

Craigie

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Picnic became a party

"I WAS delighted to see the recent picture of my father, bandleader Andy Lothian, of the Dundee Palais, at a firemen's children's party during the 1950s," says Andrew Lothian.

"I recall the fire service held two annual events for staff and family during this era – and my dad's band usually was invited to play at both.

"The first and most significant was the dance – a grand dressing-up affair titled The Fireman's Ball held in the ballroom in South Tay Street.

"The second was the annual family picnic – an outdoor concert and sing-along (weather permitting) held at Camperdown Park, with the band playing on a cart while a horse grazed nearby.

"In the event of inclement weather, this picnic became a party for the youngsters in the Regal Rooms, at which I surmise the picture shown may have been taken.

"As to the identity of the young girl, she looks remarkably like my younger sister, Jenni, who was usually invited to the picnic. Some readers may remember her during the 1960s as a hair stylist at Frederic's Hair Salon, Perth Road, and subsequently proprietor of the Jenni Lothian Salon in Tay Street."

Tea tray put to good use

"WHILE I was watching the Winter Olympic games," writes Anna Macdougall of Kirkcaldy, "it brought to mind the escapades I enjoyed in my younger years.

"My dad bored two holes in an old tray and off I went sledging on the Bogdales near Pitlessie. The tray ran round and round down the slope of snow while the rope tangled underneath. I spent many an afternoon using this technique.

"I bought an old sledge at a jumble sale. The runners had to be fixed as they had rusted and when that was done, my sister and I were quickly transported down the farm road.

"Some of the village children brought their sledges



With the current correspondence about trams, readers may be interested in this photograph, supplied by John Dorward. It shows a tram in Monifieth around 1905.

Essays written aboard ship on high seas

"I MARVELLED at the ingenuity of Enid Gaudie's husband Sinclair in etching his name on a Dundee High School classroom wall with the rays of the sun and a magnifying glass," emails Neil Robertson of Dundee. "Applied physics, artistry and humour at its very best!

"Enid mentions Alan Peacock – it was his father who was the biologist. Peacock Junior learned German at Dundee High and after a wartime degree in economics at St Andrews joined Naval Intelligence where his distinguished service included

dangerous Arctic Convoy work and code-breaking at sea.

"His memoir of these times 'The Enigmatic Sailor' is a riveting read. He also describes how in wartime he took a revision course in economics run by The Royal Navy.

"His course essays were 'written aboard ship in heavy seas without access to a library, and travelled over 600 miles from Scapa Flow to Cambridge' to be commented on and corrected by another famous economist Arthur Cecil Pigou.

"An illustrious group indeed!"

Alastair Stewart also comments: "The judge Lord Ross was indeed at Dundee HS, but he is Donald, not John, and was born in 1927 so is unlikely to appear as a prize winner in 1935/36.

"Don Pottinger was never Lord Lyon. He held various heraldic appointments, including Islay Herald and Lyon Clerk. He is probably best known as joint author (with Sir Ian Moncrieff) of the delightful book Simple Heraldry – Cheerfully Illustrated."

round and, under the moonlight, we all whizzed down the snow-covered stones.

"The exercise was good for us all. I hope the Olympians enjoy themselves as much."

Geography gone askew

FORFAR READER Wilma Robertson puts a different slant on the independence debate.

"My grandson Lewis is six years old and lives in Penicuik. We are great football fans and are keen Hibs supporters," she says, "and, when I phoned him recently, we were discussing the big match between Manchester City and Barcelona earlier this week.

"Lewis asked: 'Who are you



An outing to the beach was a dressed-up affair in the 1930s. Isobel Turner, of Broughty Ferry, who sent in the picture, is on the far left of this family shot.

going to support, Grandma?"

"I replied that I would support Manchester City because Barcelona was a Spanish team and we should support the English one.

"Yes, we should," agreed Lewis, "because, after all, Eng-

land is a part of Scotland."

"If only the politicians had heard him! In his childish innocence, he's got his own view on the make-up of the United Kingdom.

"Out of the mouth of babes, right enough!"

Nursing home information

DOUGIE MITCHELL, of Carnoustie, writes: "I was born in May, 1939 in Craigie Nursing Home, Dundee and have often wondered where it was situated.

"I suspect it may have been in the Strips of Craigie Road/Craigie Drive area, but don't know for sure. It has been suggested to me that it is still in existence but is now an old folks' home.

"Someone else reckoned that it was demolished long ago and houses built on the site.

"I'm hoping that Craigie readers can provide me with information."

Dingbats

Find the familiar phrase, saying or name.



+ Solution: Back page

Garfield® by Jim Davis



THE ARCHIVES

The Courier AND ADVERTISER

100 years ago

THE BULLDOG'S reputation for quietness and gentleness sustained a severe shaking as a result of the recent attack by four of the breed on a Dundee boy. A parallel case is reported from New York. The victim in this case was a woman who fought with an infuriated bulldog for a full hour before help came. Her face and arms were lacerated badly when neighbours and a policeman ran in. The latter killed the dog and the woman, Mrs Annie Morris, was advised to go to the Pasteur Institute. The dog had already bitten the woman's husband.

Courier AND Advertiser

50 years ago

AN INCREASE in the population of Fife county of 13,914 in the ten years between 1951 and 1961 is recorded by the Registrar General of Scotland in the 1961 Census report published yesterday. In the 10 years 9,300 people left the county to live elsewhere. The percentage of married people has increased and there is a higher proportion of women over the age of 65. During the period here has been an improvement in the housing situation. The report shows that the total population of Fife in 1961 was 320,692.

THE COURIER

AND ADVERTISER

25 years ago

UNPARALLELED SECURITY and a veil of secrecy surrounded the detention in a dawn swoop yesterday of a number of people in Tayside under the Prevention of Terrorism Act. Amidst the tightest security precautions ever seen in Dundee, parts of police headquarters in the city were put out of bounds even to many officers. One detective said of the high security alert: "I've never seen anything like it." Press enquiries were at first met with a refusal to discuss the cause of the security cordons, but later confirmed that a number of people had been detained in Tayside.

THE COURIER

& Advertiser

1 year ago

TWO IS a lucky number for employees at a Brechin takeaway after a pair of workers gave birth to sets of twins only two days apart. The women work at the Ashvale fish and chip restaurant in Trinity Road and were both pleased to show off their chips off the old block yesterday. One of the new arrivals has just returned home after a stay in Ninewells Hospital's SCBU premature baby unit. Hayley Holland and partner Andy Nestorow had twins Keanu and Kennedy, born 13 weeks early. Michaela Strachan and partner Robbie Hill had twins Keirra and Riley induced at 37 weeks on October 31.