

From our files ... From our files ...

100 YEARS AGO

September 2 1904

A NATIVE of Ardrossan, Mr Matthew Wilson, headmaster of Johnstone Public School, was on Tuesday night killed on the railway near Paisley. He was highly esteemed by all who knew him.

LAMLASH golf clubhouse was last Saturday opened by Her Grace the Duchess of Hamilton. The ducal party, which included Lady Mary Hamilton, was welcomed by Mr Yates, president, Mr Sweet, Mr JM Gibson and other members of the committee. It was intimated that Her Grace had presented to the Club a silver cup to be competed for annually by the members.

MR JOHN Houston, the popular purser of the Caledonian Steamer, Duchess of Hamilton was on Saturday presented with a purse of sovereigns to mark the occasion of his marriage.

TWO tablets in memory respectively of the Rev Geo Russell and the Rev Geo Morris, former ministers in Courthill Church, Dalry, were unveiled in the church on Sunday.

IN the presence of a gathering on Monday at the new "Stock" bridge over the Garnock, near to Glengarnock Castle, Mr Bryce M Knox of Redheugh, riveted the last rivet in the ironwork part of the structure.

MR ROBERT Maxwell, ex-amateur champion, compiled a record score of 66 over Prestwick golf course. He was 30 out and 36 in. Harry Vardon holds the record in a competition, 72.

50 YEARS AGO

September 3 1954

A NEW service for the benefit of dairy farmers - a relief force "flying squad" of farm workers for emergencies - has now been established in Scotland, by the private enterprise of two young men.

The service, known as the Scottish Relief Milking Service, is an extension of a business founded in England by the two young men, both farmers' sons, and one of them, Mr Snowden, from Suffolk came to

Scotland in April of this year to set up the Scottish venture.

Mr Snowden, who resides at 39 Stanley Road, Ardrossan, intends to establish the central office of the Scottish Service in Ardrossan.

The purpose of the service is to provide temporary dairy farming workers when applied for, by farmers who find themselves short-handed through various circumstances or in emergencies, and the relief workers are despatched to the applying farms in the shortest possible time, if necessary by aeroplane, as has already been done. Day and night service is given and the Scottish Service now covers the area between Inverness and Carlisle.

The new service is quite unique and Mr Snowden says that there is no similar service in any other country in the world so far as it is known. It should prove of great value to Scottish farmers and it is to be hoped that the enterprise of Mr Snowden and his partner will meet with the success and recognition it deserves.

A START has been made to demolish that part of the Caledonian Railway Station in Stevenston which was sold some time ago to a local man.

PROGRESS is being made with the alterations to widen the road at the point where the wall has a round bend at the house of Greystones, Stevenston. When this job is completed it will improve that dangerous part of the road.

MR AB Glen, the popular proprietor of The Roxy Cinema, Dalry, has just purchased The Picture House, Stewarton, where his son, Ian, will be assistant manager. Mr Glen has a grand reputation for giving his patrons good programmes and we have not the slightest doubt he will give the Stewarton people and district the same service he has for the past 21 years given in Dalry.

25 YEARS AGO

September 7 1979

CHILDREN have breached the security system of the giant explosives factory at Ardeer and stolen explosive material.

Police believe that children carried out the raid and ICI are now wondering whether the holes are in their security net at Nobel's

factory. Three reels of explosive cord were taken and police say that the thieves had enough time to steal a "loorryload".

An ICI spokesman said: "We are very disturbed at this apparent breach of security at Ardeer last week.

"Investigations are in hand involving the local police and any actions which appear necessary will be taken immediately."

The news that children are responsible followed a week long investigation by CID during which many workers were interviewed.

Nobel's factory covers a huge area which stretches up from Kilwinning and along to Irvine Harbour. Police describe it as a wilderness.

They believe that the material, which has an explosive core and can be dangerous, could have been dumped anywhere in the grounds.

Three reels of the cord have been taken, each about 1ft in diameter.

They look like reels of electric cable for household use and the cord is like plastic covered clothesrope.

Anyone finding these reels are warned that they should immediately contact the police or the security officer at Nobel's Explosives.

A BUS strike hit the AA service the day after A1 buses were back on the road.

Eighty bus crew members stopped work on Tuesday after the appointment of an inspector sparked off a union dispute with AA management.

The strike is still affecting local services although only workers at the Ayr depot are continuing industrial action.

About one in every three buses are still not operating.

Originally the dispute was caused by an inspector being appointed from outwith the AA which the union have said is contrary to normal practice.

This triggered off other complaints from the employees and these were submitted to management.

The union say that the strike will continue until they get a reasonable response to these complaints.

The A1 strike which ground the service to a halt ended on Monday.