raffle were a welcome chance to rest the legs and refresh. A big thank you to all who supported this enjoyable evening.



Dancers performed Strip the Willow.



Members of OHS Pipe Band demonstrate their talent.



Young Elliott Dancers arrive to perform at the ceilidh.



Swimmers Megan, Rachel, Jessica, Kay, Anna and Nicola wait for the entertainment.



Freya and Ella MacKechnie, two of the event's young organisers.



Enjoying the ceilidh with OHS Trad Group.

# Oban Lorne fail to navigate a win in Stranraer

|                           |    |
|---------------------------|----|
| Wigtownshire              | 31 |
| Oban Lorne                | 14 |
| Tennent's West Division 2 |    |

Oban Lorne were on their travels on Saturday as they made the long trip to Stranraer to play mid-table Wigtownshire.

The preparation for the game had seen the majority of the squad head down to a hotel outside Glasgow on Friday night to take some of the travel out of the journey on Saturday morning. The best of plans was negated somewhat by a navigational error which saw the team having a detour via Carlisle on the way.

This detour meant that the team only arrived about 30 minutes before kick-off, and this poor preparation was to have an immediate effect on the game.

Oban started the game with some positional changes due to injuries, suspensions and players travelling to the international game at Murrayfield as well. This was further compounded by a couple of late withdrawals on Saturday morning, with Graham MacEachan and Radi Maksimov not being able to make the trip.

This saw a reshuffle in the Oban pack with vice-captain Stephen Povey moving to prop and back row forward Lorne MacLachlan moving to hooker.

After a minute's silence for remembrance weekend, the game kicked off on a slippery wet day where ball handling was going to be difficult. Straight from the kick-off, a knock-on by one of the Oban players was gathered by the Wigtownshire openside who reacted quickest to the infringement and surged past a couple of attempted tackles to score his team's first try of the game in the opening minute.

Oban bounced back and took the game to the home team and had some good passages of play but could not break down a stubborn home defence.

The pitch was very narrow which prevented Oban being able to stretch the opposition and create the holes in defence which they have been able to this season.

The men in green were struggling to get good clean ball from the scrum and lineout with the re-jigged front row under pressure from a well-drilled home pack and Matt Walker did well to get the ball away from the scrum a number of times with the scrum retreating at speed.

Young Lorne Sinclair also had a great shift being asked to throw the ball in at the lineout at the last moment. The lineout did well with just some slight timing issues which can be worked out at training but this improved as the game went on.

A number of handling errors from both teams and some dubious refereeing meant there was very little flow to the game, with both sides enjoying some good phases of possession but not being able to create any further scoring opportunities until the last minute of the half.

Oban found themselves camped on their own goal-line with the Wigtownshire forwards playing tight with a number of pick-and-goes round the side of the rucks. This eventually led to the home side's second try and, with the conversion, this took the half-time score to 12-0 in favour of the home side.

## Resolute

The second half started where the first half had finished, with Wigtownshire getting early territory in the Oban 22 following a midfield penalty. Again some resolute Oban defending kept the home team at bay for a number of phases before the Wigtownshire prop managed to burrow over the line for the third try of the day.

Oban finally managed to string some phases of play together. The scrum started to steady itself as the opposition tired and this allowed Oban to generate some quick ball.

After a great spell of pressure, young centre David Cameron was on hand to score his third try of the season under the posts. Finlay Carmichael duly converted and

Oban were back in the game at 17-7.

Wigtownshire were to come straight back at Oban to score the bonus-point try. Again hard work round the fringes from the forwards and Oban not getting off the line allowed the big number 8 to cross the Oban line.

Oban made a couple of changes with 20 minutes of the game to go with two new players getting their first games for the senior team.

Nathaniel Valente came on to the wing, replacing Roddy Morrison, who rolled back the years yet again to deliver another steady performance on the wing. Michael Mackinnon came on to replace young Ben MacFarlane-Barrow in the back row after he took a bang to the head.

Both these players made an impact with some fine tackling and aggressive runs although finding themselves on the wrong side of the referee on a couple of occasions by straying offside.

Oban were to respond again and upped the tempo and the work rate in the last quarter of the match. They were rewarded with another try when Finlay Carmichael took a quick tap penalty and floated a lovely ball out to Valente on the wing and the fireman managed to cross the line.

The referee then proceeded to award a penalty try for an infringe-

## RUGBY

ment with Wigtownshire not being back 10 metres from the quick tap.

Wigtownshire were to respond yet again with another try to bring the final score to 31-14. A tough one to take for the Oban Lorne team, who had hoped to take something from this game to keep them in contention at the top end of the league.

The travel mishap and the late call-offs in the morning took the edge out of the Oban game and they just couldn't get into their stride.

If they have any aspirations of success then these are the tough games on the road that have to be won. The young team will learn from this defeat and it will stand them in good stead for what is still to come.

Oban now shift their focus to this weekend when they are on their travels again to face Cumbernauld. This is the first of the return fixtures of the season with Oban securing a comfortable victory at the start of the season in Oban. A win is vital to keep in touch with the league leaders Lenzie and Uddingston, although Oban have a game in hand against both teams and have to welcome both to Glencruitten in the new year.

Oban Lorne's next home fixture is an Argyll derby with Helensburgh RFC on Saturday December 1. Kick-off 2pm.



Oban Saints travel to take on Kilsyth in the West of Scotland Cup on Saturday.

# Saints travel on West Cup duty this weekend

Oban Saints look to make it 11 wins in succession this weekend when they travel to the foot of the Kilsyth Hills and Lanarkshire's most northerly town to face Kilsyth Community in the West of Scotland Cup third round.

Formerly known as Kilsyth Amateurs, the long-established North Lanarkshire club decided on a re-branding for this their 56th season in amateur football and became part of Kilsyth Community Football Club whose aim is to bring all age groups in the town under one footballing umbrella.

## Relationship

The renaming coincided with the decision to end a long and successful relationship with the Central Scottish Amateur Football League for Kilsyth, where they were 2003/04 Premier Division Champions and 2005/06 McAvoys and McIntyre Cup winners, and begin a new chapter in the Caledonian League.

Kilsyth appear to be settling in well to their new league where six wins from seven

matches sees them in third position, six points behind leaders Eaglesham but with two games in hand, and well placed to mount an assault on the Division 1A title.

Coming just a little too early in the season for Kilsyth was the challenge of facing Oban Saints old foes Thorn Athletic in the Douglas Smith League Cup. A convincing 5-1 away win for the Premier Division leaders set them on their way to a quarter-final clash with Dumbarton Academy FP and left Kilsyth making up the group section H numbers along with Strathclyde University and Weirs Recreation.

In the major cup competitions, Kilsyth reached the third round stage of the Scottish Amateur Cup thanks to a first round walkover and a 3-1 away win at Strathclyde Saturday Morning Amateur Football League Championship B side Renfrew. Unfortunately for Kilsyth, they came up against near neighbours Central Scottish Amateur Football League big guns Eastfield in

the third round where, despite a spirited performance from the visitors, a solitary second-half goal was enough to see Eastfield progress.

In the first round of the West of Scotland Cup, Kilsyth were taken to extra-time by Scottish Amateur Football League Premier Division Two high fliers Glynhill Moorcroft before squeezing past the Renfrew men by the odd goal in seven.

## Stirring

Round two produced an identical scoreline but without the need for an additional 30 minutes. Clydeside Athletic of the Glasgow Colleges Football Association Premier Division were the visitors to Kilsyth Sports Field and raced into a 3-1 lead before a stirring comeback, including a last-minute winner sealed a third round home tie for Kilsyth against Saints.

In round one of the competition, Saints were scheduled to play Rannoch at Glencruitten but the Greater Glasgow League outfit elected not to fulfil the fixture hand-

## FOOTBALL

ing the tie to Saints by way of a walkover. Round two saw Saints travel to the Toryglen Regional Football Centre in the shadow of Hampden Park to face Uddingston of the Strathclyde Saturday Morning League and, in an exciting encounter, the D & K Lafferty-sponsored Oban side squeezed through 4-2 after extra-time. Craig MacEwan and Lewis Cameron scored for Saints in the regulation 90 minutes which ended 2-2 but two extra time goals from MacEwan and Donald Campbell meant Saints progressed to round three.

Saturday's match at Kilsyth Sports Field will be a major test for Saints and must be played to a finish on the day with extra-time and penalty kicks coming into play to decide the winner if the two sides cannot be separated after 90 minutes.

Taking charge of proceedings is experienced referee Derek Dempster of the Central Scottish Amateur Football League.

## YOUTH RUGBY

# Friendly win for Oban Lorne U16s

|                         |    |
|-------------------------|----|
| Whitecraigs             | 15 |
| Oban Lorne              | 84 |
| U16s – friendly fixture |    |

With no scheduled league games this weekend Oban Lorne U16s arranged a last-minute friendly fixture away to Whitecraigs RFC in Newton Mearns. The boys managed to field a squad of 13 players at short notice, great commitment for a long away trip.

Oban ran out comfortable 84-15 winners and played some of their best

rugby of the season. Blair MacFarlane and Kenni Gray were standouts on the day for Oban who played the second half with a player down.

The U16s are currently unbeaten in the league this season and have a tough away game to Ardrossan RFC this Sunday. The boys have also been competing well in the Schools Cup competition where they have progressed to the National Plate semi-final. This game is due to be played within the next couple of weeks.



Oban Lorne Under 16s.

## CROSS COUNTRY

# Tobermory High School finish top in Leanachan Challenge

The Leanachan Challenge cross country race took place last Thursday (November 8) at Fort William with 70 competitors from schools across Lochaber and the Highlands getting involved.

Organisers were delighted at the turn-out this year with teams from Lochaber High School, Mallaig High School, Ardnamurchan High School, Kinlochleven High School, Glenurquhart High School, Kilchuimen High School, Tobermory High School and Portree High School all travelling to Fort William to take part.

The 70 runners made this a record attendance at the event.

This year the school shield went to Tobermory High School which was extra special as this was their first visit to the event. The cup for fastest girls went to Mairi Nonhebel from Tobermory High School. The shield for fastest boy went to Ben Johnstone from Lochaber High School, who is a regular winner.

Results: S1/2 girls – 1 Bregha Miller, Mallaig. 2 Ailsa Janzen, Kinlochleven. 3rd Isla MacArthur, Kilchuimen.

S1/2 boys – 1 Alex Jamieson, Portree. 2 George Blagdan, Portree. 3 Zach Alexander, Ardnamurchan.

S3/4 girls – 1 Sarah Fountain, Glenurquhart. 2 Innes Fernandez, Glenurquhart.

S3/4 boys – 1 Donald MacVicar, Tobermory. 2 Ben Mackinnon, Lochaber. 3 Lachlan Mackinnon, Lochaber.

S5/6 girls – 1 Mairi Nonhebel, Tobermory. 2 Kallista Knight, Tobermory.

S5/6 boys – 1 Ben Johnstone, Lochaber. 2 Niall McCallum, Glenurquhart. 3 Finlay Ralston, Glenurquhart.

# Rockfield Primary all kitted out thanks to £500 sports grant

Rockfield Primary School were the very grateful recipients of a £500 grant from Aldi Scottish Sport Fund.

The Rockfield Parent Teacher Association (PTA) were able to purchase eight shinty sticks, 24 football strips to wear at competitions, and one essential netball set, including eight trainer netballs, and 14 red and blue bibs.

Laura Fawdry, Rockfield Primary's acting depute head, said: 'These wonderful resources will be used by the respective clubs connected with

## SPORTS GRANT

the school. Lyndsay Elliott, a valued member of Rockfield PTA, completed the application form and dealt with the related correspondence.

'To qualify for the award, we had to say what the money would be used for, why the funding was crucial to the organisation, who would benefit and the impact on the local community. The basis of our application was to promote active healthy living and inclusion for all within our large school community.'



Rockfield Primary pupils sport their new shinty sticks, footballs and netball kit, thanks to a funding bid helped by Lyndsay Elliott, a member of Rockfield Parent Teacher Association, right.

OT

## HOCKEY

## Oban Men still reaching for the top honours

The Oban Men travelled to Glasgow to face Clydesdale recently.

Oban started well with Ash Petit scoring early in the first half and the 1-0 lead was maintained at half time. In the second half Clydesdale fought back with a goal but Oban got into their rhythm with great passing play



Ali Burton charges towards the Anchor goal.

in mid-field. The Oban efforts were rewarded later in the second half as Fred Fleet scored and Zeph Petit hammered home a further two goals. The final score was 4-1 to Oban. Man of the match was Andy Hodge, who worked tirelessly in mid field.

Last weekend the Oban Men made the trip to Paisley to take on the Anchor side who are currently sitting top of the West District Men Division 3 league table.

Oban started the first half with a 4-4-2 formation using a half court press tactic. Unfortunately Anchor managed to penetrate this with an early goal, which saw the team revert back to a normal 75 press. The team showed great attacking play towards the end of the first half, but couldn't quite convert this into goals, so the half finished 1-0 to Anchor.

The second half saw good attacking play from both sides. Anchor managed to sneak another three shots into the Oban goal. Oban created several chances with near misses from Ash Petit and Ali Burton but failed to hit the back of the net which was unlucky for the team, who all kept their heads high even when behind. The final score of 4-0 to Anchor certainly didn't reflect the Oban effort on the day and was a great experience for the team against arguably one of the division's strongest teams.

Theo Andrews and Lorne Macfarlane gave stand-out performances in midfield, man of the match was Ali Burton, who continued to create chances and lead from the middle of the pitch.

The defeat by Anchor was a blow given the sustained effort by all involved, the recent positive training sessions and run of successful match results. Nevertheless, the climb towards the top of the league continues next weekend with an early start to Ayr to take on the Ayr Hockey Club. Mixed weekly training sessions are on Thursday evenings between 6.30-8pm on the Oban High School astro pitches, all abilities welcome.

### SCOTTISH AMATEUR FOOTBALL LEAGUE

## Results and fixtures

Last Saturday's results: Premier Division - Oban Saints no game; Dunoon 3, Alba Thislte 5; Premier Division One - Lochgilphead Red Star v Campbeltown Pupils, postponed; Premier Division Two - Parkhall 5, Tarbert 1.

Next Saturday's fixtures: West of Scotland Cup, third round - Kilsyth v Oban Saints; Premier Division - Dunoon v Barrhead Arky; Premier Division One - Campbeltown Pupils v Claremont; Lochgilphead Red Star v Castlemilk; Premier Division Two - Tarbert v Cardross.

### OBAN SAINTS YOUTH FOOTBALL

## Results and fixtures

Last Sunday's results - Under 13s 4, Clyde 3. Scoring for Saints were Aidan MacDonald, Duncan MacEwan, Gabriel Tidser and Zander Craik; Rutherglen Glencairn 1, Under 14s 3. Netting for Saints were Kyle Cooper, Ross Mackay and Innes Jackson. Petershill 2, Under 15s 0; Cambuslang 1, Under 16s 3. Saints goalscorers were Connor Moore (2) and James Beaton.

This Sunday's fixtures - Scottish Cup - Under 13s v Broomhill; Regional Cup - Under 14s v Glenvale Reds; League - Shettleston Juniors v Under 15s; Scottish Cup - Under 16s v Dalziel BC.

# Netball is alive and well in the Scottish Highlands

Ladies netball teams from Oban, Mull and Fort William got together recently for a friendly mini tournament held at Atlantis Leisure Centre, Oban. This is the second time the event has been held and is proving so popular it is likely to become a bi-annual event.

Fort William Falcons Netball Club is the organiser and its aim is to get as many netball fans involved in the game as possible. Around 40 women from across the three teams turned up to enjoy an afternoon of friendly (yet slightly competitive) netball - almost twice as many as attended last year.

Teams from Argyll and the Highland region are always looking for new players to join them, even if they haven't played netball since primary

### NETBALL

school. A warm welcome awaits at any of the clubs.

Training times and venues: Oban - Park Primary School, every second Monday, 7-8pm. Details can be found on the Bounce Back to Netball - Oban Facebook page.

Mull - Tobermory High School, every Monday, 6.30-8pm. Details can be found on the Isle of Mull Netball Facebook page.

Fort William - Lochaber High School, every Tuesday (term time only), 7-8pm. Details can be found on the Fort William Netball Club Facebook page.

For further information on any of the above please contact Rebecca Christopher on 01855 821086.



Action from the tournament.



Mull.



Fort William.

## The Cadden Cup - 50 years old and going strong

Two brothers, both dentists in Glasgow, established the annual Cadden Cup competition in 1969 between Vaul Golf Club, Tiree and Tobermory Golf Club, Mull and so on the weekend of June 8-9 2019 we will celebrate 50 years of the competition which is played alternately at each of the clubs.

Gilbert and Jack Cadden came back to their dental practices after the Second World War and were aware that some islands on the west coast of Scotland had no dental service so they decided to do something to help the islanders with their dental health.

In 1948 they bought a 60ft naval launch and fitted it out as a dental surgery which took about four years. In 1952 in their summer holidays they sailed round the islands which had no resident dentist - Rhum, Tiree, Mull, Colonsay, Islay and Jura - anchoring offshore and transporting the

patients to the launch by dingy. Although Jack continued to work in this way for some of the islands for many years, both he and Gilbert soon set up practices ashore on Mull and Tiree. Between them, they bought a small property in Tobermory in which Jack practised while Gilbert was given a facility in a Nissan hut at Tiree airport.

Even after they stopped practising as dentists on these two islands both brothers continued to holiday there - Gilbert and family on Tiree and Jack and family on Mull. Gilbert was a very keen golfer, playing off 1 during his golfing years and although Jack also played he didn't take it as seriously, however, both were very competitive.

In the late sixties they put a proposal to both Vaul, Tiree and Tobermory Golf Clubs about the idea of an annual golf competition between the clubs. It was agreed and the first match was held in

Tobermory in 1969. At the end of the match it was a draw and since it was the first match there had to be a winner so a sudden death playoff took place and Tobermory won at the first hole.

The competition is a highlight on the fixture list of both golf clubs and over these 50 years the Cadden Cup has been contested with enthusiasm, fervour, sportsmanship and a real desire to win by many golfers past and present.

While, of course, the golf is the main event of the June weekend, a much loved spinoff is the social side which in many ways is what has kept the event going and will continue to do so. The travelling golfers are offered hospitality by the host club and there is a social event on the Saturday evening to which partners and friends are welcome.

The friendships which have developed over the years are, in many cases, longer lasting

### GOLF

than the memories of the golf shots and scores.

Next year the event will be in Tiree on Saturday June 8 and Sunday June 9, and to celebrate this special anniversary they are inviting any golfers who have ever participated in the Cadden Cup and their partners as well as members of the Cadden family.

If you have been a Cadden Cup golfer and would like to attend, contact one of these Vaul Golf Club committee members - Jessie Gray, Balemartin, Tiree PA77 6UA (jessiegray49@gmail.com) and Rosemary Omand, Kenovay, Tiree PA77 6UU (rosemary.tiree@icloud.com).

Thirdly, if you have any photographs that you'd be able to lend to us for a display please let either Jessie or Rosemary know. This article was written with much help and information from Gilbert's daughter Suzanne and son.



The sun begins to set on competition during the semi-final between Strathclyde A and Dundee University.  
Photos: Sam Penhaul, Penhaul Photography

# Oban hosts first university sailing championship

The University of the Highlands and Islands Wind and Wave Club has committed to hosting more student sailing competitions in Oban Bay following a recent successful team racing event in the town.

The university's watersports club, based at the Scottish Association for Marine Science (SAMS UHI) at Dunstaffnage is only two years old but was tasked with organising this year's Scottish Student Sailing Women's Team Racing Championship.

It was the first Scottish Student Sailing event hosted by the club. Commodore Joe Penhaul-Smith, a PhD student at SAMS UHI, said he hoped it would be the first of many. Nine student teams arrived on the Friday night and were greeted with

a traditional Oban welcome, a pub tour of the town.

Saturday morning was also a traditional Oban welcome, this time in true winter fashion with high southerly winds, meaning just one race could take place before competition was postponed for the day, giving the competitors plenty of time to prepare for the evening ceilidh.

Sunday morning in contrast was champagne sailing conditions across the bay. The top four teams into the semi-finals were Dundee, Edinburgh, St Andrews and Strathclyde.

After some closely fought racing, and with the light starting to fade, Strathclyde emerged as the eventual winners, claiming the first prize of chocolates donated by Oban Chocolate Company.

## SAILING

Commodore Joe Penhaul-Smith said: "The weekend has been a hugely enjoyable experience for everyone involved and an enormous learning experience for both the wind and wave club and Oban Sailing Club. We will be hosting more events like this in the future."

"It would not have been possible without the help of all of our volunteers, the race officials and the loan of boats and equipment from Dundee University Sailing Club, Craignish Boat Club, Aberdeen Sailing Trust and Argyll College UHI."

All results are available at: <http://events.ksail.co.uk/2018/SSSWomen/>



Katie Taylor of Glasgow University masters the Oban Bay conditions.



Action from Edinburgh Gals versus St Andrews University.



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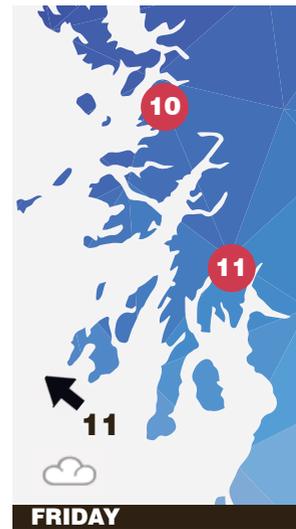


## WEATHER

**Thursday**  
Light rain showers and a moderate breeze  
Temperatures 9°C to 13°C.

**Friday**  
Light cloud and a gentle breeze  
Temperatures 10°C to 13°C.

**Weekend Outlook**  
**Saturday**  
Sunny intervals and a gentle breeze  
**Sunday**  
Sunny intervals and a gentle breeze  
Temperatures 7°C to 11°C.



## TIDAL INFORMATION

Tide tables for Oban during the week from **Thursday November 8, 2018** are listed below with differences for major ports listed on the right. All times are GMT (add one hour BST)

|             |       |     |       |     |
|-------------|-------|-----|-------|-----|
| <b>Thur</b> | 04.44 | 1.9 | 10.32 | 3.2 |
|             | 17.19 | 2.2 | 22.41 | 2.9 |
| <b>Fri</b>  | 05.49 | 2.0 | 12.45 | 3.1 |
|             | 18.34 | 2.2 | ***   | **  |
| <b>Sat</b>  | 01.24 | 2.8 | 07.04 | 2.0 |
|             | 14.07 | 3.2 | 19.54 | 2.0 |
| <b>Sun</b>  | 02.28 | 3.0 | 08.19 | 1.9 |
|             | 14.51 | 3.4 | 20.52 | 1.8 |
| <b>Mon</b>  | 03.07 | 3.2 | 09.12 | 1.7 |
|             | 15.27 | 3.6 | 21.34 | 1.5 |
| <b>Tues</b> | 03.42 | 3.4 | 09.52 | 1.5 |
|             | 16.03 | 3.8 | 22.11 | 1.3 |
| <b>Wed</b>  | 04.16 | 3.6 | 10.27 | 1.2 |
|             | 16.37 | 4.0 | 22.46 | 1.1 |

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 |

**Stop Press:** New pontoons at Ulva Ferry and visitor moorings installed at Lochaline by North West Marine Ltd



**INSIDE THIS WEEK:** Oban hosts first university sailing championship

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The Oban Lorne Ladies squad observe a minute's silence before Sunday's game. Photographs: Stephen Lawson

## Hard-fought win for ladies

|                   |    |
|-------------------|----|
| Oban Lorne Ladies | 17 |
| Garioch           | 0  |

Women's National League 1

Oban Lorne Ladies hosted Garioch Ladies from Inverurie on Sunday at Glencruitten in what was to be a hard-fought match with both teams looking for a victory.

The teams last met in last season's National Bowl final with Oban running out comfortable 48-0 winners at BT

Murrayfield. Oban, however, have been unable to travel to Garioch this season on two occasions stalling what has still been a largely successful season for the team.

A minute's silence was held before kick-off led by referee and former Scottish Rugby president Jim Stevenson.

The match got off to a fantastic start for the ladies in green with Lucy Stewart touching down after some clever hands from the kick-off, allowing the Oban pack

to get the ball out wide. A missed conversion gave a 5-0 score after only a couple of minutes on the clock.

The ladies were almost a different team from the previous games played and were working well together, giving great support play. Garioch kept pressure on the Oban side throughout the game and showed why they were unbeaten in the league so far, big hits and quick balls from their scrum-half meant Oban had to stay alert at all time.

### Controlled

Big hits from captain Laura MacCormick and her forwards, led by flankers Ailsa MacLachlan and Eilidh Shearer, kept the Garioch side back for the majority of the first half. The second try of the day came from Stewart again who controlled the game well as fly-half and utilised Oban's strong runners Erika Skofca and Kirsty Sinclair. Stewart converted to bring the score to 12-0.

Garioch hit back with some good runs and were on the Oban try line for the first time. However, the ball was dropped and Heather Fothergill grounded the ball for a half-time score of 12-0.

### WOMEN'S RUGBY

The second half brought more of the same fantastic rugby from the ladies. With a strong defence and good communication, the girls proved why they are sitting top of the National 1A group.

Wingers Ellen Barlow and Rachel MacDonald used their pace well and managed to put pressure on Garioch's defence all day. Along with Selina Keppie's quick feet and some 'boshing' by second row Veronica Speirs, Oban were most definitely playing as a pack, something which wasn't featured in their last game against Kirkcaldy.

A powerful run from Skofca breaking through several opposition players saw the ball then passed out to Stewart, who used her quick feet and a quick pass wide to Rachel MacDonald who was able to touch down out wide.

Garioch again came back and put pressure on the Oban defence but the ball was held up. Frustratingly for the ladies in yellow, they just couldn't break through the Oban line to get points on the board.

Just before full-time Rachel



Erika Skofca tries to break a tackle.

MacDonald was replaced by Dominika Radzikca, playing her first game for the girls in green along with newbies Beth Rutledge coming on for injured Evie Henshaw in the second row. Aasiyah Patankar also started for Oban Lorne at prop replacing injured Ellie MacNiven and put in a great shift.

Notable performances also came from scrum-half Audrey Barr with some solid tackles and clever play, and Veronica Spiers, who has

worked hard this season and the results are showing on the pitch. Flanker Eilidh Shearer and centres Erika and Kirsty also had good games.

This win means the Green Army remain top of the table and will play second placed Ayr Ladies at Glencruitten this Sunday at 2pm.



Lucy Stewart makes an acrobatic dive for a try.



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# Fury over Fort parking fees

by Neill Bo Finlayson  
nfinlayson@obantimes.co.uk

High Street retailers believe Fort William residents are being 'singled out' and made to pay 'excessive' parking charges while other towns in the Highland Council region continue to keep their car parks free.

At a meeting of the Lochaber area committee last week, councillors decided not to reduce the annual £120 cost for a local parking permit – despite pressure from the Fort William Retail Association (FWRA) to halve it – after council officers reported a £162,000 projected shortfall in the Fort William car parking budget for this year.

However, FWRA members say that not only is the £120 permit fee excessive, but it is 'unacceptable' that councillors in other Highland towns, such as Dingwall and Nairn, have refused to introduce parking charges.

FWRA vice-chairwoman Maggie Wilson feels the people of Fort William are being made to shoulder the costs of parking in the Highland region unfairly. She told the Lochaber Times this week: 'I would rather

that no town had to pay for parking and the council found another way to raise the money. But if this is how it's going to be, then everyone has to come on board.

'We need to find a way of working together and we would like more transparency from Highland Council, but Fort William is not going to be the scapegoat for parking charges.'

In defending the need for parking charges to boost revenue, Highland Council's principal traffic officer Shane Manning said at last week's meeting that there was 'no empirical evidence that it has an actual impact on footfall in town centre car parks'.

However, Ms Wilson, of the Highland Hospice shop on Fort William's High Street, believes the charges have had an effect on shoppers' habits. She said: 'The town has had extra tourism this year but the tourists have gone now and look at the High Street – it's dead. People can get everything they need out at the retail parks out of the town, where it's free and easy to park.'

'We need investment and

Continued on page four

## Lochaber remembers the fallen...



On the 100th anniversary of end of the First World War, hundreds of people made their way to churches and war memorials across Lochaber to pay their respects to the fallen of the Great War, the Second World War and other conflicts. As well as the traditional church service, parade and wreath laying, Fort William also saw a special evening event with lit beacons to mark the historic occasion. Among those taking part were these four young Army and Sea Cadets – Corporal Katie Standen, left, and L/Cpl Jazmin McFauld, Shannon McCallum, centre, and Emma Watchman. Turn to pages six, seven, eight and nine for more Remembrance coverage. Photograph: Iain Ferguson

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Fort William Sheriff Court.

## Fort man who swore at child admonished

A Fort William man who swore at an 11-year-old while the boy was pushing his bike through the town's underpass has been admonished after a sheriff heard he had been of good behaviour for six months.

Martin Matthews, 58, whose address was given as Campbell Court but who may have now left the area, had previously pleaded guilty that shortly after 10am on April 30 last year he had behaved in a threatening or abusive manner likely to cause a reasonable person fear or alarm

by shouting and swearing at the boy. The underpass links the town's Middle Street and MacFarlane Way, and the youngster had got off his bike as he made his way through the underpass.

Back in March this year, at Fort William Sheriff Court, Sheriff Eilidh MacDonald told Matthews she would defer sentence for six months for him to be of good behaviour.

And this week on hearing that Matthews had, indeed, been of good behaviour, she ordered that he be admonished.

# Disgraced hotelier faces bankruptcy

## Former Duror man fails to pay £93,000 order

A former Duror hotel owner has claimed he may face bankruptcy over an unpaid compensation order issued by Fort William Sheriff Court to repay the money he made from trafficking workers from South Asia.

Shamsul Arefin, 50, was jailed for three years in 2015 at Fort William Sheriff Court after he was found guilty of human trafficking.

At Fort William Sheriff Court in May this year, Sheriff Eilidh MacDonald ordered Arefin must repay over £93,000 made through his exploitation of four men while owner of the Stewart Hotel, Duror.

Arefin had recruited the men from Bangladesh with promises of employment and a salary which could

help them improve their lives. They were told to pay him substantial sums of money in return for the jobs and on arrival, the men found their salaries were substantially lower than they had been promised, they were working excessively long hours and their duties were far beyond what they expected.

At May's court appearance, Sheriff MacDonald had made a confiscation order for £93,443.

The compensation order has now expired, yet Arefin has still not paid the money due to issues surrounding the valuation and sale of his house in Surrey.

Last Friday, Arefin's solicitor John Good asked for an extension of time to pay the

order and is looking to have the compensation figure reviewed after admitting that the original house evaluation was inaccurate.

He said: 'Mr Arefin had his house valued by a number of people and the valuation put forward in April was grossly exaggerated and the real value of his house is much, much less.'

'The evaluation of the house now means Mr Arefin will be left in the red because the sale of the house is far less than the compensation order. If forced to pay the confiscation order he will be effectively bankrupt.'

Mr Good issued an application to vary the amount Arefin is ordered to pay as the value of the house will be insufficient to satisfy

the sum of the confiscation order. It was also stated that Arefin had only £5.19 'to his name' on the day of his appearance in court.

Sheriff MacDonald said that one 'hurdle' in this case was the fact that the sums for the confiscation order were previously agreed by both the defence and the prosecution. However, Mr Good highlighted that the original house evaluation was taken from an online house price search made by the crown prosecution in good faith which has now been found to be no longer accurate.

The deadline of the confiscation order has been extended until February 1 2019 and the case is to be continued on that date.

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## SMILE DESIGN

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## WHAT'S ON in Lochaber

■ Lochaber Music for All presents the Kapten Trio tonight, Thursday November 15, at St Columba's Primary School at 7.30pm. Tickets available at the door.

■ The Kilmallie Christmas lights switch-on takes place on Saturday, November 16 at 7pm at Kilmallie Community Centre, Corpach. All welcome.

■ Kilmallie Community Company is holding a work party on Saturday morning (November 17) from 10am to 12.30pm. Meet at 10am at the lay by opposite the sawmill. The main job is to clear paths. Other jobs include clearing up any litter, and removing rhododendron. For further information contact Paul Biggin 01397 772459. All volunteers are welcome.

■ Friends of Nevis invites people to join the Glen Nevis autumn litter pick and curling pond tidy up on Sunday, November 18, from 10.30am to 3.30pm. Meet at the Ben Nevis Highland Centre (Woollen Mill) at 10.30am.

All safety and litter picking equipment provided, together with refreshments and lunch. Under-18s must be accompanied by

an adult family member, and sturdy footwear and waterproofs are advisable. Come for a couple of hours or more. Register in advance by contacting [info@friendsofnevis.co.uk](mailto:info@friendsofnevis.co.uk) or phone 01397 701088.

■ Lochaber Athletic Club's AGM will take place on Sunday November 18, 7.30pm at Lochaber Yacht Club, Fort William. This is a good opportunity to discuss the 'running' of the club, raise ideas and make suggestions. All welcome.

■ Lochaber Sensory Care for sight and hearing support will be visiting Abbeyfield Care Home in Ballachulish on Monday, November 19.

LSC representatives will be on hand from 10.30am to 12.30pm to offer advice and support to residents and members of the public. The team will also provide NHS hearing aid batteries and re-tubing. No appointments required.

■ Kilmallie Community Centre is holding a grand ceilidh in aid of Bun-Sgoil Ghaidhlig Loch Abar and the community centre on Saturday November 24.

The event runs from 7.30-11.30pm and music will be supplied by a range of

artists, including the Bruce Lindsay Scottish Dance Band and Edinburgh Postal Pipe Band, plus singers Norman MacKinnon, Donald Angie Matheson, Ruaridh Grey and Joyce Wright. Admission £8.

■ Lochaber Foodbank will hold its annual collection in the Tesco store in Fort William November 29/30 and December 1, from 10am till 4pm each day.

Foodbank volunteers will be there for the collections, and all food and money collected stays in the area to help the local communities.

■ Kilmallie Community Centre is holding its annual general meeting on Thursday November 29 at the hall in Corpach at 6.30pm.

■ Lochaber Camanachd Club is hosting its AGM on Saturday December 8 in the Bridge Cafe, Spean Bridge at 4pm. All players, members, supporters or anyone interested in shinty are welcome.

**CONTACTUS**  
email us at [editor@obantimes.co.uk](mailto:editor@obantimes.co.uk)  
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The question time panel faced questions from the public on roads, internet, housing and Brexit. Photograph: Iain Ferguson, alba.photos.

# Panel grilled over roads and internet

by Neill Bo Finlayson  
nfinlayson@obantimes.co.uk

The affect of poor broadband service on communities and businesses in Lochaber has been likened to another 'Highland clearance', as issues over transport and internet connectivity dominated the Question Time debate which kicked off Lochaber Ideas Week on Monday.

The Question Time panel, which included councillor Allan Henderson from Highland Council; Oliver Stephen, mill manager of BSW Timber; Charlotte Wright, the CEO of Highlands and Islands Enterprise (HIE); Tim Allan, president of the Scottish Chambers of Commerce; Duncan Mackison, CEO of Jahama Highland Estates and Kate Forbes, MSP for Lochaber, were also quizzed on housing, Brexit and the local economy during the debate.

A question on broadband speeds in rural Lochaber sparked a heated discussion at the public event as the panel were told of the problems facing remote businesses caused by bad internet connections. Moidart-based businessman Angus MacDonald claimed the lack of connectivity was driving young people and business away from the area. 'It is the third Highland

clearance,' he said. 'The glens are emptying. It's the disgrace of Scotland; it's just not on.'

Mr MacDonald went on to explain that the Glenuig community had to erect masts for its own internet service 'with no help from the government', despite promises of financial support to help rural connectivity.

In response, Ms Forbes agreed that hers was the 'worst constituency for connectivity' and her colleagues in Edinburgh could not fully understand the issues in Lochaber because of a 'digital divide' between rural areas and the central belt in Scotland.

Scottish Chamber of Commerce president Tim Allan said he was 'disheartened' by the fibre broadband rollout in the country and said BT have been 'dilatatory in getting 4G signals up the glens' in rural areas.

The panel also debated the state of the A82 after a submitted question asked, in light of the recent construction of the new Forth bridge and a major A9 upgrade, why the West Highlands was not benefiting from a better road system.

Caol and Mallaig councillor Allan Henderson warned that the £3 billion A9 dualling project would leave little money left for

any major A82 upgrades in the next 10 years.

'There is a queue and we are at the end of it,' he said. 'I fear it will be a long wait but we need to keep rattling the can.'

Gregor Muir, who runs M&S Dental Care in Fort William, told the panel that the tailbacks and hour-long delays in the town during peak tourist season was a 'real nightmare' for the practice's daily schedule.

'When we have the congestion problems between June and September we have to make up the day as we go. We have to say: the person that appears next will be seen. That's because people taking 45 minutes to an hour to go through town. Our day goes to pot.'

Ms Forbes said a number of 'quick fixes' for the congestion problems were put in place before the summer but admitted they had not worked.

'If we are all about resolving congestion we all need to be vocal about it,' she said. 'If the quick fixes are not resolvable then we need to make faster progress on a realignment or an actual link road. There's not a link road for reasons, in terms of objections, from local businesses. To this day we have got to be agreed to set aside business interests for the benefit of Fort William.'

## Fort dive school collapse branded 'national disgrace'

A Lochaber councillor has labelled the recent collapse of The Underwater Centre in Fort William as 'a national disgrace', writes Neill Bo Finlayson.

Councillor Allan Henderson expressed frustration that public and industry bodies were unable to prevent the subsea training unit from closing, after the subject was raised at Monday's Lochaber Ideas Week Question Time debate.

Mr Henderson's comments come after 48 jobs were lost last month when the diver training and trials facility in Fort William was forced to cease trading and placed into administration.

The Caol and Mallaig councillor said he was 'extremely disappointed' to hear the news of the centre's closure.

He said: 'This isn't an issue with a lack of skills, The Underwater Centre has some of the highest skilled staff members in the area. A lot of it has to do with the political situation which has made it very difficult.'



The Underwater Centre closed in recent weeks.

He continued: 'It's not a Scottish problem, this is a national problem, and we are allowing it to fail at this moment in time. It's a national disgrace.'

Mr Henderson also explained it would cost 'a relatively small amount' to keep the centre operational compared to the money needed to build a new subsea training centre - which he said either the government or industry would have to shoulder when the demand for divers inevitably picks up.

The news of The Underwater Centre's collapse came just five months after a deal was announced to restructure The Underwater Centre which

saw industry and public bodies, including Subsea 7, TechnipFMC, Premier Oil, Oil & Gas UK, and Highlands and Islands Enterprise (HIE), collaborating to support the diver training centre - one of only two places in the world which provides closed-bell diver training.

CEO of HIE Charlotte Wright said: 'The industry works in a cycle of boom and bust and while we are in a very difficult period at the moment, I remain confident there can be a future for The Underwater Centre. Otherwise someone else will have to come in and recreate it which will cost millions.'

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## Man bailed over knife charge

A man has appeared at Fort William Sheriff Court to face charges of acting in a threatening manner and being in possession of a knife at a house on the town's Kennedy Road last week.

Arkadiusz Stanislaw Ostanek, 43, who appeared from custody before Sheriff Eilidh MacDonald on Friday, pleaded not guilty to behaving in a threatening or abusive manner on Thursday November 8, by shouting and swearing at a man and a woman.

Ostanek denied a further charge involving shouting and swearing at the same man while in possession of a knife.

Sheriff MacDonald granted bail.

Ostanek, whose address was given as no fixed abode, was bailed to his brother's home in Edinburgh.

He will appear at Fort William Sheriff Court on February 22 in relation to the charges.

# Baxter questions factory progress

by Neill Bo Finlayson  
nfinlayson@obantimes.co.uk

Liberty British Aluminium has given reassurances that 'there are no delays' in its plans to build a 400-worker factory in Fort William after the Lochaber leader for Highland Council expressed concerns over the project's progress.

During a discussion about the Fort William 2040 masterplan at Highland Council's Lochaber area committee last Wednesday, chairman Andrew Baxter expressed concerns that construction had still not started on the new factory site in Fort William.

The Fort William and Ardnamurchan councillor said: 'A lot of this masterplan is reliant on Liberty. It was suggested I shouldn't ask for site visits or anything that

would slow down the planning process, which began back in February.

'We are now in November and I see no evidence of the promises made by that company.'

However, a representative of Liberty has this week denied there are any delays to the

**'The decision on the final size of the operation is still under consideration'**

project and said the company was exploring the possibility of expanding its capacity.

The representative said: 'The bulk of the work to get us ready for factory construction is still progressing but the decision on the final size of the operation that will be built is still under consideration. Discussions are ongoing

with motor manufacturers to determine exactly when wheels from Lochaber will be needed and this will also help inform the schedule for the operation.'

The company extended an invitation to Councillor Baxter to visit the smelter in the next few weeks for a progress update with the wheels factory, which he has accepted.

At Wednesday's meeting, Mr Baxter also expressed wider doubts over the effect of the FW2040 action plan: 'While I'm enthusiastic about the workshop I remain sceptical about the delivery of any of this and it could well sit on a shelf for the next 20 years and the next person sitting in my chair will be looking at the same things.'

He added: 'Much of it is dependent on Transport Scotland which has virtually dismissed this and I'm not

convinced it will take a blind bit of notice of this.' The FW 2040 masterplan, which sets out the 20-plus projects expected to be completed within the next 22 years, was drawn up by council planners after a lengthy consultation process conducted over the last year, which included a workshop event attended by 120 people in the Nevis Centre.

Scott Dalgarno, development plans manager for FW2040, responded to Mr Baxter's concerns at the meeting saying that the masterplan is a 'tool to be used on an ongoing basis' for developments and will be reviewed annually in conjunction with the Lochaber area committee and the community.

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## Inverlochry and Torlundy consultation

There will be a meeting of Inverlochry and Torlundy Community Council on Tuesday November 20 in the Braxi Hall, Inverlochry at 7pm.

All members of the community are welcome. The main item on the agenda will be the committee's plan to merge Inverlochry and Torlundy Community Council (ITCC) with Fort William Community Council (FWCC).

For a number of years community councils in the area have been struggling to maintain committees to represent the people in their communities.

FWCC is of a similar view and is in agreement the two community councils can best represent local communities by merging and having more dynamic and representative meetings in the future.

If anyone would like to be part of this consultative meeting about the future of ITCC please go along. Suggestions and thoughts can be emailed to sec@itcc.co.uk

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## Fort William at risk of being 'scapegoat' for parking fees

Continued from page one

footfall in the town and we won't get that with excessive parking charges.'

At the meeting, Lochaber area committee chairman Councillor Andrew Baxter said he was 'adamant' that parking charges should be rolled out across other council wards to 'level the playing field' with those places which are already charging parking fees, including Portree, Aviemore and Inverness.

However, Councillor Niall McLean, who previously campaigned to drastically reduce parking charges, feels that the charges are still too high, especially since they have failed to deliver



budget targets. He said: 'For us to go through the winter and get more money out of parking to then give it to the council, and that's not being reciprocated anywhere else, I see that as being a bit foolish.'

'We agreed a strategy and

it has not raised enough money - it's not worked. It's fine if the money stays in Fort William but we need to send a clear message that other areas need to play the game as well.'

It was reported at the meeting that work was being carried to introduce parking fees in Mallaig to ease budget pressure.

Before the meeting closed, councillors voted to remove Fort William parking charges in the run-up to Christmas for six weeks to allow shoppers to spend more time on the High Street. The proposal will allow parking in the centre of Fort William for two hours for nothing instead of the current half an hour.

## Appin pair in court on firearms charges

A man and a woman whose general address was given as Appin appeared in private at Fort William Sheriff Court last Thursday, charged on petition with various firearms offences.

Robert Lockhart, 49, and Carol Stirling, also 49, were

charged with 20 contraventions of the Firearms Act 1968 and the Customs and Excise Management Act 1979.

Both accused made no plea or declaration.

Lockhart was committed for further examination and

remanded in custody. He was scheduled to appear in court again within eight days.

Stirling also made no plea or declaration and was committed for further examination and released on bail. Her next court appearance was still to be confirmed.

# Kinlochleven's Keith vying for award with otter photo

by Mark Entwistle  
mentwistle@obantimes.co.uk

Camouflaged and lying for hours in some of the remotest country in the Highlands, coupled with endless patience, has paid off in the last few years for Kinlochleven-based wildlife photographer Keith Thorburn.

With a string of national awards to his name, the Edinburgh native is hoping his recent stunning shot capturing an otter in Loch Linnhe will see him victorious in this year's British Photography Awards.

And Keith is hoping that many readers of the *Lochaber Times* will vote for his magnificent photograph on the competition's website before the end of today's (Thursday) deadline.

Votes can be registered for Keith at <https://www.britishphotographyawards.org/2019-Shortlist/Water-life/Otter-and-Water/83a79332-2939-4f3c-a778-c862715d1817>

Keith had spotted the otter heading to the shore with its catch while out walking his dog: 'So we both lay down in the seaweed and waited till it got on this rock and started eating its catch and watching us at the same time. Even though we were close, it did not seem to bother the otter at all,' he told the judges.

Keith scooped the title Best Bird Life Image in the same awards last year



Keith's superb shot of an otter on Loch Linnhe.

hills and a series of camera traps scattered about, Keith builds up a dossier of information about a specific animal's whereabouts and habits before staking out a good spot in which to lie in wait. He said: 'The picture of the stag saw us waiting in the snow for three hours with my wife holding the flash.'

Asked what one characteristic a good wildlife photographer needs above all others, Keith did not hesitate: 'Patience. And bags of it. You have to get to know animals, learn their behaviour so you can predict what they are going to do.'

'And you always need to

be well prepared - I like to have my camera settings all worked out so that I am ready for that split second when an animal or bird appears and the composition is just right.'

Keith and Yvonne have two grown-up children and he is a member of Fort William Photographic Society, which meets on the second Tuesday of each month in the local Salvation Army hall.

Asked what his next target was, Keith says Scotland's most elusive creature is the image he wants most: 'I am working on getting a picture of a wildcat at the moment - very elusive.'

Some of Keith's work is available for sale at local businesses in Fort William, including Nevis Sport and the Aroma Restaurant.

with a wonderful shot of an osprey. This year in the British Wildlife Photography Awards, Keith's image of the otter collected an honourable mention from judges and will be in the exhibition in London at the Mall Gallery, and again published in this year's book, which is published annually.

The same picture also wowed judges in the Scottish Photographic Federation's Scottish International Salon, where it won a PSA Gld Medal and Best Overall Nature Print.

In 2015, Keith's picture of a Highland stag in Glencoe made a big impact at that year's British Wildlife Photography Awards and was published in the 2015 book.

During his years in

Edinburgh, Keith shared a commercial photographic studio with five other photographers, doing work such as weddings and portraits, and this background and training has stood him in good stead as he carves out a growing reputation as an award-winning wildlife photographer.

'It's mostly wildlife pictures I like to take these days and I have been concentrating on that for the last 12 years,' explained Keith, 52, who works in Aldi in Fort William.

'I've always liked watching wildlife and having a camera just makes you more aware of things going on around you.'

'My wife, Yvonne, and I were always holidaying up here in the Highlands and after I had a stroke a couple

of years ago, we decided to take the plunge and move up here.'

With his own hide in the



Keith's stunning photograph of a stag in the snow.

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# Fort pays homage to the fallen

by Mark Entwistle  
mentwistle@obantimes.co.uk

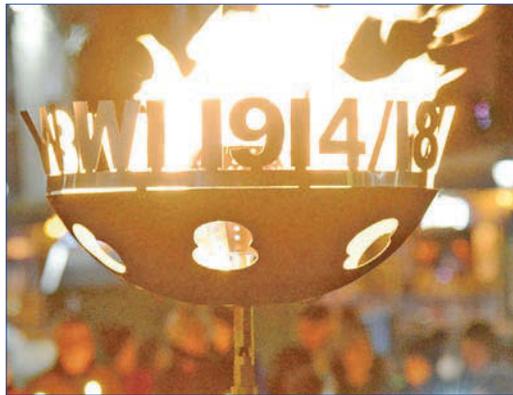
Veterans, dignitaries, civic leaders, military cadets, service organisations and families and individuals were out in force on Sunday for Fort William's Remembrance Day events.

As well as the traditional parade and church service in the morning, there was a special evening event, Beacons of Light.

This saw Fort William join other towns and cities throughout the UK when 1,000 beacons were lit to mark the passing of the century since the guns finally fell silent at the close of the First World War.

The Reverend Richard Baxter, from Duncansburgh Macintosh Memorial Church, who conducted the morning services at the church and at the war memorial, also conducted the evening service.

The special beacon marking the 100th anniversary



A special beacon was lit in Fort William on Sunday evening by Lord Lieutenant of Inverness-shire Donald Cameron of Lochiel, pictured below right; Danny Munro and Dennis Wright lay a wreath on behalf of the Cameron Highlanders Association; and members of the 2nd Fort William Boys Brigade with the tribute they made.

Photographs: Iain Ferguson, alba.photos

was lit by Lord Lieutenant of Inverness-shire Donald Cameron of Lochiel, who had also taken the parade salute earlier in the day.

The beacon was generously donated by local businessman Alistair Young to honour his friends who passed away in recent times – Mario Valente and Dougie McLachlan.

At 6.45pm Binyon's famous lines were read by Royal British Legion Scotland member James Porter and the church bells were then rung for 10 minutes.

A bugler played the Last Post and a piper played several laments. There were candles available, with many taking the opportunity to pay their own tribute during

the candlelit vigil.

Earlier in the day more than 100 people marched to the town's war memorial to remember the fallen.

Kevin Lane, president of the Fort William and District branch of the Royal British Legion Scotland, told the *Lochaber Times* he was delighted with the response to the events: 'The



turnout and events were a more-than-fitting tribute to all those who went before,' said Mr Lane, who laid the wreath on behalf of the legion. 'There was a lot of

emotion throughout, with quite a few family members taking part in the parade wearing family medals. It was a very special and moving day.'

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A large gathering, including serving Royal Marines, took part in a poignant service at the Commando Memorial, Spean Bridge; and below, wreaths were laid by Ian Langley, Coastguard; Linda Dignan on behalf of Ian Blackford MP and Councillor Allan Henderson.

Photographs: Iain Ferguson, alba.photos

## Large crowd gathers at Commando Memorial

A big crowd ignored the drizzling rain to pay tribute to the dead of two world wars and other conflicts at the famous Commando Memorial at Spean Bridge on Sunday.

Those taking part included more than 70 members of the Commando Veterans Association, who climbed the hill to the memorial overlooking the former training ground of The Commandos.

Leading the march to the memorial was the Colour Party, followed by Royal British Legion Scotland

standard bearers, followed by serving marines from 43 Commando of the Royal Marines Fleet Protection Group.

Next came former Army commandos, representatives of other service organisations, Highland Council representatives plus Lochaber wind and pipe bands.

The service was conducted by Reverend Richard Baxter and Reverend Morag Muirhead, both from the Duncansburgh MacIntosh Parish Church in Fort William.



# Lochalsh and Plockton pay tribute

On a lovely morning, the Lochalsh Branch of Legion Scotland held its Armistice Day parade and service on Sunday.

About 20 members paraded and assembled with the colours at the Lochalsh War Memorial which has recently been renovated by the branch.

They were led by the Lochalsh Junior Pipe Band under Niall Stewart. Also on parade were Kyle Cadets, Kyle RNLI, Kyle Fire Brigade, Kyle Scouts and Police Scotland.

The Colour Party was Seamus Maguire and Richard Talbot. Bugler was Douglas Strachan from Breakish who played The Last Post and Reveille after the two-minute silence. Parade commander was Paul Newton and the salute was taken by Lt Cdr Andy Will



A wreath was laid at the Plockton war memorial.

Photographs: Charlie MacRae

MBE RN. While Niall Stewart played a lament on the pipes, a large crowd watched wreaths being laid by Andy Will for the Royal British Legion Scotland and The Royal Navy; Donnie Gordon for the Lochalsh branch of the legion; Richard Talbot for the Seaforth Highlanders; Constable Brian Chalmers for Police Scotland;

Jessica Bloomfield for the Cadets; Audrey Sinclair for Highland Council and Rory Biss and Connor Fraser for the Scouts. Terry Grant narrated the Homily. Reverend Roddie Rankin conducted a short service.

A wreath was also laid at Plockton War Memorial by branch secretary Charlie M MacRae and wreaths were also laid at Glenshiel Church and Glenelg War Memorial.

Following the parade, a service was held in Kyle Church of Scotland conducted by Rev Rankin, assisted by Rev Fred Macfarland, and afterwards soup, sandwiches and tea were served in the church hall.

A collection was taken for the Earl Haig Fund which totalled a record £436.36.



Around 20 members of the Lochalsh branch of the Royal British Legion Scotland took part in the parade.

## Arisaig lays wreaths to fallen



A large group of onlookers gathered at Arisaig war memorial on Sunday morning to pay respects to the dead of two world wars and other conflicts. A short act of remembrance was followed by the laying of a wreath and a piper played the lament. More than 100 people from Arisaig took part in the First World War as soldiers, nurses and munitions workers.

## Kinlochleven youngsters remember



Last Thursday, pupils from Kinlochleven Primary School, including the nursery, walked to the village war memorial.

Members of the local

branch of the Royal British Legion Scotland joined the youngsters, alongside members of the community and the Salvation Army.

The fallen were remem-

bered with a minute's silence and a wreath was then laid and a poetry reading given.

All photographs: Iain Ferguson, The Write Image.

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Point and Sandwick Trust lit up its three turbines at Beinn Ghrideag to thank those who served in the First World War.

## Lewis turbines go red for Remembrance

Lewis community wind farm charity Point and Sandwick Trust lit up its three turbines at Beinn Ghrideag – the largest community-owned wind farm in the UK – and its base at the Old Knock School in Point as part of Poppy Scotland’s ‘Light It Red’ campaign to thank those who served in the First World War.

Each year buildings and landmarks across the country show their support for the Scottish Poppy Appeal

by lighting up red in the run-up to Remembrance Day and Point and Sandwick Trust said it was honoured to be involved this year.

Point and Sandwick Trust chairman Norman Mackenzie said: ‘It’s very important that we remember those who gave their lives in both World Wars and in conflicts since, and especially this year with the 100th anniversary and in the run-up to the loss of the Iolaire.’

# Strontian and penin tribute as they rem

There were church services and wreath laying events across Ardgour, Sunart and Morvern to mark Remembrance Sunday.

Residents gathered at Strontian war memorial to pay their respects to the those who died in the two world wars and other conflicts.

John Tyldsley, of the Scottish Episcopal Church, led the wreath-laying service in the morning at Strontian, while Reverend Donald McCorkindale conducted the evening service.

Rev McCorkindale also led services at Kiel Church, Lochaline, and at the war memorials at Lochaline and Drimnin.

Lay Reader Ella Gill led the services at Ardgour Church and war memorial.

Scout leaders Neil Mellis and Jamie Tait also lit a memorial fire at the top of Tom an Sithein hill, which over-



looks the village, at 7pm on Sunday.

Another fire was lit at Scotstown and the church bells rang out at the same

time. At 7.05pm, the bells of Strontian Church rang out for peace and this was followed by a service at the church.

Young and old gathered at Strontian war memorial, above and right, to pay their respects to those who died in the many conflicts.



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## Bishop leads service at Glenfinnan

The Church of St Mary and St Finnan at Glenfinnan held a special Remembrance Sunday service conducted by the Bishop of Argyll and the Isles Brian McGee.

It was followed by a brief service and prayer at the nearby war memorial, which was followed by the laying of a wreath on behalf of the community by Charlie MacFarlane. Iain MacFarlane played a lament on the pipes.



## Nursery youngsters lay own wartime



Some of the youngest members of the Fort William community were determined to pay their tributes to mark the 100th anniversary of the end of the First World War.

On Monday morning, youngsters from the Little Learners Nursery and Daycare facility at Inverloch made their way

# nsula pay ember



## Glencoe gathers to honour war dead

On a damp and dismal afternoon, around 20 people gathered at the Bridge of Coe war memorial to remember all those who fell in two world wars, writes Mark Entwistle.

Reverend Amanda Fairclough of Glencoe, assisted by Reverend Sandy Stoddart, from Ballachulish, began the ceremony of remembrance with the hymn Oh God, Our Help in Ages Past.

Rev Stoddart continued with a reading from the scriptures, with Kenneth MacKenzie, of Glencoe, reading out the names of the fallen marked on the grey granite memorial.

Piper John MacCallum gave a rendering of Flowers of the Forest on the pipes followed by two minutes' silence as the gentle sound of the River Coe

Rev Amanda Fairclough with Rev Sandy Stoddart, and piper John MacCallum at Glencoe war memorial.



echoed in the background.

A wreath of poppies was laid by Glencoe stalwart George Grant, of St Mary's Church.

Two verses were read out by Ian MacTaggart and Ian Barton, followed by the

final hymn, The Lord is my Shepherd.

Rev Fairclough and Rev Stoddart gave the final blessing to all present, with the ceremony coming to a close with the singing of the national anthem.

## tributes

to the war memorial in Fort William to lay two wreaths which they made themselves.

Meanwhile, pupils at Caol primary had a special poppy day which included a commando assault course, war songs, making poppies for their window and Anderson shelter models.



## Lochaber pupils receive Commando Spirit award



Fred Davies of the Commando Veterans Association last week presented certificates to Daniel Menzie, left, and Patrick Turner for their outstanding service to the Lochaber High School wind band and pipe band respectively. The awards are made at the annual concert held in the school for commando veterans attending local Remembrance Day events in recognition of fortitude and dedication to their organisations in the 'Commando Spirit'. Photograph: Iain Ferguson, alba.photos

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# Eddie swoops in for ideas week

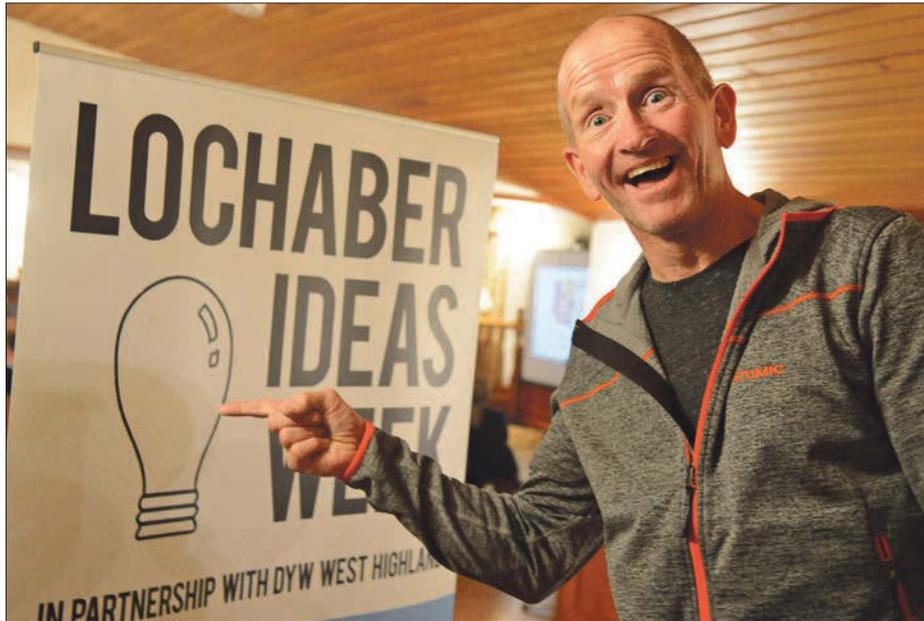
by Mark Entwistle  
mentwistle@obantimes.co.uk

If there was a message that one of Britain's best-loved Olympians wanted people to take away from his packed talk in Lochaber this week, it was 'follow your dream and do whatever it takes to make it come true'.

In Michael 'Eddie the Eagle' Edwards' case, that meant sleeping in his mum's car while training in Switzerland, raking food out of hotel dustbins and even once sleeping in a Finnish mental hospital to save money.

Eddie landed at the Moorings Hotel in Banavie to give one of his motivational talks as the star turn on day one of this year's Lochaber Ideas Week on Monday.

Spread over two hours, he regaled the audience with his now well-known tale of how he went from being a plasterer in his home town of Cheltenham to the Calgary Winter Olympics of 1988, despite having next to no money, no coach, no equip-



Eddie the Eagle helped light up the first day of Lochaber Ideas Week. Photograph: Iain Ferguson

ment and no team.

Great Britain had never competed in ski jumping but Eddie was nothing if not determined and he was determined to be an Olympian.

And he would do anything to keep on jumping - including tying a pillowcase round

his head to keep a broken jaw in place as he couldn't afford medical treatment abroad.

'I had to suck soup through a straw for two weeks, but I continued jumping and a week later I competed in my first World Cup event,' he said.

That is the mistake people make about him, as this week's event in Banavie underlined - it was never about medals, it was all about becoming an Olympian.

And while the Eagle only managed to flap his way to 58th place out of 59 jumpers

in Calgary, he made his dream come true through a combination of stubbornness, unwavering self-belief and sheer guts.

It was on a school trip to Italy that he first experienced the slopes and less than four years later, he was on the British Alpine Team.

'I'd always loved watching Ski Sunday but I'd never thought I would be good enough to represent my country at a sport. But in the end my face didn't fit and they kicked me off the team,' he explained.

At that time, travelling to events abroad was very expensive and Eddie's parents did not have much money.

Looking round to see how else he could get himself to the Olympics, Eddie, whose story was immortalised in a 2016 movie starring Hugh Jackman, realised that Britain had no ski jumpers.

It was the kindness of fellow winter sports athletes with donations of kit, food and even little bits of coaching advice, which helped him qualify for Calgary.

Forty years on and Eddie says he is still as excited to pull on skis today as he was then: 'If you have a dream, a goal or an ambition, hang on to it. It might just take some time.'

Now divorced, he has two young daughters and still lives near Cheltenham.

Since Calgary, his life has been filled with the celebrity circuit including becoming a pop star in Finland.

These days much of his time is taken up travelling the world as an ambassador for ski holiday companies and winter sport organisations, although he has kept his hand in with the plastering just in case the celebrity life all comes to an end.

Following the event, Eddie told the *Lochaber Times*: 'That was great, really nice. They were a lovely responsive audience.'

'I'm hoping I can inspire people - you know, I'm a plasterer and I started quite late in the sport, but that didn't stop me doing what I wanted to do and achieving my dreams.'



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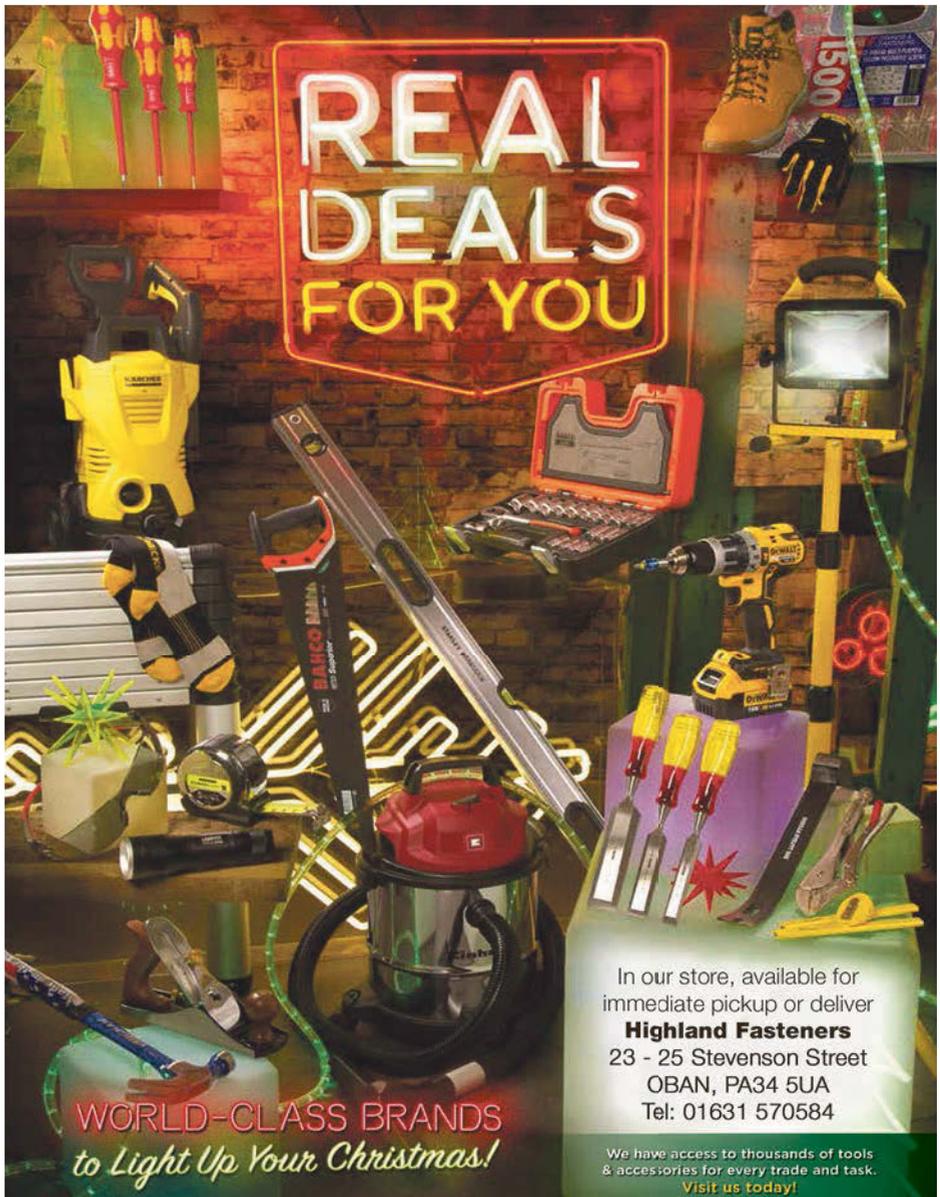
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## Corran ferry future options

Highland councillors have agreed the local authority should explore further a range of options to develop an outline business case for the Corran ferry service.

At last week's meeting of Highland Council's Environment, Development and Infrastructure Committee (EDIC), members discussed options outlined in an appraisal which aims to ensure a sustainable and resilient ferry service for the next 20 to 30 years, and to identify options regarding investment, efficiency, service reliability and fares.

## Extras wanted

Glasgow-based talent agency KR Management is on the look-out for supporting artists aged 16 to 19, and in their 20s and 30s. Applicants must be based in Fort William or Lochaber. The agency is looking for a wide range of ethnicities and looks, no experience requires. Send full name, age, date of birth, recent photo, email address and contact number to [krmanagement1@outlook.com](mailto:krmanagement1@outlook.com)

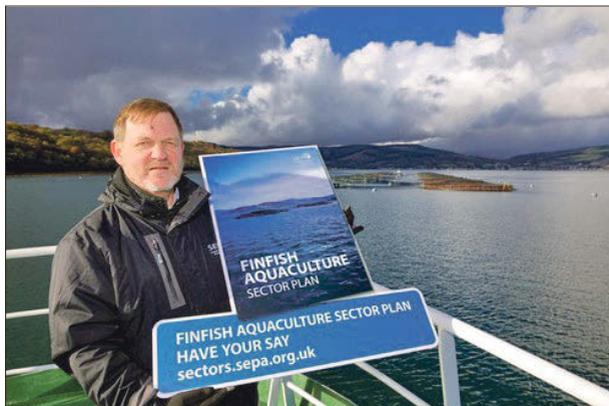
# SEPA proposes tighter salmon farming rules

by Neill Bo Finlayson  
[nfinlayson@obantimes.co.uk](mailto:nfinlayson@obantimes.co.uk)

The head of the Scottish Environment Protection Agency (SEPA) has agreed the 'status quo is not an option' when it comes to salmon farming regulation after the environment agency announced proposals for a revised regime that aims to strengthen the regulation of the salmon farming sector.

The proposals follow one of Scotland's largest, most comprehensive research projects into aquaculture, in which SEPA stated that Scottish salmon farm medicine is significantly impacting marine environments.

The survey, Fish Farm Survey Report - Evaluation of a New Seabed Monitoring Approach to Investigate the Impacts of Marine Cage Fish Farms, examined environ-



mental impacts from eight Scottish fish farms. More than 300 chemical samples were analysed from 93 sample stations and 296 ecological samples from 142 sample stations.

Samples for chemical analysis were investigated for traces of two different sea lice medicine last used in 2013. The medicine chemicals

were detected in 98 per cent and 46 per cent of samples respectively, with residues more widely spread in the environment around fish farms than had previously been found. Moreover, the research concluded that the impacts of individual farms may not be contained to the vicinity of individual farms.

SEPA chief executive Terry

A'Hearn agrees 'the status quo is not an option' when it comes to salmon farming regulation.

A'Hearn said: 'We agree that "the status quo is not an option" which is why we're announcing firm, evidence-based proposals for a revised regime that will strengthen the regulation of the sector. As part of a Scotland-wide consultation, we're now keen to hear directly from individuals, interest groups, NGOs, communities, companies and others on their views on the proposals as we move to strengthen our regulatory approach.'

The research survey was published last Wednesday (November 7) as part of proposals by SEPA, one of

a number of organisations regulating finfish aquaculture, to strengthen regulation of the sector.

The findings come after 16 months of work by SEPA, including a 2017 consultation and two Scottish Parliamentary committees, one of which concluded that 'the status quo is not an option', adding that the industry's expansion goal 'will be unsustainable and may cause irrecoverable damage to the environment' unless governance and practices are improved markedly.

A public consultation will be held in Portree on November 20 at Skye Gathering Hall and then Fort William on December 6 at Nevis Centre, with both events taking place between 2.30pm and 7.30pm.

A full list of public consultation events can be found on the SEPA website.



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The award-winning house on Skye, and below.

## Skye house wins top award

A house that cantilevers over the shores of the Sound of Sleat, near Armadale on Skye, has won the top award in an architectural competition for the Highlands and Islands.

The Black House, by Skye and Glasgow-based Dualchas Architects, scooped the award for the best new building at the Inverness Architectural Association Awards, and also took the prize for the best overall project at a lavish awards dinner in Inverness on Friday.

Speaking after the event, project architect Laura Stephen commented: 'This award is a tribute to the clients who had the confidence in Dualchas to allow us to carry forward a bold design, as well as the skill of the contractor who built to such a high stand-

ard on a challenging site.' The three-bedroom house has a modest one-storey entrance which deliberately conceals the true height and scale of the building. Once entered there is a dramatic roof light above a sculptural staircase.

As the staircase of the house is descended to the lower floor the full drama of the site is revealed, with a wall of glass to the living space framing an extraordinary view across the sound to the hills of Knoydart.

It was this element of 'joy and surprise' which made the building stand out for the judges.

Owners Delia and Julian Thomas expressed delight at the award, saying that they were 'proud of the building and all those in the team who made it possible'.

# Memorial festival inspires youngsters

by Mark Entwistle  
mentwistle@obantimes.co.uk

The 38th annual Colonel Jock Memorial Music Festival took place on Saturday November 3 at Viewfield House, Portree, with competitions in chanter, piping, fiddle, clarsach, Gaelic singing and mixed instrument duets.

The Clan Donald Lands Trust Targe and a cash prize for overall winner in piping was awarded to Archie Maclean of Edinbane.

Archie also took home the Duirinish Piping Society Shield for under-18 most points (Skye), while the trophy for under-18 most points (mainland) went to Ciaran Kellett of Kyle.

Hector Finlayson from



Piping winners were -Hector Finlayson, Hannah Matheson, Archie Maclean, Ciaran Kellett and Calum Mackenzie.

Erbusaig topped the under-14 -years March and Strathspey/ Reel competitions and Calum MacKenzie won the under-14

piobaireachd ground.

Kathleen Macdonald from Bernisdale had a notably busy and successful day. The

only young musician to enter all four disciplines (chanter, fiddle, clarsach and singing), she scooped first prizes in



## Public meeting to set up Gaelic medium education group

A public meeting is to be held in the County Hotel, Stornoway, tonight [Thursday, November 15] at 7.30pm with the purpose of officially setting up 'Comann nam Pàrant Stèornabhagh', writes Mark Entwistle.

This group would represent the views of parents and carers of children and young people in Gaelic Medium

Education (GME) in the Stornoway area.

The group would take in Stornoway and Laxdale primary schools and the Nicolson Institute secondary - and representation is very much being sought from all three schools to have an input into the Comann nam Pàrant Stèornabhagh group.

Organisers invite any

parents and carers of GME pupils at these schools to come along, find out more about the organisation and share their views.

The Comann nam Pàrant group would aim to work with stakeholders in a spirit of cooperation and partnership to build on current Gaelic Medium Education provision in the town area.

Magaidh Wentworth, Oifigear Phàrant at Comann nam Pàrant Nàiseanta, said: 'I am delighted to see there is interest from parents in a Comann nam Pàrant group and very much look forward to working with parents in Stornoway, building on current provision in line with Scottish Government policies.'

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**Award winners clockwise from above: Emily Macdonald, Kathleen Macdonald, Peigi Ferguson; Isy Maclean; Caramarie Maccalman; Innes Wilson and Finlay James; and Lucy Matheson.**

advanced fiddle, beginners' clarsach and Gaelic Singing (high-school age group).

It was a great pleasure to see fiddle entries greatly increased, in large part due to the recent appointment of Roxinne Llewellyn-Porter as schools strings tutor for the area, after the disappointing fall last year, with no tutor in post.

A very strong entry in the improvers' section was topped by Tilly Ng from Portree, with Mairidh Anne MacKenzie, Lucy Livingstone and Katie Henderson prize-winners in beginners, improvers and most promising.

This was the second year of the mixed instrument duets which was again an interesting and rewarding experience for young musicians on fiddles, clarsachs, guitars, reelpipes, button boxes and vocals.

The novice section was won by Finlay James (fiddle) and Innes Wilson (guitar) from

Portree, with Archie and Isy Maclean from Edinbane taking first prize in the open section on reelpipes and clarsachs.

Gaelic singing was high on quality, with beautiful performances, but sadly low on numbers. Trustees would urge schools and families to do all they can to encourage singing and keep the tradition alive.

Peigi Ferguson from Skeabost won the under-10 singing, and Emily MacDonald of Sleat was most promising singer of the day, with the three Turner brothers from Bernisdale, Hamish, Rory and Joshua, all among the placings.

New faces in the beginners' clarsach group were a welcome sight, with Kathleen Macdonald, Caramarie MacCalman of Sleat and Erin Gillies of Staffin topping the beginners, improvers and advanced sections respectively. Lucy Matheson from



Plockton was awarded the most promising trophy.

Hugh Macdonald, of the The Colonel Jock Macdonald Memorial Trust, which organises and funds the event, told the *Lochaber Times*: 'This is the first year that we have had the support of the Clan Donald Lands Trust which has granted us a meaningful increase in the funding we have available for bursaries.'

'For the first time this has enabled us to award some cash prizes too.'

'We are pleased to see the continuing support that the Clan Donald Lands Trust is giving to traditional music within the former Lordship of the Isles.'

'The remit of the Col Jock Macdonald trustees is to encourage young musicians by helping to inspire a knowledge of and interest in traditional Highland music in all its forms.'

'We are very grateful for the support that the Clan Donald Lands Trust has given us to further our aims.'

## Survey shows island 'Leave' voters change their minds

More than 10 per cent of Na h-Eileanan an Iar voters who supported Brexit have now changed their minds, according to a new poll.

Isles SNP MP Angus B MacNeil said the poll, conducted by Channel 4 and Survation, showed that many who originally thought leaving the EU would be a positive move are now concluding that Brexit will be bad news for the local economy.

He said: 'When the facts change, people change their minds; this is a well known phrase and I congratulate those who are not afraid to review changing circumstances and change their minds, more will follow I am sure.'

'This major new poll shows that support for 'Remain' in the islands is up 11 per cent from 56 per cent to 67 per cent. The majority of my constituents voted to 'Remain' in 2016 as did constituencies across all of Scotland. There is a growing support to remain in the EU yet Scotland is to be taken out against our will.'

'Brexit is a concern for everyone and that is becoming more apparent by the number of representations I receive on this issue including people supporting 'The People's



**Isles SNP MP Angus Brendan MacNeil**

Vote on a final deal.'

As a vocal critic of Brexit and the UK Government's handling of the process, Mr MacNeil speaks regularly in the House of Commons taking part in debates on the EU.

As chairman of the House of Commons International Trade Committee, he is presented with evidence from industry and trade experts from across the globe on a weekly basis.

The Channel 4 poll found that if another EU referendum was held tomorrow, it would be likely that Remain would win right across the UK.

The results were revealed on Channel 4 on Monday night in a live debate show 'Brexit: What the Nation Really Thinks'.

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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 4HBPoignant tributes  
paid across Lochaber  
to the victims of war

There was raw emotion on display on Sunday as people across Lochaber and the Western Isles marked the centenary of the guns falling silent on armistice day at the end of the First World War.

Hundreds, possibly thousands, of people lined the streets in Fort William and other towns and villages as poignant tribute was paid to those who gave their lives in all conflicts.

However, there was special resonance for the Great War given that remembrance day this year fell on the 100th anniversary of the savage killing coming to a close.

While the commemoration events possibly carry more weight for the older generations, it was gratifying, as it is every year, to see the involvement of so many young people. Principal among them are members of the youth uniformed organisations, including the Army and Sea Cadets.

It is absolutely right and proper that we should continue to mark the sacrifice given by those who have fallen in all our conflicts. Next year will not perhaps carry the same gravitas as this centenary but we shall, of course, honour our war dead as usual.

And we will owe a debt of gratitude also to those who work so hard to organise our commemoration events.

Turning out in force  
to meet the Eagle

There was a fantastic turn-out of people this week for the chance to hear and meet Michael 'Eddie the Eagle' Edwards.

The presentation from the Olympian was part of this year's Lochaber Ideas Week.

Those who were there were regaled in fine style by a kenspeckle British sporting legend whose exploits have captured the imagination. His is an inspiring tale of dedication and proof that, with determination, just about anything is possible.

What winter contingency  
plans are in place?

On October 30, I attended the Scottish Resilient Communities Conference 2018, organised by the Resilience Division of the Scottish Government.

I went in my capacity as chairman of the resilience committee of the Spean Bridge, Roy Bridge and Achnacarry Community Council and was particularly interested in the session entitled Learning from the 'Beast from the East', especially as the two listed speakers were Inspector Darren Faulds of Police Scotland and William Millar from Transport Scotland.

After hearing what lessons and revised preparations Police Scotland have made in the light of their experiences from last winter, you can imagine how disappointed I was when it was announced that Transport Scotland would not be presenting or even attending this event.

The session was intended to reflect upon the lessons to be learned from last winter and to examine what contingencies had been put in place for any similar weather situation in the future.

I was particularly interested in finding out from Transport Scotland what arrangements had been made to ensure that fuel oil and food supplies for Lochaber were guaranteed this year as, during the now infamous Beast from the East, when all roads from the central belt were either blocked or disrupted, most fuel stations around Lochaber ran out of diesel and the shelves in the supermarkets emptied fast.

As everything we buy in the Lochaber area is delivered by road transport, it seems an obvious and essential contingency to plan to have emergency deliveries of fuel and food by rail, especially as we have road accessible railway sidings available for use at the Liberty Smelter, Fort William Freight Depot and Corpach Harbour.

I am also aware that Ferguson Transport, through its large lorry fleet and rail division, is ideally placed to receive, handle and distribute such emergency deliveries should the need arise.

In view of the no-show by Transport Scotland at the conference, I have now decided to ask the open question: Is Fort William prepared for another Beast from the East? I sincerely hope that someone can assure me, and other readers, that contingency plans based upon last winter's experience have now been put in place and we will, therefore, not have to face another period of isolation from essential supplies during this, or any future winter.

**Ian Langley, Lower Inverroy.**

## YOUR PICTURES



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

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

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and other parts of the world which are served more easily via Edinburgh than Glasgow.

Loganair have said this will not impact the Glasgow flight timetable for next year which will continue as it is. This is welcome news and will help see our Islay economy grow further particularly in our tourism sector. Islay is starting to see recognition as a growing entrepreneurial and tourism hub. Transport links to match our economic and industrial growth will help see Islay and Jura's future secured.

**Councillor Alastair Redman, Islay.**

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# DISTRICT NEWS

## MORAR

Morar Community Council (MCC) held a meeting on October 1 at Lady Lovat Primary School. The following matters were discussed.

### Rhubana estate

Andy Barker of Rhubana Estate had looked at the possibility of implementing a package of measures to address some of the seasonal pressures previously discussed at length. However, Alex Way reported that he believed that the biggest single problem was a reluctance on the part of the police to enforce the law in relation to parking and the behaviour of some visitors to the area. He provided a list of offences that he felt were being committed relatively frequently some of which he had seen and reported but he felt the local police were reluctant to deal with them.

Dave suggested the council met with the police (including senior officers) about these issues. Denis suggested a joint meeting with Mallaig and Arisaig community councils, local land owners and their representatives. To discuss and organise with local officers at the next meeting. Deirdre to try and ensure their attendance at November's meeting.

### Planning and licensing

There were letters of complaint from Elizabeth Lanyon (Mallaig) and also eight other Mallaig residents and one from Morar regarding the planning application for the proposed toilet block and waste disposal at the south end of West Bay carpark in Mallaig. As this was outside the council's planning remit the secretary was to pass the letters on to Mallaig Community Council and write to the correspondents to inform them of this action.

The chairperson has written to Susan MacMillan of the planning department to express concerns about the number of building developments at Glenancross and the collective pressure they will be putting on sewage and other services. According to Andy from Rhubana Estate, SEPA had also expressed

## Harris schoolboy reads WWI poem at Buckingham Palace



Hamish reads his poem at Buckingham Palace. Photograph: Richard Davenport

Never Such Innocence, the charity set up to give children a voice in the commemorations of the centenary of the First World War, brought more than 100 young people to London last week to attend a tea party at Buckingham Palace in their honour, hosted by Vice-Admiral Sir Tim Laurence. Hamish Scott from the Isle of Harris, aged 15, was one of those attending, and performed his poem on stage at the event.

The children were winners of an annual poetry, art and song competition – published in two books – which was run by the charity over the past four years to mark the centenary of the First World War.

Hamish was reading his poem Scapa Flow, the winner of the Battle of Jutland category of the competition in 2015/16. He was just 12 when he wrote a poem for his local radio station for

a centenary project. Since then Hamish has won three NSI competitions for his Gaelic poetry.

Hamish said: 'Growing up in the Outer Hebrides, surrounded by the Gaelic culture, I was immersed in the songs and poetry telling of the Great War when the men left their families never to return. After a while, it just felt right to put in my own contribution and it was NSI who really gave me that opportunity, and I couldn't be more grateful. I am especially happy that the Gaelic language has a place in this book, and I am privileged it's some of my own poetry that fills this role.'

Hamish also attended the Armistice Centenary Service of Thanksgiving at Westminster Abbey on Remembrance Sunday, November 11, on behalf of the Never Such Innocence charity.

concerns.

### Correspondence

The chairperson had written to Marie Law at NHS Highland on behalf of the three local community councils, expressing concern about the fragility of the GP service. This was acknowledged but he had yet to receive the reassurances the council had asked for in relation to contingency planning and the management of potential risks associated with having a sole GP covering such a large complex and diverse population. Dave had since chased progress but had not received a response. He had kept Dr Gartshore informed.

### Bracara core path to Tarbet

There are concerns that the path, and in particular the bridges, are unsafe but no one seems to accept

accountability for their maintenance. Highland Council (HC) says it is an adopted road and is not its responsibility for maintenance, despite MCC previously believing it to be a core path. Secretary will contact Donald Kennedy (HC access officer) and Nevis Estate and encourage them to resolve the maintenance and accountability issues between them, suggesting that if the bridges weren't repaired, they were removed.

David Devine had yet to respond to many of the issues raised with him last year when he attended a community council meeting. This includes a proposal re improved safety and visibility at the junction of the old and new road and the steps down to the main road from the Morar Hotel. Allan had a meet-

ing scheduled with him and agreed to chase progress.

Dave informed the meeting that he had resigned his seat on Morar Community Trust.

### RUM

Caol and Mallaig councillor Denis Rixson has been appointed as a director of the Isle of Rum Community Trust.

The Highland councillor was appointed last week at the Lochaber area committee meeting when fellow elected members approved the appointment.

The trust represents existing and aspiring community landowners on the island to reflect their views in promoting changes to legislation

to empower communities, while acting as a point of contact for any communities in Scotland who wish to find out more about community land ownership.



Denis Rixson.

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## WESTERN ISLES



A recent Hallowe'en party at the Claddach Kirkibost Centre.

## Lottery funds for Uist play facility

Funds from the Western Isles Lifestyle Lottery (WILL) will allow plans for the first permanent soft play facility in Uist to move forward.

Urachadh Uibhist, which runs the Claddach Kirkibost Centre in North Uist, aims to create a play area to provide a much-needed facility for young families.

Rhoda Trusswell, innovation and development manager with Urachadh Uibhist, said: 'With the relocation of our Saoghal Beag Nursery to Sgoil Uibhist a'Tuath, the centre began looking at ways to redevelop the vacated spaces.

'Having spoken with the community, one of the ideas put forward was for a soft play area as there is not one in Uist.'

Proceeds from tickets purchased in Uist will go towards the centre until the end of December.

Rhoda explained that while longer term plans were in place, a temporary play area would be set up later in the winter months which will feature new soft play equipment.

She said: 'Whilst we already have some toys from our Mums & Tots group, we are

delighted to be receiving the support of WILL as this money will allow us to purchase some additional soft play equipment for all age ranges as well as some tables and chairs so the room becomes an extension of our café allowing parents/carers to watch over their child whilst also giving the opportunity for interaction. This could all be integrated into the permanent installation.

'While visiting facilities such as the Isle of Harris Soft Play and speaking directly with the parents, it was clear the impact this has made on their community which we would look to mirror.

'We believe this would be a beneficial addition to our community hub. Direct feedback has indicated that it would provide a support network for both children and parents/carers, encouraging interaction, stimulation and socialisation while promoting active play. This would be a welcome addition during the winter months when the weather makes it difficult to get outside.

'We are hugely grateful for the support of the Western Isles Lottery to help us achieve this.'

## Retro Roamer

[fort@obantimes.co.uk](mailto:fort@obantimes.co.uk)

### More Roamerisms from the early 1990s

■ The news that Mother Mary MacKillop is soon to become Australia's first saint prompts mention of the latter-day Foster-Mother Mary MacKillop, famed for her years of caring, at Roy Bridge, for scores of boarded out children. The story goes that Mary was in Edinburgh to receive a presentation for her remarkable fostering feats. After the ceremony, Mary Ruadh (to give her her home name) announced that she wanted to pick up 'a couple of messages'. Down over The Bridges she went, and into Edinburgh's head post office. Busy place. Mary eventually hailed a counter clerk. 'Can I have a pound of butter and a jar of jelly marmalade, please?' She received a funny look, followed by the response - 'But this is a post office, madam!' 'Aye', said Mary, 'And can I have a pound of butter and a jar of jelly marmalade, please?' The clerk went to great pains to explain that the post office dealt only with stamps, postal orders and pensions, and that Mary would have to go elsewhere for her groceries. All of this wasn't of any help to Mary Ruadh, who observed, 'You must be awfully backward down here. I can go into Roy Bridge post office and get butter and marmalade. Aye, and potatoes and firefighters as well!'

■ Meanwhile, the chairman of one of Scotland's largest chain store groups was holidaying in Ardnamurchan. He called in at a village post office and store. Politely, the lady behind the counter said, 'I hear you have some of the biggest shops in the UK'. 'Yes, that is so,' replied the magnate. 'And they tell me that it's possible to get absolutely anything in them.' The response to that was in the affirmative. 'And have you the postoffice (one word in the West Highlands) along with the shops?' quizzed the lady. The tycoon had to confess that 'the postoffice' was an outlet he didn't have within his chain stores. 'Oh, dear!' commiserated the Ardnamurchan one. 'The businesses aren't worth much without the postoffice.'

■ Messrs Morrison and Nolan had a seasonal hit at the Pulp Mill Club with 'I'm a Lumberjack'. The duo had been called in to resuscitate one of the fruit machines and, having got it back to perfect working order, stepped back to admire their handiwork. As they did so they completely demolished the beautifully decorated Christmas tree. Even the fairy had to dive for cover off the top of it.

■ Along at Banavie, the Moorings took part

in a wild goose chase. The hotel's static door-keeper had been 'goosenapped'. It had stood at the front door of the Moorings for quarter of a century. Then it vanished. I'm referring, of course, to the Moorings Goose (recognisable as the large, shaped flat iron, normally used to smooth out the billiard table baize) which holds the front door open for visitors. Apparently the goose came, originally, from Orkney and is much admired. Fortunately the good news is that it only had a '24-hour pass' from the hotel. The goose reappeared on the doorstep as mysteriously as it had taken flight.

■ Over the past half century, one of the most popular Scottish songs for 'bringing in the New Year' has been the one about 'Wee Geordie Scobbie'. You'll remember it goes:

'As I was walking down the street,  
I met Wee Geordie Scobbie.

Says he tae me, 'Could ye go a dram?'

Says I 'Man that's ma hobby'.

Well, now, there has been an early 1990s variation on the theme.

For a dram in the Alexandra Hotel substitute - a real ale. Aye, real ale has been introduced by the manager. Who goes by the name of - George Scobbie, no less.

■ Some of our crop of district and regional councillors have been coerced into holding impromptu 'surgeries' in John Steel's Hyperhut at the West End of Fort William. As soon as any of these local members come in to the shop to buy a paper or a packet of fags they're being pounced upon by constituents 'lying in wait' - appropriately - around the greetings cards' display area. It can be quite enlightening to hear the responses and rhetoric of the councillors when they are waylaid thus - in this most unlikely setting.

■ Charlie Cochrane was a dinner guest of the Robinsons on Saturday. After a pleasant evening Dr Chris ran Charlie home. However, just as Charlie was about to open the door, his key snapped off in the lock. He had a spare one, right enough, but the broken bit had to come out first. That was where Chris stepped in. Out of his GP bag came a pencil light and an array of instruments. With Charlie acting as theatre attendant when Chris called out 'scalpel' and 'tweezers', the extraction operation was completed successfully.

■ 'I need some Stiksa, please.' That request certainly baffled the shop assistant in the chemist's. 'For headaches, they are,' explained the customer. 'You've got them in a dispenser over there. But all the packets in it are upside down. So I thought it was an initiative test for people who ask for Askits.'

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LT

## FOOTBALL



Oban Saints travel to take on Kilsyth in the West of Scotland Cup 3rd round on Saturday.

## Saints away on West Cup duty this weekend

Oban Saints look to make it 11 wins in succession this weekend when they travel to the foot of the Kilsyth Hills and Lanarkshire's most northerly town to face Kilsyth Community in the West of Scotland Cup third round.

Formerly known as Kilsyth Amateurs, the long established North Lanarkshire club decided on a re-branding for their 56th season in amateur football and became part of Kilsyth Community Football Club whose aim is to bring all age groups in the town under one footballing umbrella.

The renaming coincided with the decision to end a long and successful relationship with the Central Scottish Amateur Football League for Kilsyth, where they were 2003/04 Premier Division Champions and 2005/06 McAvoy and McIntyre Cup Winners, and begin a new chapter in the Caledonian League.

Kilsyth appear to be settling in well to their new league where six wins from seven matches sees them in third position, six points behind leaders Eaglesham but with two games in hand, and well placed to mount an assault on the Division 1A title.

In the major cup competitions Kilsyth reached the third round stage of the Scottish Amateur Cup thanks to a first round walkover and a 3-1 away win at Strathclyde Saturday Morning Amateur Football League Championship B side Renfrew. Unfortunately for Kilsyth they came up against near neighbours Central Scottish Amateur Football League big guns Eastfield in the third round where, despite a spirited performance from the visitors, a solitary second half goal was enough to see Eastfield progress.

In the first round of the West of Scotland Cup Kilsyth were taken to extra-time by Scottish Amateur Football League Premier Division Two high fliers Glynhill Moorcroft before squeezing past the Renfrew men by the odd goal in seven.

Round two produced an identical score-line but without the need for an additional 30 minutes.

Clydeside Athletic of the Glasgow Colleges Premier Division were the visitors to Kilsyth Sports Field and raced into a 3-1 lead before a stirring comeback, including a last minute winner, sealed a third round home tie for Kilsyth against Saints.

In round one of the competition Saints were scheduled to play Rannoch at Glenruitten but the Greater Glasgow League outfit elected not to fulfill the fixture handing the tie to Saints by way of a walkover.

Round two saw the Oban side travel to the Toryglen Regional Football Centre in the shadow of Hampden Park to face Uddingston of the Strathclyde Saturday Morning League and in an exciting encounter the D & K Lafferty-sponsored Oban outfit squeezed through 4-2 after extra time. Craig MacEwan and Lewis Cameron scored for Saints in the regulation 90 minutes which ended 2-2 but two extra time goals from MacEwan and Donald Campbell meant Saints progressed to round three.

Saturday's match at Kilsyth Sports Field will be a major test for Saints and must be played to a finish on the day with extra-time and penalty kicks coming into play to decide the winner if the two sides cannot be separated after 90 minutes. Taking charge of proceedings is experienced Referee Derek Dempster of the Central Scottish League.

# Tobermory High School finishes top in Leanachan Challenge

The Leanachan Challenge cross country race took place last Thursday (November 8) at Fort William with 70 competitors from schools across Lochaber and the Highlands getting involved.

The race is for secondary pupils from across the region, and is hosted by the Rural Education Trust in memory of the late Peter English and organised by the Rural Education Trust with support from High Life Highland Active Schools team across Lochaber.

Organisers were delighted at the turn out this year with teams from Lochaber High School, Mallaig High School, Ardnamurchan High School, Kinlochleven High School, Glenurquhart High School, Kilchuimen High School, Tobermory High School and Portree High School all travelling to Fort William to take part. The 70 runners made this a record turn out.

The course was challenging for the runners after all the rain and many sections were muddy and tricky with narrow parts, slippery routes and narrow bridges.

The runners took it in their



S5/6 fastest girl Mairi Nonhebel from Tobermory High School, right, and S5/6 fastest boy, Ben Johnstone from Lochaber High School. Photo: Iain Ferguson, alba.photos

stride and enjoyed their lovely lunch at the Rural Education

Trust after with smiles on their faces.

There were medals for all the runners taking part with trophies for the first, second and third boy and girl in each category, a cup for the fastest boy and girl and a shield for the overall winning team.

This year the school shield went to Tobermory High School which was extra special as this was its first visit to the event.

The cup for fastest girls went to Mairi Nonhebel from Tobermory High School.

The shield for fastest boy went to Ben Johnstone from Lochaber High School, who is a regular winner.

Results: S1/2 girls - 1 Breagha Miller, Mallaig; 2 Ailsa Janzen, Kinlochleven; 3 Isla Macarthur, Kilchuimen.

S1/2 boys - 1 Alex Jamieson, Portree; 2 George Blagdan, Portree; 3 Zach Alexander,

## CROSS COUNTRY

Ardnamurchan.

S3/4 girls - 1 Sarah Fountain, Glenurquhart; 2 Innes Fernandez, Glenurquhart.

S3/4 boys - 1 Donald MacVicar, Tobermory; 2 Ben Mackinnon, Lochaber; 3 Lachlan Mackinnon, Lochaber.

S5/6 girls - 1 Mairi Nonhebel, Tobermory; 2 Kallista Knight, Tobermory.

S5/6 boys - 1 Ben Johnstone, Lochaber; 2 Niall McCallum, Glenurquhart; 3 Finlay Ralston, Glenurquhart.

The organisers would like to give a special thanks to the Rural Education Trust and all the volunteers who helped to put on a lovely lunch, also to all the volunteer marshalls and timers and Nevis Range for use of their trails.



The only entrant from Kilchuimen Acadmey in Fort Augustus, Isla Macarthur, Kilchuimen, who was third in the S1/S2 girls' race.



All the prizewinners at this year's Lochaber Yacht Club awards night.

# Lochaber Yacht Club prize-giving night

Lochaber Yacht Club broke with tradition this year by combining its annual general meeting with its annual prize-giving evening, held at the clubhouse in Fort William on Friday October 26. Around 40 members and guests were present, and enjoyed a successful evening. Commodore Hamish Loudon announced the trophy winners, and Liz Loudon presented the various cups and trophies to the crews and helms.

The Soling class has expanded at the club, and it is hoped to have six Solings on the water next year. New crew members are always welcome.

Trophy winners 2018: Dinghies - Frostbite Shield, Keith Falconer in a Laser. First series Commodore's Cup: Jon Gay in Laser Radial; Second series, Merlin Trophy: Keith Falconer and Ian Fleming in an Albacore. Third series, K.K. Cameron Trophy: Jon Gay and Amanda

Henderson in an RS400. Black Rock Race: Keith Falconer and Ian Fleming in an Albacore. Loch Eil Race, Commodore's Prize: Jon Gay and Amanda Henderson in an RS400. No Duffers Race: Vince Dean and Hamish Loudon. Pursuit Race: Martin Balcombe in Club Wayfarer. Faulkner Trophy (Best Crew): Amanda Henderson.

Keelboat and Solings - Brass Monkey: Kenny Clark in Soling 'So Long'. Keelboat Overall winner: Marian Austin and crew in 'Scintilla'.

## YACHTING

Soling Series 1, Omega Trophy: Hamish Loudon and Crew in 'Solaris'. Soling Series 2, Lochaber Wheel: Keith Falconer and Tim Sims 'Just Gonnies No'. Soling Series 3, Scapa Trophy: Steph James and crew in 'Maverix'. Corran Red race: Hamish Loudon and crew in 'Solaris'. The Cannon Trophy, Best Junior crew: Josh and Freya Balcombe.

## National shinty ambassadors programme launched in Lochaber

The Shinty Ambassador Programme was launched on Friday November 2 at Lochaber High School with 22 ambassadors attended as well as three of the initial young people involved in designing the programme.

These young people were given two hours of event planning training through HighLife Highland then led through coaching skills, forward planning and ice breaker sessions by the young mentors.

There were more than 60 applications from across 13 schools to become shinty ambassadors. These applications were narrowed down by the young persons' working group and the first ever shinty ambassadors were notified in early October.

All of the ambassadors have now gone back to their schools with new ideas, friendships with the support to make shinty a popular and prominent sport in their schools and surrounding areas.

High schools participating in the ambassador programme are: Portree High School, Plockton, Glenurquhart, Kingussie, Inverness Royal Academy, Lochaber, Uddingston Grammar, Rothesay Academy, Lochgilphead, Oban, Ardnamurchan, Woodmill/Inverkeithing and Culloden.

The aspiration is that schools will, as a result, have a significant increase in young people interested and engaged in shinty, more confident leaders and more

structured school to club links, providing a pathway to ongoing participation and competition opportunities.

The Camanachd Association gained funding through the Year of Young People National Lottery Fund.

Young persons' working group member Ryan Boyle said: 'We have really enjoyed being part of the concept and design process and it's great to see our project being brought to life with the funding we have received from the Year of Young People National Lottery Fund. It was fantastic to see all the ambassadors come together at the launch and be a part of their training day. There were so many great ideas shared and we are looking forward to seeing these



The shinty ambassadors at the recent launch at Lochaber High School.

come to life in schools across the country.'

Keith Loades, president of the Camanachd Association, said: 'It has been excellent to have young people involved in the programme design

process and it's clear to see the Shinty Ambassador Programme is something that will benefit schools and their pupils. We are grateful to the Year of Young People National Lottery Fund for

## SHINTY

the grant to deliver this programme as a pilot in 2018-19 and from there hopefully look to develop it further.'

LT

## GOLF

## Lochaber ten pin bowling results

After week three of the Lochaber Building Supplies ten pin bowling leagues at the Nevis Centre in Fort William, Alleycats are the only team at the top of the scratch division with the maximum possible 15 points followed by Council on 13 points and 'Old Spice' Girls and Retrovators both on 10 points. Alleycats and Triple 'B' are the new leaders of the handicap division both with 13 points followed by Council on 11 points.

Individually the best scratch games in week three came from John Weller (Alleycats), with the season high of 198, whilst Brian Johnstone (Alleycats) had games of 177 and 172. John Weller also had the top handicap game of 257 and the best two-game handicap series of 460. Brian Johnstone had the top two-game scratch series of 349 – the season high.

The best team scores of the week all came from Alleycats with the top scratch game of 655 and the top two-game scratch series of 1,253 – both season highs, and the top handicap game of 846 and the top two-game handicap series of 1,635.

The top scratch averages are currently held by Brian Johnstone on 163, Pam Weller (Alleycats) on 160 and Steve Day (The Dominos) on 150.

## LOTTERY

## Lochaber club lotteries

This week's Fort William Golf Club lotto numbers were 8, 10 and 15. There were no winners this week. The jackpot for the draw today (Thursday) will be £800.

Numbers drawn in the Caol Regeneration lotto were 2, 5 and 6. There were no winners this week. The prize for next week will be £500.

Ballachulish Shinty Club's lottery numbers for this week were 5, 9 and 10. There were no winners this week.

Next week's draw will have a prize of £1,000.

The Caol Community Centre bingo club lotto numbers this week were 1, 9 and 10. There were no winners this week, so next week's jackpot is £200.

## SCOTTISH AMATEUR FOOTBALL LEAGUE

## Results and fixtures

Last Saturday's results: Premier Division - Oban Saints no game; Dunoon 3, Alba Thislte 5; Premier Division One - Lochgilhead Red Star v Campbeltown Pupils, postponed; Premier Division Two - Parkhall 5, Tarbert 1.

Next Saturday's fixtures: West of Scotland Cup, 3rd round - Kilsyth v Oban Saints; Premier Division - Dunoon v Barrhead Arky; Premier Division One - Campbeltown Pupils v Claremont; Lochgilhead Red Star v Castlemilk; Premier Division Two - Tarbert v Cardross.

## OBAN SAINTS YOUTH FOOTBALL

## Results and fixtures

Last Sunday's results – Under 13s 4, Clyde 3. Scoring for Saints were Aidan MacDonald, Duncan MacEwan, Gabriel Tidser and Zander Craik; Rutherglen Glencairn 1, Under 14s 3. Netting for Saints were Kyle Cooper, Ross Mackay and Innes Jackson. Petershill 2, Under 15s 0; Cambuslang 1, Under 16s 3. Saints goalscorers were Connor Moore (2) and James Beaton.

This Sunday's fixtures - Scottish Cup - Under 13s v Broomhill; Regional Cup - Under 14s v Glenvale Reds; League - Shettleston Juniors v Under 15s; Scottish Cup - Under 16s v Dalziel BC.

# Late Quigg equalises for Fort

|                 |   |
|-----------------|---|
| Fort William    | 3 |
| Clachnacuddin   | 3 |
| Highland League |   |

Fort William picked up their second point of the league season last Wednesday evening thanks to a late Darren Quigg equaliser at a drenched Claggan Park.

Having missed a penalty in the first half, Quigg redeemed himself by netting the Fort's third goal which secured a vital point for the home side as they look to get out of a negative points total.

The Fort started brightly and it was clear they were keen to make it an uncomfortable evening for their nearest rivals in the league under the Claggan Park floodlights.

After 13 minutes, the home side took the lead after a poor clearance from Clach defender Michael Finnis saw the ball drop to Browett, who slotted the ball in the net.

The Fort's lead was short lived, however, and after an attempted back pass to keeper Calum Ligertwood fell short, Clach forward Scott Dunn

took it round the sprawling Ligertwood to level the scores.

The home side remained positive, however, and continued to press, coming close with a free kick on the edge of the box just minutes later that hit the wall and ricocheted around the Clach box before being cleared.

With just six minutes to go of the first half, the referee pointed to the penalty spot, after Michael Gillespie was fouled in the area, to give Fort William a great chance to take a half time lead. However, Darren Quigg missed from 12 yards and the teams went in at the break with the scores still level.

## Pace

Clach upped the tempo at the start of the second half and striker Liam Shewan had a fine chance blocked by the on-rushing Leigertwood.

Clach were able to take the lead, however, from the resulting corner. The home side were not out of it yet and brought on forward Scott Hunter from the bench to inject some pace to the forward line.

The Fort's hard work would



Fort's John Treasurer takes the ball from Paul Smith. Photos: Iain Ferguson

be rewarded after the hour mark when Sean Grant connected sweetly with a free kick and sent the ball flying into the net from distance.

The Claggan crowd weren't afforded long to celebrate as Clach regained the lead through Dunn again with just 10 minutes remaining.

# Netball is alive and well in the Scottish Highlands

Ladies netball teams from Oban, Mull and Fort William got together recently for a friendly mini tournament held at Atlantis Leisure Centre, Oban.

This is the second time the event has been held and is proving so popular it is likely to become a bi-annual event.

Fort William Falcons Netball Club is the organiser and its aim is to get as many netball fans involved in the game as possible.

## Enjoy

Around 40 women from across the three teams turned up to enjoy an afternoon of friendly (yet slightly competitive) netball – almost twice as many as attended last year.

Teams from Argyll and the Highland region are always looking for new players to join them, even if they haven't played netball since

primary school. A warm welcome awaits at any of the clubs.

Training times and venues:  
Oban - Park Primary School, every second Monday, 7-8pm. Details can be found on the Bounce Back to Netball - Oban Facebook

page.

Mull - Tobermory High School, every Monday, 6.30-8pm. Details can be found on the Isle of Mull Netball Facebook page.

Fort William - Lochaber High School, every Tuesday (term time only), 7-8pm.

## NETBALL

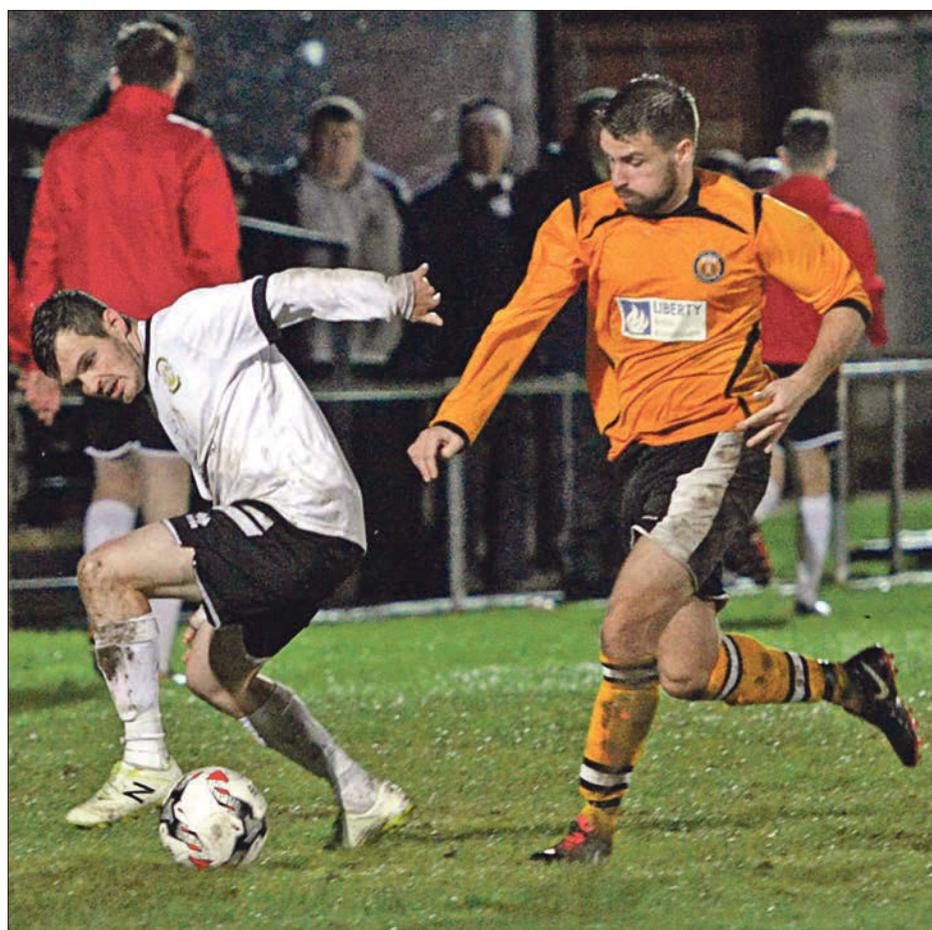
Details can be found on the Fort William Netball Club Facebook page.

For further information on any of the above please contact Rebecca Christopher on 01855 821086.



Fort William Falcons Netball Club

# er rescues point



on, alba.photos

The match was far from over and there was another dramatic twist to the evening as Fort grabbed a last-gasp equaliser.

Fort goal scorer Sean Grant chases Paul Smith down the wing.

Another great free kick from Grant forced the Clach keeper into a save as he tipped the ball onto the bar. Quigg was the quickest to

react in the box and was able to turn the ball into the net. The crowd warmly welcomed the referee's final whistle which saw Fort

## FOOTBALL

William pick up their second point of the season.

# Unlucky for some as Broch blast 13 past Fort William

|                 |    |
|-----------------|----|
| Fraserburgh     | 13 |
| Fort William    | 0  |
| Highland League |    |

A ruthless Fraserburgh side swept aside Fort William on Saturday, inflicting a double-figure defeat on the Highland League's bottom-placed club.

Fort William made a number of changes to the team that drew with Clachnacuddin midweek as Darren Quigg, Michael Gillespe and Scott Hunter were all missing.

Eight first half goals all but sealed the points on Saturday as five-goal Broch striker

Scott Barbour enjoyed a fruitful afternoon in front of goal.

The Fort struggled to get any kind of foothold in the match as title-chasing Fraserburgh, sitting second in the league two point off leaders Cove, dominated proceedings.

Four goals from Sean Butcher, added to by Greg Buchan, Liam Macdonald, Aidan Combe, rounded off the 13-0 scoreline.

The result is a bitter blow to the Fort, who picked up their second point of the season just a few days previous to Saturday.

Fort William remain rooted to the foot of the table with -7 points after being docked nine points for fielding an ineligible player earlier in the season.

## FOOTBALL

The Fort are at home to Wick Academy this Saturday (November 7) at Claggan Park.



Claggan Park.



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## WEATHER

**Thursday**  
Light rain showers and a moderate breeze  
Temperatures 9°C to 13°C.

**Friday**  
Light cloud and a gentle breeze  
Temperatures 10°C to 13°C.

### Weekend

**Outlook**  
Saturday  
Sunny intervals and a gentle breeze  
Sunday  
Sunny intervals and a gentle breeze  
Temperatures 7°C to 11°C.



FRIDAY

## TIDAL INFORMATION

Tide tables for Oban during the week from Thursday November 8, 2018 are listed below with differences for major ports listed on the right. All times are GMT (add one hour BST)

|      |       |     |       |     |
|------|-------|-----|-------|-----|
| Thur | 04.44 | 1.9 | 10.32 | 3.2 |
|      | 17.19 | 2.2 | 22.41 | 2.9 |
| Fri  | 05.49 | 2.0 | 12.45 | 3.1 |
|      | 18.34 | 2.2 | ** ** | **  |
| Sat  | 01.24 | 2.8 | 07.04 | 2.0 |
|      | 14.07 | 3.2 | 19.54 | 2.0 |
| Sun  | 02.28 | 3.0 | 08.19 | 1.9 |
|      | 14.51 | 3.4 | 20.52 | 1.8 |
| Mon  | 03.07 | 3.2 | 09.12 | 1.7 |
|      | 15.27 | 3.6 | 21.34 | 1.5 |
| Tues | 03.42 | 3.4 | 09.52 | 1.5 |
|      | 16.03 | 3.8 | 22.11 | 1.3 |
| Wed  | 04.16 | 3.6 | 10.27 | 1.2 |
|      | 16.37 | 4.0 | 22.46 | 1.1 |

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 |

**Stop Press:** New pontoons at Ulva Ferry and visitor moorings installed at Lochaline by North West Marine Ltd



**INSIDE THIS WEEK:**  
Netball is alive and well  
in the Scottish Highlands

**NORTH WEST  
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AND TIDES - SEE PAGE 79

# Lochaber secure a narrow win over Skye in West Coast league

|                     |   |
|---------------------|---|
| Lochaber            | 1 |
| Skye                | 0 |
| Mixed Hockey League |   |

Lochaber picked up a valuable win against Skye at Lochaber High School on Saturday after a close-fought encounter in the second match of the new West Coast Mixed Hockey League season.

Both teams compete in the newly established mixed league, which will see regular games being played throughout the winter months between Oban, Mull, Skye and Lochaber hockey clubs – the first league of its kind in the area.

On a dry, bright day, Lochaber started the first

half with a 4-4-2 formation as both teams displayed some great attacking play.

Lochaber's Cameron Dykes managed to find the net and the team were able to see out the first half with the score still at 1-0.

The second half saw Skye change their formation which opened up the play and the match ebbed and flowed as both sides were desperate to get the next goal of the game.

### Closeness

There were some very near misses from both sides and although there were plenty of chances created, neither of the teams were able to convert. The score line certainly reflected the closeness of the game.

### HOCKEY

Man of the match went to Mark Gartshore, Lochaber's goalkeeper, who pulled off some great saves and played a vital role in securing the win for the home side.

Before the match Lochaber unveiled their new set of blue kits, courtesy of their shirt sponsor Marine Harvest.

The matchday ball sponsor on Saturday was IPowerboat.

Training is on a Thursday 6-7pm at the all-weather pitch at Lochaber High School. The first session is free and £3 thereafter.

The league will take a break for December and commence in the New Year with four matches remaining.



Ruth MacCallum and Lewis Gibson unveil Lochaber's new kits, sponsored by Marine Harvest.



Lochaber's Hannah Beardmore intercepts a pass in midfield.

Callum Vardie under pressure from the Skye defence.

Ryan Docherty of Lochaber retains possession.



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