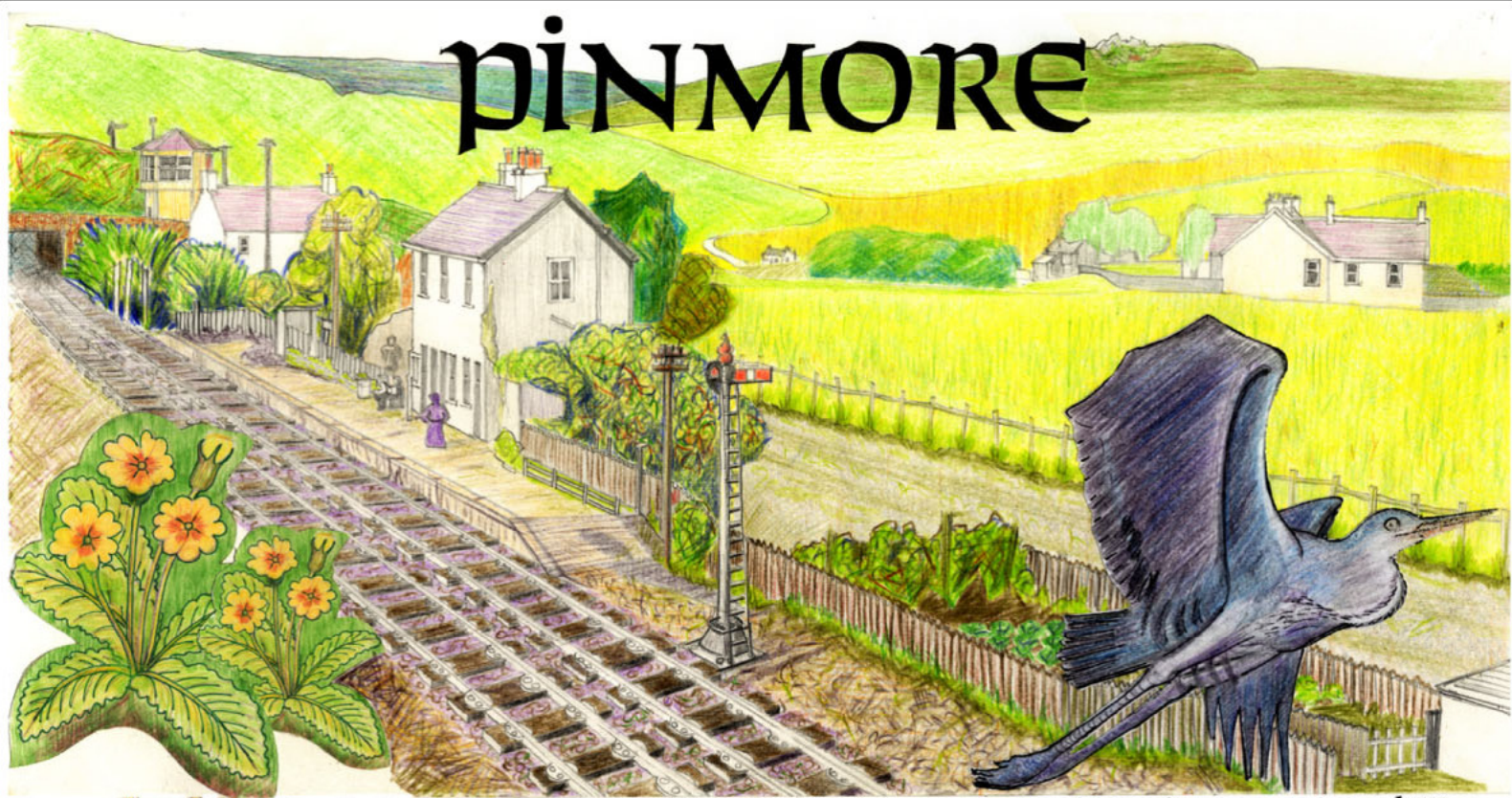


PINMORE



THE CLACHAN (OR HAMLET) OF PINMORE GREW AROUND THE TINY RAILWAY STATION WHEN THE GLASGOW AND SOUTH WESTERN RAILWAY LINE FROM GIRVAN TO STRANRAER WAS BUILT IN 1877. ITS POSITION, NEAR AN ELONGATED CROSSROADS, MADE IT IDEALLY SUITED TO HANDLE LOCAL RAW MATERIALS AND LIVESTOCK. THE LIMEKILNS AT TORMITCHELL USED A PRIVATE NARROW GAUGE LINE TO GET STONE AND LIME TO THE STATION. BY THE 1890'S AN OVERNIGHT SLEEPER TRAIN SERVICE WOULD CONNECT PINMORE TO LONDON ST.PANCRAS.

THE NAME "PINMORE" WAS GIVEN TO THE STATION AND WAS SUBSEQUENTLY ADOPTED FOR THE CLACHAN, CONSISTING OF A POST OFFICE, A SMIDDY, A SCHOOL AND A SCHOOLHOUSE.

PINMORE STATION WAS SOMEWHAT MISNAMED AS IT IS SITUATED ON LETTERPIN LANDS.

PINMORE WAS ORIGINALLY A SETTLEMENT AT THE CONFLUENCE OF THE WATER OF ASSEL WITH THE RIVER STINCHAR, AT WHAT IS NOW PINMORE HOUSE (THE SITE OF PINMORE CASTLE). IT REFERS TO THE EXTENSIVE HILLSIDE FROM PINMORE MAINS FARM TO BELLAMORE, IN THE WATER OF MUCK VALLEY.

ALMOST ALL OF THE PLACE NAMES IN CARRICK (AND GALLOWAY) CAN BE TRACED BACK OVER 2500 YEARS AGO. THEY WERE ORIGINALLY ANCIENT BRYTHONIC, AN EARLY GAELIC LANGUAGE. DESCRIPTIONS WERE EXTREMELY PRECISE.

PINMORE IS FROM "PEINN MOR", BIG HILL, OR, IN THIS CASE, EXTENSIVE HILLSIDE.

LETTERPIN IS FROM "LEITIR PEINN", THE HILL WITH THE EXTENSIVE SLOPE.

TORMITCHELL IS PROBABLY FROM A DIFFERENT BRYTHONIC DIALECT - "TORR" MEANS HILL (LIKE "TOR" IN DEVON), "MI CHAIL" MEANS EXTENSIVE.

OUR LOVELY BURN, THE WATER OF ASSEL, IS LITERALLY FROM "IATHADH O AS AL". THE BURN OUT OF THE ROCKY HILLS (DOON HILL).

SALMON SPAWN IN THE ASSEL, WHICH ALSO HAS SEA TROUT AND BROWN TROUT. GREY HERONS, BARN OWLS, KINGFISHERS, PIED FLYCATCHERS, GREATER SPOTTED WOODPECKERS, REDSTARTS AND MANY FINCHES FREQUENT ITS BANKS.

EVERY SPRING, THE BANKS OF THE ASSEL ARE COVERED WITH CARPETS OF PRIMROSES - A JOY TO BEHOLD!

