

# Local Success Stories

**Congratulations to all of the following on their recent achievements.**

The Friends of Bridge of Allan were awarded a Certificate of Merit in the Beautiful Scotland Neighbourhood Awards in October. The group was praised for its dynamism and complimented on having a committee that is 'working pro-actively with an overstretched local council, tackling



areas of neglect'.

**Robert Graham** (above) was a regional winner at the 2009 Ernst and Young Scotland Entrepreneur of the Year Awards in June. Robert is managing director of Bridge of Allan-based Graham's The Family Dairy, Scotland's largest independent dairy. In May Graham's Gold dairy products picked up awards for Marketing Initiative of the Year and for Best Dairy, Confectionery & Snacking Product at this year's Scotland Food & Drink

Excellence Awards.

**Victoria McAra** has been confirmed as Community Librarian at Bridge of Allan Library, after serving 14 months in an acting capacity. In addition she has been given added responsibility for Balfron, Drymen and Strathblane libraries. (Victoria featured in *Bridge of Allan Times*, issue 16, Spring 2009, p.7)

**WoodWinters** have been named Scottish Independent Wine Merchant of the Year in the International Wine Challenge. Owner Doug Wood picked up the award at the Dorchester Hotel, London, in October. In 2008 WoodWinters were runners-up in the UK Small Independent Wine Merchant award category organised by *Decanter* magazine.

And the *Bridge of Allan Times* itself had three successes at this year's Stirling Community Newspaper Awards in September. John Murphy and Peter Meech's 'Games, Wars and Bacchanalia' (issue 17, summer 2009, p.7) was judged Best Article of the Year. Joint winners of the



Victoria McAra

Outstanding Local Group award were the local Guides featured in Audrey Brown's 'Girlguiding Airthrey District' (issue 16, spring 2009, p.14). And Ian McLaren's report on Lesley Christie's retirement from the local primary school, "The Best Teacher Ever", was runner-up in the Best Local News Report category (issue 16, spring 2009, p.5).



## Bridge of Allan 100 Years Ago

### Opening of Miniature Rifle Range

On Saturday afternoon the recently constructed rifle range [at the old gas

works] was formally opened with a match between teams representing Captain Alexander and Lieutenant Alexander. The match ended in a victory for the latter by 44 points. Two prizes, consisting of briar

pipes with amber mouthpieces, were offered to the highest scorer on each side, and these were won by J. Anderson (78) and J. Sutherland (76)... (*Stirling and Bridge of Allan Reporter*, December 11, 1909)



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