

9/79

Bailies fun day

AN IDYLLIC setting, stirring fiddle music, good food and even better company ensured that the annual Bailies of Bennachie rally on Sunday was enjoyed by all.

The Back o' Bennachie car park was the venue for the event

By MURRAY LAING

which attracted a good crowd of people of all ages.

Ranger for the Forestry Commission and Bailie of Bennachie Jackie Cumberbirch said: "The rally went really well and although it was a wee bit overcast the weather stayed nice for the event.

"It was really good to see many familiar faces but also many of the new younger faces that the rally now attracts.

"I was in charge of the children's activities on Sunday while other Bailies were in charge of car parking and helping with the barbecue and so on.

"Everyone played their part and we were all a small cog in the whole scheme of things."

Provost of Aberdeenshire Raymond Bisset was asked to open the rally.

In his well received speech he reminisced on days in his younger years when he used to climb Bennachie sometimes twice a day.

He finished his speech with a poem by the late Rev James Wood entitled Bennachie, which he felt epitomised everything that Bennachie is about.

The Bailies of Bennachie Tartan was also launched on Sunday and was very well received by all.

Those who weren't at the rally but who are interested to see the new tartan can do so by visiting the Bailies website at www.bennachie.org or find out more about it by contacting Jackie Cumberbirch on ☎ 07799 658209.

Musical entertainment on the day was provided by local musicians including members of the Garioch Fiddlers.

The next Bailies event will be a Bailies work party on Saturday, September 6, where they will spend the whole day working on the hill with the John Muir Trust, meeting in the Rowan Tree car park at 9.30am.

The Bailies AGM is to be held on Thursday, September 25, in Inverurie Academy.



Summer smiles: Youngsters taking part in the summer club activities being run at Kintore Church Hall line up for a photo-call.



Oyne angels: Erin Duffus (left) and Kyle Scott get the VIP treatment as Rosemary Alcock (back left) does the official opening honours at the Wee Angels' nursery in Oyne, which is being run by Rachel Rennie (right).