

NEWS

E-mail dgnews@s-un.co.uk

# Cake bake break



**SURPRISE VISIT:** The Balkan folk group all ready to present their prize-winning show to a Dumfries audience thanks to (inset) Milan Cvetkovic.

**A WORLD-CLASS dance team will give a spectacular public performance in Dumfries this weekend ... all because a local restaurateur's granny wanted to bake him a cake.**

Milan Cvetkovic, of Pizzeria Il Fiume in Dock Park, was surprised when his 90-year-old grandmother phoned him from Belgrade to tell him she was going to send him a piece of his favourite cake — baked by herself.

She had heard the prize-winning Dimitrije Tucovic folk ensemble from the Serbian capital was due to compete in an Edinburgh festival and planned to send the delicacy with them.

"I told her to forget the cake which might not have survived the journey anyway and to give me the phone number for the group's director instead," said Milan.

"I called him and asked if the dancers could give a show in Dumfries. I was delighted when he agreed."

The show in Loreburn Hall, from 2pm to 4pm on Sunday is being supported by the council and the region's multicultural association. Milan is providing a goulash or pasta and salad meal with fruit punch for the spectators

He said: "I'm charging a token £5 for admission including the meal.

"I'm not making a profit — the idea is just to bring a little bit of culture to the town. I hope we get a good attendance."

Taking part in the show will be 22 dancers and seven musicians whose repertoire includes folk numbers from the Balkans and Russia — with plenty of breath-taking leaps and high-slapping.

The ensemble has competed in over 40 international competitions since it was formed in 1978. It recently gained third place in a hard-fought contest in Turkey.

Milan added: "We are very fortunate that the group has agreed to come to Dumfries — it's a great opportunity to enjoy a colourful lively performance and to savour a different culture."

## Terror fine

**THREE** men who terrorised a number of people in an Eastriggs house have been fined a total of £1,750.

Dumfries Sheriff Court heard a man and a woman were assaulted in the house in Cul-

## IN BRIEF

### Bar room ban

**A 23-YEAR-OLD** man has been banned from entering a Dumfries pub for a year following an assault.

Dominic McGillivray, of Lochside Road, Dumfries, admitted repeatedly punching George Pool on the face and knocking him to the ground at the Royal Oak pub.

He was also placed on probation for 12 months and tagged to remain in his home for three months between 3pm and 3am.

### Vehicle vandal

**A TEENAGER** who damaged five cars as he attempted to steal them has had his sentence deferred for background reports by the sheriff at Dumfries. Alan Stacey, aged 18, of Dryburn Road, Kelloholm, admitted committing the offences and breaking the steering columns in four cases and the lock in another at various roads in Kelloholm last August.

He also admitted breaking into the Social Work Office there with intent to steal and stealing a car at Kirkconnel.

In addition he pleaded guilty to shouting and swearing and making threats of violence at the Social Work offices in Dumfries in September. He was remanded in custody and the case was continued to August 17.

### Car fan jailed

**A 45-YEAR-OLD** man, said to have a fascination for cars, has been jailed for nine months at Dumfries Sheriff Court for driving while banned for the tenth time.

Andrew Cowan, from The Loan, Hawick, was caught after driving for five miles on the A7 road near Langholm last month.

He admitted committing the offence and using the car without insurance.

Sheriff Kenneth Ross said that because of his "shocking" record he would have jailed him for 12 months but, since he had pleaded guilty at an early stage, he would limit the sentence to nine months and banned him from driving for 12 months.

### Home raider

# Worldwide mission

**THE HUNT** for investment in post Chapelcross Annandale has gone global.

Organisations behind the ambitious regeneration programme for the Gretna, Lockerbie and Annan area, are advertising in the Official Journal of the European Union.

They have posted an invitation to tender notice in what is the key publication for major regeneration projects within the European Union.

Scottish Enterprise Dumfries and Galloway along with a string of partners including the council, is spearheading the hunt for the international

commissioned.

SEDG has set up a wholly owned subsidiary company, Katalyst Projects Limited, which is designed to lead the way with a series of regeneration projects across the region.

The tender move is a bid to interest private money in the project.

Partners would take a majority equity stake in the venture and would share in any profits generated by the fulfilment of projects across the region.

Specific aims are for industrial units, office accommodation, leisure development retail space and residential de-

SEDG chief executive, Colin Williamson, said: "The region has abundant resources and is ideally situated as a hub linking with the north east and north west of England and the central belt of Scotland as well as serving as a key gateway into Ireland.

Corridor Regeneration Steering Group spokesman, John Plant, added: "From the market testing we carried out last year, we believe that we will attract an appropriate partner to invest in the region.

"As well as providing the ne-