

Farm road repaired in time to be dug up again

AN ABERDEEN farmer was surprised to see the roads department repairing the road alongside his farm — for he was told it would have to be dug up by the water services department within weeks.

Mr Gavin Haggart, who farms at Bodachra, just two miles from the Bridge of Don, says the patches being put on the road will have to go when a water main is re-routed.

"When I saw the roads people I couldn't believe it. I have a letter which says they want to put in the new main there," he said.

The present main, he explained, goes through his fields and the water authority had

agreed to shift it to the roadway after bursts had caused flooding.

"It's daft to do this work if they're just going to rip it up again. It's lasted this long, surely they can wait a few more weeks," he said.

SAFETY

But a spokesman for the roads department of Grampian Regional Council claimed there was no mix-up between the departments.

"We are doing a lot of work on frost damage in the interests of safety," he said, "and we know about the other work. We have delayed

work in the past because of work by the water services.

He said the patching was necessary and his department had been notified of the plans for the water main along with all the other services in the usual way.

A water services department spokesman confirmed that the plans had been circulated and said it was hoped to put the new main on the verge of the road.

The new pipe would be half the size of the old one, he said and it should be possible to lay it with the minimum of disturbance.

Police probe bid to poison Irish town's water supply

POLICE in the Irish Republic were today investigating an attempt to poison a town's water supply.

Water authority officials worked overnight to drain half a million gallon reservoir at Ballybrigan, Co. Dublin after traces of cyanide were found.

The poison was found after an anonymous phone call to Dublin County Council giving a warning that an unidentified section of the area's water supply had been contaminated.

The caller gave no reason for the action, and did not name any person or group responsible.

TANKERS

Only tiny amounts of cyanide were found, and a local official said 80 gallons of the affected water would have to be drunk to harm anyone.

As a precaution the 12,000 residents of Ballybrigan, 20 miles from Dublin, were warned in a notice to house police operation not to use any tap water.

Special tankers were called in early today to collect an alternative supply.

VEGETABLES

The drained reservoir was expected to be filled back in use this afternoon after being emptied and secured.

Earlier this year samples of vegetables were produced in the Dublin area as part of a protest against imports of produce from Europe.

A man was later charged with wasting police time.

Bad weather hits Torcher



Ashley, with his mother Mrs Joyce Knowlton, looks forward to being in the charity procession tonight.

A FOUR-YEAR-OLD Aberdeen boy will be at the head of the Aberdeen Student Charities Campaign Torcher procession tonight.

Ashley Knowlton, of 54 Primrosehill Drive, will be with his dad in the cab of a crane with the driver.

The crane, loaned to the students for the day, will by then have been converted to a monster.

And Ashley's presence in the parade is his reward for naming the monster "Mr Ribby" in a competition run by the Students' Campaign. The name will be prominently displayed on the monster.

Pupils bound for Germany

ABERDEEN University students who had been hoping for mild weather for tonight's Torcher procession, had had their worst fears realised.

Overnight temperatures plunged to just above freezing as Grampian and the Highlands were hit by snow and strong winds.

But the wintry conditions have not worried the people of the North-east who are planning to get out and about during the bank holiday weekend.

The AA in Aberdeen reported many people had called them to ask about weather conditions.

The early-morning snow melted quickly, leaving all roads clear but wet.

Grampian Police issued a weather warning to drivers, saying strong northerly winds would affect many roads in Scotland today, especially in western and northern areas.

Snow showers would affect higher roads in Grampian and Highland Regions, with drifting in the strong winds.

They had a special warning to drivers planning to cross the Lecht, which is also expected to be hit by snow and strong winds.

Aberdeen weather forecasters forecasted that temperatures today were unlikely to get above 6°C.

And although tonight should feel milder than last night, the winds moderating will create a chance of ground frost in places.

BRIEFLY

- A PIG with a difference took his fan club with him when he was put on sale at the market yesterday.
- Fancy is the pet pig of the 28 youngsters of Class Five Six at Quarryhill School, Aberdeen. From the age of three weeks his development has been watched closely by the children. He went up for sale and, much to the relief of the class, who were afraid he would be slaughtered, Fancy was sold for twice the normal market price for breeding purposes.
- Cycling into retirement is Isobel Durno, who received a surprise presentation of the bike to mark her farewell from (consolidated) Prunette Tool, Tullis, at a luncheon in the Dee Motel. Her former boss Mr Bob Morton (left) and works manager Mr Bill Hendry make the presentation on behalf of her workmates.
- THE established Aberdeen business of Peter Craigmiles (Aberdeen) Ltd has changed hands, but will continue as a tobacconist and sports outfitters.
- The business, at 166 King Street, Aberdeen, has been bought by Mr and Mrs Stephen Sillitri on the retirement of Mr Peter Craigmiles, junior, who is well-known in North-east bowling circles.
- THE disappearance of the lead singer of a pop group, the Clash, has resulted in their planned Aberdeen concert being cancelled for the second time.
- The group were due to play in Fushon on Monday, but when Joe Strummer vanished the gig was re-planned for Sunday.
- Strummer is still missing and tomorrow's concert has been cancelled. But the promoters say tickets remain valid.
- A FORMER Aberdeen University graduate, who has been made a professor of mathematics at St Andrews University, has won the Kelvin Prize of the Royal Society of Edinburgh.
- Professor John Howie (right), who went to Keith Primary, Robert Gordon's College and later Oxford University, won the prize for his work on the theory of semi-groups.



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Diamond day



CUTTING the cake for their diamond wedding anniversary are William, a retired farmer, and Lizzie Stuart, of Tarmair Cottage, Tyrie.

The couple, who received a telegram of congratulations from the Queen, celebrated the occasion at the Beach House, New Aberdeen.

They have eight children, 35 grandchildren and 52 great-grandchildren.

Teacher missing

British teacher Hannah Marsh, 26, of Pocklington, near York, is missing in Spain. He may have strayed over the border with Gibraltar.

Crash girl 'satisfactory'

Montrose teenager Joan Brown, 17, of 2 Garmochy Crescent, was "satisfactory" at Strathroy Hospital today after a road accident last night.

She was a passenger in a car driven by Andrew Carey (18) which left the road at Nether Woodstone and overturned in a field. No one else was injured.

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FUN!

FUN!

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TWENTY Aberdeen University students are to get wet in a River Dee fun plunge tomorrow afternoon.

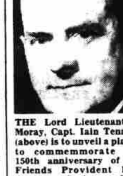
They hope to raise £250 for the student charity campaign in an underwater swim down the Dee from Maryculter Bridge to the Dee Motel.

The five-mile swim will take around two hours and won't be too dangerous, said diving officer for the university sub-aqua club Chris Wyche.

But he warned of the hazards of barbed wire and floating logs and another swimmer spoke of his fear of killer salmon.

"The river is quite fast in places and at times the river is being shot along by the current," said Chris.

Part of the team who aim to make the annual swim are pictured above (from left), Julian Ellis, Chris Wyche, Maxine Griskey and Kerr Dow.



THE Lord Lieutenant of Moray, Capt. Iain Tennant (above) is to unveil a plaque to commemorate the 150th anniversary of the Friends' Provident Life Assurance Society, on Wednesday, May 12, at the company's Aberdeen office in Carden Place.

Blaze wrecks Mini

A petrol leak is thought to have been the cause of a fire which destroyed a mini car at Stonehaven harbour last night.

The car, owned by Alexander Duncan (21), The Manse, Carnathmore, was being driven by Miss Ruth Yeaman, 8 Cameron Street, Stonehaven. No one was injured.

Switched on

A new 16 million studio and office complex for Anglia Television has been opened in Norwich.

It's the generation game...

FRIENDLY rivalry spans a 60-year age gap at Keith Community Centre on Wednesday afternoons.

For the pensioners who attend the town's 60-strong Luncheon Club are given the use of the snooker table from 2.3.30 p.m.

But as lunch club chairman Jim Peirce (72) explained: "We don't always have enough players, so the unemployed teenagers sometimes take us on at a game."

Jim and fellow lunch club members Douglas Beal (73) and Jack Simpson (78), were happy to pose for a picture alongside their occasional rivals Iain Hutchison (17), who is unemployed, Mark McGregor (17), a school pupil, and Alan Frew (16), who is employed at the centre as an assistant under the Youth Opportunities Scheme.

Jim claimed jokingly that the pensioners were easy to beat, but Jack — whose blinks may be learned to play snooker while awaiting the Khyber Pass — reckoned the older players were able to acquit themselves with honour when playing against the teenagers.

Pictured (left to right) are: Jim Peirce, Douglas Beal, Jack Simpson, Iain Hutchison, Alan Frew and Mark McGregor.

Your Daily Checklist

To assist readers who may have missed their morning news paper companions, we publish the following numbers as a helpful reader service.

SCOTTISH DAILY EXPRESS-DAILY STAR

Game 4
97, 27, 72, 90, 89, 10, 71, 43, 95, 21, 48, 25.

DAILY MIRROR

Game 4
53, 66, 76, 65, 21, 5, 3

DAILY RECORD

Game 3
Has been claimed
Lucy's Lucky Numbers
A 081613, A 117000,
B 479483, B 585875,
B 818334, B 555586,
A 147090, A 337544

THE SUN

Game 46
50, 3, 32, 85, 8

DAILY MAIL

Casino Encore
Game 6
17
Lucky Numbers
DAB10551
AA388995
AB121276

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