

OPEN FOR BUSINESS

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!

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.

LOCAL FRESH FOOD & DRINK 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 & BARCALDINE - 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

FROM CRATE TO GATE (THE OBAN INN)
Drinks supplies - for full menu see Oban Inn Facebook page
Home deliveries daily

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

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

PIAZZA
From 5.30pm, Thurs-Sun
Tel: 01631 570047
Email oban@mcconecheys.co.uk
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.couk
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.screwfex.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

RODDY'S GARAGE
Open but with limited staff.
Booking ahead by telephone required.
Tel: 01631 565882

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@mcconecheys.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

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.

INSURANCE

JELF CLARKE THOMSON
Open for Business As Usual.
Office is currently closed, but Jelf Clark Thomson staff are working from home from 9am-5pm, Mon-Fri. If you email us, we will respond. If you call us, the phone will be answered (or the call returned if a message is left). Whether it's the renewal of an existing policy, enquiries about new insurance arrangements, queries on cover or guidance on loss prevention and risk mitigation, we are here to help. Please don't hesitate to get in touch.
Office telephone number: 01631 567675 (please note calls to this number are being re-routed and thus will not always be answered immediately - please DO leave a message);
Graeme Bass mobile: 07872 131073

BANKS

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

IN ASSOCIATION WITH



Oban Business Improvement District

www.bid4oban.co.uk



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

PET SUPPLIES

PETS AT HOME
Mon-Sat 9am- 6pm
Sun 10am -5pm

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...

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

GARDEN CENTRES

HOMEBASE OBAN
Open 10am-5pm daily
Card payment only
It would be useful if you could check the SKU code of the product you want from the website before coming to the store.

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.

TRAVEL & LEISURE

ERIC SMITH TRAVEL
We are still open for new and existing bookings although agency closed at present.
By email eric@gowesttravel.co.uk, dianne@gowesttravel.co.uk
FB message ERIC SMITH TRAVEL

OFFICE/IT SERVICES AND ONLINE

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

10DERIT
Computer Remote Support - no need for visits. Home and Business networks.
info@10derit.co.uk
Text/Whatsapp 07944124025

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



Oban talks planned for reopening businesses

by Ellis Butcher
ebutcher@obantimes.co.uk



Talks are to get under way soon across the Oban business community on a plan for how the town can bounce back from the coronavirus.

With the pandemic bringing much of commerce to a close, the focus since the end of March for the BID4Oban group has been pointing local firms towards specialist advice, help and cash grants.

But as May beckons, the priority is set to shift in the coming weeks from 'resilience to recovery,' explained Andy Spence, chief executive of the 550-strong business group.

He said: 'It is recognised that as time goes on and most businesses remain in lockdown that we need a plan to get business moving once restrictions start to be relaxed.'

'BID4Oban is working with a new group called the Argyll Economic Resilience Forum which is made up of business organisations across Argyll



Andy Spence, BID4Oban chief executive

representing tourism, industry, local authorities, Highlands and Islands Enterprise and business improvement districts.

'To this end, the BID will be instigating a series of conference calls with interested parties over the coming weeks to start to plan for the future.'

The aim is to ensure that Oban is ready to move should the Scottish Government decide to

relax restrictions which have kept the doors shut on hundreds of local businesses at the start of the traditional tourism season.

However, business leaders are under no illusion that restrictions may be in place for some time yet.

That could see a staggered approach taking place, meaning some businesses would open ahead of others.

That was made clear last week

by First Minister Nicola Sturgeon at the launch of a new 27-page Scottish Government blueprint called 'COVID-19 – A Framework for Decision Making'.

It sets out possible changes Scotland will have to make in order to prevent a deadly second wave as medics work on finding a cure.

That paves the way for social distancing to become the norm and would spell major changes for businesses to ensure staff and customers are kept two-metres apart.

Any ongoing social distancing restrictions would also raise questions over the viability of crowd-pulling future public events held across Scotland, including Oban.

Mr Spence said: 'Sadly, many events have had to be cancelled over the period of lockdown and have had an economic impact across the town's businesses.'

'It is likely that more events may be cancelled as we progress throughout the year.'

'At this stage BID4Oban is liaising with Argyll and Bute Council,

taking advice from the Scottish Government and trying our best to advise and communicate with local organisations.

'Given that many events are planned months in advance it is necessary to make some difficult decisions now and we will advise in due course which events will be affected.'

'On a brighter note it is great to see the resilience of some of the town's businesses that are still managing to trade in extremely difficult conditions.'

Mr Spence said the coverage in The Oban Times had demonstrated the lengths some businesses are going to to provide a 'business as usual' approach while successfully respecting social distancing rules.

'We should also be thankful to the staff at the various shops and businesses that are going the extra mile to ensure we can all buy food and obtain services we have been used to,' said Mr Spence.

'Many businesses are open online and many are providing home deliveries, particularly to the vulnerable in our community.'

MSPs clash over speed firms receiving business grants

Local politicians have clashed over the speed of grants provided to businesses, writes Ellis Butcher

Highlands and Islands MSP Donald Cameron, the Conservative shadow finance minister, has crossed swords with finance minister Kate Forbes of the ruling SNP, who represents Skye, Lochaber and Badenoch.

It follows claims by a major business owner in Scotland that government grants of £25,000 are getting to businesses faster in England.

Michael Lumsden, who runs the Pure Spa and Beauty chain, claimed that the decision in Scotland to put councils in charge of the grants had made it 'unneces-

sarily slow' for firms to access the funds.

In an open letter to MSPs, he wrote: 'Our businesses cannot afford such unnecessary delays caused by bureaucracy.'

Mr Cameron commented: 'This is another hardworking business owner whose properties would fare far better if they were based south of the border. That's not an acceptable situation for the Scottish Government to create and is affecting firms here in the Highlands and Islands where we have many more small and medium sized businesses.'

Yet Ms Forbes pointed out Scotland was home to far more smaller businesses eligible for

the lower grant of £10,000. 'As such, there are far more small businesses getting a £10,000 grant in Scotland than they would in either England or Wales,' she said.

'As eligibility is based on the small business bonus scheme, which is the most generous in the UK, the cut-off for receiving a £10,000 grant is also higher meaning more are eligible.'

Help to larger businesses, such as Pure Spa and Beauty, involved rates bills being reduced to zero, a £25,000 grant plus an additional grant for each of their properties and 80 per cent of wages paid, she added.

'I wonder what the small group of businesses complaining about

the lack of parity with England would say if they realised that delivering parity would require us to strip hundreds of small businesses of any grant at all?' she asked.

Argyll and Bute Council confirmed this week that it has awarded £17.4 million in business grants.

By the end of April 26, it said 1,405 applications had been approved for the £10,000 grants and 134 applications approved for the £25,000 grant. A total of 2,202 applications have been received by the council.

The council said staff had 're-focused' their work, or left their usual roles temporarily, to help speed up delivery of the government grants.

Councillor Aileen Morton, the Liberal Democrat leader of the authority, said: 'Getting as much support to as many local businesses as possible has been one of our key priorities over the past few weeks.'

'Credit due to all of the staff who have been working incredibly hard on this, including those who transferred over from their normal work to help process grant applications.'

Businesses affected by COVID-19 can apply to the council for funding support until March 31 next year.

They should visit <https://www.argyll-bute.gov.uk/coronavirus-information-businesses>