



## News...

### Trains

From the 18th May –13th December 2014 there will now be 6 trains per day, between Oban and Glasgow. Click the link to see the new timetable

<http://www.scotrail.co.uk/sites/default/files/documents/WHLMay14.pdf>

### Business Forum Meeting

On Thursday 24th April BID4Oban held it's business forum event in the Regent Hotel. BID4Oban would like to thank those who came along to the event. Lots of creative and useful ideas and concepts came from those who attended the event. Make sure you don't miss out on the next Forum, which will be held on Wednesday 11th June. Details coming your way soon...

## **CHORD Update**

As the next stage to the proposed CHORD works in Oban, Argyll & Bute council has commissioned Peter Brett Associates to examine the social and economic impact of Oban's waterfront regeneration projects.

We at BID4Oban believe it is important that as many businesses as possible are kept aware of the projects and their intended effects for the town as a whole.

Therefore for more information on the projects, and to take part in the survey which will help in the development of the business case needed to support the funding, please click on the following link.

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/Obanregeneration>

## **BID4Oban Town Ambassadors!**

Since the 1st May 2014 our Ambassadors have been out and about from 9am—7pm every day, and will continue 7 days a week for the rest of the season. Click the link to see which Ambassadors will be out and about on which day. (insert link)

There will be more information and photos of our lovely Ambassadors in months newsletter!

## **A word from our Events & Marketing Manager**

Cruise Ship Season gets underway

On 12th May with the arrival of the MV Discovery. We have developed quite a 'Welcome Package' for the passengers incorporating the MacQueen Trust Exhibition Trailer as our Welcome Point along with our Ambassadors and the

Love Oban Piper. BIDs has created an overarching information sheet to be included in the Love Oban Welcome Pack for every passenger. I am pleased to say that I have re-kindled contacts with some Cruise Ship Agents from a few years back and will be working closely with them to enhance this not often acknowledged important business for the town.

A couple of days before the arrival of each ship there will be a 'Cruise Ship' email going out so that you will know how many passengers that particular vessel takes, its arrival and departure times and a printable 'Welcome to MV.....' for the window of your premises.

### Events Meeting

Last month we held an 'Events' meeting in the Corran Hall which was jointly hosted by Iain MacKinnon who heads up the Oban & Lorn Events Safety Team Group. It was very well attended with the full BIDs Office Team and by many of the organisations and individuals who are involved in events throughout the year including some of our own Directors. There was discussion around jointly marketing events, signage and digital signage. Attendees were encouraged to use the Safety Team and also to use BIDs. I certainly realised that with regard to events there is a high expectancy of BIDs and I was able to get across that whilst our resources are limited there are many other ways that we can help event organizers utilising the experience that I have along with the other skills within the team. We are only a phone call away.

### Continental Market

Recently the Planning & Protective Services Committee (PPSL) of ABC discussed an Application for a Continental Market to held in Station Square on the various holiday weekends throughout the season. Cllr Roddy McCuish

raised a number of issues around last year's market and the current application was subsequently refused.

In my various BIDs travels there have been a number of you who have suggested that we have a market in Oban and BIDs should be the operator thereby controlling what is sold and just as importantly who is selling it. If there was an appetite for such a venture then I would look at it for next year with possibly a trial this September weekend this will entirely depend on the response I get from yourseve's.

## **Festival of the Sea**

Since taking up this post one of the most heard comments I have received is "why can't we have a Seafood Festival".

Well the answer is - Yes We Can. I did look out my old Oban Seafood Festival T shirt but it's a bit tight! Again we have re-kindled another good working relationship this time with Dr Anuschka Miller and her team at SAMS who run the bi- annual Festival of the Sea. It should have been happening this year however their focus is on the new Ocean Explorer Centre at SAMS and are really interested in what we are up to and kindly offered the use their already established title 'Festival of the Sea' The weekend of the festival kicks off on Friday 19th September. We will be creating a wide range of Seafood activities. I am delighted to say that I have had offers from a number of you for support for this event and our first meeting is imminent!

I would add that whilst this year's event will be a 'Wee' 'Festival of the Sea it is a start and we are already discussing next year's event with our new partners at SAMS - can anyone give me a marine equivalent of " from little acorns"

## World War Memorial Event

Originally Inveraray had been chosen as the venue however I am pleased to say that recently that has been changed to Oban. It takes place on Saturday 20th September and will feature a parade through the town similar to the one during our Bi-Centenary followed by an appropriate ceremony. It is expected that a Royal Naval vessel will be here and a naval band. The local British Legion will be leading on this and I am delighted to say that BID4Oban is heavily involved

## Oban Town Diary

### What's On Leaflets & Posters

As you may already know BID4Oban maintains the Oban Town diary website and the What's On Boards located around the town. Every two weeks during the season BID4Oban produce leaflets and posters with the events and offers that have been submitted to the Oban Town Diary Website. Please ensure that you have put your events on at least 10 working days before the distribution date of the leaflets and posters so that it is included in the materials. This gives enough time for the materials to be produced and printed.

If you prefer you can always email your event details direct to [shona@bid4oban.co.uk](mailto:shona@bid4oban.co.uk) and I will be happy to submit them to the diary for you.

Or call the BID4Oban office on 01631 569915.

Click the link below to find out the distribution dates for the leaflets and posters so that you have you. (insert link)

If you would like to stock our What's on Leaflets in your premises or would like to be emailed a PDF version, please email Shona

## Dates For Your Diary

- Tuesday 13th May MiOban Business Launch 6pm at the Corran Halls
- Wednesday 11th June BID4Oban Business Forum Meeting at 6pm at the Caledonian Hotel

## Contact Us:

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