

SPORT: CRICKET

SAILING

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Kiwis join Saints

IN preparation of the upcoming WDCU Premiership 2011 season, DMPS St Michael's Cricket Club have secured the signatures of two new players who, it is hoped, will help the club in its ambition to win this year's title.

New Zealander's Jamie Gibson and Corey Larsen both make long trips to join the Saints ranks this April.

Jamie and Corey will not just play for Saints during the 2011 season, but also play a significant role in the community, coaching at many of the area's primary schools.

Junior sessions will be held every Monday evening 6.15-8pm and there will also be free coaching at Brownhall, Caerlaverock, Calside, Georgetown, Laurieknowe, Lochmaben, Lockerbie, New Abbey, St Andrew's RC, St Michael's, and Troqueer primary schools.

Both Jamie and Corey live in Wellington, New Zealand where they have just finished their studies and are taking a year out to

travel the world and play cricket.

Corey plays cricket for Onslow CC and represents their 1st X1 in the Wilkinson Pearce Cup whereas Jamie plays for Eastern Suburbs CC 1st X1 in the same competition.

In January, both guys represented Wellington Powerade U18s side in the New Zealand national competition in Christchurch.

Jamie said of his and Corey's opportunity to play for Saints in 2011: "We're really looking forward to the opportunity of playing some cricket abroad, both for the experience and competition."

"Hopefully we can play our part in another league win for Saint Michael's Cricket Club."

Club secretary Mike Lumb said of the signings: "We are delighted that both Jamie and Corey will be joining DMPS Saints for the 2011 season."

"Both lads come highly recommended due to their ability on the park, and just as importantly their coaching skills and char-

acter off it.

"We are delighted that they are keen to help us put something back into the community in the form of the schools coaching programme, and hope they play a big part in an enjoyable and successful season."

Due to the current financial climate, St Michael's realise that money is extremely tight for many families and therefore have put a freeze on their subscription costs for 2011.

These range from £20 for junior and £50 for full senior membership, representing excellent value for money during these difficult financial times.

The club will begin their official pre-season training in the next few weeks and are always on the lookout for new junior and senior players wishing to join the St Michael's family.

Anyone interested in joining the club should contact Derek Heron 07894 193 412 or Mike Lumb 01387 266049.



PLAIN SAILING: Joanna Barrie in action at the Winter Regatta at Windsor last weekend.

Joanna in fine form at Windsor

ANNANDALE sailor Joanna Barrie made an impressive start to her 2011 season at the weekend when she finished 25th out of 270 competitors in a major national regatta.

The Winter Regatta at Datchet Sailing Club near Windsor was for sailors from all over the UK competing in single-handed Topper dinghies.

Joanna, 14, from Heck near Lochmaben, who was selected last autumn for the Royal Yachting Association's Great Britain Topper squad, was also the third

top girl at the weekend's event.

In light winds and temperatures which sat around 0°C for most of Saturday and Sunday's racing, Joanna was never less than 30th in any of her five races and finished fourth in the second race which she led up to the windward mark.

A member of Lochmaben-based Annandale Sailing Club, Joanna successfully applied for funding from Dumfries and Galloway Council to help with her expenses during the 2011 season.

ORIENTEERING

Barrhill competition

MORE than 80 people turned out to run through the forest at Solway Orienteers' January event held at Barrhill, Dalbeattie, last Saturday.

The weather was kind and the courses testing for the runners. All courses were well subscribed with Yellow proving the most popular by just a few entrants.

Aaron Scotney and adult helper was fastest round the White by a large margin.

Dalbeattie Primary group of Erin Hill, Chloe C and Caitlin Kirkpatrick took second spot with Grace Scotney +1 third just a bit faster than four-year-old Niall Gilligan of Dalbeattie Nursery (with adult to show the way).

Yellow winners were Dalbeattie Primary pair Hamish Anderson and Mark Blackwood by just 25 seconds from Adam Kirk and helper.

Louie Forsyth was the best sole runner in third place, comfortably ahead of David Adams of Wigton Primary.

Joe Reilly and adult (Auchencairn PS) won the Orange. Second

was Stewart Anderson four minutes down. Third place went to Julia Brettel with Muriel Anderson in fourth spot.

Jonathan Mortlock showed the adults the way home but just fastest by a whisker – or six seconds – from Linda Biggar on the more technical Light Green.

Richard Scales kept up the youth profile taking third spot by less than a minute from Juliet Forsyth.

Ian Turner won the harder Green course by a margin of five minutes from Simon Mortlock.

Another two minutes separated Dave McQuillen in third and then Fred Davidson in fourth. It is good to see Fred returning to the forest after a number of years.

Organisers Tim and Helen were pleased to see such a large turnout on all courses, the Green especially having a good number of competitive performances.

The action moves to Troston Forest near New Abbey for the March event. Full results, details and more on the club website www.solwayoreintees.co.uk

MARTIAL ARTS

Martial arts - army style

AN EX-ARMED forces marksman has set up a military-style martial arts class in Heathhall.

George Clark, 32, of Barnhill Road, Dumfries, served as a sniper in Bosnia, Iraq and Afghanistan before retiring from the British Army in February 2010 after a 10-year stint.

Since then he has been putting members of his classes through their paces in his military-style martial arts training at Heathhall Community Centre.

And he reckons the chance to pass on qualities he learned in the forces has helped with his transition back to civilian life.

He said: "It was a worry when it became time to leave the army."

"The thought of civilian life was a bit daunting after spending so many years in a military environment."

"But having these classes to teach people has made a big difference to that. It gave me something to focus on very quickly, and I can use the discipline and respect instilled in

you in the army, and pass that on to others."

Mr Clark is hoping to expand his British Military Martial Arts classes to other parts of Dumfries and Galloway following a strong surge in interest.

And he reckons the forces theme is what has been attracting so many to the classes.

He said: "A lot of people like the military side of it. And parents have told me that it is also helping with their children's school work, as it is about your attitude and workrate."

British Military Martial Arts is a national movement run by ex-servicemen

after they leave the forces. It was set up by ex-paratrooper

and World Association of Kickboxing Organisation (WAKO) Pro European champion Lee Matthews.



BOXING CLEVER: George Clark runs classes in Heathhall.
RBDSF240111GeorgeClark.

BOWLING

No luck in national triples

NITHSDALE and the Stewartry had disappointing results last weekend when both sides were well beaten.

Nithsdale Indoor Bowls Club gents, in the first round of the National Triples, were represented

by Stewart Gilmour, Willie Dalgleish and Jim Hannah. They lost 24/3 to Ardrossan at East Kilbride.

Newton Indoor Bowls Club gents also took part in the preliminary round of the competition on Sat-

urday.

Representing Newton Stewart were William McMillan, Hamish Sinclair and Alistair McMillan who lost 16/5 against Prestwick at Blantyre Indoor Bowls Club.

Boyer on Bowling

Carpet contest at Thornhill

HERE is the carpet bowling draw at Thornhill Bowling Club on Saturday, February 5:

2.15: Sparky v Greg Jarvie; Dem v I Gibson; W Waugh v Ed; Aki v Iky.
2.55: Nitelife v LE; Paul v J Dempster; D McMath v Kilcadzow 2; Kilcadzow 1 v Sanny.
3.35: Compo v D Taylor; J Cowan v Nitelife 2; R Cook v Susan; Gary(Sanquhar) v Gus.

5.45: R.E.O. v Ship 1; Ronan v Connor; Scaur 2 v W Mair 2; Kirkton L v TRX.

6.20: Rhonehouse C v Dubs; Lorna v Lockerbie; Derek v Scaur 1; Rhonehouse F v Glen.
7.40: Tracey 1 v Ross; Tracey 2 v Rhonehouse I; Malky v D McFeggan; Ship 2 v A Lockhart.
8.20: Sanquhar 2 v W Mair 1; Jaggybrae v Moffat water; Sanquhar 1 v Minty; J Black v Crawston A.