

# JUNE '18 The Micron

The staff newsletter of AJ Engineering and

## Local boy comes home for summer placement

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## Who says engineering is a man's world?

AJ Engineering is throwing its weight behind an international campaign to encourage more girls and young women to consider engineering as a career.

We have a fab team of women working within the company and although not all of them work in the engineering field – we can safely say that the company would not run as smoothly without our female counterparts.

International Women in Engineering Day takes place every year on June 23 and the theme this year is 'Raising the Bar'.

We will be running a picture of our fab females on our Twitter and Facebook accounts on the day, so please help spread the word by sharing and retweeting.



Just some of the female contingent at AJ Engineering, left to right: Amanda Strang, Jazmin Kellas, Bethany Stuart-Bass, Laura Mair and Jackie MacRae.

## A fun-filled family day out

Piping At Forres, the European Pipe Band Championships will take place on June 30 in the natural amphitheatre of Grant Park, Forres, attracting bands and visitors from all over the world.

MD Alan James who is chairman of Forres Events Limited which organises the event will also act as Chieftain for the day.

Piping At Forres is a fun-filled and spectacular day for all the family when more than a hundred pipe bands compete to be crowned European champions, filling Grant Park with thousands of pipes,

drums, tartan, kilts, Highland dancers, Pipe Majors and much more.

Sponsored by Benromach Speyside Single Malt Whisky, the event is also a showcase for local food and drink producers while a retail village provides the best of Scottish craft and hand-made goods. It will celebrate Scotland's Year of Young People and the event will incorporate sideshows, an interactive science tent, bars and a funfair.

Come to Piping At Forres – You will not be disappointed.



Right: Andrew Barr takes place behind an office desk at AJ Engineering

# HOME FOR SUMMER

A BUDDING engineer who left the area to study has returned to his home roots to work with AJ Engineering over the summer.

Andrew Barr from Dyke is studying Mechanical Engineering at Edinburgh University but will put his three-month summer holiday to good use by experiencing all that AJ Engineering has to offer.

In September, 20-year-old Andrew will begin his fourth year of a five year degree and explained why he approached AJ Engineering.

He said: "I was looking for relevant work and doing research into where I could get some experience and I found AJ Engineering. Of course, I knew it existed as I am local, but once I started looking into it further I was excited about what the company does and actually had no idea how big it is and how many projects it works on. It really interested me, so I got in touch



and was lucky enough to be given the placement."

Andrew began his placement with AJ Eng at the end of last month and said he has already enjoyed experiencing the CNC workshop and helping prepare items for welding.

"My degree is very theoretical so it's great to get hands-on experience and see the different components of

the company. The CNC workshop was fascinating, and I have also helped with the ordering of 2600 bolts for platforms the company is fabricating for the Forth Road Bridge and have been involved in work for a water treatment works as well. The sheer variety of the projects the firm works on is a real eye opener and I am really enjoying seeing what the different departments do."

## New plant aids access



AJ Engineering has secured more work in the water sector thanks to an investment of two new pieces of lifting equipment.

The firm has purchased an all-terrain Magni rotating telescopic handler and a UNIC Spider Crane.

The new machinery which arrived on site last month has assisted the company in securing further work in the water industry to the tune of £750,000 on sites across Moray and in Orkney.

Graham Alexander, general manager said: "These new pieces of equipment will support us with work that we have secured in the water sector. These allow us to carry out installation and maintenance works in sites with difficult or tight access. This investment will allow us to further expand the mechanical and maintenance work we undertake."

The Magni handler is capable of lifting 6T and has a lifting height of 30m whilst the UNIC Spider Crane which can fit through standard door openings, is capable of lifting 3T and has a lifting height of 9m.

Both pieces of equipment were purchased with funding assistance from Highlands and Islands Enterprise.

## Building bridges with young engineers

Pupils who have just begun in S5 at Forres Academy have been put through their paces this month by a team from AJ Engineering.

More than 50 pupils were set the challenge of creating a miniature replica of the Forres Railway footbridge.

The event was staged to give the young people an insight into the world of work and to give them an idea of the different skills they will have to harness in a workplace environment.

The event was headed by quality manager Jazmin Kellas, pictured below left, and graduate apprentice Laura Mair.

