



**Ballantrae from the
harbour wall.**

**AUTUMN
2012**

THE STINCHAR VALLEY MAGAZINE

**Content from the communities of
Ballantrae, Barr, Barrhill, Colmonell,
Lendalfoot, Pinwherry & Pinmore**



St. Colmon Parish Kirk Fair

Saturday 4th
August proved that
we can enjoy ourselves
despite the weather, as the
glebe field sprouted colourful
gazebos and tables loaded with
jewellery, plants, bric-a-brac, books,
baking, ice-cream, tombola, burgers & games.
We'll move "beat the goalie" next year so we
don't lose any more footballs in the unused silo!

Colmonell's
royal party cut
the ribbon and as
the rain came down
the tea room filled up
and children queued for
buggy rides. Also, Sky High
Falconry put on a truly dazzling
display and the Stinchar Valley Pipe Band
didn't let the rain dampen their music.
Many thanks go to the construction (and
destruction!) team and all who came and
gave so generously to make the Fair a success.



Mail to the Editor

Welcome to the Autumn issue of the Stinchar Valley Magazine, a warm and sunny, greeting to all from everyone here. This publication is your chance to read and make the community news in the Stinchar Valley and surrounding region. If you have any news you would like to send us or comments upon articles you have read in these pages please get in touch. The same goes for any additions to these pages you would like to see in the future and if you have events, clubs or anything that local people would like to attend or hear of. Would you or someone you know like to appear here in the future?

Are you from Ballantrae, Barr, Barrhill, Colmonell, Glen App, Lendalfoot or Pinwherry & Pinmore areas? For all this and anything else that crosses your mind about our communities contact the editorial team. Your input is vital. Be heard, make a difference. Items may be edited for spelling, grammar, clarity or length.

Please contact your area representatives:

John McAlley [Editor]

Tel: 01465 841198

Mail: Stinchar Valley Magazine, Liglartrie Farm, Pinwherry, KA26 0SL

Email: Stinchar-valley-magazine@hotmail.co.uk

Ballantrae representatives:

Andy McAlpine:

Email: andy.mcalpine@btinternet.com

Peter Newland:

Email: peternewlands1@btconnect.com

Barr representatives:

Alastair Smith:

Email: alastair_smith@btinternet.com

Barrhill representatives:

Lily & Doug Niven:

Email: spanishlily@hotmail.co.uk

Colmonell/Lendalfoot representatives:

Vacancy.

Editorial Panel

The Stinchar Valley Magazine is published by the voluntary editorial group with the valued support of the contributors, with the aim of supporting the community interest and local businesses. The magazine is funded by Hadyard Hill and Carrick Futures grants schemes. Images are used with all needed permissions from, open source, Flickr.com under open copyright standard licence. Images also courtesy of Clker.com and Public contributions. All material copied from newspapers, websites and other sources are accredited and referenced wherever possible. All contents and views in this publication are those of the contributors.

Lifeguards at Craig Tara

Two dedicated hardworking school boys from Colmonell have taken time out from their summer holidays to do a 40 hour lifeguard course which they completed and passed in just 4 days. We would like to say a huge congratulations to Michael Patterson and Declan Taylor and hope that your hard work pays off and you're successful in your recent interviews. The boys are now both working as lifeguards at Craig Tara. (See pic's on centre pages)

The 2 Pins Centre

28 residents of Pinwherry and Pinmore attended a meeting to hear about their new community centre. Those present chose the above name, entered by Mrs Grace Dunlop, as the winning entry in a competition to find a name for the new centre.

Thanks to grant funding from Carrick Futures and Hadyard Hill a lead contractor has begun work on plans and assessing the land to see if it is suitable for the building, prior to negotiating the purchase of the site. Once the new community company own the site a meeting will be arranged to show residents the proposed outline development plans for the centre before detailed drawings are commissioned.

Pinwherry War Memorial

The war memorial from Pinwherry Primary School has been taken into storage by South Ayrshire Council Bereavement Services until it is installed in the new community centre. The future of the outside war memorial and the garden that the pupils created will also be considered as part of the new centre.

Galloway And Southern Ayrshire Biosphere

It's official! You are now living and working in a UNESCO Biosphere which is a member of the World Network of Biosphere Reserves. The aim now is to build on the award and make Galloway and Southern Ayrshire a "World Class Place for People and Nature".

You can see the decision on the UNESCO website at <http://www.unesco.org/new/en/natural-sciences/environment/ecological-sciences/>

Also see our own refreshed website at <http://www.gallowayandsouthernayrshirebiosphere.org.uk/>

A meeting was held on 14th June 2012 in Pinwherry Community Hall. The guest speakers were Meryl Norris of the Ayrshire Rivers Trust and Bruce Davidson representing the Ayrshire Red Squirrel Group. Meryl Norris is employed by the Ayrshire Rivers Trust to carry forward the Carrick Invasive Species Project - the aim of which is to raise awareness of the issues associated with the spread of problem species such as Japanese knotweed. They also cull greys and will work alongside any red squirrel preservation initiative set up as a result.



David Hall (01465 821 374) and John Goodenough (07880 602 922) are willing to cull trapped greys and David sends off blood samples for testing.

To stand any chance of preserving the reds in this area, it is imperative that the appropriate action taken.

PLEASE report any sightings of reds OR greys to The Ayrshire Red Squirrel Group by Email: sightings@ayrshirered squirrels.org.uk. Please provide precise location details and photographs where possible.

General discussion followed regarding preservation of the reds in the Stinchar Valley. The main points central to this aim were listed as:

- Shooting and trapping the greys
- Taking blood samples of the greys
- Reporting sightings of both reds and greys (the importance of this cannot be overstated)
- Updating the sightings map (see above, one cannot happen without the other).

Following this discussion, it was agreed that some of the objectives to be undertaken include:

- Identifying local strongholds
- Mapping and identify buffer zones
- Contacting landowners and farmers for support
- Asking the individual community councils represented on the Carrick Community Councils Forum to survey their areas and map any red squirrel strongholds present
- Looking at the possibility of appointing a grey squirrel control officer for the area
- Putting regular updates in the Stinchar Valley Mag

Red Squirrels In South Scotland: RSSS

Please Help; Report Squirrel Sightings. Control Grey Squirrels. Apply for SRDP Funding

The new Scottish Rural Development Program (SRDP) is a vital tool in the grey squirrel control effort. Land owners can apply for grants to cover the cost of large scale daily control efforts on their property and we will assist and guide their applications. To find out more about SRDP funding you can visit the Scottish Government website:

<http://www.scotland.gov.uk/srdp> or contact us at <http://www.redsquirrels.org.uk/contact.asp>

'If the public and private sector pull together, if enough of us care, together we can save one of Scotland and the UK's most charismatic mammals - our red squirrel.'

Telephone: 01750 23446

Email: karen@redsquirrels.org.uk

Community Council News

Community Councils are the most local tier of statutory representation in Scotland. They are non-party political. They bridge the gap between local authorities and communities, and help to make public bodies aware of the opinions and needs of the communities they represent. Their primary purpose is to ascertain and express the views of the community to the local authority and other public bodies. Many Community Councils also involve themselves in a wider range of other activities including fundraising, organising community events, undertaking environmental and educational projects and much more. There are currently around 1200 Community Councils in Scotland, all of which are composed of elected volunteers from the community. For more information go to the Scottish Government website www.scotland.gov.uk or the South Ayrshire Council website www.south-ayrshire.gov.uk.

Ballantrae Community Council

Have a vacancy for a MINUTE SECRETARY to take minutes at meetings held on the last Tuesday of the month and produce the written record thereof. This is a PAID position, consisting of approximately 5 hours per month for 10 months of the year. If you have access to a computer and e-mail word processing skills and would like to support your community whilst earning some money, then please contact Dr. Mhairi McKenna on 01465 831459 to discuss in more detail.

Pinwherry & Pinmore Community Council

Full minutes of all meetings are available upon request from Claire Pirrie, Acting Secretary: Rose Cottage, Poundland, Pinwherry, KA26 0RU
Email: clairepirrie@gmail.com



Since being elected in May, one of the things I have been reminded of as I have travelled around is the sheer beauty of our part of Scotland. No matter where you travel in Carrick, you are rewarded with beautiful countryside and a different view around every corner. As I carry out my duties in different parts of my ward, I have the chance to appreciate and enjoy our coast and countryside and understand why so many folk are drawn to visit our part of Scotland and the potential we have to attract so many more visitors that will in turn stimulate our economy and potentially provide jobs in our communities.

It has been good in a sense to have been able to have time to deal with local issues ranging from flooding to housing problems. Barrhill, Girvan, Old Dailly and other areas in South Carrick have been hit with flash floods at varying times during the summer months and I have been conversing with South Ayrshire Council and agencies such as Scottish Water to try and identify what actions can be carried out to minimise the damage from any future high rainfall. These actions can range from unblocking silted up drains and clearing tree fall and other potential hazards from watercourses to making sure that sewers are free from blockage and flowing properly and making sure that an inspection and maintenance programme is in place.

Consultations are the flavour of the day and an important one is being carried out on behalf of the Carrick Community Councils Forum to decide on a Carrick Brand to help take Tourism and the Tourist Economy of Carrick Forward. The consultation and

presentation is doing the rounds in Carrick and if you have a chance, make sure and have your say.

Please sit up and take note of another Consultation which is circulating at the moment and this is one which could have a dramatic effect on you or your family. The Scottish Government are consulting on their proposal to integrate Social care with Adult Health Care and this was presented in Girvan recently by the Public Partnership Forum, chaired by Betty McQuiston of Girvan and District CC. The presentation, given by Kenny Leinster of SAC was followed by a series of Questions involving all of those present and facilitated on behalf of the Forum. In my view the first thing that was wrong is the fact that the consultation only focussed on the new proposals and those taking part are not asked if they are happy or otherwise with the present system. At present Social Care services are provided by the council and you therefore have local scrutiny, accountability and knowledge provided through the people you have elected to become councillors. Your Councillor as part of the Council scrutinises and holds the directorate within the council to account for social services provided to elderly, young and vulnerable folk in the communities that they represent. Under the new proposed system this would be taken from the council and a new body would be formed with a powerful overseeing director who would have full control over finance and although would have a line in to The Council Leader and C.E. would also be directly responsible to the Health Secretary. I believe this to be a backwards move for local democracy. You may remember the consultations for the ADOC out of hours service and the retrograde steps which left the Davidson Hospital and its successor Girvan Community Hospital with a downgraded A&E which closes at 5.00pm leaving you to go to Ayr with any injuries and were we not told then that it was for the better!!!.

Finally, I would like to congratulate the Stinchar Valley Magazine Team for the excellent publication that they produce.

**Councillor Alec Clark,
Ward 8 Girvan and South Carrick.**

Pinwherry School

During a meeting of Pinwherry & Pinmore Community Development Association and Pinwherry Community Association it was indicated that Pinwherry School is not fully suitable for use as a community facility and the

preferred option is a new community centre. The future of the school is in the hands of South Ayrshire Council who are giving the Community time to see if it can be used as a hostel or bunkhouse for tourists, walkers or cyclists.



Ballantrae Church Linked With St Colmon Church

On 23rd May, I left Scotland heading to Malawi for a two week visit with a team of six from various churches in Ayrshire. We were visiting churches which are twinned or hope to be twinned with churches in Ayrshire, such as Lwambaza Church in Northern Malawi which is twinned with Ballantrae Church. Overall it was an amazing experience, one which I will never forget. The people I met, the beautiful scenery I saw and the situations that broke my heart are ingrained on my memory and on the 14,000 photos that I took when I was out there!

Over the two weeks we toured round an area about the size of Ayrshire, visiting churches and projects and seeing how they had improved since the last visit in 2010, which two from our team had been on. We also gave them gifts from their partner churches in Ayrshire.

I could fill many pages telling you what I saw and experienced, but I just want to share two reflections of my time in Malawi which will always stay with me.

The first memory was the welcome we received at one of the churches we visited. They were so happy that they met us dancing, they took us into the church dancing and they danced and sang for at least first five minutes as they expressed their joy that we had come all the way from Scotland to see them. It really felt that we were the guests of honour at a huge party, and the strong sense of welcome we experienced there was repeated in every other place we went, as our presence seemed to remind the people that people in Scotland cared for them.

The second memory was one of the last things that I saw before we headed home. A few of the team were required to visit several homes of people nearby who had received a mosquito net 18 months ago. I don't think it was just the state of the nets that was hard to deal with; it was the complete lack of anything within the houses. Most of the houses had anything from 3 to 8 adults and children sleeping in one bed with a net with several holes spread over it. Poverty had left them with very little and it was a shock because throughout the trip we had always been met by happy and content people who we imagined lived in good though probably basic homes. While that experience was unsettling, the visit definitely strengthened my connection to Malawi and I hope that the links with the people there will continue to develop over the coming years.

If you are interested in hearing and seeing more about my trip to Malawi, why not come along to Ballantrae Church on Friday 12th October at 7:30pm. (See pic's on back page)

God bless,

Stephen

St Colmon Church: Forthcoming Annual Fundraising Auction

Every year we hold our auction of donated goods and this year we are planning to hold this on Saturday 13th October (venue and time to be confirmed nearer the time). Our auctioneer will be Dr Tom Smith who illicit as much money as possible from the crowd with good humour and friendly banter. It is a very enjoyable, social afternoon with all money raised going towards the Church. If anyone has any items that they are willing to donate for the auction could they please speak to any of the Church elders or to Lynne McIlwraith, organist and we hope as many people will be able to attend as possible.

Church Information

Ballantrae Parish Church

11:30am every Sunday in Ballantrae with Sunday School for all children 0 - 12 years old.

Minister: Rev Stephen Ogston
Address: The Manse, 1 The Vennel,
Ballantrae, KA26 0NH
Telephone: 01465 831 252
Email: ogston@macfish.com
Websites: www.ballantraeparishchurch.org.uk
www.stcolmonparishchurch.org.uk
Facebook: 'Ballantrae' OR 'St Colmon' Church

Ballantrae Summer Fair

Ballantrae Church Summer Fair went very well on 28th July and raised about £2100 for church funds. On the stalls and in the tearoom there was a clear British theme and a clown appeared with balloons to entertain the children. A huge thank you to everyone who came and to all those who helped make it a great day.

St Colmon Parish Church

10am every Sunday in Colmonell, with Sunday Club for all children and young people from 3 years old. 3pm on the third Sunday of the month in Barrhill Memorial Hall.

Qigong

Feeling stressed and tired? Why not come and enjoy the mental and physical benefits of QIGONG?

It is a series of slow gentle exercises which help to promote health and vitality and is suitable for all levels of fitness (including wheelchair users) and all ages from sixteen and over are welcome.

The Autumn 2012 classes commence on 3rd September, then every Monday (except Public Holidays) from 11am to 12 noon, in Ballantrae Community Centre. £2.50 per session. Do come and join us - you are guaranteed a friendly welcome.

If you would like any more information, please contact Janice Ross (Secretary) on 01465 831347



Age Concern Girvan

Welcome. My name is Tricia Watts and I am chairman of Age Concern Girvan. I lead a team of friendly volunteers to supply affordable meals. A three course meal is only £3.50 and all our meals made here on the premises. If you are visiting Girvan why not come along and try them for yourself, or indeed, why not become a member? Only £5 per annum. 2, Duff Street, Girvan, (at the corner with Dalrymple St) Ayrshire KA26 9AP Tel: 07584 932022

We are open on Wednesday, Thursday and Friday from 9:30 till 1pm for morning coffees and home-made lunches. We would love to see you.

Tel 01465 712032
Email Mail@ageconcerngirvan.org.uk
Web www.ageconcerngirvan.org.uk



King's Arms Hotel

Main Street, Ballantrae

Tel: 01465 831202

Email: info@kingsarmsballantrae.com

www.kingsarmsballantrae.com

As always, a warm welcome awaits you in the well stocked lounge and public bars and good food in our restaurant. During the day we have a snack and full lunch menu. In the evening we serve a full a la carte menu which is complimented by our extensive wine list. We also have a take-away menu available.

Your hosts, Suzanne and Brian Stirling, look forward to welcoming you.

BRICC

Ballantrae Rural Initiative Care in the Community

All in the area covered by the surgeries of the Ballantrae Medical Practice and who are pensioner or housebound are welcome at the BRICC Club or Drop In Club social afternoons, to enjoy entertainment and tea, friendship and care. Held in the BRICC House, both Clubs are free to those who partake. Transport is provided if required. They are open 52 weeks of the year.

BRICC CLUB	Tuesdays	2pm to 4pm
DROP IN CLUB	Fridays	2pm to 4pm

BRICC is a non-profit making company limited by guarantee. Company number SC 181899.
Scottish Charity Registration Number SC 027489A
Registered Office: BRICC House, 12 Main Street, Ballantrae, Girvan, Ayrshire. KA26 0NB | Tel: 01465 831380

Please get in touch with us at the above phone number if you would like to come and join us.



Barr Village

Barr Village Community

Another Great Gala Day!

June 2nd saw another great Gala Day take place in the village. It was a whole weekend of fun and games as the twin themes of the Queen's Jubilee and the forthcoming Olympic games allowed plenty of leeway for the new Community Association committee's imagination.

And what a great job they did! With only a month left to get things organised following a protracted search for volunteers to serve on the BCA, they put together a new and fresh approach to Gala Day which had the crowds rolling in from all over the area.

But all the old favourites were still there. The day started with the Fell Race over Auchensoul and proceeded with the parade through the village and the crowning of the Gala King and Queen - with this year Colin Kemp and Amber McClinton taking centre stage.

This year, a bucking bronco ride, a new bouncy castle, sumo wrestling games, guess the weight of the sheep and a 'soak the heidie' stall were all added attractions which augmented the traditional Tea Room and stalls along the banks of the Gregg. Football was once again held on the sports field.

At the King's Arms, Paula's Hog Roast did a roaring trade for the hungry while the hamburger stall beside the Hall was also in big demand.

On Sunday, a mini Olympics was held at the Clachan which was lots of fun for young and old and the Bank Holiday weekend was brought to a fitting conclusion by the lighting of a Jubilee Beacon by the Community Council on Auchensoul.

All in all, a busy weekend and one which was enjoyed by all those who took part. Well done to everyone who made it happen. (See pic's on centre pages)

Dinmurchie Planting Issue Resolved

The Forestry Commission has amended its plans for planting at Dinmurchie following representations from the village. At last month's Community Council meeting, which was attended by a number of concerned residents, the Commission's Planning Officer, Mr Stephen Staples, outlined its new planning proposals.

The good news is that the area at the back of the houses at the Clachan are to be left open and unplanted preserving valued space between the houses and the new afforestation. At the Council meeting, it was agreed that the plans, which had been revised following consultations in the village and the submission of a petition, had addressed the concerns being expressed and that a satisfactory compromise had been reached. The final plans now have to be submitted to the FC for final approval so there is still an opportunity for anyone to comment on them.

The future of the farm house is still to be determined. A meeting of the Carrick Community Councils Forum heard that the house was now on the market and was being offered to community organisations first before going to the open market. Hadyard Hill Community Benefit Fund was looking informally at purchasing it.

At its June meeting, Barr Community Council heard that it had also been formally notified of the intended sale of surplus land and property at Dinmurchie. On offer is the farm house, outbuildings, agricultural buildings, woodland and open ground extending in all to about 5 hectares.

The meeting agreed that BCC should express an interest on behalf of the Barr Community Development Company. This would not commit BCDC to anything but would give it time to explore how the house might be utilised for the benefit of Barr.

Barr Stores Is Now Under Community Ownership

The move took place on July 1st following confirmation of a two years support funding agreement. Two managers have been appointed; Mike Ross from Barr and Judy Brzezinka (from Colmonell). They were chosen from a short list of five by a panel consisting of Bill Cook, Julia Whitaker and Alison Duffin who is one of the shop managers in Kirkmichael Community Shop. Mike and Judy have already undergone personal license training.

The affairs of the shop will be organised by a management team consisting of; Chairman- Bill Cook, Secretary - Sue Sweet, Treasurer - Anett Forsyth and Executive directors - Velma Ross, William Orr and Madge Cook. Three additional members have been co-opted to the Board. They are Dianne Stewart, Anna Connon and Christine Orr.

Mike told the Barrometer (Barr newsletter); "Naturally we will be taking our time to find our feet so customers won't notice any major changes at the outset. It took a little while longer than anticipated to get the funding in place and we couldn't proceed until that was sorted."

However, it is now 'all systems go' and everyone is very excited and keen to get going".

Judy Brzezinka operated the Post Office in Colmonell until last August, and will bring with her invaluable experience of the needs of a village community.

She is very much looking forward to her new job and says she is very confident that the community will step up to the mark and give the shop the support it needs for its long term survival.

Mike and Judy will be helped in the day-to-day running of the shop by an army of volunteers.

However more help will always be appreciated so if you feel like pitching in to help, then get in touch with either of them to offer assistance.

Warmer Welcome

The "Welcome to the Stinchar Valley sign on the gable-end of the old toll house at Brockloch road end is to have a facelift. Barr Community Council is to fund its repainting by local artist, Merlin Currie.

Baskets

The Barr Village Tea Room added a splash of seasonal colour to the villlage hall with hanging baskets which have been greatly admired. Funding was agreed through the Community Council's small grants scheme on behalf of Hadyard Hill Community Benefit Fund.

Benches

Three new benches are to be provided around Barr Village. The Community Council has agreed that one will be located on the B734 (The Screws) with the other two on Changue Road.

Gardens Open (See pic's on centre pages)

Despite the uncertainty of the weather (not to mention the Andy Murray factor) a respectable number of visitors arrived for the Open Gardens weekend on 7th/8th July. Organisers reported that almost 300 enthusiasts arrived in the village to look over the nine gardens on display. The Tea Room was open on both days - thanks are due to the girls who served up a treat to our visitors - and a 'fringe' exhibition of antique garden tools and collectibles, sculpture, garden ceramics and garden photography drew a large number to Alton Albany Farm. Proceeds of the day were donated to the Children's Hospice Association, Scotland and Scotland's Gardens beneficiaries.



Alec Oattes

As I prepare this article for the Stinchar Valley Magazine, I am reminded of the old Chinese proverb which says "The longest journey begins with a single step". It has been a momentous summer for most of us with the Queen's Diamond Jubilee celebrations and the London Olympics. Myself in being re-elected to serve Girvan and South Carrick for which I feel humbled but proud to have been given the trust of the electorate to serve this beautiful, diverse and historic area. My wife and I have also been blessed with the birth of a second grandson.

Having said that it is disappointing that the turnout of those choosing to vote was less than 45% and for me this is sadly a reflection of how many people feel about democracy and politicians in today's world. When you think of the sacrifices people go to in many countries, such as Aung San Suu Kyi in Burma, the ordinary people in Libya and Syria fighting to achieve a free democratic system of Government, I often ponder on where we have gone wrong as a nation in that the electorate are apathetic and cynical about our own democratic process. Just to finish off this theme I am very disappointed that the proposed reform of the unelected House of Lords has been put off once again.

However, on a brighter note it was good to see the Olympic Torch passing through Carrick on June the 8th on its way to London, where the success of the competitors in the many disciplines has been inspirational. It remains to be seen what the legacy of the games will be, but hopefully it will encourage many of our young people to take up sporting pursuits in an attempt to reach higher levels of fitness and personal well being.

I am pleased the Carrick Community Council Forum's Tourism project has been making good progress and that the "Carrick Brand" has now been agreed after extensive local consultation of those with an interest in developing tourism in the area. It will also be a major boost to the area that Galloway and Southern Ayrshire has now been granted Biosphere Status by UNESCO, the first in Scotland, this should be a catalyst for new economic opportunities, environmentally sustainable development, nature conservation and education.

Finally although in opposition on the Council I will continue to strive to serve all of the constituents in Girvan and South Carrick to the best of my ability in a responsible and constructive manner.

Alec Oattes

Councillor Alec Oattes

Electoral Ward 8: Girvan & South Carrick

Office: County Buildings, Wellington Sq., Ayr KA7 1DR
Tel: 01292 612 382 Fax: 01292 612 383
E mail: alec.oattes@south-ayrshire.gov.uk

Hand Painted Furniture

from Porter & Macdonald

Two local craftsmen have combined their talents in a joint venture. Noel Porter has many years' experience of furniture restoration; Jamie Macdonald is a sign writer with a definite artistic flair. Together, they are giving a new lease of life to old furniture. Noel restores the items and can create a whole range of finishes and textures - imitating leather, marble and many more. Then Jamie applies the artwork. Their individual

skills complement each other superbly and the end results have to be seen to be fully appreciated - photographs cannot do them justice.

They are building up a stock on display in Noel Porter's premises at 76 Main Street, Ballantrae. As well as finished items, others can be seen in various stages of restoration and customers can discuss the choice of finishes, colours and artwork at this stage to obtain a unique item exactly to their wishes.

For further information or to arrange a viewing, call Noel on 07950 453 924 or Jamie on 07901 841 355 (See pic's on page 18)

Lost, Found, Wanted & For Sale

Why not use this magazine to let your neighbours know what you need help with or what you would like to buy or sell? You could save yourself some money, time and a longer journey.

The Olympic Flame Arrives In Ballantrae

There was a great turnout at 7am on a very misty Friday 8 June when the Olympic Torch was carried through Ballantrae by a relay team of 4 people. There was a real carnival atmosphere and an air of expectation as villagers of all ages, along with people from surrounding communities, turned out in force to line the route and welcome the Olympic flame to Carrick. After the torch had passed everyone was invited back to the Community Hall for a "Carrick Big Breakfast" organised by members of Ballantrae Community Council and served up by Lyn McIlwraith and her staff from BRICC with extra hands from volunteers; the funding for this was from South Ayrshire Council.



One of the people to carry the torch through Ballantrae was Una Macfarlane, who works for Scottish Power in Glasgow. SVM caught up with Una in the King's Arms, Ballantrae where she was staying with some of her family, friends and work colleagues on "the night before".

SVM: Who nominated you to carry the torch and why do you think you were nominated?

UM: I was nominated by Scottish Power. I have worked for the company for 35 years and have been a first aider for many years. In addition, I am involved in social and recreation work including organising the kids' Christmas parties for 200 kids.

SVM: What was your reaction when you heard you had been selected?

UM: Initially disbelief. I didn't really realise how big a thing it was until all the hype started. I assumed I would probably be walking down the main street of Ballantrae all on my own with an Olympic torch. Having seen the TV pictures I'm now a bit overawed by it all...

SVM: What sort of preparation have you done for your big day?

UM: I've done a bit of running. I've been working on a cross trainer at home - 10 minutes a night for the last couple of weeks. But basically I've decided to take my time!

SVM: What sort of briefing have you had from the organisers?

UM: There's been loads of briefing - emails, updates,

when the uniform would be coming etc and I have to be at Stranraer at 4am on Friday morning! We've been told about how we handover to the next person, or "the kiss" as it's called, where you actually hand over the flame, not the torch.

SVM: What does carrying the torch mean to you?

UM: It means a lot because it's a once-in-a-lifetime thing as part of the run up to the Olympic Games. It's a big thing and, as I said, I'm a bit overawed by it...

SVM: Do you think taking the torch round the country is a good idea and it's trying to get over the idea that it's not all about London?

UM: Yes. It's definitely a good idea. While the Olympics are London based, we do have events in Glasgow like the football. Taking the torch around the country has allowed lots of small places and communities to get some recognition and become involved.

SVM: So how are you feeling on "the night before"?

UM: I'm very nervous..... The best way to describe it is - I am a terrible flyer, and before I get on a flight I'm a bundle of nerves. That's how I feel now. "Pre-flight" nerves without the flight!

SVM: Very best of luck tomorrow - we'll be cheering you on! (See pic's on centre pages)

Ross McCreadie

Attended the Ballantrae Gala Day and the Colmonell Kirk Fair to demonstrate how he carves tree trunks into a whole variety of creatures using, not one, but two chainsaws - a large one for the rough cuts and a smaller one for the final detail. Fascinated onlookers saw the whole process of creating a squirrel. (See pic's on centre pages). Ross lives in Colmonell and can be contacted on:

Tel: 01465 881 353

Mob: 07880 982 539

Email rossmccreadie@hotmail.co.uk.

Home Nations Sea Fishing Competition

Conor Robertson and Robert McIlwraith from Ballantrae recently went down to Folkstone to represent Scotland in the Home Nations Sea Fishing Competition. Before they went the boys organised 2 hampers to help raise funds and managed to raise £240.

Winner of the 1st prize was Eileen Dunlop and 2nd Prize was Tricia McIlwraith. They would like to thank everyone who supported them.

Scotland did very well in the competition with the Seniors taking gold. Robert who was representing the Youth won Silver and Conor who was representing the Juniors won Bronze. They had a great 5 days and got the opportunity to meet some of the top fishermen in the country. It was a great experience for them and they hope to be selected again next year. (See pic's on centre pages)

Diamond Jubilee Celebrations In Ballantrae

It all started with an email to the Ballantrae Community Council offering money from South Ayrshire Council to celebrate the Jubilee by buying a gas beacon..... however, they were sold outso the money was put to good use with a Bar-B-Q and ended with a spectacular beacon on the foreshore, by the bar.....

Monday 4 June was the day on which Ballantrae decided to mark the Queen's Diamond Jubilee and they did it in style! A Bar-B-Q and refreshments at BRICC attracted over 200 villagers and visitors and to mark the occasion with fiddle and accordion music provided by Robbie and Colin McNally, Alan Paterson and John Burnett. The weather was kind and, as the sun began to set, Conor Robertson the piper and the Scouts, carrying the flag, led everyone down to Foreland where a huge beacon had been built from driftwood over the previous days. At 10.15pm precisely, Robert Dalrymple lit the beacon - which was absolutely spectacular against the backdrop of Ailsa Craig and a beautiful sunset. The beacon burned well for hours and could be seen for miles.

The Diamond Jubilee celebrations involved a considerable amount of work and many villagers commented favourably on the efforts made and the tremendous community spirit which was in evidence. Ballantrae is indebted to everyone who made the event a success and one villager - Elma Kirkwood - decided to express her thanks on behalf of the village - in the form of a poem which she has allowed us to reproduce here.

To those concerned with Ballantrae
Here's a tribute for a really great day
The effort you made, the hard work done
So we in our village could have such fun.

The barbeque chefs did ever so well
And cooked over fires hotter than hell
Bartenders poured booze with goodwill
All this with no ringing of a Till.

The Band - well what can I say
It was a joy to hear them play
The piper too, with bag and chanter
A credit to Burns and Tam O'Shanter.

I watched the few who carried the wood
And built the Beacon - High it stood
When lit it surely was worthwhile
To see your great almighty pile
Go up in flames and light the Bay
Well done all, for Ballantrae.

I think I speak for all the community
A fitting close and all done in Unity
Thanks to you all for such a great scene
In honour of Elizabeth 60 years as our Queen.

Ballantrae Gala Week

On Friday 28th June the Gala Week started with The John Boyd Memorial Fishing Competition. This was once again well supported and the winner for the seniors was John Higgins from Stranraer, runner up Claire Erskine. Junior winner was Conor Robertson and runner up Max Fraser.

Tuesday 3rd July - Friday 6th was the Football Tournament sponsored by McCulloch Rail. The final which took place on the Friday was won by McCulloch Rail, runners up were David MacIntyre's team.

Thursday 5th July was Car Treasure Hunt starting at Kings Arms Hotel. This is always very popular and ended up in Pinwherry this year. Thanks to Brian Stirling for once again making this so much fun and getting the brains working.

By popular demand, the Parade of Floats and Fancy Dress came back this year. Ballantrae showed a tremendous support for this and there were 10 floats, as well as various people on foot in fancy dress. The overall winner was the Pirates Ship. All the floats were great and a lot of effort was made by everyone. The Gala Party led the procession in a horse and cart.

Saturday 7th was Gala Day. We were very lucky with the weather and it remained dry and mostly sunny. Again there were many attractions including a display by Ross McCreadie, creating works of art with his chainsaw, also the Coastguard did a great display. Other attractions included face painting, homebaking stall, tea tent with homebaking, beer tent, car boot, police mobile unit, bungee trampolining, slide, bouncy castle, football enclosure, youth bus, sports and trophy tug o war, plus much more. The Stinchar Valley Pipers played various tunes throughout the day and proved very popular. A great day was had by all. In the evening the Annual Barn Dance took place at Kings Arms Farm. This was a great success and The Association would like to thank Fiona and Andrew MacLean, Robert Dalrymple and the Colmonell Show for supporting this.

Sunday was the Louise Knox Memorial Bowler/Non Bowler Competition. Another great family day attended by many. The eventual winners were Peter Dodds and Danny McCulloch. Gala week was rounded off with a Church Service, taken by Mrs Margaret Maule and we are grateful for all her efforts.

Ballantrae Community Association would like to thank everyone who turned out to support our Gala Week. From the people who helped on stalls, baked and donated to everyone who just came to enjoy the many events, we are very grateful to you all. Special thanks must go to Andy McAlpine, Karen Stewart and Jim Fleming of the Girvan camera Club who came to all the events and took hundreds of photos. (See pic's on centre pages) Owl Magic visited the Ballantrae Gala Day with a selection of their beautiful owls. To see more photos of their owls - visit their website at <http://owl-magic.com> (See pic's on centre pages)

Pinwherry Silent Auction & Disco

Pinwherry Community Association will be holding a Silent Auction on Friday 16th November at 7pm followed by a Disco. Tickets for this event will be on sale at a cost of £2.00 and are available from Morag Campbell on 01465 841 641 or from any Pinwherry Community Association committee member.

Any donations of goods will be greatly appreciated, please contact Morag by 30th September.

Girvan & South Pinwherry Bridge CCTV

Residents in Pinwherry can help reduce costs for South Ayrshire Council and council tax payers by reporting any damage to Pinwherry bridge.

If damage is reported as soon as it happens, South Ayrshire Council can retrieve the CCTV footage and claim from the insurance of the driver who has done the damage.

Contact details for the Council's Bridges Section are as follows:-

Douglas Hemmings: Team Leader:
Bridges & Lighting
Email: Douglas.hemmings@
south-ayrshire.gov.uk
Tel: 01292 616 377

Scott Greig Supervisory Engineer:
Bridges
Email: Scott.greig@south-
ayrshire.gov.uk
Tel: 01292 616 659

South Ayrshire Council Contact Centre

Don't wait for others to report issues, it may not be done! E.g. road damage, dead animals on the road, water leaks - pick up the phone. Telephone the Customer Services Team on 0300 123 0900. Send a Text message to 0797 1120 498.

The River Stinchar District Salmon Fishery Board

The River Stinchar District Salmon Fishery Board manages the protection, enhancement and conservation of the Atlantic salmon and sea trout stocks in the River Stinchar. It also has a duty to ensure the general protection and enhancement of the fishery.

July 2012

By Gordon Hyslop - August 2012

Over the last 2 weeks of July there hasn't been many big lifts in the water levels, just a few small freshets with the only decent rise on Wednesday 25th July when it reached 3.6 on the bridge at Colmonell.

At Ballantrae Bridge, Kenneth Hyslop and Robert Dalrymple had beauties of 15lb and 14lbs and an 8lb for Robert McIlwraith, His brother David landed one around 11lb.

Balnowlart has done better with fish for Marshall Veitch 18lb, Hugh McLatchie 4lb, Kenny Gibson 2 @ 6lb each, Willie Blane had a 12lb fish as did his nephew Steven Holiday and Stuart Lang one of 6lb. Kirkholm has had a few with the best being a 13lb for Willie Marshall jnr.

Knockdolian has picked away - Tony Coughlan and Brian Wilson had 3 @ 6lb, 7lb & 12lb from Twins and Bankweil. Gordon Hyslop had 10lb from Scaur & 11lb from House Run, Jimmy Hyslop 9lb from Scaur, Archie Mitchell 7lb and Mark Straver 6lb both from Dalni.

Dalreoch had 2 on Tuesday 24th July. A 14lb fish for Curtis Munrowd from the Craig and former keepers' son, 13 year old Harvey Mottram had a 13lb fish from the Battery.

Stewart Swindon had an 8lb fish from Almont's Hut Pool on an Ally's Shrimp. Jock Cree had a good day on Hallowchapel landing 4 including one estimated around 20lb. Jock kept a fish of 7lb and returned the others.

Up on the Wee Stinchar Roger Pirrie has had 3 at 12lb, 8lb & 6lb while fishing his first season as a member of Laggansarroch syndicate.

At Minuntion young Brian Scobie caught his first salmon on the fly 7lb & Eddie Smith had one of 8lb.

Barefoot walk

Barefoot walks are good for you!

Regular barefoot walks are thought to stimulate the body's cardiovascular system (the heart, blood vessels and blood) as well as helping to boost the immune system (your body's protection against bacteria and disease).

Plus they're great fun!



Make your own barefoot walk

Unfortunately, litter and dog poo mean your street, local park or wood aren't the best places to try out a barefoot walk. So try making your own instead:



Collect some empty cardboard boxes, then fix them together to create a giant 'tray' big enough to walk in. Or place the boxes close together like stepping stones instead.



Collect as many different natural textures as you can (get some ideas from the barefoot walk hunt!). Try to avoid sharp, prickly items – they hurt and can cut your feet.



Fill your giant tray, or stepping stone boxes, with your finds – mix them up, put something different in each box...make it unique.



Guide a blindfolded friend along your barefoot walk – can they guess all of the different textures?



Email your ideas, pictures and videos to:

naturedetectives@woodlandtrust.org.uk

Please only collect items from the woodland floor – plants and animals hold onto what they still need :O)



Start your own adventure at naturedetectives.org.uk

Fun stuff for kids, families and schools by the Woodland Trust, a charity registered in England & Wales (294344) and Scotland (SC038861) at Kempton Way, Grantham, NG31 6LL.
© 2012 You may print and copy this sheet, in its entirety, for non-commercial purposes. Do not put this pdf on other websites - please link to our download page. Questions? 0800 626 9650

Barefoot walk

Take off your shoes and socks and free your toes! How many of these can you feel on a barefoot walk?



cool water



silky petals



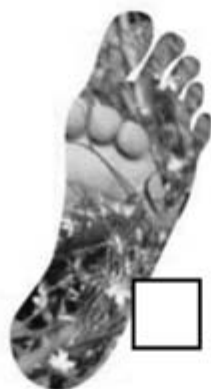
grainy sand



splashes of rain



rough bark



tickly grass



smooth pebbles



soft moss



springy grass



squelchy mud



crumbly soil



the warm sun



Start your own adventure at naturedetectives.org.uk

Fun stuff for kids, families and schools by the Woodland Trust, a charity registered in England & Wales (294344) and Scotland (SC038855) at Kempton Way, Grantham, NG31 6LL.
© 2012 You may print and copy this sheet, in its entirety, for non-commercial purposes. Do not put this pdf on other websites - please link to our download page. Questions? 0800 326 9630

Olympic Flame Arrives in Ballantrae



Ballantrae Diamond Jubilee



Ballantrae Gala



Something for
Everyone



Ballantrae Church Fair

Best of
British





Barr Village Gala Day



Last year's Barr Gala Queen, Sandie MacMillan, crowns this year's Queen, Amber McClinton, watched by her King for the Year, Colin Kemp



Owl Magic



Ladies of the Stinchar Valley Quilters stage their Garden Party at the Gala Day procession



Barr School Open Garden



New pupils at the school door



ABOVE

Two dedicated hardworking school boys from Colmonell have taken time out from their summer holidays to do a 40 hour lifeguard course which they completed and passed in just 4 days.

Left: Michael Patterson
Right: Declan Taylor



LEFT

Representing Scotland in the Home Nations Sea Fishing Competition, Robert who was representing the Youth won Silver and Conor who was representing the Juniors won Bronze.

Left: Conor Robertson
Right: Robert McIlwraith

Hand Painted Furniture by Porter & Macdonald

see page 9



Ross McCreadie

see page 10



Did You Know?

Some old local stories plundered from the British Library Archives for your entertainment & education:

1806 The 9th troop of the 1st. Royal Dragoons on route from Hamilton to Ireland attempted to cross the severely flooded river Stinchar at Ballantrae. 5 horses with their riders were washed away in the current and only with the help of the local people were they saved (4 by the people wading into the river and the 5th by a boat crewed by 4 Ballantrae lads further downstream)

1815 One Allan Archibald, carrier of Girvan was on his way from Stranraer to Girvan with a horse and cart loaded with whisky and herring. At Glenapp bridge due to the water being exceptionally high he was unable to see the edge of the road and both horse and cart tumbled into the river and were washed more than 100yards downstream .The horse was drowned but Mr Archibald was rescued by a traveller passing by . Only part of the whisky and herring was recovered. As this was the man's only way of supporting his wife and five small children a fund was opened in Girvan for subscriptions for their relief

1819 Mr Andrew McCredie tenant in Craig of Glenapp was returning from Colmonell Fair, fell over the Scar Precipice near Colmonell Manse and was found dead next morning by some anglers in the Stinchar

1821 The sloop 'Aim of Kincardine' under master W Mason sailing from Malaga to the Clyde was driven on shore at Ballantrae. The cargo of wine and fruit was discharged under the superintendence of the officers from Stranraer. As Malaga was infected with fever, precautions were taken to prevent the crew communicating with the people on shore. Men from Ballantrae who had communication with the crew when the ship first beached were allowed to help with the unloading of the cargo. The ship was later refloated and sailed back to Malaga with her crew. The Ballantrae men were kept from having any communication with their families for some time.

1846 Lord Orkney moved the last part of his collection of birds and animals to Glenapp House to join up with the rest of his collection which came from Jofrey Court near Windsor. This collection included a fine East Indian stag, a male and female emu and 3 young ones, 6 Mexican deer, 6 Berkshire pigs, (2 were gifted by his Lordship to Mr Whyte at Garphar) and 45 brace of pheasants. A number of eggs were gathered from his Lordship's Capercaillies at Glenapp.

1847 The Stranraer to Ballantrae road was completely blocked by the biggest snowfall recorded for many years. The whole road from Auchairne road end to the head of Glenapp was impassable with snow in places being 8-10 feet .A hearse and funeral party were blocked not far from Auchencrosh .The funeral party finding further progress impossible left the hearse in the snow until the road was cleared. 30 men were sent by the road surveyor Mr McCall to clear the road which they managed to do in a day. One of the drivers of the Irish Mail Coach got stuck in a drift near Kilantringan Toll and was forced to stay at the Toll House all night

1848 Mr Andrew Miller the Post between Ballantrae and Daljarrock is recorded as having walked 19 miles per day (Sunday excepted) for 14 years calculated at 83,258 miles

1855 A William Crawford, driver of the Portpatrick Mail Gig was fatally injured on his way from Ballantrae to Daljarrock when the horse was startled and bolted causing the gig to overturn. When the gig did not arrive on time the driver of the Newton Stewart Gig set off to search for him and found the unfortunate man. Sadly the Newton Stewart driver was the brother of William Crawford.

1860 A shepherd in Ballantrae Parish who lay down for a rest fell asleep and awoke to find an adder wrapping itself around his throat. He managed to throw it off without being bitten.

1867 A reward of £400 was granted by the RNLI to the crew of the Ballantrae Lifeboat for the rescue of 4 men of the fishing boat JWR which was overtaken by a sudden gale and was in a disabled state.

1874 One James Carleton residing in or near premises called Garphar Cottage Ballantrae was found in possession of 17 false or counterfeit coins resembling shilling and sixpence pieces. He was sentenced to 7 years penal servitude, this being his fourth offence of this nature.

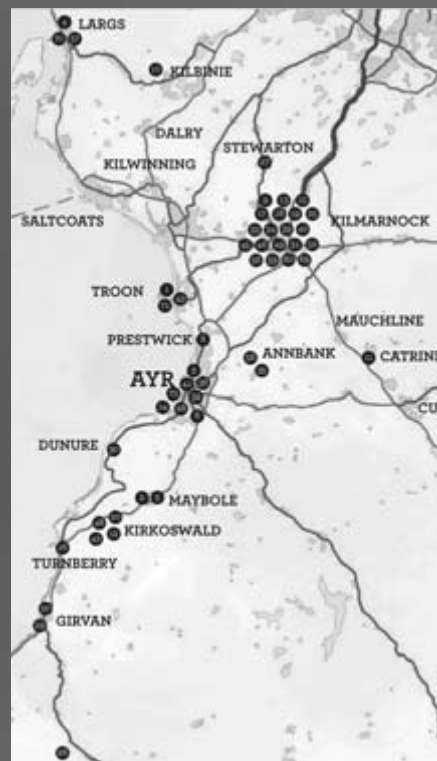
If you enjoyed reading these articles and would like to read similar stories published please let us know, either through the magazine editor or at kaycee.history@gmail.com. Watch out in the local press and on noticeboards for an event in Ballantrae in November with a historical theme.

taste Ayrshire Food Festival

1st–9th September 2012

Over 60 events across the length and breadth of Ayrshire celebrating our stunning local food. Come along and join the feast!

For full listing go to www.tasteayrshire.co.uk or look out for our food festival brochures.



www.tasteayrshire.co.uk



[facebook.com/tasteayrshire](https://www.facebook.com/tasteayrshire)



[@tasteayrshire](https://twitter.com/tasteayrshire) / [#tasteaff](https://twitter.com/tasteaff)



Pinwherry & Pinmore: Old News

My Village by Sally Gillespie: 3rd June 1988

Looking back to the days when fourteen milk carts attended the station every morning Pinmore and Pinwherry come into focus this week and I spoke to an ex-postman, an ex-blacksmith and an ex-farmer to get help with the history of their two communities.

Mr Bobby Campbell of 16 Barrhill Road in Pinwherry explained Pinwherry.

Pinwherry has had three halls altogether. The first one was converted into houses which are now referred to as the Hall Cottages. They used to be a hall and caretaker's house. Mr Campbell's parents lived there. The second hall in Pinwherry came about in around 1920 (Mr Campbell's father was present at the opening). "But it didn't last too long" said Mr Campbell. The hall we are referring to here is the long white building next to Pinwherry shop and post office. It became a farmers creamery after that. A group of local farmers clubbed together and converted the building to make cheese. The Milk Marketing Board took it over and about eight people were employed there.

Cheese was being made in that building around 1935 – "but that didn't keep going very long either" said Mr Campbell. Bear with me – this building has been versatile. The County took it over next and it was a roads depot. Now it is owned by Mr Allan Rodger and is part of the post office. And herein lies another tale.

But first, in order not to leave Pinwherry hall-less, Mr Campbell told me how the present hall/Community Centre came about. Simply it was by public subscription and volunteers. Pinwherry Community came up with the money and volunteers went to the site at night and dug the foundations and prepared the site for the builders. And the gravel used to make the concrete for the building came from the River Stinchar.

Pinwherry Post Office has flitted around the village like a neurotic socialite. It was originally at Daljarrock (in the space where the two roads meet there). Then it moved to the back of what is known as Drumspillan Cottage. It popped over the road to the house next to the phone box in Pinwherry. Then Mr Willie Love provided it with a more stable home in his garage and grocers shop complex.

Mr Love knocked down the garage and built a bigger shed and a bungalow in 1954. And he knocked down the shop and built a new post office and shop (it was just to the right as you go into the garage). Then Mr Rodger took over the post office.

Its relatively stable home was knocked down and it moved again to where it is now, in the middle of the village. As an aside, Miss McBlain ran the post office when it was at Drumspillan Cottage. When she became Mrs Walker, the post office moved with her to set up home in its new building next to the phone box.



This picture was taken in 1906. The bridge (Pinmore Bridge) still stands. The cottage (in the middle) has been added to and the laird, Col. Thomas Coltman lives there. Pinmore Church to the right of the picture is still there too. It is a small and pretty Episcopalian Church which smells musty inside. It was last used in October 1987 according to the record book inside. Standing just outside the church is a cross. It was erected by Georgina Hamilton, wife of Hugh Hamilton who built the church



This big smiddy is now a ruin. You can see the ruins at the A714 Tormitchell junction. It is pictured here in happier times around 1935. Harry Brown is to the left of the picture. He took over from his father David Brown (known as 'Auld Logie' who is standing to the right of Harry. That smiddy closed around 1957.



This cottage is no longer in existence. It was positioned on the A714, as you go through Pinwherry from Girvan and just on the sharp corner before you cross the bridge was where this cottage sat.

This is part of an article and photographs appeared in the Carrick Gazette, Friday, 3rd June, 1988

Hadyard Hill Community Benefit Fund

No-one could accuse us of being idle during 2012. Since February, the following organisations have applied for and received funding amounting to £96,680.99 from the main fund:

Organisation	Project	Amount
Carrick Community Councils' Forum	Carrick Tourism Development Project	£7,350
Barr Village Online	Restructure of Community Website	£3,270
South Carrick Club Diamonds	SCCD – Fun, fitness and Friendship	£3,000
Penwhapple Fishing Club	New Jetty	£2,500
Brunston Castle Golf Club	Rescue Package	£6,365
Barr Stores Steering Group	Barr Community Shop (introductory work)	£3,500
Carrick Activity Centre	Staffing Costs	£5,000
Dailly Community Activity Centre	Solar PV Project	£2,179
Barr Village Online	Highland Show Visit & Garden Open Day Stall	£1,447
Stinchar Valley Magazine	Production of 4 issues per annum	£1,184
Barr Community Association	Bouncy Castle	£1,153.51
Barr Stores Steering Group	Barr Community Shop	£34,000
Barr Youth Club	Summer Outing	£686.50
Pinwherry & Pinmore Community Council	Maintenance of lay-by seating areas	£2,959.49
Pinwherry & Pinmore Community Dev. Assoc.	The 2 Pins Centre (introductory work)	£18,000
Barr Community Council	More Public Seats	£4,086.49

In addition, there are several other applications currently being processed. As Village Development Worker I am continuing to work closely with a number of local community groups on developing short, medium and long term projects, among them Dailly Football Club, Dailly Bowling Club, Brunston Golf Club, Dailly Homing Society, Barr Stores Steering Group Ltd., Barr Community Council. I also look forward to being involved with the exciting new 2 Pins Centre in Pinwherry/Pinmore.

Most of the applications we receive require a longer or shorter period of consultation with the groups concerned and a technical assessment of the final application form. Because some of the issues thrown up by these processes can be quite technical and take some time to resolve, we ask that any applications to the fund be with us one month before the date of the actual funding round. The remaining funding round dates for this year are September 19th and November 15th.

If your group has an idea – large or small, short, medium or long term which it would like to pursue and you could use some advice or guidance on how to develop it, please get in touch with me at catriona.hadyardhill@hotmail.co.uk or call me on Tel: 01465 710 628 or Mobile: 07786 272 938.



The Independent Panel on Forestry published its final report. The headlines are:

- We're pleased to see that the report includes a challenging target around creating new woodland, and that there's potential to secure the restoration and better protection of ancient woodland.
- We fully support the continued role of the public forest estate so are pleased that the Panel also champions this.
- Even better, the report does not advocate mass sell-off of the estate, something you opposed with us last year along with so many others.

The Government must make decisions now and take action for our forests. Here's the state of play for woods and trees in England...

44% of Europe is covered with woodland in England it's only 9.9%

1/4 is irreplaceable ancient woodland.

40% of ancient woodland is occupied by non-native trees.

648 ancient woods under threat, 118 damaged or lost.



The winter season of meetings starts on the 3rd Wednesday in September: Pinwherry hall 7.30 pm. For more information contact us:

Committee: stinchar_valley_gardening_club@hotmail.co.uk

Margaret Bean Secretary
Tel: 01465 841 635
Email: margaret.beani@btinternet.com

Pat Spence Chairperson
Tel: 01465 821 377
Email: patspence@piperpublications.co.uk

John McAlley Vice Chairperson
Tel: 01465 841 198
Email: j.mcalley@btinternet.com

Jill McAlley Treasurer
Tel: 01465 841 198
Email: j.mcalley@btinternet.com

Roger Pirrie Member
Tel: 01465 841 644
Email: rdpirrie@gmail.com

If you are thinking about quitting smoking? Fresh Air-shire can help



Come along to our new smoking cessation group in Ballantrae Medical Practice

Every Wednesday from 3-4 pm (Starts 19 September 2012 and will run for 12 weeks)

Please contact us on freephone 0800 783 9132 or speak to your GP

Please note groups may be subject to change

Find us on Facebook at www.facebook.com/nhsaaa

Visit our website: www.nhsaaa.net



All our publications are available in other formats



0571 001 133

HARBOURHEAD RESTAURANT

57a Knockcushan Street, Girvan 01465 714069

As most of you will know, I like my food!! I will also admit to being a fan of Roy's cooking long before now, but I always had my reservations about the ambience of the Harbourhead Restaurant.

I am now pleased to say that the whole restaurant has had a make over! Gone is the dingy ceiling and slightly naïf pictures for sale and we welcome in beautiful stone walls with mood lighting and beautifully sign written windows with the full vista of the harbour available during the days. In the evenings the seductive lighting and closed blinds make for a more intimate feel to the whole restaurant. Altogether with the new bar and super fancy coffee machine the whole place looks so much more modern and inviting.

Now to the food! With the new décor comes a new lunchtime menu, a much lighter bite orientated affair. You can now choose from such scrumptious goodies as an open sandwich with pastrami, rocket and red onion with a Russian dressing or how about a Panini with roast Scottish beef with caramelised red onion, brie, cracked pepper and a hint of horseradish sauce? There is always homemade soup on the menu and the most fabulous selection of home baking.



My Ploughman's

On the day I was there the banana and walnut loaf was a definite hit with my dining companion!

There is also the option of a more hearty meal at lunchtime and I opted for the Ploughman's Lunch and can honestly say that the home baked ham is to die for and the pork pie wasn't far behind!

Now I must comment on the pride and joy of the new refit - the coffee machine! This marvellous piece of kit looks as if it has arrived from the Planet Zog and has enough bells and whistles to require a degree to work it. All I know is that the coffee that it produces is fantastic.

Each individual cup is made from scratch with the machine grinding the beans and frothing the milk to absolute perfection, and that's from a confirmed tea drinker!

All I will say is that you have to try it to believe it.

When Louise called me to see if I had enjoyed my meal and whether I had liked the refit, I could hand on heart say that they have really transformed the place without losing that great chef! I am now looking forward to taking my hubby along one night so that we can enjoy that relaxed and cosy atmosphere together with the great food.

If you would like to try the newly refurbished Harbourhead Restaurant, then I can guarantee that a warm welcome awaits you. Call 01465 714069 and book your table today. Whether it is for that quick lunch or long lingering dinner you are guaranteed a great meal.



All Change



Ready to eat



Nikki working the famous coffee machine

*We are open 7 days
Lunch from
12noon-2.30pm
Dinner from 5pm*

*Special Lunches and
Dinners - book early to
avoid disappointment.*

*New Lunch Menu
including sandwiches,
paninis, home baking
and speciality coffees*

*In a hurry? Why not
pre-order your lunch to be
ready for you coming in*

*Buffet catering
service available*

*For all reservations
PLEASE CALL
01465 714069*



The famous banana loaf

Luxury within your reach and on your doorstep

Woodland Bay HOTEL



"We will for the rest of our lives remember the Forbes family, the fantastic hospitality, great accommodation, delicious meals, friendship and of course red wine!"

Beulah's, our licensed bar/restaurant, is open daily and offers a delicious range of freshly prepared dishes. The stylish lounge bar offers a variety of drinks including a selection of malt whiskies, champagne, draught beer, wines, spirits and liqueurs.



Woodland Farm, Girvan, Ayrshire, KA26 OHP
call:- 01465 710700 email:- info@woodlandfarm.co.uk
visit:- www.woodlandbayhotel.co.uk



Glenalty COUNTRY HOUSE HIGH QUALITY COUNTRY FAYRE

We are just outside of Barrhill on the Krome Road,
growing and producing natural healthy food for ourselves and for sale.

☆☆☆☆

Free Range Eggs (Chicken and ducks)

Free Range Home-reared pork (bacon, sausages and premium cuts)

Home baking made to order (breads, rolls, cakes and more),

Special jams and preserves

Fresh home grown, chemical free, seasonal fruit and vegetables

Cooking and Catering for small events.

Local Delivery

☆☆☆☆

We believe that by buying from local producers you get fresher
and cheaper products and support your community. We are
interested in starting a project helping to promote that rich
variety of products, made by us and others in the area, and
connect local residents with the food and drink the area
produces.

Come and see us or call for orders

Phone: 01465 821354

Mobile: 075 02195697

E-mail: nlcounet@hotmail.com

ST JOHN'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH GIRVAN



Serving the Anglican and Episcopalian community
(and anyone else interested!)

in Pinwherry, Pinmore, Ballantrae, Barrhill
Colmonell, Lendalfoot
(we have members in all these villages)

Services are held in
Girvan Methodist Church, Dalrymple Street
Sundays 9.30am Holy Communion
(First Sunday of each month 10.30am
Joint service with Methodists)

Tuesday Fellowship
11.00am informal worship
11.30 am coffee
12.45pm - 1.30pm Bible study

Rector: Rev Dr Ian Meredith
Tel: 01292 261145

Pastoral Assistant:
Mrs Anne Morris, Tel: 01292 267859

All Welcome

SOUTH CARRICK CLUB DIAMONDS



Allowing the local community access
to "fun, fitness & friendship" through
exercise classes. This could be chair,
circuit or aerobics.

Winter Class Schedule

Every Tuesday in the following communities:

Dailly Community Hall	10.00 - 11.00am
South Parish Church Hall	11.30 - 12.30pm
South Parish SMALL Hall	11.30 - 12.30pm
Boyle Court (sheltered housing)	12.45 - 1.15pm
Kirk Care (residential)	1.30 - 2.00pm
Colmonell Community Hall	2.30 - 3.30pm
Barrhill Memorial Hall	7.00 - 8.00pm

Pinwherry S.W.R.I. Update



The 'Rural' programme has been drawn up for another winter's activities and looks as if it will be interesting and informative and fun for all!

We would love to welcome all the women of the district to join with us in the Pinwherry village hall on the second Monday of each month from September to May. If you have been wondering if you should give it a go, then come and find out. You will get a warm welcome from a friendly group of women, perhaps learn some new practical skills, and hear from speakers with interesting stories to tell.

The programme up to Christmas includes a baking demonstration, a talk on patchwork, an evening with Dr Tom Smith, and a Christmas dinner!

We start on September 10th at 7.30pm with Anne Walker to take us through the intricacies of successful baking. This is followed on the 14th Sept with a Progressive Whist.

Please take this as an invitation to join us – We look forward to seeing you.

If anyone is interested in coming along, please call me, Pat Guthrie on 841236 for further details.

Hope to see you, soon.

Ballantrae W.R.V.S.



APPEAL FOR MEMBERS

If you have been a W.R.V.S. member formerly or would like to become a new member, the Ballantrae Branch of W.R.V.S. would be very glad of your help.

The main events in which we are involved are the Senior Citizens' Christmas Party and the annual Earl Haig Poppy Collection. For further information please contact:

Betty Nelson : 831 285 | Pat Allsop : 831 391 | Jean Dunlop : 831 351

It's In The Wind

For all you need to know about wind power and all the wind farms and turbines proposed for south west Scotland please keep an eye on:

its-in-the-wind.blogspot.com. Are you aware of how many individual turbines are proposed in between all the major wind farms? For further information contact Communities Against Turbines Scotland (CATS) at **www.communitiesagainstturbinescotland.com**

The Ballantrae Patchwork Group



The Ballantrae Patchwork Group meet on Wednesday afternoon in the Ballantrae Community Centre from 1.30 – 4.00pm.

We would welcome any new members, you do not need to have done Patchwork before – we have some good teachers and have a machine and all the basic equipment for you to use. Our group is now over twenty five years old and we presently have members from Ayr, Maybole, Barr, Girvan, Ballantrae and of course Pinwherry and Pinmore.

Do come along and meet us or just pop in some Wednesday and have a look at what we do. If you want a contact first do speak to:

Penny Savage, Asselview, Pinmore.

Tel: 01465 841 686 or Mob: 07748 973 940



Adventure Centre for Education

T. 07920 406 982 | E. adventurecentreforeducation@hotmail.co.uk | www.adventurecentreforeducation.com

We are an Ayrshire based charity formed in 2005 as a small local project. We provide outdoor activity days and training courses to suit individuals and groups of all levels of ability and aspiration, so if you have a passion for outdoor adventures we will be privileged to guide you on your journey.

The Stinchar Valley Magazine



Funded by: Hadyard Hill Community Benefit Fund Ltd AND Carrick Futures Community Benefit Fund
Compiled & Printed by: printing.com Ayr | 01292 619 009 | 10a New Road | Ayr | KA8 8EX | www.ayrprinting.com

Adam Ingram MSP



Scotland's First New Biosphere

Firstly I would like to extend my congratulations to all of those involved in securing the new Biosphere status for Galloway and Southern Ayrshire. I had the pleasure of attending Culzean Castle to join local representatives and the Cabinet Secretary for Rural Affairs Richard Lochhead MSP in celebrating our newly achieved designation. We are officially now part of the first 'new' UNESCO Biosphere in Scotland. The new form of Biosphere has been broadened to become one aimed at sustainable regional development rather than being concerned exclusively with nature conservation.

I am encouraged by the vision and ambition for the Biosphere which is aiming for 'A World Class Place for People and Nature'. This will mean supporting the economy, enhancing the quality of life and regenerating communities, responding to climate change, enriching the environment and developing awareness, understanding and knowledge.

This status and the associated charter which supporting organisations will sign up to should ensure a cohesive approach to enriching our social, economic and environmental goals. With excellent representation within the Biosphere Partnership in the form of local groups such as Carrick Community Council Forum I am certain we will all benefit from the positive impact it will create.

None more so than within our tourist industry. Contrary to opinion published in the local press during the summer months which equated a downturn in tourist numbers in the area with wind farm developments, I would refer back to the research commissioned by VisitScotland earlier this year where the findings showed the renewable industry was and still is thriving in tandem with the tourist sector. I believe I dedicated my last article for the magazine on that very subject. Whilst I do accept a marginal dip in the number of overseas tourists in 2010/11 by just over 3%, we have seen a 4% increase in the number of visitors from within the UK and they have increased their spending whilst here by 30%. Nevertheless, we should also be mindful of the fact that the global economy is still feeling the effects of the financial crisis and people all over the world are still very cautious with their spending which

would seem a reasonable and sensible explanation for any drop in numbers.

However, we now have UNESCO Biosphere status and with it the internationally recognised marketing brand for superb natural environments. That should lead to a marked increase in the numbers of tourists visiting the area, boosting the local economy.

With this shared vision of the future it is essential that the Partnership works together supporting those ambitions and ensuring they are both sustainable and add value to the local communities and environment. We will all be hoping for great things and I have every faith in those involved in the Partnership to make the most of this golden opportunity.

Adam Ingram

HOWARD GALLEY

New TV? Call me to install and setup from £25

Freeview, Satellite or Sky problems my speciality

 **Repairs to:** Washers, Driers, Cookers, Vacuum Cleaners, etc.

 **All major manufacturers and models dealt with.**

Tel: 01465 831537

Mobile: 0789 44 33 084

www.balkissocklodge.co.uk

Appliance & Satellite Engineer

Repairs to washers, vacuum cleaners etc.

Freeview & Freesat installations & Repairs

Portable Appliance Testing

Balkissock Lodge

If you're looking for a peaceful and relaxing base for your holiday in South West Scotland, Balkissock Lodge will provide you with a comfortable break with a touch of luxury. **www.balkissocklodge.co.uk**



How To Send In Your Magazine Articles And Pictures

Email the Editor John McAlley at: Stinchar-valley-magazine@hotmail.co.uk or to your local representative.

- Send in text as a WORD or OPEN OFFICE Document.
- Photographs should be full size images straight from the camera and scanned images should be high resolution 300dpi wherever possible and sent as **separate attachments** from your text please.
- Tell us any special instructions about the layout/content of your article. What are the images about that you want included? Include any Website names and web links that are relevant.
- If you have a logo or badge – please send a high resolution image of this.
- If you do not have access to a computer or Email you can post or drop off material to our Editor John McAlley at: Ligliartrie Farm Pinwherry KA26 0SL.
- We will return any photographs to you.
- People in the communities of the Stinchar Valley and beyond are interested in you, your club, your business and your local area: The Stinchar Valley Magazine needs you!!

* Please note – The Editorial Team will consider all submissions and make the final selection of material for each issue.

* Small grammatical errors in articles will be corrected. Larger issues will be discussed with the author prior to publication if possible.



Invigor8 Works!

A large number of people aged 65 and over experience falls. This isn't always a consequence of ageing and can be prevented. Sustained exercise to improve walking, strength and balance will reduce your risk of falls.

What is Invigor8?

Invigor8 is a programme of exercise classes for the over 65s. It supports participants at risk of falls to exercise at a level suitable to their ability. The classes will be led by highly trained and experienced instructors.

Invigor8 is suitable for people:

- Feeling fearful of falls
- Feeling unstable on their feet
- Who have had a previous fall
- With osteoporosis.

Classes are designed to help build & maintain 8 core components:

- | | | |
|---------------|-----------------------------------------------|--------------|
| • Balance | • Strength | • Tai Chi |
| • Flexibility | • Endurance | • Floor work |
| • Confidence | • How to get down on to the floor and back up | |

How do I become involved in the classes?

You can be referred to Invigor8 through a voucher scheme by a health or social care professional e.g. doctor, practice nurse, physiotherapist, home care provider. Call the contact telephone number on the voucher and you will be invited to come along for an assessment prior to joining a class.

Classes throughout South Ayrshire:

Ayr	Girvan	Maybole
Prestwick	Troon	

For more information contact:

South Ayrshire Council:

Tel: 01292 294 716 or 01292 294 704

Email: Janey.Anderson@south-ayrshire.gov.uk

John McDowall



Great news that UNESCO (United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation) has approved biosphere status for the Galloway and Southern Ayrshire biosphere. There are currently 580 biosphere reserves in 114 countries across the world and this is the first biosphere in Scotland and one of only three in the United Kingdom, these being one in Devon and one in Wales. Biospheres are areas which promote conservation and sustainable development on a regional scale. They protect the biological and cultural diversity of a region and promote sustainable economic development. There are three management zones within the biosphere, Core Areas, Buffer Zones and Transition Areas and Girvan and South Carrick sits within the Transition Area. This international recognition shines a global spotlight on South Carrick and can only help in attracting investment and sustainable jobs into the area.

New wheelie bin collection routes will be introduced from 27th August this year and this may mean some changes to your bin collection day. All households should have received an individual calendar which details which bin should be put out on what day. Of South Ayrshire's 54,000 households around one third will see a change to their current collection day, mainly to the brown bin. This is being done to make the bin collection service more efficient whilst at same time reducing carbon emissions by reducing the number of vehicles and reorganising collection routes down from around 94 to 55 and using fewer vehicles to uplift the same amount of refuse. With public finances under increasing pressure it is vital that new ways of increasing efficiency and maximising every penny of the public pound spent are found, and this is but one way of helping to achieve that.

As of 1st September South Ayrshire Council are now responsible for enforcing parking regulations. Prior to 1st September this was the responsibility of the Police but the Council has taken these powers under what is called Decriminalised Parking Enforcement. This means that the Council will employ its own parking attendants who will be empowered to issue Fixed Penalty Notices (FPN) to motorists who park illegally. There will be a short period of a few weeks when warnings will be given rather than a FPN issued, but after this period offenders will be issued with Fixed Penalty Notices and these are set at £60 (which reduces to £30 if paid within 14 days) so be aware and don't park illegally on double yellow lines or other areas where parking is restricted or prohibited, as the Council will enforce parking regulations rather more vigorously than has been done in the past. This also applies to drivers who selfishly park in designated disabled spaces but are not entitled to do so, if they or their passenger do not have a disability parking permit. You have been warned.

Councillor John McDowall
Leader of the Labour Group
Depute Leader of the Council

Local & Interesting Web Sites

St Colmon Church	www.stcolmonparishchurch.org.uk
Ballantrae Church	www.ballantraeparishchurch.org.uk
Ballantrae Village	www.ballantrae.org.uk
The Ancient Tree Hunt	www.ancient-tree-hunt.org.uk/project/hunt
Pinwherry/Pinmore	http://www.pinwherryinmorevillages.net/
Galloway & Ayrshire Biosphere	http://www.sup.org.uk/biosphere/index.htm/
Red Nose Day	http://www.rednoseday.com/
The Southern Uplands Partnership	http://www.sup.org.uk/
Scottish National Heritage	http://www.snh.org.uk/
The Woodland Trust	http://www.woodlandtrust.org.uk/
Sign the Petition Now	http://www.38degrees.org.uk/save-our-forests
Forestry Commission	http://www.forestry.gov.uk/
Scottish Environmental Protection	http://www.sepa.org.uk/
Girvan Camera Club	http://girvancameraclub.org.uk/
Girvan Attractions	http://girvanattractions.synthasite.com/
Red Squirrels in South Scotland	http://www.redsquirrels.org.uk/
Ayrshire Red Squirrel Group	www.ayrshirered squirrels.org.uk/
ASDA Online shopping	http://groceries.asda.com/asda-estore/index.jsp/
The Commonwealth Orchard	http://www.commonwealthorchard.com/
The Flavours of Galloway	www.flavoursofgalloway.co.uk/
BBC Web Wise	http://www.bbc.co.uk/webwise/courses
Carrick Buildings Learning Centre,	cblc@south-ayrshire.gov.uk/
Going Wild	http://www.goingwild.net/
The Big Wildlife Garden	http://www.bwg.naturalengland.org.uk/
The Peinn Mor Pottery	http://www.peinnmor.co.uk/
M.J.A Photography	http://www.mjaphotography.co.uk/
Public services all in one place	www.direct.gov.uk/
For timetables, fares and bookings	www.citylinkonlinesales.co.uk/
Library Catalogue	https://library.south-ayrshire.gov.uk/
Library Services	http://www.south-ayrshire.gov.uk/library
South Ayrshire Libraries Blog	http://sayrshirelib.wordpress.com/

Please contact: John McAlley [Editor]

Liglartrie Farm Pinwherry KA26 0SL | Tel: 01465841198 | Email: stinchar-valley-magazine@hotmail.co.uk

Useful Contacts

Accident & Emergency	Ayr Hospital	01292 610555
Minor Injuries Unit	Girvan Community Hospital	01465 712571
NHS 24		08454 242424
Samaritans		0345 909090
Girvan Community	Policing Team	01465 710995
Citizens Advice	Stranraer 10am - 4pm Mon - Fri	01776 706355
SEPA Emergencies		0800 807060
Gas Emergencies		0800 111 999
Scottish Power	Power Cut/Emergencies	0845 2727 999
Emergency Services		999

For suspicious articles found on any beach contact the police on 999 and ask for the Coast Guard because it might have come from Beaufort's Dyke; Beaufort's Dyke is the sea trench between Northern Ireland and Scotland within the North Channel. The dyke is 50 km long, 3.5 km wide and 200-300 metres deep. Because of its depth and its proximity to the Cairnryan military port, it became the United Kingdom's largest offshore dump site for conventional and chemical munitions after the Second World War; in July 1945, 14,500 tons of 5-inch artillery rockets filled with phosgene were dumped in Beaufort's Dyke. Munitions have subsequently been washed up on beaches in the area. In particular, in 1995, incendiary devices were discovered on the Scottish and Northern Irish coasts. This coincided with the laying of the Scottish Northern Ireland Pipeline (SNIP), a 24 inch gas interconnector being constructed by British Gas.



Donald Hendrie Building, Auchincruive, Ayr KA6 5HW, Tel: 01292 525 142
Scottish Registered Charity No. 030426

We have secured funding for an Invasive Weeds Project commencing in April 2012. If you would like to know how this project will clear invasive weeds from our precious river banks and how you can help, please contact Ayrshire Rivers Trust, your Community Council or watch local notice boards.

Ayrshire Rivers Trust

We have secured funding for an Invasive Weeds Project commencing in April 2012. If you would like to know how this project will clear invasive weeds from our precious river banks and how you can help, please contact Ayrshire Rivers Trust, your Community Council or watch local notice boards.

Carrick Communities tackle invasive species

Local communities throughout the Carrick region are being urged to get involved in the battle against invasive non-native species (INNS) which are wreaking havoc on their local watercourses. The Ayrshire Rivers Trust, a conservation charity, has launched the Carrick Invasive Species Project with a dedicated project officer who is calling on local communities to take action against a few key troublesome INNS on their local rivers. The Carrick project aims to tackle the problems posed by Japanese Knotweed and Himalayan Balsam throughout the Girvan and Stinchar river catchments. Japanese Knotweed is well known for its destructive ability to grow through concrete and tarmac but few realise that the plant spreads not from seed but fragments of roots and shoots. Cutting this plant only serves to spread the plant rather than control it. It is extremely important therefore that people recognise this plant and do not disturb it before correct control can be carried out. Himalayan Balsam is equally problematic. This species grows rapidly outcompeting native vegetation and when dies back in winter it leaves banks exposed to erosion. Unlike Japanese Knotweed control of Himalayan Balsam can be done by hand pulling and strimming.

The Carrick Invasive Species Project is a community lead project which aims to raise awareness of the issues associated with these nuisance species and to bring them under control along the watercourses of the Girvan and Stinchar catchments. This will be the first year of control in many areas and the strategic approach that will be applied has proven successful on other Ayrshire rivers to date. However, it is important to emphasise that to succeed and eradicate an invasive species from these rivers it will take participation from the local communities and land owners. There are opportunities for people from the local communities to gain qualifications which will assist with practical control works. Volunteers can obtain a knapsack sprayer qualification which will allow them to assist with treatment of Japanese Knotweed. There is also training available for operating strimmers and brushcutters allowing volunteers to keep Himalayan Balsam at bay. Trained volunteers will be able to provide on-going control after the funding ends in 2014 - by which time the INNS problem should be reduced to a low level. If you are passionate about wildlife and your local area and want to join a volunteer work party please get in touch with the project officer.
(See pic's on page 31)

Issued by the Ayrshire Rivers Trust. For further information contact Meryl Norris (Project Officer) on 07956426218 or meryl@ayrshireriverstrust.org. Project website: www.ayrshireriverstrust.org/cisp

Scout About with Ballantrae Scouts

The Cubs have completed their Fitness Challenge, the Scouts have completed their Community Challenge and the Beavers have had lots of fun.

We had a Fun Day along with all the other Scout Groups in South Ayrshire in Rozelle Park Ayr where bases had been laid on for all sections. Our base was a mountain bike course and a golf range for the scouts which went very well. The big attraction was meeting our Chief Scout Bear Grylls who flew in by helicopter doing his tour of Scotland. It was all a bit hectic with everyone trying to get to him to get his autograph.

We had a camp for all the sections in our camp field next to the Cemetery thanks to Glen App Estate. The Scouts camped from Friday night to Sunday, the Cubs came on Saturday and camped Saturday night, and the Beavers came for the day on Saturday. The Scouts made shelters in the woods and slept out in their



shelters for some of Saturday night. The Cub and Beavers wanted to do the Gorge walk up the burn so everyone joined in. There were screams that could be heard in Ballantrae when the leaders had to wade in the cold water. See photos.

We will be starting up after the schools go back and hope to arrange another camp for the Scouts possibly before School starts.

People wanting to join do not need to have been in Scouts before. If you require info ring John Allsop on: 01465 831 391. (See pic's on page 31)



Himalayan Balsam



Japanese Knotweed



Children welcoming us



Holding on!



Thatched house



Joyful thanks



Good friends



Malawi

See story on page 6

Walking home

