Let’s do lunch
Pupils help give school dinners a healthy and nutritious makeover

Also in this issue:
• A sizzling local summer
• Shooting for success
• Benefit changes
• Business is booming in Angus
As ever the council’s magazine for you, our residents and service users, is packed with news and features about the work of the council and its partners.

In Angus 2211 people have a diagnosis of dementia and, with an ageing population, this number is expected to grow significantly over the next decade. Our special feature on P4/5 highlights how we’re meeting this challenge in Angus.

Summer’s finally here, and while we can’t guarantee sunshine, there’s still plenty to do out and about in Angus over the next few months. For inspiration and ideas turn to P6/7.

More and more of our pupils are opting for school meals, thanks to a number of innovative projects to encourage them to stay in school and enjoy nutritious fare. More information on p8/9.

We’re looking forward to Angus being in the spotlight next year as a host venue of the 2014 Commonwealth Games. On P10 you can find out what we’re doing to prepare.

Dog fouling – one of the biggest bugbears of Angus people. It’s nasty and antisocial and the council is working with local communities to tackle the problem. Find out more on P11.

On P12/13, we give readers an update on welfare reform – this huge shake up of the benefits system will affect many of our residents and we’re working hard to keep everyone aware of what’s happening.

Got something you want to raise about council services? Find out who your local councillor is and how to contact them on P16.
Opening doors to the past

ANGUS Heritage Week 2013 will take place from 13 to 20 September. The event will celebrate the county’s history, traditions, architecture, wildlife, culture and natural surroundings.

Angus Heritage Week incorporates the annual Angus Doors Open Days on 14 and 15 September, when free access is provided to a number of notable buildings.

Last year’s programme featured more than 40 events, including talks, guided walks and tours, children’s activities, music events, exhibitions and open days – and it is hoped that the 2013 event will have even more exciting events across Angus.

The Angus Heritage Week Event Programme will be available from leisure centres, ACCESS offices, libraries and tourist attractions across Angus, Dundee, Perthshire, Aberdeenshire and Fife, from the end of June.

Alternatively, visit www.angusheritage.com for full listings. You can also follow Angus Heritage on Facebook/Angus Heritage or Twitter@angusheritage.

If you would like to discuss your plans for Angus Heritage Week, please contact Millie Clarke on 01307 473262 or email clarkem@angus.gov.uk

For information about Doors Open Days, please contact Kirsty Macari on 01307 473265 or email macarik@angus.gov.uk

Keeping Angus connected

THE council is working with bus operators and local communities to ensure the county’s public transport service meets the needs of residents and visitors and offer a sustainable alternative to car travel.

And the new bus contracts for the Liff, Fowlis, Pipersdam, Muirhead and Birkhill areas are a great example of how we do that, particularly in rural areas.

The council worked with bus users, residents, elected members and Muirhead, Birkhill and Liff Community Council to draw up new timetables which better meet local transport requirements.

The new Monday to Saturday timetable provides:
• Two peak-time journeys to and from Birkhill, Pipersdam, Fowlis, Liff to Ninewells Hospital and Dundee City Centre, meeting passenger requests for direct journeys to/from Dundee City Centre. These journeys will be numbered Service 51.
• An hourly combined service on Services 30 and 31 between 9am and 4pm with Service 30 operating a circular service from Ninewells Hospital to South Road Tesco, Liff, Fowlis, Pipersdam, Birkhill and back to South Road Tesco and Ninewells. Service 31 operates in the opposite direction.
• A new link to and from Pipersdam with all Service 30, 31 and 51 journeys running there.
• A link to the new Asda store on Myrekirk Road, Dundee, when it opens in July 2013. On Sundays there are minor changes with all journeys extended to and from Pipersdam.

Route and timetable information for public transport in Angus can be found at www.angus.gov.uk/transport

Memories created at the Memorial

THERE’S a packed programme coming up over the summer at the Webster Memorial Theatre.

Highlights include an evening with well-known variety act Joe Longthorne and a performance by British soul group The Real Thing. Other highlights include Oliver! by The Limelight Company, and the Arbroath Dance Show by Showcase The Street.

For the full programme, and to book tickets visit www.webstertheatre.co.uk or call the box office on 01241 435800.
IN Angus, 2,211 people have been diagnosed with some form of dementia and, with an ageing population, this number is expected to grow significantly over the next decade.

Providing support to people with dementia and their families is a challenge being met by the council and its partners in health and the voluntary sector.

There is no doubt that a dementia diagnosis can come as a shock to the person with the condition and those around them.

Since April, anyone in Scotland receiving a diagnosis of dementia is guaranteed one year’s post-diagnostic support from a named and trained person.

As people with early stage dementia can often experience a range of emotional and psychological responses, it’s vital effective support is available from the initial diagnosis, and as their illness progresses.

It is recognised that this early intervention gives individuals and their carers a greater understanding of what is happening, as well as helping them to be better prepared for what is going to happen.

Social work and health services, along with Alzheimer Scotland, work together to offer postdiagnostic dementia support in Angus.

This support can be practical, such as planning future decision-making and setting up powers of attorney, to help in understanding the illness and managing its symptoms. The needs of people with dementia and their families are also met throughout the integrated community mental health teams, again bringing together specialists from across agencies to offer seamless, personalised and flexible service.

At all times, the focus is on ensuring people with dementia and their carers feel valued and supported to live an individual and meaningful life within their own communities. Jillian Richmond, community mental health team manager, said: “Since 1999 we have seen a significant increase in referrals to our service. As more and more people are diagnosed with dementia, it is important that from the start they, and their families, receive reassurance that there are sources of help and support available. It’s natural to worry about the future, but it’s important to remember that you’re not alone.

“Working together, the council and its partners can avoid duplication and provide consistency of care. The teams are constantly striving to develop innovative projects to support people and carers.”

A number of projects are run in Angus in partnership with Alzheimer Scotland, the council and health colleagues, including a dementia café in Carnoustie for people with early stage dementia and a support group for men, which meets in Arbroath.

Alzheimer Scotland’s dementia resource worker in Angus, Pat Brodlie, said: “Alzheimer Scotland works with its partners in the council and the NHS to provide a wide range of services for people with dementia and their carers within their own communities. We run a number of projects across Angus which focus on improving the inclusion and quality of life of people with dementia.”
It’s a real team effort – how football talk can help

WHEN football fans David, Stan, Robert and Sandy get together, the talk is of the genius of Jimmy Johnstone, the famous five of the great 1950s Hibs team and happy memories of times spent on the pitch and terraces.

The men are all members of a football reminiscence group that meets once a fortnight at Station Park, home of Forfar Athletic FC.

The group is supported by the Forfar, Kirriemuir and South West Angus community mental health team, and uses football memorabilia to provide a social outlet for members and to stimulate memories.

Care manager Susan Ramsay explained: “The group is an example of the work being carried out in the community to provide a social outlet for people with dementia, using a common interest to stimulate the mind and memories as well as giving their carers a welcome break.”

With Hearts, Aberdeen and Dundee United fans among their number, there’s always plenty of banter in the cheery group.

However they all have one thing in common – following the fortunes of Manchester United – hence the group’s name, The Forfar Reds.

When Angus Life went to meet the group, it had just been announced that Sir Alex Ferguson was retiring and there was lots of speculation as who would be in the hot seat at Old Trafford next.

Topics also ranged from David reminiscing about his playing career with Highland League sides to admiring Robert’s wonderful caricature drawings of football stars, such as Ronaldo and Messi.

As well as their fortnightly meetings at Station Park, the group has enjoyed trips to Hampden, and gone to Tannadice to watch Dundee United.

Susan added: “Both Forfar Athletic and Dundee United have been fantastic in assisting us in any way they can and we would like to give them a big thank you for their support. Being part of the group has really captured the imagination of those taking part and they all really enjoy coming along.”

If you have any football memorabilia you could share, or have been involved in the game and would like to chat with members, contact Susan on 01307 475288 or email ramsayss@angus.gov.uk

“Being in the group has really captured the imagination of those taking part”

Enjoying a kick about at Station Park are members of the football reminiscence group (left to right) David Munro, Sandy McKay, Stan Hattersley and Robert Smith

What is dementia?

Dementia is a degenerative disorder that triggers a loss of brain function. Symptoms include memory loss, confusion and problems with speech and cognition. There are more than 100 types of dementia, with Alzheimer’s disease being the most common.
Summer in Angus

With so much to do and see right on our doorsteps, filling those long summer days and holidays is never a challenge in Angus... whatever the weather!

LOOKING for a music festival? Inspiration on keeping the kids occupied? Or maybe you just want to soak up some history and culture.

However you want to spend your summer, you’ll find entertainment and events galore in Angus over the next few months.

For youngsters who cry “I’m bored” during the hols – look no further than the action-packed summer programme full of sporting and leisure events on offer when school’s out.

The programme, which runs for six weeks from 1 July to 9 August, will have a Commonwealth Games theme this year as Angus gears up to play host to athletes participating in the 2014 Games.

Details will be available via schools before the end of term and are also available from leisure facilities, country parks, libraries, museums and ACCESS offices.

You can also find details on the website at www.angus.gov.uk/leisure

Fun in the sun is plain sailing

FOR lovers of the great outdoors, Angus boasts beautiful countryside with its mountains, lochs, glens and woodlands giving visitors of all ages the chance to take part in a variety of activities, or just soak up the scenery.

The Angus ranger service provides a host of activities such as hill walking, orienteering and various water sports and nature conservation events, such as woodland management and the construction of bird boxes.

There are also exciting activity days for children run throughout the summer.

More information and a list of events is available at www.angus.gov.uk/leisure/rangerservice/pdfs/rangerservicediary
Book your place right now!
FOR a spine-chilling summer, youngsters should make their way to their local libraries for this year’s Tesco Bank Summer Reading Challenge.

The theme this year is Creepy House, with brave bookworms invited to join the gang of young detectives and help them solve the clues and follow the spooky reading trail.

The Creepy House materials will be illustrated by famous children’s illustrator Chris Riddell, illustrator of The Graveyard Book by Neil Gaiman.

This ghostly adventure takes place in libraries across the county from 1 July with exciting displays and family friendly events throughout the summer holidays.

For primary school-aged children, the challenge is simple – read six or more library books over the summer holidays.

Every child who completes the challenge receives a certificate and a medal at a special ceremony in August (see below, right).

Get the book bug
FOR younger children, Bookbug’s Library Challenge runs alongside the Tesco Bank Summer Reading Challenge from late July until mid-August.

The challenge encourages children to explore their local library and enjoy sharing books.

Children receive a stamp for each book read and need to collect six to complete the challenge. There are activities and rewards too and all who finish will be presented with a fantastic book.

Registration for the challenges is open from 17 June until 15 July – visit your local Angus library or mobile library to for more.

Seventh heaven
ANGUS is fortunate to have seven fascinating museums based in Arbroath, Brechin, Forfar, Kirriemuir and Montrose.

As well as their permanent collections, the museums organise a variety of activities such as workshops, walks, concerts, lectures and dramatic re-enactments.

For full what’s on information visit www.angusahead.com, follow us on Twitter @anguscouncil, or on Facebook/anguscouncil

The games for grown-ups
DURING the summer months, towns and villages in Angus will play host to a variety of unique and vibrant events.

From steam trains to Highland games, music festivals to farmers markets... Angus has something for everyone!

This year’s Summer in Angus events guide is jam packed with activities and events through the county and it available to pick up from libraries, museums and visitor attractions or to download from www.angusahead.com/events
HOW do you make school meals healthy and nutritious, but at the same time offer an attractive product to a generation used to fast food and eating on the move?

That’s the challenge facing Angus Council and its school catering provider Tayside Contracts as they work together to provide a balance of popular, attractively packaged meals that meet the highest nutritional standards.

A number of innovative ideas have been introduced within the county to encourage pupils to stay in school at lunchtime and enjoy food designed to meet the expectations of a younger generation.

This successful approach now means the county tops the table for school meal uptake at secondary level in mainland Scotland, and has seen an increase in primary school pupils opting for school meals. This has been achieved by asking the customers themselves – the pupils – for their views on what could be improved.

One suggestion was the introduction of ‘food to go’ kiosks. These kiosks give pupils the option to purchase quality food on the go, outside the building while remaining in school grounds. The kiosks are in place and proving popular at Forfar Academy, Montrose Academy, Webster’s High School and Monifieth High School.

In addition, the secondary menu has been completely revised to offer a selection of food styles, packaging and value for money meal deals. This approach has gone down well among pupils and school staff and is reflected in ongoing increased meal uptake.

In primary schools, a pre-order system is now in place so all pupils can order the main course dish they want on the day. This has been welcomed by parents and pupils, who now know they will get the lunch they want and it has had a positive effect on meal numbers. Fiona Dawson, the council’s catering advisor, said: “As well as the nutritional benefits that a balanced meal can provide, it has been shown that eating well and drinking enough water can help improve concentration in class.

“Efforts to promote meals within secondary schools are paying off and more and more Angus pupils are enjoying balanced and value for money meals. “The council will continue in partnership with our service provider Tayside Contracts to find innovative ways to increase meal uptake across primary and secondary schools.”

Pupil comments

Langlands Primary pupils gave Angus Life their verdict on school meals

“I like school lunches because the food is really good” Connor P6

Delicious meals feed young minds

By working in partnership with pupils across Angus, school dinners have now undergone a healthy and nutritious makeover, with new ‘food to go’ kiosks and great value meal deals
Recipe for success is all about sharing

MENUS are designed to ensure that there is a balance of fresh, popular healthy meal options on offer to pupils.

Usingwholemeal flour, reducing salt and introducing grated carrots into savoury and sweet dishes are just some of the ways school meals are being made healthier – while still appealing to pupils.

Before introducing new seasonal menus or additional dishes, the menus are always tested first to get feedback from pupils, school and catering staff.

This allows the council and Tayside Contracts to make any necessary adjustments.

Bill Kennedy, Tayside Contracts facilities services manager, said: “Trialling our menus in schools has revolutionised our entire menu development process through the engagement of pupils, teachers, our nutritionist and catering staff.”

By having very strict procedures and food specifications in place, all products meet the criteria of The Schools (Health Promotion & Nutrition) Act (Scotland) 2007, and do not contain trans fatty acids or undesirable additives such as MSG.

New online interactive menus give parents, pupils and teachers information on recipes and ingredients.

By simply clicking on any item, the user is taken to a recipe page containing a picture, ingredients, a method and nutritional information as well as traffic light labelling. Select the underlined ingredients for details on the brand, allergens and nutrition.

The spring/summer menu is designed as a fun, interactive game with questions and activities to be completed as a class or at home, and supports the Curriculum for Excellence.

Visit www.tayside-contracts.co.uk/school-catering.cfm to view the menus.
County to welcome Commonwealth competitors and visitors

Angus targets Games success

THEY may be Glasgow’s Commonwealth Games, but Angus will play its part when athletes from across the world gather in Scotland next summer.

In just over a year from now, the Barry Buddon range near Carnoustie will become a Games venue once again, hosting the 2014 Commonwealth shooting competition.

The MoD range was used for the full bore rifle contest during the Edinburgh Games in 1986. But this time round all of the shooting events will take place in Angus – full bore, clay target, pistol and small bore.

The county is gearing up to welcome teams from across the Commonwealth who will be competing next July. Thousands of visitors are expected in Angus and Dundee, with competitors joined by officials, global media companies and spectators.

Angus and Dundee councils, the MoD and other agencies, are already working closely with the Glasgow 2014 Organising Committee to ensure all the necessary arrangements are in place to make the Barry Buddon shooting event an outstanding success.

The planning application to create the additional temporary ranges at Barry Buddon was approved by Angus Council a few months ago. Construction work is expected to start on site later this year.

The council has a steering group of elected members, officers and partner agencies, working together to co-ordinate local activities – from licensing to tourism, business support to legacy sports development, participation of schools to funding for community events and a whole host of other areas.

Angus is proud to be part of one of the world’s biggest sporting events. The county will be celebrating the occasion with the rest of Scotland and making the most of the opportunity to welcome and showcase the county to international visitors.

For more on preparations for Glasgow 2014, the XX Commonwealth Games, check out www.angus.gov.uk/games2014

Competing at Barry Buddon

The participation of a wide range of Commonwealth nations has seen a vast spread of shooting medals at recent Games. Australia, Canada, England, India and New Zealand have been consistent medal winners across the four disciplines, but watch out for emerging nations such as Scotland, Singapore, Wales, Cyprus and Pakistan.

Get ready to welcome about 350 Commonwealth athletes to Angus.

The event

The Commonwealth Games were first held in 1930 and take place every four years. At Glasgow 2014, the XX Games, 4500 athletes will compete in 17 sports, during 11 days of competition, from 23 July to 3 August 2014.

Glasgow 2014 will be a ‘Games for Everyone’ with two-thirds of the 1,000,000 tickets priced at £25 or less. Starting price for adults will be £15, with concessions for children and the over 60s. Tickets go on sale on 19 August 2013.
Amenities

IT is the most offensive type of litter on our streets and is consistently raised as a concern by members of the public. Despite numerous local and national campaigns, irresponsible dog owners continue to blight communities across Angus by failing to clear up after their pets. Although dog fouling is regarded as fundamentally the responsibility of dog owners, Angus Council recognises it has a part to play in tackling this problem. To improve its service to the community, the council has now developed an action plan to co-ordinate its efforts across services.

The action plan covers three key areas – clean-ups, enforcement and prevention. Key actions include responding quickly and efficiently to clean up dog mess, ensure that priority areas are being targeted properly and that resources are being used effectively.

The council will also look at extending powers to issue fixed penalty notices to more council staff and carry out analysis to identify key problem areas.

The support of communities is recognised as key to the success of the action plan and the council will work in partnership with residents to promote responsible dog ownership and resolve local dog fouling issues.

Diane Paterson (pictured above), whose job of community waste operative involves cleaning the streets of dog mess, said: “As a dog owner myself, I would never dream of not picking up after my pet. Since taking this job, I get to see the extent of the dog fouling problem in Angus on a daily basis. Dog owners have to take responsibility and bag it and bin it. “Although it can be dirty work, I do get a great deal of satisfaction from my job. I’m glad to be making an impact in some of the worst affected areas in Angus.”

The action plan can be viewed in full at www.angus.gov.uk/dogfoulingaction

Help advise on access issues

THE Angus Access Forum is looking for new members. The forum is an independent group – with a range of members who have recreational, land management and community interests – which gives advice to the council and other bodies on access issues. Anyone who is interested in becoming a member, or who is interested in access issues, can come along to a public event to be held on Tuesday 18 June at Arbroath Enterprise Centre, Angus College, starting at 7pm.

For more information, contact Gillian Phillips email philipssge@angus.gov.uk or call 01307 473334.

Keeping disability on the agenda

If you have an interest in disability, then the Angus Disability Forum would like to hear from you. The forum has members with a disability, people who care for someone with a disability, disability organisations and representatives from the council, NHS and Angus Access Panel.

The forum has been involved in a number of issues such as training for council staff, assessing access for premises, presentations on welfare reform and pursuing a council texting service for the deaf.

Meetings are held around four times a year and discussions are led by what is important for members.

For more information, contact Doreen Phillips, email philipspd@angus.gov.uk or call 01307 476058.

Fouling is disgusting, dirty and dangerous – help us to clear it up!

Any Bin will do

Dog owners in Angus are reminded that they don’t have to use special bins to dispose of fouling - normal litter bins can be used as well as dog fouling bins.

Council teams are dedicated to clearing up dog mess left behind in public places by irresponsible pet owners.

How we’re doing

There was slight decrease in the number of street light repairs carried out within seven days from 93.4% in 2011/12 to 91.8% in 2012/13.
A shake-up of the welfare system is under way, with the introduction of the bedroom tax and Universal Credit, and changes to Disability Living Allowance (DLA). Here's our quick guide to see what it means for you.

How do new benefit rules affect you?

As the UK Government's benefits shake-up continues, Angus Council is working with its residents to inform and support those affected.

As the changes are rolled out, the council is working hard to keep you updated through the pages of Angus Life and other publicity materials.

In this issue, we look at how the introduction of new housing benefit rules are affecting people in the county, and what steps the council is taking to meet the challenges the changes bring.

We also highlight the forthcoming introduction of the new Universal Credit and planned changes to Disability Living Allowance.

**Bedroom tax**

One of the reforms which has received most publicity has become known as the bedroom tax.

This Housing Benefit overhaul affects working-age social housing tenants who have a spare bedroom.

Combined with other national reductions in benefits, it is predicted that this will have a significant impact on some Angus residents and the local economy as a whole.

As the biggest social housing provider in Angus, this change poses particular challenges for the council as it seeks to support tenants and ensure that its housing stock meets local needs.

Among the steps taken by the council to address these issues was to contact all 562 of its tenants who have been affected since the rollout of the changes on 1 April.

They have been given advice on their options, such as moving to a smaller home or budgeting on a lower income.

As part of forward planning for this reform, the council has had a downsizing scheme in operation for two years.

The scheme, which ended on 31 March, enabled 53 tenants in properties too large for them to move to homes more suitable for their needs.

This resulted in the council being able to free up larger properties and allocate them to households needing the extra bedrooms.

The council is now in the process of developing a more comprehensive incentive package to encourage tenants to keep up to date with rent and minimise the risk of arrears.

John Morrow, of the council's housing team, said: “Of those affected by the bedroom tax in Angus, our research has revealed that 46 per cent would consider downsizing to a smaller property. This means that demand for one-bedroom accommodation in Angus has increased dramatically.

“To help manage this change in demand, the council's new-build housing programme has shifted its focus to concentrate on providing more one-bedroom flats and houses.

“We are also working in partnership with private sector landlords to convert existing homes and renovate empty one-bed properties across all tenures to provide greater housing options.”

**Disability Living Allowance and Universal Credit**

Two of the biggest changes coming soon are the replacement of Disability Living Allowance (DLA) and the introduction of Universal Credit.

DLA will be replaced by Personal Independence Payment (PIP) for people aged 16 to 64 with a long-term health condition or disability from June this year.

PIP helps with some of the extra costs caused by long-term ill health or a disability, and the majority of claimants will be expected to attend a face-to-face consultation with a health professional as part of the decision-making process.

There are two components to PIP – daily living and mobility – with standard and enhanced payments depending on the outcome of an assessment.

Daily living activities include:

- preparing food
- eating and drinking
- managing your treatments
- washing and bathing
- managing your toilet needs
- dressing and undressing
- communicating
- reading
- mixing with other people, and
- making decisions about money.

Mobility activities include:

- going out
- moving around.

From October, claimants who are...
on a fixed-term DLA award will be asked to claim PIP when their award comes to an end.

DLA claimants who report a change in circumstances that may affect their entitlement and young claimants approaching their 16th birthday will be asked to claim PIP.

Those with indefinite DLA will not be assessed for PIP until October 2015.

If you are unsure when the move to PIP will affect you, then use the online PIP checker at www.gov.uk/pip-checker. For more information, visit www.gov.uk/pip/overview.

Universal Credit is a new single monthly payment which will be rolled out from October. At the moment, there are no details as to when it will be introduced in Angus, as the full timetable has still to be confirmed.

Universal Credit will combine Housing Benefit, income-based Jobseekers Allowance, income-related Employment and Support Allowance, Income Support, Child Tax Credits and Working Tax Credits into one monthly payment paid straight into a bank account.

Claimants will need to budget carefully and manage their benefit income to cover all expenses and to prioritise payments, such as rent.

Claimants who may be affected by any changes to the welfare benefits system and require additional advice can contact Angus Council welfare rights service on 08452 777 778.

**HOW WE’RE DOING**

The proportion of working age population economically active in Angus is static at around 78%.
ANGUSS economy is bucking the trend as it enjoys renewed growth, buoyed up by the continued boom in the North Sea oil and gas industry and the rapid development of Scotland’s burgeoning offshore renewable energy sector.

Local companies in the oil and gas, engineering, tourism, agricultural and construction sectors are thriving and keep the council’s economic development team busy with enquiries for property, business advice and funding. The team also helps with requests from national companies looking to set up in the area.

The council has developed a large commercial property portfolio, and has more than 100 high-quality and affordable offices, workshops and industrial units, as well as a number of business parks to attract larger companies.

Economic development officer Mark McGee said: “The wider market is aware of the business benefits of being located in Angus and we have recently witnessed national and local companies migrating from Aberdeen into North Angus, and national companies from England making us their first Scottish location.

“There is increasing demand for plots on Brechin Business Park and Orchardbank in Forfar is also growing, with KFC and a Marston’s pub setting up this year.”

Adrian Blackburn, acquisitions manager for Marston’s Inns and Taverns, said: “Marston’s are pleased to be investing in Forfar. Our family-friendly ‘Rotisserie’ pub restaurant aims to serve the daily needs of the local residents of Angus and the growing business park alike.”

Established Angus companies are also expanding. Pharmaceutical giant GlaxoSmithKline has announced a £100 million investment programme at its two Scottish plants, one of which is in Montrose, and GE Gas & Oil is undertaking a £20 million extension to its existing facility in the town.

The port at Montrose is also booming and business will grow further when one of Scotland’s largest offshore wind farms, the Firth and Tay, starts construction. This activity is filtering to the south of Angus, with plans for a business park in Arbroath and possible development in Carnoustie.

“This is great news for Angus,” said Mark. “Many companies are looking here rather than Aberdeen because of the availability and competitive cost of land, the quality of our labour force, the good transport links and the high quality of life we enjoy.

“However, while it’s important to get international and foreign investment, the area was built on the strengths of its local population and we are keen to see more local companies with ambitions to grow and expand.”

For more information, contact Mark McGee, email mcgeem@angus.gov.uk or call 01307 473199.
Through TOUCH SCREEN INTER-ACTIVES, TACTILE EXHIBITS, as well as GAMES, you will discover the mystery of the Picts, the ancient Celtic race that inhabited Scotland during the first millennium AD.

Groups welcome. Admission charged.

For more information visit our website www.pictavia.org.uk or phone 01356 626241.

Find us just off the A90, Brechin.

Looking for something to do in Angus?
Then check out www.angusahead.com

Open 7 days a week from 1st April - 31st October 2013!
Monday - Saturday: 10am-5pm
Sunday: 10am-5pm
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### Wards
1. Kirriemuir & Dean
2. Brechin & Edzell
3. Forfar & District
4. Monifieth & Sidlaw
5. Carnoustie & District
6. Arbroath West & Letham
7. Arbroath East & Lunan
8. Montrose & District

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