

NEWS IN BRIEF

Piper joins celebration of Indian independence

A PIPER will welcome guests to the Indian Independence Day celebrations being held in Alloa Town Hall.

Gordon Simpson, from the Bowmar Pipe Band, will have the honour of piping guests – including a representative from the Indian General Consulate in Edinburgh – into the evening of festivities.

The entertainment will include a Bollywood dancer from Glasgow and a South Indian folk dancer from Edinburgh.

There will also be plenty of Scotland's favourite Indian cuisine for all to enjoy.

Provost Derek Stewart will attend the event, which is expected to attract the same large numbers that enjoyed last year's 60th celebrations.

All are welcome on Sunday 17 August and festivities begin at 6.30pm. Tickets are priced £8 for adults and £4 for children aged five to 12. Under 5s are free. The ticket price includes an Indian meal.

For more information call Kelly Sagar on 01259 723950.

Charity art exhibition in Kincardine bar

ARTISTS from Clackmannanshire will be amongst those displaying their work in Kincardine next month.

Fat Boab's Bar in the village will host the charity exhibition by Central Arts from Monday 1 September until Sunday 14 September – with a special viewing being held on Sunday 31 August.

Over 35 artists will be involved and there will be paintings, prints, glass, ceramics and cards on display.

Proceeds from sales and a raffle will go to the High Valleyfield Child Development Centre.

Fire crews tackle blaze in superstore's car park

ALLOA firefighters were in attendance at a car fire in Tesco's car park last Wednesday.

The call to attend the blaze at Old Brig Road was made just after 10.45 am and the all clear was given around 10 minutes later.

One hose reel jet attended and breathing apparatus was used by the crew for comfort in tackling the fire that took place in the passenger section of the car.

Thrill seekers wanted to jump from Wheel

ADVENTUROUS people are wanted to take part in a 115ft abseil on Sunday 21 September 2008 for the Meningitis Research Foundation.

Thrill seekers are expected to jump at the challenge to take part in a sponsored abseil from The Falkirk Wheel.

The charity is organising sponsored abseils throughout the day from The Falkirk Wheel to raise vital funds to help defeat the diseases of meningitis and septicaemia.

Every year babies, toddlers, students and older people contract meningitis or septicaemia in Scotland.

Meningitis Research Foundation currently funds 23 vital research projects with current funding commitments of £1.25million to prevent, detect and treat these diseases.

The Foundation also provides education to the public about signs, symptoms and action that must be taken, as well as offering befriending and support.

Anyone interested should call 0131 228 3322 or e-mail info@scotland-meningitis.org.uk.

Great taste awards for Harviestoun Brewery

ALVA'S Harviestoun Brewery has been awarded two Oscars for their fine ales.

The great taste awards – organised by the Guild of Fine Food – announced their award winners for this year.

Often referred to as the Oscars of the food industry, the vast majority of gold award winners were from smaller producers who source local ingredients and manufacture in small batches, generally by hand.

Harviestoun's Old Engine Oil flowing in at 6 per cent won two gold stars and their Bitter and Twisted Blond beer at 4.2 per cent won one gold star.

Food critic Charles Champion said, "This competition has really come of age and year by year the standard of entries gets higher and higher.

"To win gold at the Great Taste Awards is a terrific achievement."

Internet drama is set to return to Wee County

by Iain Robertson

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MENSTRIE'S Broomhall Castle was the dramatic setting for last week's filming of the Scottish Sci-Fi series *Night is Day*.

And there's further filming planned in the Wee County with Gartmorn Dam set to feature in a future episode.

With a tighter crew and a better storyline, director and writer Fraser Coull feels the second series is an improvement on the first.

He said, "There will be seven episodes in the second series and, everything depending, we'll have it all shot by November."

Three episodes have already been filmed and they will be screened month by month, on the internet, from September.

The quality of the work the team is producing enticed Taggart star Colin McCredie – best known for his role as Detective Sergeant Stuart Fraser – to take the role of a jewel thief in the third episode of the current series.

Fraser said, "I emailed Colin's agent and said I had a small part for a jewel thief, and would Colin be interested – the answer was yes, which was brilliant."

Colin is not the only link the second series has with the long running ITV detective drama.



DIRECTOR Fraser Coull (top) was delighted with the filming at Broomhall Castle, which featured Dunblane-based actress Rachel Gunn in scenes captured by cameraman Matthew Stephens.

"Carter Ferguson is working with us – he's a fight director," explained Fraser.

"I emailed him, we met up for a coffee and he said he wanted to help.

"He gets four or five

requests from low budget film companies every month, but he liked what we were doing; that we didn't just film fights for the sake of it, but that they carried on the story."

Carter's TV work includes

six years as fight director on Taggart and four years as fight director on River City.

Night is Day will continue its connection with the Wee County when it films further scenes for the second series at

Gartmorn Dam at the end of August. Fraser added, "There'll be three vampires and two supervillains at Gartmorn Dam next month!"

To find out more visit www.nightisday.com

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