

Piermaster on Coll is man of many skills



PINK shorts and a pom-pom bonnet do not a piermaster make. But the experience which Mr Guy W. Jardine, the wearer of this somewhat unusual garb on the Isle of Coll, has, makes him one of the most efficient piermasters on the West Coast.

Mr Jardine was born at Lockerbie, travelled the world before taking over as piermaster at Coll when the new pier was opened last year.

Prior to his appointment, he sailed the small ferryboat which went from Coll to meet the MacBrayne boats as they lay off the island at Arinagour.

Rhodesia attracted Mr Jardine when he was a young man, and in 1926 he was mining there. Later he became a ranch manager when he was responsible for over 3000 head of cattle.

His next venture was his own farm of 3000 acres, the main activities then being dairy cattle and tobacco.

Married to a Shropshire girl, he came back to Shropshire some years ago.

When he returned to Scotland he visited Mull in the hope of finding a suitable farm.

Then to Coll with the same object, but he became the owner of the Coll Hotel instead.

With the running of the hotel, he combined lobster fishing, and when he sold the hotel he made the sea his first love.

As owner of the motor sailer Collach he continued with the fishing and did a lot of charter work.

During a bad storm the Collach was torn from her moorings and was wrecked. Mr Jardine's efforts to salvage and recondition her have, up to date, failed.