

# THE COURIER



**Ward wins Davis Cup marathon**

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**Game of Thrones star Clive Russell's softer side**

**weekend**

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Saturday, March 7, 2015

No. 50,415 80p

# Botched op ends dancer's career

by Graeme Strachan

A FIFE woman has claimed a former Tayside surgeon ended her dance career and left her with long-term health difficulties.

Winnie Williamson, 53, from Markinch, trained at the London School of Contemporary Dance and performed and taught with various companies for 18 years.

Mrs Williamson never danced again after bone shavings were left in her body following an emergency back operation by Professor Muftah Salem Eljamel at Ninewells Hospital.

The debris left inside her body caused her back disc to protrude again and she was rushed to hospital less than a fortnight later after suffering an "internal explosion".

Prof Eljamel had to perform the surgery again which left Mrs Williamson struggling

to walk and forced her and husband Kevin to delay IVF treatment until she recovered.

She had to give up her job because recovery was slow and the spinal damage meant she had to undergo a fully-sedated caesarean when she delivered her daughter three years later.

She said the fact that she was unable to immediately hold her much-longed-for child was the biggest regret of her life.

Mrs Williamson has now backed calls made by former Dundee radio DJ Patrick Kelly this week for a public inquiry to find out what really happened to her and others.

Prof Eljamel, who was a consultant neurological surgeon in NHS Tayside from 1995, was suspended last year by the General Medical Council after a patient underwent surgery on the wrong spinal disc.

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## Cannabis worth £144,000 seized in Kirkcaldy



Police have seized cannabis with a street value of £144,000 following a raid in a house in Cawdor Crescent, in the Templehall area of Kirkcaldy, on Thursday night after being tipped off by a member of the public. It is understood the property was vacant at the time, with police suspecting only visitors cultivating the crop had access to the building. Full story on page 7. Picture: George McLuskie.

### FIFE

#### Free badges for disabled urged

Councillors' travel expenses should be rescinded to allow disabled people in Fife to get free blue parking badges, says the chairman of the Auchmuty Tenants' and Residents' Association.

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#### Widower makes cancer fight vow

Fife councillor David Graham is at the forefront of a national campaign to raise awareness of the disease that killed his wife. Sharon died aged 44 last February, after a three-year battle against ovarian cancer.

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#### Taxi drivers' jobs 'under threat'

The closure of a Tesco superstore could mark the end of the road for Kirkcaldy's cabbies, Harry Bell, chairman of the Kirkcaldy Taxi Owners' Association, has warned.

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