

OPEN FOR BUSINESS

We realise that many more businesses would love to be open, serving locals and visitors alike – our deepest empathy goes out to these businesses and we look forward to seeing their doors wide open when this is all over. Please feel free to get in touch with us if you would like to feature your business, or know a business that should be included. Email nmurphy@obantimes.co.uk or get in touch via our Facebook page on messenger. Let's spread the word as much as we can!

SUPERMARKETS & FOODHALLS

Most superstores in town are operating crowd control measures to help manage social distancing and product quantity limits are in place. They are working tirelessly to restock shelves daily. Please be patient and kind.

TESCO

Mon-Sat 8am-10pm
Sunday 10am-8pm
Older, Vulnerable Customers - Mon, Wed, & Fri 9am-10am
NHS Staff Tesco Staff - Tues, Thurs & Sun 9am-10am
Petrol Filling Station shop is closed but you will still be able to pay at the hatch.

LIDL

Mon-Sun 8am-8pm

ALDI

Mon-Sat 9am-7pm
Sunday 9am-6pm
All day everyday key workers in the NHS, Police and Fire Service will take priority ahead of queues into stores upon showing a valid ID. This is in addition to early access on a Sunday, where they can enter stores 30 minutes prior to opening.
• 4 units on all products
• 2 units per customer on nappies and baby products
• 12 units per online order on wines or spirits, 4 units instore.

MARKS AND SPENCER

Mon-Fri 8am-8pm
Sat 8am-7pm
Sun 9am-6pm
Older & Vulnerable Customers Mon & Thurs 8am-9am
NHS & Emergency services Tues & Fri 8am - 9am

FARMFOODS

Mon-Fri 8am-8pm
Sat 8am-7pm
Sun 9am-6pm

BOOKERS CASH AND CARRY

Booker in Oban are still supplying retailers and caterers throughout Oban and Argyll both through normal collect and existing delivered business.

Open hours as follows:

Mon-Fri 7.30am-3.00pm
Sat 7.30am-2.00pm
Sunday Closed

Social distancing measures are in place with hand sanitiser for customer and colleague use to ensure we remain as safe as possible whilst trading through this situation.

We are publishing this information in association with BID4OBAN and ObanFM, supported by the Scotland's Towns Partnership. Helping to provide resilience for our local business community. Many of these businesses are working under extreme pressure to bring quality products and services to the people of Oban and beyond. Please remember to exercise caution when shopping and only shop for essential supplies. Along with our wonderful NHS staff and carers, our local food, fuel, news platforms and home supply businesses are our community champions!

LOCAL FRESH FOOD SUPPLIERS

Argyll has a unique natural larder and a range of passionate artisans and suppliers to choose from. With home deliveries too!

JACKSON BUTCHERS

Opening Hours
Monday - Closed
Tuesday to Friday 9am - 4pm
Saturday 9am - 2pm
Offering FREE home delivery to Oban - daily
Kilmore and Dunbeg - Wednesday
Connel, North Connel to Appin Thursday
Card Payments preferred. Call the shop on 01631 562016 to place your order. We are open for customers who wish to visit the shop. Also taking phone orders for collection.

IAIN DARLING/WYNNE BUTCHERS

9am-3pm
To place orders call 01631 567400
Cards payments preferred

TASTE OF ARGYLL

Mon-Sat 9am-4pm
Deliveries
OBAN & KILMORE - Daily
TAYNUILT - Tuesday
BENDERLOCH & BARCADDINE - Friday
To place your order call 07882226675.
Fresh and frozen fish, meats, veg, milk, breads, jams, coffees, soaps, flours, pasta, cakes, etc...
*Pre ordered ready meals available

MILLSTONE WHOLEFOODS

Closed but orders can be made by phoning 01631 562704
Orders will be gathered, payment is taken via phone call.
Orders can be collected from the shop between 9.30am-2pm, Mon-Sat.
Delivery can be arranged.

OBAN BEER SELLER

Shop closed but order before 6pm for next day supply - email obanbeerseller@gmail.com for current list of stock
0779 6418973

OBAN FOOD HUB

Order by midnight Tuesday for pick up Thurs 4pm-6pm at the Rockfield Centre
***VERY IMPORTANT NOTICE: COLLECTION @ ROCKFIELD CENTRE**
If you are collecting a veg or fruit box from Go Naked Veg tomorrow please bring a bag to take your veg/fruit home in. Due to the phenomenal amount of orders there are not enough boxes. Check out the Oban Food Hub Facebook page for strict guidelines on collection and delivery.

TASTE OF ARGYLL KITCHEN

From Langoustine Curry to Highland Beefburgers - lots in between
Friday night deliveries (free to Oban, £3 on outskirts)
Tel: 07882226675

TAKE-AWAY FOOD

Featured take-away food businesses are offering collection or delivery. Collections require strict adherence to social distancing regulations with maximum 2 people entering the outlet at any one time:

GEORGE STREET FISH RESTAURANT AND TAKE-AWAY

Open 12pm-8pm daily
Tel 01631 566664
Take-away only

OBAN GRILLHOUSE

Open 7 days, 5pm-11pm
Tel: 01631 358246
Collection or delivery

CORIANDER

Fri, Sat, Sun from 5pm
Tel: 01631 570806
Collection or delivery

PIAZZA

From 5.30pm, Thurs-Sun
Tel: 01631 563628
Collection or delivery

TASTE OF ARGYLL KITCHEN

From Langoustine Curry to Highland Beefburgers - lots in between
Friday night deliveries (free to Oban, £3 on outskirts)
Tel: 07882226675

OBAN FILLING STATION

Hot filled rolls, pies and sausage rolls etc
Open 7am-6pm

BIRCHWOOD FILLING STATION

Hot filled rolls
Open 7am-6pm

BUILDING, PLUMBING & DIY SUPPLIES

CITY PLUMBING SUPPLIES

Closed doors – phone and email orders only
EMERGENCY CALL OUT?
WE ARE HERE FOR YOU
WITH OVER 20,000 SPARE PARTS TO GET THE JOB DONE
Browse online at www.cityplumbing.co.uk
Please call 01631 567640 for free click and collect Mon-Fri
Kerbside deliveries available
Tel: 01631 567640

CITY ELECTRICAL FACTORS

Closed doors but open Mon-Fri 8am-5.30pm
Telephone orders 01631 562362
Email: sales.oban@cef.co.uk
Along with the 5,000 unique lines we stock at the branch, our customers still have access to over 30,000 product lines from www.cef.co.uk
Delivery or collection

SCREWFIX

Essential supplies only
PPE equipment reserved for frontline personnel only
Click and Collect service only
Mon-Sat 8am-5pm, Sun 9am-4pm Sun
Tel: 03330 112112
www.screwfix.com

HIGHLAND FASTENERS

Mon-Fri, 8am-12pm
Essential supplies only
Tel: 01631 570584

HOWDEN'S JOINERY

Essential supplies for the trade, housing associations etc.
Closed doors but open 9-3 Mon-Fri via telephone/email.
Tel: 01631 567083
Email: oban@howdens.com

GARAGES

KWIK FIT

NHS 10% discount on tyres, servicing and batteries
Click [HERE](#) for discount
Tel: 01631 566282

FLIT

Essential vehicle hire only for front line staff
Visit Flit self drive Facebook page
Email: flit@btconnect.com
Tel: 07810391753

KERRIE'S TYRES

We are staying open or available for anyone that needs assistance.
Open 9am-1pm contactable by phone thereafter
Tel: 07876762631

MCCONECHY'S

Open as usual: Mon-Fri 8.30am-5.30pm
Sat until 12.30pm
Tel: 01631 570047
Email oban@mcconechys.co.uk

MUNRO'S GARAGE

Must pre-book, no walk-ins
Tel: 01631 564463 to book your vehicles in.

MORRISON MOTORS

Long term vehicle rentals
Tel: 07825 581171

FIN'S PLACE

Open for essential servicing
Tyres, brakes, batteries etc
Tel: 01631 566 220 or 07766 757 013

TRAILWEST

Closed doors but open for essential services for repair plus new supply and hire to the agricultural industry by telephone.
Tel: 01631 563638

LEGAL SERVICES

DM MACKINNON - SOLICITORS & NOTARIES

If you need to get in contact please call us on 01631 563 014. If you are put through to our answering machine, we will get back to you as soon as possible. Alternatively, please email us at info@dmmk.co.uk and your email will be directed to an appropriate member of staff who will respond to you at the earliest opportunity.

ANDERSON BANKS SOLICITORS & ESTATE AGENTS

(OBAN AND BENBECULA)
Due to Government guidelines our offices are currently closed to the public but our staff are working remotely from home to continue to offer the highest level of service.
Contact us on our usual numbers for telephone appts or Skype/Facetime video calls can be arranged.
Contact us:
www.andersonbanks.co.uk
Anderson Banks Facebook page.
Oban Office: 01631 563158 Email: info@andersonbanks.co.uk
Benbecula office: 01870 602061 Email: uist@andersonbanks.co.uk
Our legal services include: Conveyancing, Wills, Trusts & Executives, Power of Attorney,



IN ASSOCIATION WITH

Oban Business Improvement District

www.bid4oban.co.uk



Family law, Commercial leases and all aspects of private client work plus estate agency for residential sales and leases.

BANKS

ROYAL BANK OF SCOTLAND

Open for essential business:
Tues, Wed, Thurs
10am-1pm
Tel: 0345 724 2424

BANK OF SCOTLAND

Open for essential business:
Mon-Fri
10am-2pm
Tel: 0345 602 0000

CLYDESDALE BANK

Open for essential business
Mon-Fri
10am-2pm
Tel: 0345 602 0000

TSB

Open for essential business:
Mon-Fri
10am-4pm closed 12.30-1.30 for lunch
Tel: 01631 399 998

TAXIS - ESSENTIAL JOURNEYS ONLY

ARGYLL TAXIS

Tel: 01631 565293

LORN TAXIS

Tel: 01631 564744

OBAN TAXIS

Tel: 01631 564148/566676/564666

ETIVE TAXIS

Tel: 01631 566880

FUEL/SERVICE STATIONS

BIRCHWOOD GARAGE

Mon-Sat 7am-6pm

OBAN FILLING STATION

Mon-Sat 7am-6pm, Sun 8am-6pm

HALFWAY HOUSE

Mon-Sun 7am-7pm

WEST HIGHLAND GAS

Delivering to your door
Gates closed but open Tues-Fri, 8am-4.30pm.
Please call with your order
Tel: 01631 564050

CHEMISTS & HEALTHCARE

Try to avoid contacting your pharmacy by telephone, unless it is essential.
Most in town are operating crowd control measures to help manage social distancing:
• Only order medication 1 week in advance of needing it;
• Let your GP Practice know which pharmacy you'd like to collect this from;
• And please be understanding of small delays at this time.

BOOTS THE CHEMIST, GEORGE STREET

Mon-Sat 9am-4pm
Closed 1.30pm-2.30pm for lunch

BOOTS THE CHEMIST, BESIDE DOCTORS

Mon-Fri 11am-6pm
Closed 1pm-2pm for lunch

GORDON'S CHEMIST

Mon-Sat 10am-5pm
Closed 1pm-2pm for lunch

JOHN WALLACE OPTICIANS

OBAN PRACTICE
Telephone consultations only
Tel: 01631 563170

SPECSAVERS

Reduced staff and hours, for emergency and essential eye care services.
We are here behind closed doors for phone and video consultations and onward emergency referral to hospital eye service when needed.

CONVENIENCE STORES/NEWSAGENTS

ALBANY STORES

Mon-Sun 7am-6pm

SOROBA SHOP

Mon-Sun 10am-8pm

McCOLLS Oban

Mon-Sun 7am-8pm

DUNOLLIE SHOP

Tues-Sat 10am-8pm, Sun & Mon 12pm-6pm

DUNBEG STORES

Mon-Sun 8am till 8pm

CONNEL SHOP

Mon-Fri 6am-4pm
Sat 7.30am-1pm, Sun 7.30am-1pm
In store post office Mon-Sat 9am till 1pm

THE PINK SHOP, BENDERLOCH

Mon-Sun 9am till 9pm

BALVICAR STORES

Mon - Thurs 8.30am - 6.00pm
Fri 8.30am - 7.00pm
Sat 9am - 7.00pm
Sun 9.30am - 2pm
A little light entertainment from Wendy on their Facebook page...

PET SUPPLIES

PETS AT HOME

Mon-Sat 9am-6pm
Sun 10am-5pm
Crowd control system in place to help manage social distancing in stores

CREATURE COMFORTS

Mon, Wed, Fri 9am-1pm
Creature Comforts is your local pet shop for Oban & surrounding area. We stock feeds & accessories for all kinds of pets & wild birds. Mail order deliveries available.

KINTALINE FARM

Mon-Sun 10am - 5pm by arrangement

OFFICE/IT SERVICES

MATRIX COMPUTERS

Computer Support
providing telephone and remote support to home and business customers, new and existing. Tel: 01631 571571
Email info@matrixcomputers.co.uk

OBAN COMPUTER SERVICES

Limited service for essential assistance
Tel: 01631 566561

ONLINE SHOPPING

OBAN MUSIC SHOP

Oban Music is still trading through its web site: www.musicscotland.com
Tel: 01631 566304

ORSAY

Trading online at www.orsayoban.co.uk.

OTHER INFORMATION

WEST COAST MOTORS

is now offering FREE travel to NHS and workers. The company is also working with local communities and offering a delivery service for those most vulnerable. Well done WCM!

ROYAL MAIL

Royal Mail have restricted sorting office hours to 9am-11am
Closed Wed and Sun.

HOME-START LORN

Are you finding it difficult with your children at home all day, need some adult conversation - our volunteers are here to help
Tel: 07718 768305

HOPE KITCHEN

Hope Kitchen is now delivering/providing food assistance to people who are experiencing financial difficulty at this time. Please don't hesitate to get in touch either via messenger or on 01631 565730 if you find yourself short of essentials.

Those who can afford to pay for food but are self-isolating and unable to get supplies, Argyll and Bute Council has a dedicated phone line 01546 605524 to help you.

Information correct at time of going to press. Check www.obantimes.co.uk/openforbusiness for updated information. This page will run in the Oban Times every week for as long as necessary - printed information will be updated weekly.



West Highland Housing Association would like to thank all our tenants and residents for their understanding during these difficult times. Our organisation is following the Government guidelines and the office is closed but our staff are taking calls and working as much as possible in the circumstances.

We will try and provide as much help and assistance during this crisis. We can help make claims for universal credit and other benefits and provide a listening ear if you just need to have a chat with someone.

Please contact us either by phone on our FREE number **0300 3231170**

Email us
mail@westhighlandha.co.uk
or login into your My Home account online

WEST HIGHLAND HOUSING ASSOCIATION SUPPORTING OUR TENANTS AND COMMUNITY.

OPEN FOR BUSINESS



IN ASSOCIATION WITH
Oban Business Improvement District
www.bid4oban.co.uk



Spend in Oban to help local businesses survive

by Ellis Butcher
ebutcher@obantimes.co.uk



The boss of Oban's leading business group has saluted the firms which have managed to remain open in the midst of the coronavirus crisis.

Andy Spence, chief executive of Oban BID, said those which had kept going or diversified their offer, had shown 'amazing' resilience.

And he issued an urgent appeal for people in Oban to spend money locally rather than online.

Many local firms remain vulnerable because tourism has been wiped off the face of the map for a major chunk of the year at least.

Small businesses need to be backed like never before or Oban could risk losing them, was his clarion call.

Mr Spence spoke out as Oban entered a fourth week of shutdown.

With the sun shining on Oban Bay and barely a cloud in the sky, the pavements are deserted save for dog walkers, hour-long exercisers and those fetching vital food or medicines.

Asked to describe the atmosphere in the business community, Mr Spence said: 'Everyone is still in a bit of a shock at what is going on and they are all trying to find their feet.



This does have huge implications on a town like Oban which relies on tourism and is now telling people to stay away for their own safety – and that's the right thing to do.'

'What puts us in a good position to come back is the strength of the business community here. They are versatile and they can rise to the challenge, although we've never had a challenge as big as this.

'We really have to pull together over the next couple of months.'

'The most important thing people can do is to continue to spend money locally and before purchasing online they should seriously consider 'can I get that locally?' he said.

A number of firms, from family

enterprises to high street giants have continued to keep the wheels of commerce turning in a month like no other.

But in a crisis as fast-moving as the coronavirus, there are no guarantees every business will be standing by the time the restrictions are lifted or government grants run out.

Other companies have had to swiftly adapt their offering as loyal customers and staff are confined to their homes.

Restaurants such as Piazza have become takeaway firms and local butchers Jackson Bros and Wynne and Son had been getting orders out safely, said Mr Spence.

Oban was set to welcome 22,000 visitors by cruise ship before the lockdown.

Supermarkets and banks have also risen to the challenge, he added. In addition, accountants, insurance brokers, the BID group itself and The Oban Times have all remained operational despite the pandemic paralysis.

Mr Spence believes Oban is well placed to come back but is crucially aware that it will take time.

The scare has wiped out Oban's summer calendar of events, which was being hailed as the 'biggest ever'.

With visitors expected from all corners of the UK and the town high on the list for wealthy American and Indian visitors, worldwide travel restrictions have sparked a flood of cancellations and postponements.

Oban was expecting to welcome 22,000 people alone from cruise ships docking over the summer – bringing visitors who fill the tills, help create jobs and sustain shops and services which could not survive without the tourism pound.

In August, Cunard Line's Queen Mary 2 was due for a day visit, bringing a maximum 2,800

guests and more than 1,200 crew. The Bid4Oban group consists of 550 businesses which pay a levy so that the group has a pot of money for staging local events, bankrolling improvements to the street scene and waving the flag for the town.

However, the Bid4Oban group and the Oban and Lorn Tourism Alliance are now picking up the reins to be a conduit for important information and funding opportunities available to struggling businesses.

A £30,000 application has been made to the Scotland's Town Partnership, which has been awarded £1 million by the Scottish Government to share with business improvement districts nationwide.

The grant for Oban will help the BID group assist with the 'resilience' for businesses and communicate which businesses are still open.

A decision is expected in the next fortnight, he said.

Tony Cave, chairman of BID4Oban, added: 'It is essential that the BID is working alongside Argyll and Bute Council and other agencies to ensure businesses are kept up-to-date.'

£3.6m boost as council works round the clock to pay out grants

Some £3.6 million of grants have been paid out to local businesses across Argyll and Bute in just a few short weeks, according to new statistics.

It follows a flood of more than 1,800 inquiries to Argyll and Bute Council which is administering a Scottish Government scheme, said Bid4Oban.

Businesses needing to protect jobs, prevent closures and promote economic recovery can apply for grants for between £10,000 and £25,000 through the council, with a deadline of March 31, 2021.

Figures accurate as of last Thursday (April 9) show that 530 claims have been processed by the council's finance department which has come under huge pressure, said Mr Andrew Spence, chief executive of Bid4Oban.

'So far they've done an excellent job – as have all departments across the council,' said Mr Spence.

'I would like to pay tribute to the work they have had to do to keep the community safe and the business community supported.'

Many businesses remain con-

cerned about the outcome of their application but Mr Spence advised that if people had not had any queries raised by the council, then the chances are it would be paid once processed.

So far, the council has approved 447 grants for between £10,000 and 42 for £25,000, and is working round-the-clock to get through the applications, he said.

The BID group is also actively lobbying for more support for sole traders and those businesses associated with tourism which do not always qualify for the grant help,

to ensure they did not fall between the cracks of support, he added.

Mr Spence called on local residents to throw their support behind those local firms still operating – either on skeleton staffing levels or from home.

Accountants, legal firms, banks, insurance brokers and travel agents are still working after facing a flood of customer concerns, he said.

Supermarkets and small businesses including local butchers and takeaways are adjusting to stay afloat, while nimble-footed

restaurants and cafes have also turned to getting out deliveries from Piazza in Oban to the Taste of Argyll, among others.

Mr Spence's message to Oban was that customers must back those local businesses open at this time as they remained 'very vulnerable' to the lockdown.

'Support them now like never before,' said Mr Spence.

The Oban Times has a dedicated page online promoting the businesses seen here, which are still open for business – visit www.obantimes.co.uk/openforbusiness