

**FOUR EXTRA COLOUR PAGES**

# The Stinchar Valley Magazine

Contents from the communities of;  
Ballantrae, Barr, Barrhill, Colmonell,  
Lendalfoot, Pinwherry & Pinmore



This  
red squirrel  
was snapped by  
John Bunnett at  
Whiteknowes, Barr  
as it helped itself  
to  
the nuts from his

**AUTUMN 2013**



## How Did That Happen?

We should introduce ourselves: I am Elizabeth, husband Anwar and twin boys age 14 years. We are the family who purchased SIXPENCE LAND (where the caravan is) and our aim is to keep you all up to date with our progress. A diary come BLOG....

It was lashing with rain the day we looked at Sixpence Land. The rain was soaking us through to the bone and the wind was howling. HONESTLY.

Why were we here anyway? I thought, looking at a muddy field. We should be viewing properties to 'do up'.

I looked at my husband with a sort of pleading, hoping he could read my mind. "Let's go, I have seen enough". Were we mad to even consider buying this? I was wet and frozen and I NEEDED a cup of tea.

My husband, who has the patience of a Saint, was chatting away with the landowner. I am very lucky to have met my husband. He sees the good in everyone. And those of you who know him will agree? What a blessing!

A two minute break in the weather was very welcoming; a little sunshine can work wonders? It's surprising how little time it takes for one's life to be changed. A wonderful thing happened in that brief respite. I began to look around us at the views.

The breath taking rolling hills, the magnificent scenery, a few houses dotted here and there. This was Scotland which we loved, in all its Glory. Views to compare with anywhere in the world.

Of course we bought this 'muddy field'. But somehow in that moment it became more than a muddy field. It became our hopes and dreams, hopes of our little Tea Room and our Flower Garden. This was just the beginning.

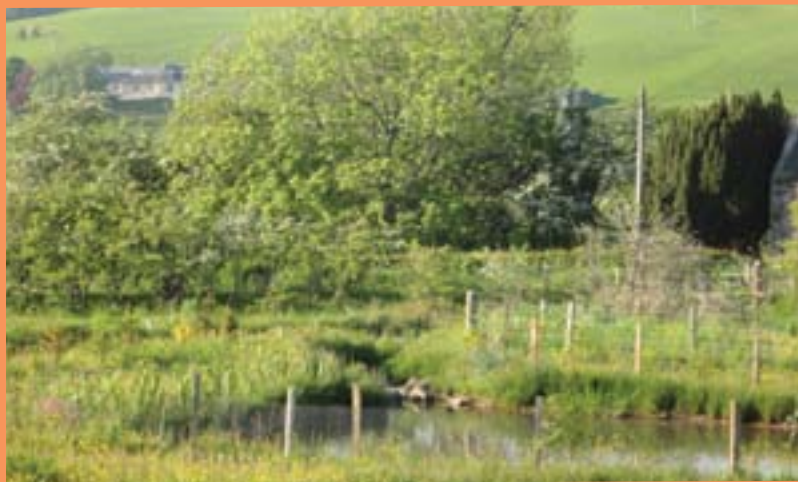
We were soon on a journey. A wonderful journey, in parallel with our lives. Swings and Roundabouts. Yes, that was it-Swings and Roundabouts.

We thanked God. Sixpence Land was ours.

I hope you've enjoyed meeting us all and hearing how we started. Next time I'd like to tell you about our Ties with Ayrshire?

Elizabeth

Find it here:  
<http://www.2pins.org.uk/2013/07/sixpence-land-part-1/>



## Ayrshire Red Squirrel Group



Pinwherry and Pinmore have a stronghold of red squirrels on and around Breaker and Glessel Hills and have chosen the red squirrel as our icon. Look out for information squirrels popping up on fence posts and banners of information on the lay by notice boards.

### Appointment of a Grey Squirrel Control Officer

If you like red squirrels you will be pleased to hear that we have obtained funding from the Boards of Carrick Futures and Hadyard Hill to employ a Grey Squirrel Control Officer for up to two years. When appointed the officer will be active in our community areas. More on this important subject in the winter edition of the Stinchar Valley Magazine.

## Mail To The Editor

Welcome to the Autumn issue of the Stinchar Valley Magazine  
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:

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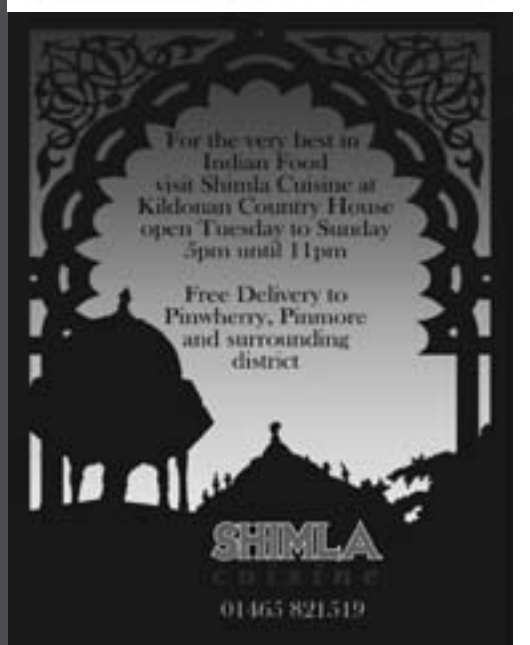
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# The Stinchar Valley Magazine

## 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.

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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.

## South Ayrshire Council Contact Centre

Don't wait for others to report issues, it may not be done! E.g. road damage 01292 612302, 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.

## 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 wide 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](http://www.scotland.gov.uk) or the South Ayrshire Council website [www.south-ayrshire.gov.uk](http://www.south-ayrshire.gov.uk).

### PINWHERRY AND PINMORE COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Minutes of Community Council meetings can be seen on the website [www.2pins.org.uk](http://www.2pins.org.uk)

### BALLANTRAE COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Ballantrae Community Council sits on the last Tuesday of the month in the Public Hall. Members of the public are welcome.

## 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. ALL ages welcomed  
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.  
Contact number Tricia 01465 712032  
Mail [@ageconcerngirvan.org.uk](mailto:@ageconcerngirvan.org.uk)  
Web site: [www.ageconcerngirvan.org.uk](http://www.ageconcerngirvan.org.uk)

## Colmonell Bowling Club



### Cancer Research Relay for Life

This year's Cancer Research Relay for Life was held at Bladnoch Park Wigtown, and I joined up with members of my family and their friends who had formed a fund raising team. Thirty-three teams in all took part and each held a series of fund raising events throughout the first half of the year culminating in the relay itself, a 24 hour event on the 6th/7th July. Each team had a fund raising stall on the Saturday as well as keeping the relay itself going – you had to have at least one team member doing circuits of track during the whole 24 hours. There was actually one man who was on the track for the full 24 hours, he had been offered a £1,000 donation to do it!! It was a great fun event, very well organised, with lots going on throughout the day and night.

Our team raised in excess of £6,000 and the entire event raised over £84,000 with money still coming in. We were all very proud to have taken part in it. As well as quiz nights, bingo, raffles, coffee mornings etc, we had a game of bowls at Colmonell Bowling Club on Sunday 23rd June. I must say that the weather was not the best but we had 27 players on the green and amazing support from Colmonell and the surrounding villages. We raised £297 which included some very generous donations from people who were unable to attend.

We play on Monday, Wednesday and Saturday evenings and non members and visitors are always welcome to join us for a game. The bowling green closes for the winter on Sunday 29th September. For more information contact Margaret 881352 or Evelyn 881293.

## St John's Episcopal Church Girvan



Serving the Anglican and Episcopalian community (and anyone else interested) in the Girvan area, including Pinwherry, Pinmore, Ballantrae, Barrhill, Colmonell, Lendalfoot and Barr.

We meet in the Methodist Church, Dalrymple Street, Girvan on Sundays and Tuesdays and visitors are warmly welcomed to all these services.

### Sunday

9.30 am: Holy Communion. On the first Sunday of each month, we have a joint service at 10.30 am with the Methodist congregation.

### Tuesday Fellowship Group

11.00: Informal Worship; 11.30: Coffee; 11.45: Bible Study; 12.30: Lunch  
These services will recommence on Tuesday, 19 February with a six-week study for Lent.

To find out more about St John's contact the Pastoral Assistant, Mrs Anne Morris, (01292 267859)

## Colmonell Curling Club

The club is open to people in any area. If interested contact Mrs Margaret Logan on 01465 713291, by mid- August.



## An Independent View

The year marches on and before we know it Christmas will beckon. It has been great summer weather and this makes the thought of any forthcoming winter weather just that little bit easier. The weather has also made it all the more enjoyable for all of those who attended the various Gala days and Fetes apart from Barr Village who were a bit unlucky to experience rain but nonetheless enjoyed a good attendance. August will also see a few sightings of Jack Tarr, some strangers worthy of note and a few excisemen and other characters from the past as Ballantrae rolls out Smugglers Week. I'm sure that great fun will be had by everyone and those charged will be given a fair trial and legal refreshments.

The Council has of course been in recess over the last few weeks but unlike one Councillor who was photographed with a pail and spade on Prestwick Beach, for most Councillors and certainly for me it has been carry on as usual with all of the local work that has to be attended to. It is just nice not to have to attend meetings and panels in County Buildings for a while.

Roads are of course always an issue and it was a controversial paper that went through Council just before the recess, recommending the setting up of a joint service provision for roads between East Ayrshire Council and South Ayrshire Council with East Ayrshire becoming the lead partner. This recommendation was based on a figure of several millions of pounds being saved over a length of five years. I voted against this proposal on a number of points. The amount of finance saved was for me purely hypothetical as there was no business case that could be shown and elected members had not been briefed on the paper. North Ayrshire who were to be part of the set up withdrew from the proposal and I believe that in the end the job security of the road workers from our town and villages could be jeopardised along with the future of the Grangestone Depot at Girvan. It was voted through and I and others will watch closely at the outcome.

It was of course great to see the fantastic new Pontoon Marina System now in place at Girvan Harbour which was officially opened in June. We are already seeing vessels such as Ocean Going Catamarans and other types of large boats which would never have visited the town before and the feedback from the crews has been very good. I look forward very much to fast progress being made with the new South Carrick Leisure Centre at Girvan Harbour which together with other improvements to the area will make such a difference to tourism and employment.

### Alec Clark

Councillor Alec Clark (Independent)  
South Ayrshire Council,  
Ward 8: Girvan and South Carrick.

## Ballantrae Church Linked With St Colmon Church

On 30th June St Colmon Church rededicated and opened their Kirk Hall after extensive refurbishment and extension. Over the past three or so years we have completed the various processes and jumped through the different hoops required to carry out this project. Having never been involved in a building project before, it has been a huge learning curve, but every struggle has been worth it as the result is far better than I could have imagined.

We started with an idea to create a more useable, accessible space which would be a valuable resource for the church and the local community, and we definitely think that this is what we now have. Before there was one main hall, a small meeting room at the back, a kitchen and one very small toilet, but now we have a hall, a sunlit room with tables and seating for 25 people, a modern kitchen, two female toilets, one male toilet, and a disabled toilet. Before the hall was accessed via steps and while the hall was mainly on one level the other rooms were slightly higher. However now the whole hall is on one level and there is disabled access to it all.

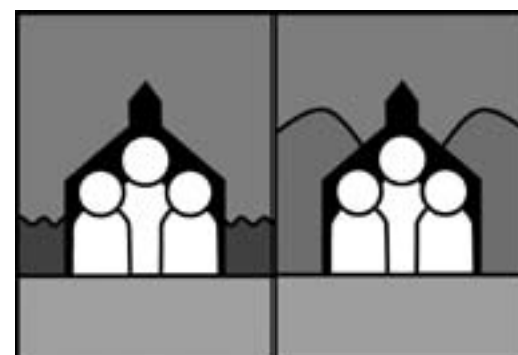
Every time I walk into it, I am amazed by the change that has taken place over the last few months. New life has indeed been breathed into a building that was tired and I am excited to see what it will be used for in the coming years.

In the bible, when Paul was talking about the change that takes place in all those who put their faith in Jesus, he wrote, "Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, the new creation has come: The old has gone, the new is here!" (2 Corinthians 5:17) It is not just a new lick of paint we receive, it is something deeper and more substantial, for through Jesus we become part of God's family and our lives are changed forever.

And just as a new hall fills me with excitement, so Jesus and all of heaven is filled with excitement when someone puts their faith in him and becomes a new person. It was Jesus who said, "I tell you, there is rejoicing in the presence of the angels of God over one sinner who repents." (Luke 15:10) What a wonderful image this is and how exciting a new creation is!

God bless,

Stephen



### Church Information

We are friendly churches where everyone is welcome. Please come and join us as we celebrate God's love for us all.

**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.

Refreshments are served after all services.

**Ballantrae Parish Church**  
11:30am every Sunday in Ballantrae with our Sunshine Club for all children and young people from birth up. Refreshments are served on the first Sunday of the month.

Minister: Rev Stephen Ogston  
The Manse, 1 The Vennel,  
Ballantrae, KA26 0NH  
Telephone: 01465 831252  
Email: ogston@macfish.com

For more information see our websites:  
[www.ballantraeparishchurch.org.uk](http://www.ballantraeparishchurch.org.uk)  
or [www.stcolmonparishchurch.org.uk](http://www.stcolmonparishchurch.org.uk)  
or our Facebook pages 'Ballantrae Church' and 'StColmon Church'.

I hope you have a good summer, and know God's blessing,

Stephen

## Colmonell FUN DAY

### Colmonell Fun Day

Colmonell Fun Day enjoyed glorious sunshine on Saturday 8th June with a great turn out and good fun had by all. It was the perfect end to a busy week in the village, which began with the six-a-side football tournament sponsored by R Shankland and sons. Games were played on Monday, Tuesday and Thursday night, with the final between McCulloch Rail and Cutchy's United held on Sunday 9th June. It was a close fought match and in the end McCulloch Rail won the tournament, with a score of 3-1. This was followed by an under 16's friendly match. A quiz night organised by Mrs Heather O'Hare and assisted by Mrs Marion McQuiston was held on Wednesday 5th June. Competition was fierce and the prize money and shield were won by the 'Dead Eggs' team.

A Clay Pigeon Shoot took place on Friday 7th June, with first prize of £50 going to Andrew Lambie, second prize of £30 going to Paul Gibbons and third prize of £20 going to Paddy Watson. Winner of the pool shoot and bottle of whisky was Boyd McIntosh. Thanks go to J&W Dunlop for sponsoring the competition, the prize winners who donated their winnings back to the Community Association and to Knockdolian Gun Club who raised £265 on the night.

This year's Fun Day Princess was Miss Hazel Cloy, who was crowned by the outgoing princess Miss Lesley Anne Gray. Her attendants were Lady in Waiting Miss Bethanny Wilson and Page Boy Mr Joshua Mitchell. The Princess and party arrived in style, in a vintage car driven by Mr Hugh Sloan and piped in by Stinchard Valley Pipers. A Special Award was then presented to a member of Colmonell community who has given a lot of their time to supporting various organisations in the village, Margaret Robertson. The Anne Lawrence trophy was then awarded to John Kerr of Colmonell Primary School, who designed the winning artwork for this year's fun week programme.

Everyone enjoyed browsing the wide range of stalls, refreshments at the teas tent, activities including the bouncy castle and climbing wall, and displays from Skyhigh Falconry and Pinwherry School of Dancing. Winners of the lucky programme were George Parker (first), Jim Dunlop (second) and Richard Doak (third). Winner of the treasure map was Irene Falls. Highest score in the shuttle curling was Jack McCulloch. Winner of Colmonell Baby Group hamper was Fiona Tait and Guess the Teddy's Birthday was Anne McCutcheon. Colmonell Community Association would like to thank everyone who made the Fun Week such a success, all helpers, sponsors and entertainment, and we look forward to another successful event in 2014!



### Ballantrae Crafty Bees

Ballantare Crafty Bees is a group for all those, young or old, who enjoy crafting of any kind. We meet on the 2nd and 4th Monday of each month in BRICC House at 7.30pm. We hope to line up some expert crafters to come along to share their skills with us, so if you have a particular skill and are able to spare an evening, please get in touch. All are very welcome to join us whether you are a beginner or have lots of experience - we all learn together.

Please contact Barbara Ogston (01465 831252) for more details or just come along!

### St Colmon Parish Stained Glass (pics page 17)

The church benefits from a wide range of stained glass windows by various artists including Louis Davis, Douglas Strachan, Ballantine and Gardiner to name the ones which are signed. There are also a number of other high quality stained glass windows, artists unknown at present.

One of these is signed by a single monk which is the mark made by both J Powell and sons and also the artist James Humphries Hogan, who worked for James Powell and son.

Sir Robert Lorimer (1864-1929), Scottish architect and garden designer, had previously worked with Louis Davis (1860-1941) on several joint projects in Scotland. The McEwan family commissioned woodwork in the Church by Lorimer and it is likely that Davis obtained the commission for the windows through Lorimer. The Tryptich, the 3 main windows at the west end of the Church, are by Louis Davis.

They depict figures offering up praise including a shepherd who worked at Bardrochat and his dog, Masha, and school children representing the sons of the donor, Robert Finnie McEwen, who is portrayed as a Bishop.

The 1910 Nativity window in memory of William and Margaret McConnell is also by Louis Davis. Of Davis' legacy, it was said: "His colour and design satisfy the sense of beauty, and the actual craftsmanship will always be a wonder to those who understand the art of glass-making."



## Colmonell Circle

The first meeting of the Circle's season will be held on Monday 23rd September at 7.30pm in St Colmon Kirk Hall and everyone is welcome. We will be finishing some banners and enjoying chat and refreshments.

On October 28th the speaker will be Rev. Jim Guthrie in the Kirk Hall. On November 25th a Scottish Night will be held in Colmonell Community Centre with entertainment and refreshments to which everyone is invited.

## Colmonell Graceful Years Club

Colmonell Graceful Years Club meets in Colmonell Community Centre every Wednesday afternoon from 2pm till 5pm. We play cards, dominoes or board games and have a cup of tea and some goodies. Anyone who would like to join us on a Wednesday afternoon would be most welcome.

## Colmonell & Pinwherry Brownies

Colmonell & Pinwherry Brownies re-start on Wednesday 28th August. Crafts, games, walks, outdoor activities and working towards badges are just some of the things we do. For girls between the ages of 7 and 10, and we meet every Wednesday from the above date. 6.30-8pm in Colmonell Village hall. Cost £1/week with a snack provided.

For more information contact Lorraine Clark 881391 or Diane McKinnon 831169.

## St Colmon Kirk Fair

St Colmon Parish held their Kirk Fair on Saturday 4th August and with a newly refurbished and extended Kirk Hall and glorious weather a great day was had by everyone. The Fair was opened by Colmonell Princess Hazel Cloy and Page Joshua Mitchell. Many thanks go to those who donated items for all the stalls and to the volunteers who did a wonderful job selling jewellery, bric-a-brac, books, baking, plants and tombola. Games from target golf to "splat the rat" and face painting kept all ages amused.

Outdoors the icecreams and burgers went down well and indoors the tea room did a roaring trade thanks to Irene and the excellent team of waitresses. Judging by the squealing coming from the trailer Les's buggy ride was a great success.

One of the highlights was the wonderful music provided by Billy McCubbin and his pipers, resplendent in their tartan.

A special thank you goes to the construction and dismantling team who worked so hard putting up and clearing away all the gazebos and tables, including Alexander Wilson and Duncan Cloy who were a great help this year.

A video of Ballantrae and St Colmon Kirk Fairs can be seen on You tube at:-

[www.youtube.com/watch?v=1q3V1efXEMo](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1q3V1efXEMo)

## South Carrick Club Diamonds

SCHEDULE FOR 2013

**Barrhill Memorial Hall**  
Monday 7.00pm – 8.00pm

**Daily Community Centre**  
Tuesday 10.00am – 11.00am

**Girvan: South Parish Church Hall**  
Tuesday 11.30am – 12.30

**Girvan: Boyle Court Sheltered Housing (Chair-based)**  
Tuesday 12.45pm – 1.15pm

**Girvan: Kirk Care Residential Home (Chair-based)**  
Tuesday 1.30pm – 2.00pm

**Girvan - South Parish Church Hall (Chair-based)**  
Tuesday 2.30pm – 3.30pm

**Colmonell Community Centre**  
Monday 2.30pm – 3.30pm

Come and join us at one of our classes for: FUN, FITNESS AND FRIENDSHIP. FOR FURTHER INFORMATION PLEASE CONTACT:  
Girvan : Ruth Wallace  
01465-710796

Colmonell : Margaret Robertson  
01465- 881352

Barrhill: Celia Strain  
01465 821333

## Recommended Tradesmen

Would you recommend good work?

<b>Plumber</b>	<b>Eric Gibson</b>	<b>01465 714 791</b>	<b>07522 672 767</b>
	by Frank Bean	26/11/12	
<b>Carpet Fitter</b>	<b>Mark Foster</b>	<b>01465 713884</b>	<b>07722 892 263</b>
	By Frank Bean	26/11/12	

**nature's calendar**

**Recording the signs of the seasons**

Take part at [www.naturescalendar.org.uk](http://www.naturescalendar.org.uk). The website is for anyone interested in noting the natural signs of the seasons. Records can be entered and viewed online, using live maps showing the progress of sightings across the UK.

Nature's Calendar is the home for thousands of volunteers who record the signs of the seasons where they live, in places like parks, gardens and woodland. In spring this could mean noting insect or bird activity, the leafing of trees or plants flowering. In autumn it could be observing migratory birds, or autumn fruits and leaf colour.

This is known as the science of 'phenology' but you don't have to be an expert to take part and lots of help is given, including a species guide booklet that you receive when you register.

Recording nature's calendar has proved to be a valuable source of evidence as to how our wildlife is responding to climate change. With data from as far back as 1861, it is the longest written biological record of its kind. Continued monitoring is becoming ever more crucial and we need everyone to help.

We have found that in spring, compared to 30 years ago, insects are being seen three weeks earlier, plant growth is up to two weeks earlier and bird activity is a week earlier. As the climate warms, the growing season is also extending into late autumn. The Trust is particularly concerned about the effect of these changes upon our precious ancient woodland, the UK's equivalent of the rainforest.

Nature's Calendar is regularly featured in the national media and our data has been used in over 30 scientific articles, reports for the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) and by the UK government. It also provides powerful evidence to help the Woodland Trust lobby politicians to demand more action on climate change.

Nature's Calendar is a project run in partnership between the Woodland Trust - the UK's leading woodland conservation charity and the Centre for Ecology & Hydrology - a UK government research institution.

See map showing that frequent records are first received in the south and west

Climate change in your garden is an interactive online resource that tells some of the stories that our research has uncovered. <http://frompage.woodlandtrust.org.uk/garden>

For further information please email [naturecalendar@woodlandtrust.org.uk](mailto:naturecalendar@woodlandtrust.org.uk)

The Woodland Trust is a charity registered in England and Wales No. 240444 and in Scotland No. SC208841. Registered in England No. 1045973. A non-profit making company limited by guarantee. Registered Office: Somerset Way, Chesham, Bucks HP80 9LQ, UK. Tel: 0494 470900. Website: [www.woodlandtrust.org.uk](http://www.woodlandtrust.org.uk)

WOODLAND TRUST

Centre for Ecology & Hydrology

## Ayr Writers' Club

Press Release August 13

Where the Bodies are Buried ...

The best person to tell you is best selling author, Christopher Brookmyre. He's the first speaker in the new season of Ayr Writers' Club which began on Wednesday 4th September at 7.15pm in the Carlton Hotel, Prestwick. Christopher will be speaking on crime writing and will be followed throughout the year with speakers including Alison Chisholm, Joyce Holms and John Binnie, Playwright and Producer.

The season will include, Writing Workshops and Competitions, covering a variety of genres, including Crime, Memoir, Poetry, Drama and Science Fiction. This year, the club swept the board at the annual Scottish Association of Writers' Conference, winning awards in a variety of genres.

If you have been thinking about becoming more proactive with your writing, or have a burning desire to get started/finished on that novel, then Ayr Writers' Club is the place to come. Many of our



members have had their work published in print and broadcast on radio. Why not come along and meet fellow writers. You are assured of a warm welcome.

If you are interested in writing, want to develop your talent and have a good laugh, then there is a seat at Ayr Writers' Club with your name on it.

Follow us on Facebook or find more information at [www.ayrwritersclub.co.uk](http://www.ayrwritersclub.co.uk)



South Ayrshire Council has been awarded £800,000 of Scottish Government funds to improve the energy efficiency of older, hard-to-treat properties that are owned or privately rented.

The Energy Agency has been appointed the Managing Agent to run the scheme. The Scheme is adopting a whole house approach with the priority primary measure of free solid wall insulation or cavity wall insulation, depending on the wall type.

There are also a wide range of secondary measures available (subject to available funding) including room in roof or underfloor insulation, heating systems and renewables to ensure each home becomes as energy efficient as possible and can make greater savings.

To qualify you must live in an area off the mains-gas network and in Council Tax band A or B or be in receipt of a qualifying benefit.

To register or for more details phone your local Home Energy Scotland Hotline free on 0808 808 2282 or visit [www.energyagency.org.uk](http://www.energyagency.org.uk)

Typical annual savings for a gas heated, three bedroom, semi-detached house for the following measures are \*

External wall insulation	£490
Internal wall insulation	£460
Cavity wall insulation	£140

\*figures quoted by Energy Saving Trust

# Update On The South Ayrshire Local Development Plan

As reported in the Summer edition of this magazine, the Proposed Local Development Plan has been submitted to Scottish Ministers for approval. The press release by Ms. Cheryl Downie, Communications Officer of SAC, stated that 881 responses had been received and:

“There then followed a significant amount of work comparing the responses against the evidence for the Plan to ensure that there was no reason to modify it. I am pleased to say that the Proposed South Ayrshire Local Plan is one of the first such Plans in Scotland to reach this key milestone.”

The South Ayrshire Council website states:

## “South Ayrshire Local Development Plan”

At a meeting of South Ayrshire Council on 25th April 2013, the South Ayrshire Proposed Local Development Plan has been approved for submission to Scottish Ministers. The Plan was built on significant engagement with local communities and approved last year by Council. During the autumn of 2012, representations were invited from the community and interested persons and 881 responses were received from members of the public, the development industry and technical consultees. Following this, the Council reviewed all representations, concluding that there are no grounds to make significant changes to the Plan. The Plan will now be prepared for submission to Scottish Ministers for examination, which will take between June and December 2013. It is anticipated that the South Ayrshire Local Development Plan will be adopted in 2014.”

The report on the Plan has now been released and these are the extracts pertaining to the BAL1 development proposed for Ballantrae:

## South Ayrshire Council, Report on the Proposed Local Development Plan, 25 April 2013

### “para 4.2 (proposals)”

881 representations were received in relation to the Proposed LDP. These have been considered in detail within the context of the evidence and consultation that underpinned the Proposed Plan, and the conclusion reached that there is no planning justification to make significant modification to the Proposed LDP. The summary of representations is attached to this report as Appendix 1.”

note: the 881 representations were the total for the whole of South Ayrshire. We believe that only approximately 190 of these were from Ballantrae although this figure does not seem to feature in the report.

## Extract from Appendix 1 – Representations and Responses

### “Representation Issue”

Ballantrae Housing Site @ Main Street (BAL1)

## Summary – Housing Issues

Object to BAL1 on following grounds: no need for housing/development at Ballantrae; there are existing vacant houses in Ballantrae; development will have an adverse impact on road safety and congestion in village and there is already poor public transport links; site release conflicts with rural diversification, dark skies and G&A Biosphere objectives; development would be contrary to Transport Scotland’s objective to reduce trunk road impact on communities; the plan in the LDP is incorrect, and some areas should be removed, due to ownership; no community council support

for site; agricultural land should be retained to improve carbon footprint and for food production; consultation processes have been poor; development will result in loss of privacy for existing houses; development will fragment village; there are poor employment opportunities for future residents; existing local amenities cannot sustain further housing; development will result in a loss of wildlife; new housing will change village dynamic. Other comments queried whether alternative site(s) may be available, and that there is a need for affordable housing.

## Consideration

As part of the ‘call for sites’ exercise, a site was proposed by Ballantrae Community Council, indicating that there is a demand for housing within the settlement. Impacts upon the local road network will be addressed to the satisfaction of the Council’s Roads service and/or Transport Scotland as part of the planning application process, alleviating safety and congestion concerns.

The site is not located within the dark skies park and is located within the ‘transition area’ of the Biosphere. Within this area the principles of sustainable development are promoted. It is considered that development within an existing settlement would be in-keeping with the fundamental principles of sustainable development.

The loss of agricultural land was considered within the site report, concluding that most of the land around Ballantrae is PQAL and it would therefore be difficult to provide for a logical extension to the settlement without encroaching upon PQAL. It is considered that the consultation exercises have been more than sufficient, ensuring that interested parties have had opportunities to submit their concerns to the Council within reasonable timeframes.

The allocation of the site, in principle, will not result in an unacceptable loss of privacy for any existing dwellinghouse. A planning application for the development of the site would determine whether specific development proposals for the site would

meet the Council’s established residential amenity standards, thereby ensuring maintenance of an appropriate level of privacy/residential amenity for existing houses. In terms of the fragmentation of the village, it is considered that the site presents the most logical option for the extension of the settlement and that there are opportunities to integrate with the existing settlement.

There is no definitive information to suggest that there would be poor employment opportunities for future residents or indeed, that future residents would require employment opportunities. In terms of existing local amenities, additional housing would provide a small boost to the local economy. If it generated capacity issues at the school, the developer would be required to provide a solution to this as part of the planning application process, in line with the Council’s Education Contributions policy and associated SG.

The loss of wildlife is not considered to be an issue of concern in relation to this site. It is not a wildlife site and SNH have not offered any objection to the site.

Changing the dynamic of the village is not a material planning consideration.

The site will be required to make an affordable housing contribution in line with LDP policy: affordable housing – though this may or may not result in affordable housing on site.

The circumstances of this site are unique in that the Community Council and landowner both submitted the site for the Council’s consideration, and that since publication of the proposed Plan, the community support for the site has been withdrawn.

## Recommendation

No proposed modification to LDP”

The full report can be read at: [www.south-ayrshire.gov.uk/planning/planlpdfdocuments.aspx](http://www.south-ayrshire.gov.uk/planning/planlpdfdocuments.aspx)





## Glenapp Castle, Ballantrae

Book for lunch or afternoon tea at Glenapp Castle this Summer and enjoy a leisurely walk in the gardens.

‘Flowers are sunshine, food and medicine for the soul’ Luther Burbank

Stroll through the avenue of hornbeams and feel cooled in the shade, enter the Walled Garden to see our stunning display of flowers as well as our 150ft Victorian Glasshouse. Then meander round the Azalea Pond and on to the Italian Garden with its spectacular sea views across to Ailsa Craig and Arran.

Our Three Course Gourmet Lunch is £39.50 per person or  
Set Three Course Sunday Lunch is £29.50 per person  
Our Full Afternoon Tea is £19.50 per person

A warm welcome awaits you!

A prior reservation is required. To make a reservation please call on 01465 831212 or email us at [info@glenappcastle.com](mailto:info@glenappcastle.com)

## Pinwherry Women’s Rural Institute

After an unusually hot and sunny summer, we are beginning to turn our thoughts to the approaching autumn and the new programme for the “Rural”. Hopefully everyone has felt the benefit of such a good break, relaxing outdoors, enjoying holidays, coping with visitors, gardening, and all the other things we have to do.

Now we want to invite you to join with us at our meetings in Pinwherry Community Centre on the Second Monday of each month from September to May when we meet at 7.30pm. The programme promises to be varied and interesting: cooking with Maria Sulzman, ‘Fascinators’ with Linda Adams, and a talk on the work of the Children’s Hospice. This will take us up to Christmas when we plan to have our celebration at Malin Court again. You are very welcome at all these meetings and if you like a bit of competition then that’s part of the programme too: each month a couple of competitions are held to test our practical skills! Purely voluntary – no pressure!

Do come, but if you would like more information please contact Jean Wyllie, President, 841279; or Pat Guthrie, Secy. 841236. The dates for our monthly meetings for 2014 are as follows- 13th January, 10th February, 10th March, 14th April, 12th May, 8th September, 13th October, 10th November, and 8th December.

## 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.

### Contacts for the Council’s Bridges Section:

**Douglas Hemmings**  
(Team Leader – Bridges & Lighting).  
E mail: [Douglas.hemmings@south-ayrshire.gov.uk](mailto:Douglas.hemmings@south-ayrshire.gov.uk).  
Tel. No. 01292 616377

**Scott Greig**  
(Supervisory Engineer – Bridges).  
E mail. [Scott.greig@south-ayrshire.gov.uk](mailto:Scott.greig@south-ayrshire.gov.uk)  
Tel. No. 01292 616659

**Local Contact:**  
**John McAlley**  
Email: [j.mcalley@btinternet.com](mailto:j.mcalley@btinternet.com)  
Tel. No. 01465 841198

## Pinwherry Community Association In Association With The 2 Pins Community Co

Raising funds to support the development of the new 2 Pins Centre for the villages of Pinwherry and Pinmore. For further details see Web site [www.2pins.org.uk](http://www.2pins.org.uk)

**August/September**  
Prize Quiz paper sold at £1.00

**September / November**  
Major prize raffle £1.per ticket books of 5  
( major prize a 1 week holiday for two people, Game fishing licence, Hampers, Whisky, Wine

**October 26th**  
Craft Fair in Pinwherry Hall time to be advised

**January 2014** ( Date to be Confirmed )  
Ayrshire Junior Fiddle Orchestra

**February**  
Film Night (with a children’s film early evening)

The 2 Pins Community Company meetings are held every 2nd Thursday in the month. All are welcome to come and find out about the new 2 Pins Centre.

## 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.

**4 or 6 panel doors circa 1910**  
Taken out of the Kirk Hall in Colmonell. If you wish to view them contact Claire on 841644.

**1970 MG Midget 1500**  
Heritage vehicle  
(Tax exempt)  
Contact Editor  
(01465 841198)



**Balkissock Lodge For Sale**  
Howard and Cordelia Galley have informed us that their splendid Georgian house is for sale. It has five bedrooms and outbuildings, is set in about an acre of garden and woodland and is located in rolling hills three miles from Ballantrae. Full details and photographs can be seen at: <http://scottishcountryhouse.wordpress.com/scottish-country-house-for-sale/>



Or <http://www.rightmove.co.uk/property-for-sale/property-33650686.html;jsessionid=6593E8ACB33A404CB74FC0718CD136AD>

## Lost Property

Are you missing one earring or a pair of gloves? These have been found in St Colmon Church so please contact Claire on 841644 if you think they are yours.

## Wanted

Someone with experience of repairing an old model tea clipper with a full set of sails. Contact Claire on 841644

## HOWARD GALLEY

New TV? Call me to install and setup from £25  
Freeview, Satellite or Sky problems my speciality  
**Repairs to:** Washers, Dryers, Cookers, Vacuum Cleaners, etc.  
All major manufacturers and models dealt with.

**Tel: 01465 831537**  
**Mobile: 0789 44 33 084**  
**[www.balkissocklodge.co.uk](http://www.balkissocklodge.co.uk)**





## Alec Oattes

SNP Councillor

It has been a busy time over the past few months with School Prize presentations, shows, galas and fetes throughout South Carrick. I am always very impressed by the work many committees and community volunteers put into the various galas and fetes, they are a good sign of community spirit and endeavour for the benefit of each village and for the various good causes which they support.

It is heartening to see the Ballantrae Smugglers events taking place in August. By the time this column has gone to print, it will be a memory, but I am sure it will have been a success with perhaps lessons learned on how to take forward the event for next year. I was pleased to be present at the opening of the Ballantrae Development Groups Visitor Information Point on Tuesday the 6 August based in Craigie Mains Garden Centre. This is a terrific innovation and I hope this can be a model which can be taken up throughout Carrick in support of the wider Carrick Tourism Project. There is no doubt given recent experience Carrick has to make its own way in the wider Ayrshire and Visit Scotland Tourism market as there is so much to offer in this area for a different kind of visitor experience.

Another attraction I am delighted to see, are red squirrels being promoted and protected in Pinwherry/Pinmore with the new signs as part of the Heritage Hub Trail, another innovation of the Carrick Community Council Forum's Tourism Project. I note progress is being made with plans for the Two Pins Centre in Pinwherry and I wish it every success. This could be a lasting legacy and benefit from the Windfarms in the area which I know is a very controversial subject but the turbines are in place for the next 20 years or more and the maximum benefit must be gained from them being in South Carrick.

Another success story is the tidying up of several walks around Dailly and Barr in conjunction with the Council and Forestry Commission. Also I am pleased to see the Ayrshire Alps Cycling Festival hosted by the Ayr Roads Cycling Club which is being held on Saturday 17 and Sunday 18 August throughout Carrick, which proves that here in Carrick we have walking and cycling heaven.

It was good to see the start of Maw Broons After Noon Tea in Barr over the summer period and the reopening of the Kings Arms Village Pub. Barr is buzzing at the moment with a new influx of enthusiastic Community Council members keen to get actively involved in improving village life.

On Monday the 22 July, I attended a meeting with Councillor Alec Clark of the Barrhill Community Interest Company. We were ably assisted by Gavin McEwan of Turcan Connell Solicitors. This was in order to verify the voting procedure used to elect the new board of the Barrhill CIC and I am pleased to report this all went smoothly. I congratulate the new board and wish them and the Barrhill CIC every success in the future.

I also attended the opening of the new pontoons at Girvan Harbour on Friday the 21 June. This is another good news story in the regeneration of Girvan and South Carrick, begun under the previous Council Administration, funded by the European Union, Scottish Enterprise and South Ayrshire Council. Part of the event was the launch of the skiff "Creag Ealasaid" constructed by pupils and staff of Girvan Academy. I understand there are plans to compete with other skiffs and crews from Maybole and Troon in the new pastime of coastal rowing.

Finally, I am pleased to report that a final design for the new swimming pool and all purpose facility at Girvan Harbour has been agreed. The plans had to be modified to keep in line with the original budget estimate of £8 million, with £4 million of capital provided by the Council with the remaining £4 million being raised by South Carrick Community Leisure. It is hoped to apply for outline planning permission by September this year. I understand and appreciate the frustration this issue has created over the past four years, but I am really hopeful we are on the right track to deliver this much needed facility.

## SNP Councillor Alec Oattes

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01292 612 382

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05600 711 074

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Alec.oattes@south-ayrshire.gov.uk

**SNP**  
www.snp.org



## PB PROPERTY REPAIRS & MAINTENANCE

All types of work considered. Handyman service including chimney & flue liner cleaning with rotary brush system.

Tel: 01465 841 695  
Mobile 07795 392 472

## Community Transport In Carrick Newsletter

We are hoping to issue a newsletter on a bi-monthly basis in order to try and raise the profile of the community transport sector and keep the Carrick communities up to date with planned changes and improvements in the sector. Hopefully, some of the information will be of use to your communities.

Thank you in advance

### Catriona M Haston

Community Transport Coordinator,  
Ailsa Horizons, 22 Dalrymple Street,  
Girvan, KA26 9AE

T: 01465 710 628 • M: 07786 272 938  
Registered Scottish Charity Number:  
SC038211. Company Number: SC327632

Find it here: [www.2pins.org.uk/2013/07/community-transport-in-carrick-newsletter/](http://www.2pins.org.uk/2013/07/community-transport-in-carrick-newsletter/)

## Carrick Invasive Species Project



The Carrick Invasive Species Project is a community lead project which aims to raise awareness of the issues associated with invasive non-native species and to bring them under control along the watercourses of the Girvan and Stinchar catchments.



## GET INVOLVED!

**FREE training courses and equipment** are available to volunteers who wish to help control these invasive species in the Girvan and Stinchar catchments:

- Safe handling and use of pesticides near water PA1, PA6 and PA6AW. 3 day course. 1 day assessment.
- Safe use and handling of brushcutters and strimmers. 2 day LANTRA course.

If you think you could benefit from these courses and help tackle these invasive species get in touch with the project officer now for more information.

Spaces fill up fast so get in touch now!

## CONTACT

Meryl Norris

E: [meryl@ayrshireriverstrust.org](mailto:meryl@ayrshireriverstrust.org)

T: 07956426218

W: [www.ayrshireriverstrust.org/cisp](http://www.ayrshireriverstrust.org/cisp)



## Feeling stressed and tired?

**QIGONG**  
AWAKEN YOUR ENERGY CENTRES

**Why not come and enjoy the mental and physical benefits**

It is a series of slow, gentle exercises under the guidance of a qualified instructor which help to promote health and vitality and is suitable for all levels of fitness (including wheelchair users) and all ages from 16 and over are welcome. **The Autumn 2013 classes commence on 2nd September, then every Monday (except Public holidays) from 11 am to 12 noon, in Ballantrae Community centre. £36 for a 12 session term if paid in advance or £5 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 831 347.





Adventure Centre for Education is 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.  
[www.adventurecentreforeducation.com](http://www.adventurecentreforeducation.com)

## Rain? What Rain?

After the AGM on the 17th April, the Stinchar Valley Gardening Club members looked forward to their summer programme of visits to various gardens, both public and private.

Our first visit was to Logan Botanical Garden near Port Logan, on 15th May, where we were given a conducted tour of the garden by Colin, the assistant head gardener, who explained the priorities and new directions for the garden. After lunch, we headed off to Ardwell Garden where head gardener John O'Neil was on hand to give us a tour and an interesting talk on the development of the grounds and the difficulties facing the gardeners after such a wet and windy spring. Ardwell has only 2 gardeners working the grounds, which are privately owned. Contrasted with Logan, they do an impressive job to manage the grounds so well.

On the 14th June, club members visited "Gardening Leave" at Auchencruive near Ayr. This is a unique project designed to help ex-servicemen who, for a variety of reasons, are having difficulty settling into civilian life. The visit was described by some members as "humbling" and "eye opening". It was a privilege to have been given the courtesy of the visit.

A visit to Cally Gardens near Gatehouse of Fleet is always an interesting experience and on 17th June a few members braved the sweltering heat to enjoy a visit and spend too much money at the plant sales buying some of the unusual plants which can be seen growing in the gardens.

Our next trip, on 14 August, takes us to Edinburgh Botanical Garden for a conducted tour of this showcase garden. This is proving to be a popular visit for members and friends and we look forward to an interesting, and, hopefully, dry day.

The final visit of the season is to a privately owned garden near Creetown, simply called "Enid's Garden". On the 4th September we will set off for a delightful tour of this 3-acre garden and marvel at the hard work and enthusiasm that has gone into shaping this wonderful garden.

Our Autumn/winter programme is taking shape and we are looking forward to welcoming new and exisiting members to our meetings where we enjoy listening to invited speakers talk on a variety of gardening subjects. We also arrange "plant swops" where we offload surplus stock/bulbs to fellow members and guests. We meet in Pinwherry Village Hall on the 3rd Wednesday of the month from September to April and the dates/talks (which are followed by refreshments) are as follows:

18 September:	Talk by "Elmlea Plant Centre", Newton Stewart, on companion planting with perennials. Plant/seed swap.
16 October:	Talk by Jacinta Saunders from the Bayview Nursery at Wigtown. Plant/seed swap.
20 November:	Panel of "experts" invited to answer questions put to them by the audience.
18 December:	Christmas meal at a local venue.

Look out for final programme details which will be advertised in the press nearer the events. A warm welcome is given to new members and visitors and if you would like more details about our club please contact one of our committee members. They are:

Chair:	Pat Spence (tel: 01465821377)	<a href="mailto:patspence@piperpublications.co.uk">patspence@piperpublications.co.uk</a>
Vice-Chair:	John McAlley (tel:01465841198)	<a href="mailto:j.mcalley@btinternet.com">j.mcalley@btinternet.com</a>
Secretary:	Moira McAlpine (tel: 01465831122)	<a href="mailto:moira.mcalpine@btopenworld.com">moira.mcalpine@btopenworld.com</a>
Treasurer:	Jill McAlley (01465841198)	<a href="mailto:j.mcalley@btinternet.com">j.mcalley@btinternet.com</a>
Member:	Margaret Bean (01465841635)	<a href="mailto:margaret.bean1@btinternet.com">margaret.bean1@btinternet.com</a>
Member:	Roger Pirrie (01465841644)	<a href="mailto:rdpirrie@gmail.com">rdpirrie@gmail.com</a>

We look forward to seeing you soon.

Moira McAlpine Secretary



**St Colmon  
Stained  
Glass & The  
New Church  
Hall**





# Clockwise from top right:

- Barr Gala Day King & Queen; Dylan Ross & Skye Trotter
- Dylan & Skye en route to their 'Coronation'.
- Bowling Club Pairs winners
- Barr PS Headmaster takes a pasting at the Gala Day in the Bash Street Kids water throwing feature.
- Arran Denham (14) heads for the top to win the Adult Fell Race at the Barr Gala.
- Jordan & Kassie Farmery have reopened the King's Arms in Barr.



# Clockwise from top right:

- 1 & 2: Colmonell Fun Day.
- 3: Ballantrae Information Centre.
- 4 & 5: St Colmon Kirk Fair.
- 6: St Colmon Church new hall.





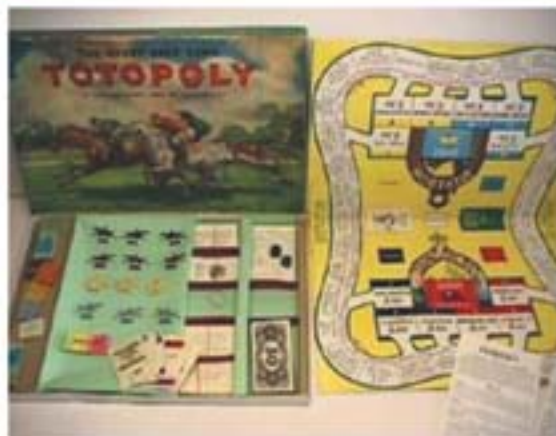
# NOVEMBER

## Fancy a Race Night with a Difference?



As part of the Fund Raising Initiative for the new 2-Pins Centre, Pinwherry Community Association are to hold a Horse Race in Pinwherry Hall on a Friday evening in November. No big screen or television, just a track, brass horses, broomhead jumps and foam dice. Swap your real money for Pretend Money and get involved – set up the course, throw the dice, move the horses – or just place a bet, watch and collect your winnings (or moan about losing)

Children are more than welcome to take part

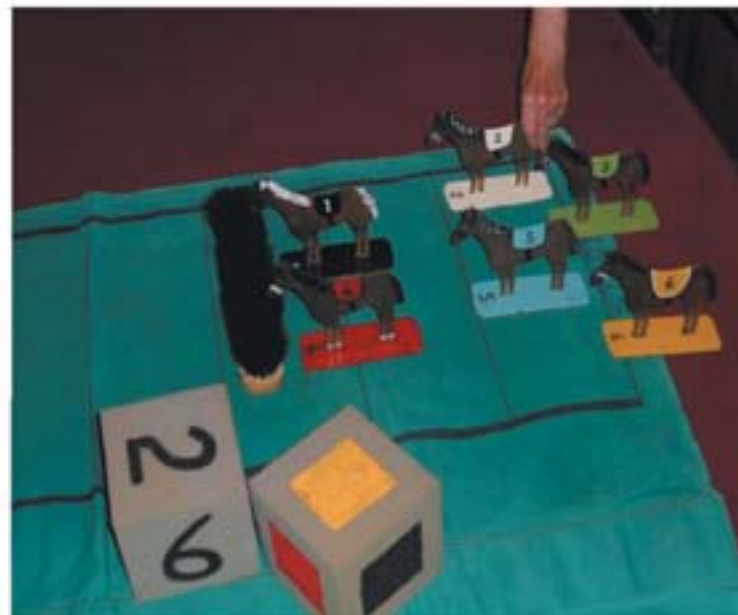


Do you remember Totopoly - well now you can play it again - only bigger and better!

Come along and take part

- Just place a bet - or
- Throw the dice - or
- Buy a horse - or
- Sponsor a race – or else
- Just eat, drink and be merry!

Horses are presently in training near Pinmore



## BALLANTRAE BUSINESS



Our Service was established on 1st April 2013, bringing together the collective skills and experience from across Scotland's previous eight fire and rescue services. You may think that our role is pretty straightforward – to prevent and control fires but, as any of our 8,000 firefighters will tell you, there's much more to the job than that.

The best way to deal with an emergency is to prevent it from happening in the first place, and our role starts long before any 999 call is made. We work in close partnership with local communities' right across Scotland to deliver crucial safety messages in the fight against fire. Whether based in an office or in a fire station, in the centre of Aberdeen or the wilds of Argyll, our staff are working together for a safer Scotland.

As with all emergency services, we are ready and available for action every minute of each day and on every day of the year - fires and disasters do not stop because of holidays or bad weather, and nor do we. Our wholtime firefighters respond to 999 emergency calls and tackle a wide range of incidents from fires and Road Traffic Collisions to chemical spills and water rescues. Wholtime firefighters also work with local communities to help keep people safe and spend much of their time engaging the public and our partners in the fight against fire. Our retained and volunteer staff are part-time firefighters who provide a vital service to our smaller or more rural communities; most of them are women and men whose primary employment is in another field, but who deliver the same range of emergency service as their wholtime colleagues.

It is essential that your home has a working smoke alarm on each level of the property. If a fire starts, this will give you and your family time to get to safety.

Doors slow down the spread of potentially deadly smoke and flames, so it is important to remember to close them at night.

Fire often starts in the kitchen and no-one should ever leave a cooker unattended while it is in use. It is also important to stay with any lit candles and make sure they are kept away from children and pets, and from curtains or other flammable materials.

### Home Fire Safety Visits

It's important to know how to reduce the chances of fire happening in your home and, if it does, how to protect yourself. Every hour of every day there's a house fire in Scotland. Cooking accidents, overloaded sockets, faulty appliances, smoking and drinking are just some of the reasons why there are so many house fires in Scotland. One lapse, such as leaving a pan unattended or failing to put out a cigarette properly, could change your life forever.

**To book a free Home Fire Safety Visit**  
text 'fire' to 61611; call 0800 0731 999; or visit [www.fireScotland.gov.uk](http://www.fireScotland.gov.uk)



### Electrical Safety

Switch off and unplug appliances like TVs, washing machines and tumble dryers that aren't designed to be left switched on. It's especially important when you're sleeping, or out of the house. Switching off at the socket and pulling the plug out is the only way to be sure no electricity is flowing through an appliance. Just using the socket switch isn't safe because the switch could be faulty. As well as keeping you safer, switching off and unplugging things at the wall saves you electricity and money! Appliances like fridge-freezers, videos with timers and cordless phones are designed to be left on.

### REMEMBER

- Always use the right fuse
- Never overload sockets
- Never run electrical cables under carpets
- Never repair/re-join cables with insulating tape
- Use electric blankets safely



# Cooking & Alcohol: A Recipe For Disaster

If you’ve been drinking alcohol or taking drugs, don’t cook.  
If you’re not concentrating, cooking the simplest meal can cause a fire.  
It’s easy to be distracted when cooking. It’s easy for a cooking fire start.  
Never walk away while you’re cooking.

## Key Tips

The best way to avoid having a fire involving hot oil is to use a thermostat controlled, electric deep-fat fryer.

- Never throw water over a pan that is on fire.
- If you’ve been drinking alcohol or taking drugs, don’t cook.
- Take extra care if you suffer from any illness, disability or are taking prescribed medications that make you careless or forgetful.
- Keep grill pans clean.
- Fires start when your attention stops.
- Never walk away while you’re cooking.

In the event of fire, a smoke or heat alarm will alert you and give you time to react safely and sensibly. Make sure you have working smoke alarms. Consider fitting a heat alarm in your kitchen. Cooking is the biggest cause of house fires in Scotland.

## Get your FREE Smoke Alarms

A short visit from the Fire and Rescue Service will help make sure your home is as safe as it can be.  
They can install smoke alarms, free, if you need them.  
It only takes about 20 minutes, and their advice and help could save your life. **To book a free Home Fire Safety Visit** text ‘fire’ to 61611; call 0800 0731 999; or visit [www.fireScotland.gov.uk](http://www.fireScotland.gov.uk)



## Smoking & Alcohol

Smoking is the main cause of death from fire in the home.  
Make sure you have a working smoke alarm in your home.



## More Markets!

Following a successful pilot last year, the Ballantrae Development Group (a sub group of the Community Council) and the Ayrshire Food Network are bringing a series of twelve Farmers’ Markets to Ballantrae between now and 2016. There will be two in 2013 and four in 2014. The 2013 Farmers’ Markets will be held on Sunday 18 August and Sunday 6 October from 11am to 3pm in Craigmains Home and Garden Centre, Main Street, Ballantrae.

Colin McNally who is taking the lead for the project for the Development Group said: “We had such a great turnout and such a positive reaction to last year’s event from customers and suppliers that we wanted to build on that success and to showcase quality local Ayrshire and Dumfries and Galloway food and produce on a more regular basis. Thanks to the support of Carrick Futures, we have 12 dates in the diary between now and the end of 2016. We have learned some valuable lessons from our initial pilot and future markets will be even better.”

Howard Wilkinson of the Ayrshire Food Network said: “We are delighted to be working with the Ballantrae Group on bringing Farmers’ Markets to Ballantrae. The stalls will include award winning cheeses, rare breed pork, beef and lamb, fresh vegetables, jams, preserves, plus other local specialist products”

**If you are a local food producer, and would like to be involved in one of the future Ballantrae Farmers’ Markets (and have all of the necessary public liability insurance), contact Colin McNally on 07778 872 028.**

In addition to the goods on sale, at Craigmains visitors will also find a coffee shop, gifts, books, garden supplies, miniature railway and a newly established Ballantrae Visitor Information Point.

## Colmonell WRI

Carlisle was the chosen destination for this year’s trip, and on the 25th May a bus full of happy women headed off to Carlisle for shopping and sightseeing. High Tea at the Queensberry Arms, Annan finished the day in style before the return journey to Colmonell.

# New Visitor Information Point for Ballantrae



The Ballantrae Development Group (BDG) - a sub group of the Ballantrae Community Council - has been working with Craigmains Home and Garden Centre to establish a Visitor Information Point (VIP) within Craigmains; funded by Carrick Futures.

The Visitor Information Point, which was designed and built by BDG members Peter Newland and Andy McAlpine, contains a video loop of pictures of Ballantrae and the surrounding area, leaflets of things to see and do within roughly a 30ml radius of the village, a map of the village (see centre colour pages) and features a stunning carving of a salmon created by local craftsman Ross McCreadie.

BDG member Andy McAlpine said: “Ballantrae is serious about attracting visitors to the village. That is why we have contributed to the Ayrshire and Arran Tourism Strategy, the Carrick Tourism Strategy and the “Carriack Characters and Heritage Hubs” project. Ballantrae is the gateway to Carrick. Rather than engaging a private company to supply us with a range of leaflets – many of which would have no bearing on what is happening locally - we decided to approach businesses and attractions within roughly a 30 ml radius of Ballantrae ourselves, to target the things we thought visitors and locals might want to see or do on a day out. The reaction to that approach has been quite remarkable. There’s no doubt there is a lot happening in the South West of Scotland – whether it is in South Ayrshire or Dumfries and Galloway - and we are happy to showcase these places, activities and events.”

Although the VIP was open in time for the main tourist season, it was officially opened on 6 August by Moira Birtwhistle, Chair of the Ayrshire and Arran Tourism Leadership Group who said: “Rural communities are the lifeblood of Ayrshire & Arran, reflecting the rich cultural heritage of our land and people.

Ballantrae Community Council and the Ballantrae Development Group have truly embraced tourism, recognising that any development should be sustainable, drawing on their cultural heritage to create a sense of place and recognising how “local food’ can add value to the visitor and tourist experience. The energy here is tangible and exemplar.

Ballantrae Development Group’s enterprising approach to collecting information by engaging with businesses, organisations and attractions within a radius of 30 miles, has ensured a refreshing approach to showcasing and encouraging both visitors and locals to explore the delights of the area, and stimulating the local visitor economy.

I thoroughly enjoyed my visit to Ballantrae today and recognise and commend all your hard effort in delivering innovative tourism projects. Congratulations on making a difference and realising your shared vision”

**Meetings are held on the second Wednesday of each month at 7.30pm and the winter syllabus for 2013/14 is as follows:**

**September 11th:** Linda Adam demonstrating ‘Fascinators’.  
**4th October:** Annual whist drive to raise funds for the senior citizens’ Xmas party.  
**9th October:** Talk & Activity Night with Peter Conlin (Peebles Spa)  
**13th November:** Ruth Wallace will give a talk on her trip to El Shaddai Child Rescue Centre in Goa  
**December 11th:** is Xmas Party time with the Senior Citizens and entertainment by ‘Music Box’  
**January 8th:** is a ‘Four Corners Member’s night’  
**February 12th:** is an ‘Open Night’ with a talk by Gwyneth Guthrie on her theatre, TV and radio career.  
**March 12th:** is ‘Birthday Party time’ – Colmonell WRI’s 87th party catered by ‘Kildonan’  
**April 9th:** is a demonstration of tray bakes by Janette Crozier  
**May 14th:** is the AGM and presentation of trophies and points prizes, held at Craige Mains Garden Centre.

**For further information contact Margaret Robertson on 881352**



# Ballantrae Apprehends Smugglers!

At the time of writing this article, there’s conspiracy afoot in Ballantrae as villagers plot all sorts of shenanigans for a week in August. Dubious characters have been spotted gathering old clothes and a curious pair in 18th Century garb have been seen patrolling the streets. And there are rumours that local worthies are on the verge of being detained by the authorities and put on public trial...

Rumour had it that there were smugglers in town. No one was above suspicion.... “The Exciseman” and “The Judge” have been enlisting the help of local children to draw up posters and apprehend the scandalous culprits. The children of Ballantrae Primary School also highlighted the problem of smuggling by devoting their Gala Week float to “The Smugglers”.

This is all part of a new “Smugglers Festival” being staged by Ballantrae Development Group supported by Ballantrae Community Council and Carrick Futures, to encourage tourism and offer fundraising opportunities to local community groups. An action packed programme, with a unique series of events, will draw on the area’s murky past as a haven for smugglers.

By the time you read this, smuggler scarecrows will have appeared on the streets of Ballantrae, in gardens, businesses and homes. The Judge and the Exciseman will have enlisted local and visiting children, sworn them in as members of “The Excise” and sought their help to scour the village following a “Smugglers Trail”. The Community Hall will have been transformed into the Smuggler Arms and Frances Wilkins, a social historian and author will have told “Ballantrae’s Smuggling Story” and launched her new book of the same name. We will have had a secret screening of a well known classic film based on the true story of a Scottish coastal whisky smuggling and held a whisky tasting. The highlights of the week will have been the interactive “Court of Justice” - which is expected to throw up a few scandalous surprises, the Fun Day and Village Fayre on the Saturday where the captured smugglers will be punished and the Folk Night organised Girvan Folk Club will have rounded off the Festival.

Maybe by the time you read this you will have experienced some of the events for yourself. Even if you haven’t we’ll bring you the full story and some pictures in the next edition!

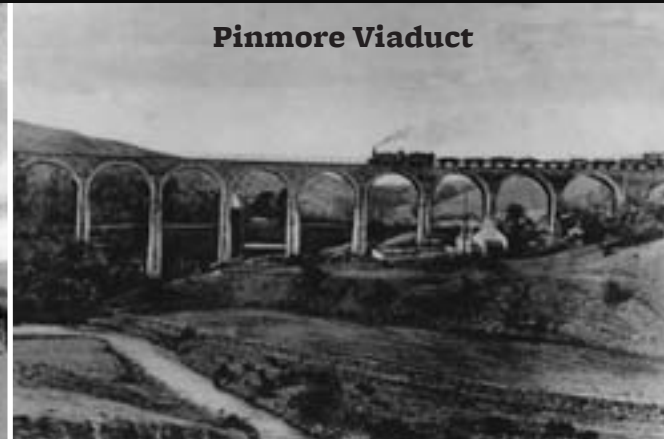


## from the archives . . .

snippets of local history gathered from newspapers, the British Library Archives and many local sources by Keith and Christine Brown of Ballantrae.



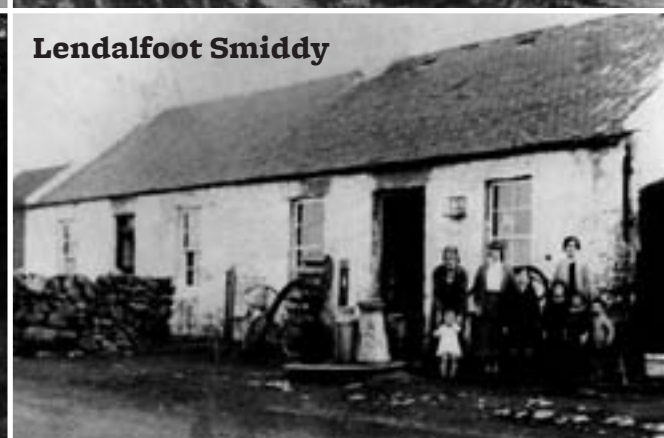
**Colomnell Coach**



**Pinmore Viaduct**



**Poundland**



**Lendalfoot Smiddy**



**Lendal Kids**



**Daljarock PO Couple**

"Following the publication of the pictures in the "From the Archives" page in the last edition, Jeanette McCulloch of the Foreland, Ballantrae said:

"I have some information on 2 of the pictures."

'Ballantrae, House behind the Kirk' was called Rose Cottage. My Grandfather David Davidson was born there. The house is no longer there but was behind the church where the big metal gates are now."

'Colmonell Bakery' belonged to the McCreaths who moved from Ballantrae where they already had a bakery on the left of the churchyard on Main Street, to bigger premises in Colmonell while still retaining the bakery in Ballantrae."

Feedback on these articles would be appreciated either via the magazine editor or by e-mail to Keith and Christine at [kaycee.history@gmail.com](mailto:kaycee.history@gmail.com)

There is very little in the archives about Barr. Any historical information would be welcomed.



## KILDONAN HOUSE

**Kildonan House is situated amidst glorious countryside just half a mile from Barrhill off the A714 to Pinwherry:**

Kildonan House, Barrhill, South Ayrshire, Scotland, UK, KA26 0PS  
 Tearoom: 01465-821458  
 Restaurant & Takeaway: 01465-821519  
 Website: [www.kildonancountryhouse.co.uk](http://www.kildonancountryhouse.co.uk)



## New Websites

**Carrick** [www.carrickayrshire.com](http://www.carrickayrshire.com)

The new Carrick website is now live and fully accessible. This is the first time all of Carrick's tourism product information has been collated and presented in one place, easy to view for anyone in the world. We would encourage you to explore the website, use the tab to like it on Facebook and sign up to the free newsletter. These actions will generate traffic on the website, helping it rise up the ranks on Google and other search engines and make it more visible online to possible visitors.

**Pinwherry/Pinmore** [www.2pins.org.uk](http://www.2pins.org.uk)

This community website will keep you up to date with all the news about the 2 Pins Centre developments, local information from all community groups, what's on, tourist information, photograph gallery etc. To do this we need your help to give us the information. We are also looking for more photos and history of Pinmore and Pinwherry so please get in touch.



**137 Main Street Ayr KA8 8BX 01292 286815**

**Les Anderson (Chair at SASF)**

E mail: [Chair@sasf.co.uk](mailto:Chair@sasf.co.uk)

Letter: SASF 137 Main Street Ayr KA8 8BX

Phone: 0792581335

*Woodland Bay*  
**HOTEL**

**Woodland Bay Hotel, Woodland Farm, Ayrshire, KA26 0HP**

For details, menus and booking go to [www.woodlandbayhotel.co.uk](http://www.woodlandbayhotel.co.uk) or e-mail [stay@woodlandfarm.co.uk](mailto:stay@woodlandfarm.co.uk)  
 For telephone the booking hotline **01465 710 700**



# The Ballantrae Patchwork Group

The Ballantrae Patchwork Group starts on Wednesday 11th September 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!! We 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      01465 841686



## Adam Ingram MSP

### Community Transport

The key conclusion of a report by the Scottish Parliaments Infrastructure and Capital Investment Committee of which I am the Deputy Convener is that funding should be available to help community transport providers buy new and replacement vehicles.

The Committee has been examining the problems community transport users and providers in Scotland face. The local area has been served reasonably well over the years by a number of groups including Ballantrae Rural Initiative Care in the Community Ltd and the services offered by Carrick Community Transport Group.

However, local groups such as Stepping Stones for Families have fallen victim to a shortfall in adequate funding and the future of the community transport service operated by SAYLSA could be jeopardised with their funding application rejected by South Ayrshire Council.

Community transport services typically grow in response to local demand and need. This organic nature is vital to their success. It is essential that the services remain managed at a local level to reflect the wide variation in needs and challenges which exist in different communities and our Committee is calling on the Scottish Government to consider the best way to assist this vital service.

### Crime Drop

The latest official crime statistics show a nationwide record low in recorded crime since 1974.  
In South Ayrshire we have seen a 30% decrease in recorded crimes since 2007. In the past year alone there has been a 14% drop in housebreakings and crimes including vandalism and fire-raising have been more than halved since the SNP came to government in 2007.

This drop in crime is good news for local communities across the country and further evidence that the SNP is moving Scotland forward as a safer country in which to live, work and raise a family.

This is backed by record numbers of police officers – over 1,000 extra since 2007 – who are keeping communities safe and increasing the crime clear-up rate to its highest since 1976.

People are feeling safer in their communities and record police numbers underline how decisions for Scotland are best made by those elected by the people of Scotland, rather than leaving matters in the hands of Westminster politicians.

On another note I await the outcome of the review of opening times of police stations - an issue I am well aware is of local concern in Girvan.

**Adam Ingram MSP**  
Carrick, Cumnock & Doon Valley  
Office1, 4 The Square, Cumnock - Tel: 01290 425 874

# The Stinchar Valley Magazine



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# Letters

Dear Editor,

Further to Mr Ingram’s article on the new wind farm planning guidance: these are the proposals from the same Scottish government that routinely overturns decisions by local councils to reject wind farm planning applications on the same grounds as those set out in the new guidance. How crazy is that! Maybe South West Scotland isn’t considered wild enough? Possibly this new crisis of conscience only applies to the “real Highlands” where really influential people with lots of money and large tracts of land hold sway.

Meanwhile, here in the south west, we are discovering the reality of living with about 25% of the number of proposed wind farms for the area - the damage to property and roads during the construction phase - the only local jobs catering for the Spanish construction workers.

Then there is the effect on local wildlife. The large birds are unable to hunt because the windmills disrupt the thermals. They move into the territory of others overcrowding the habitat. Consequently small bird and rodent numbers decrease, breeding is abandoned. e.g. barn owls which have bred regularly for years have not reared young this year. Where I live - 3 miles from Barrhill - things got so bad in June and July that all the large birds deserted the area in search of food. My cats were reduced to presenting me with the same dead mouse daily for at least a week.

At the current rate of windfarm expansion the destruction of habitat will result in a total imbalance of the local wildlife with many important species being lost to the area. The only tourists will be study groups looking at how things should NOT be done.

Pat Spence

## Scotland Signs Faster Broadband Project With BT

Thinkbroadband.com - Tuesday 09 July 2013      by Andrew Ferguson

Some 600,000 properties across Scotland are set to benefit from a massive investment in fibre broadband. The contract between BT and the Scottish Government was signed at the BT exchange in Pitt Street, Glasgow today and means that there will be a £264 million investment in broadband improvements. This is in addition to the £146 million previously announced back in March 2013 for the Highlands and Islands.

“Today’s announcement signals the start of one of the most ambitious infrastructure projects in the whole of Europe. It will connect communities across rural and urban areas, providing a platform for future economic development and regeneration. “Next generation broadband enables businesses to compete on the international stage. It has the potential to transform the way in which we educate our children, provide health and social care and deliver our public services. It provides Scotland with a platform upon which we can build and sustain a world class digital country.”  
Deputy First Minister Nicola Sturgeon

The contribution made by BT is £106.7 million and £50 million from the Westminster run BDUK fund and has targets of 85% coverage of fibre based broadband (mainly FTTC/ VDSL2) by the end of 2015 and increasing to 95% by the end of 2017. The total investment in better broadband across Scotland stands at £410m and builds on the commercial roll-out by BT that is already available to some 1.5 million premises in Scotland. While the expense looks high when you consider that Analysys Mason estimate £2 billion of economic benefits over a fifteen year period it looks more like a good medium to long term investment.

The areas covered by this latest announcement are Aberdeen City, Aberdeenshire, Angus, parts of Argyll & Bute, Clackmannanshire, Dumfries& Galloway, Dundee City, East Ayrshire, East Dunbartonshire, East Lothian, East Renfrewshire, City of Edinburgh, Falkirk, Fife, Glasgow City, Inverclyde, Midlothian, North Ayrshire (apart from the Islands), North Lanarkshire, Perth& Kinross, Renfrewshire, Scottish Borders, South Ayrshire, South Lanarkshire, Stirling, West Dunbartonshire, West Lothian. The Highlands and Islands project covers Highland, Moray, Orkney Islands, Shetland Islands, Eilean Siar (Western Isles), parts of Argyll and Bute and part of North Ayrshire (Islands) and by running separately has more scope for handling the more diverse requirements of those areas.



## Sandra Osborne MP

I continue to be contacted by constituents on a wide range of issues. I am particularly concerned that worries about the unemployment situation and issues such as the Bedroom Tax feature very heavily in the enquiries I receive.

I have also been contacted by constituents who are annoyed about receiving unwanted calls and messages. These unwanted marketing messages can be received by telephone or text message. Despite the Telephone Preference Service allowing people to have their telephone number removed from marketing lists, it seems that many people are still receiving unwanted calls. I now understand that the Culture, Media and Sport Committee will now undertake an inquiry into this issue, and I would be pleased to pass on any comments from my constituents. Although Parliament is in recess until September I remain busy visiting projects and organisations across the constituency and constituents who wish any support with any issues or problems should contact my office.

I would wish to offer best wishes to my constituents over the summer months and please be assured I am working for the people I represent all the year round.

**Sandra Osborne MP**  
Phone 01292 262906 or e-mail osbornes @parliament.uk



# Local & Interesting Web Sites

Age Concern Girvan  
St Colmon Church  
Ballantrae Church  
Ballantrae Village  
The Ancient Tree Hunt  
Pinwherry/Pinmore  
The Stinchar Valley  
The Carrick website  
Kildonan Country House  
Galloway & Ayrshire Biosphere  
Red Nose Day  
The Southern Uplands Partnership  
Scottish National Heritage  
The Woodland Trust  
Sign the Petition Now  
Forestry Commission  
Scottish Environmental Protection  
Girvan Camera Club  
Girvan Attractions  
Red Squirrels in South Scotland  
Ayrshire Rivers Trust  
Ayrshire Red Squirrel Group  
ASDA Online shopping  
The Commonwealth Orchard  
The Flavours of Galloway  
BBC Web Wise  
Going Wild  
The Big Wildlife Garden  
The Peinn Mor Pottery  
M.J.A Photography  
Public services all in one place  
For timetables, fares and bookings  
Library Catalogue  
Library Services  
South Ayrshire Libraries Blog  
Scottish Water  
Community Police Team  
BarrVillage  
Stagecoach

www.ageconcerngirvan.org.uk  
www.stcolmonparishchurch.org.uk  
www.ballantraeparishchurch.org.uk  
www.ballantrae.org.uk  
www.ancient-tree-hunt.org.uk/project/hunt  
www.2pins.org.uk  
www.stincharvalley.co.uk  
www.carrickayrshire.com  
www.kildonancountryhouse.co.uk  
www.sup.org.uk/biosphere/index.htm  
www.rednoseday.com  
www.sup.org.uk  
www.snh.org.uk  
www.woodlandtrust.org.uk  
www.38degrees.org.uk/save-our-forests  
www.forestry.gov.uk  
www.sepa.org.uk  
www.girvancameraclub.org.uk  
girvanattractions.synthasite.com  
www.redsquirrels.org.uk  
www.ayrshireriverstrust.org/cisp  
www.ayrshirered squirrels.org.uk  
groceries.asda.com/asda-estore/index.jsp  
www.commonwealthorchard.com  
www.flavoursofgalloway.co.uk  
www.bbc.co.uk/webwise/courses  
www.goingwild.net  
www.bwg.naturallengland.org.uk  
www.peinnmor.co.uk  
www.mjaphotography.co.uk  
www.direct.gov.uk  
www.citylinkonlinesales.co.uk  
library.south-ayrshire.gov.uk  
www.south-ayrshire.gov.uk/library  
sayrshirelib.wordpress.com  
www.scottishwater.co.uk  
www.strathclyde.police.co.uk/your-community/ayrshire/girvan\_and\_south\_carrick  
www.barrvillage.co.uk  
www.stagecoachbus.com/timetables

# Useful Contacts

Barrhill Community Bus  
Stagecoach  
MyBus Rural (Mon-Sat 7am-7pm)  
Accident & Emergency  
Minor Injuries Unit  
NHS 24  
Samaritans  
Girvan Community  
Citizens Advice  
SEPA Emergencies  
Gas Emergencies  
Scottish Power  
Emergency Services

Self hire or arranged trips  
Ayr Depot  
door transport for Carrick  
Ayr Hospital  
Girvan Community Hospital  
  
Policing Team  
Stranraer 10am - 4pm Mon - Fri  
  
Power Cut/Emergencies

01465 714 665  
01292 613 500  
0845 123 5656  
01292 610 555  
01465 712 571  
08454 242 424  
0345 909 090  
01465 710 995  
01776 706 355  
0800 807 060  
0800 111 999  
0845 2727 999  
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; which 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.

# 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: Ligartrie Farm Pinwherry KA26 0SL.
- We will return any material 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.



During the summer the Girvan Camera Club members has been out and about. We've been to The Ayrshire Railway Preservation Group at Dunaskin, Millport and the Galloway Country Fair at Drumlanrig. Evening visits have included outings to the castle at Dunure, and the "Clear Round" Showjumping at Woodlands Farm. (See pictures on rear inner page)

Girvan Camera Club draws its members from across South Carrick. If you are interested in photography, no matter your level of expertise, why not come along and join us. We meet every Tuesday in the South Church Hall, Girvan from 7.30pm until around 9.30pm. Our first night of the new season is Tuesday 17 September. You'll find out more about us at: [www.girvancameraclub.org.uk](http://www.girvancameraclub.org.uk).



## CHRISTMAS CLUB

Hi,

My new Christmas Supplement has arrived and it is packed with over 200 Christmas products, 90 of which are brand new for 2013.

I would like to make you to be one of the first to see my exciting new range of thirty Christmas cards, rolltop, tags, gift bags, paper chains, Advent calendar cards and our unique Advent calendars.

Please do get in touch if you would like me to:

- give you a copy of my new 68-page Christmas Supplement?
- give you a copy of my full 2013 product brochure with over 300 year-round Phoenix products for all those birthdays and special occasions?
- organise a Coffee & Cards event for you and your friends to get together and shop in the comfort of your own home?
- leave a bag or basket of cards for you to peruse?
- tell you more about the Phoenix business opportunity?

I have attached an order form in case you feel immediately inspired - simply fill in your details, send it back to me via email and I shall get in touch to arrange payment and delivery.

I look forward to hearing from you soon.

Best wishes,

Name: SARAH FREDMAN  
Independent Phoenix Trader: 26024  
Email address: [sarah@stclairstapestry.com](mailto:sarah@stclairstapestry.com)  
Website: [www.phoenixcards.com](http://www.phoenixcards.com)  
Trading as: [www.stclairstapestry.com](http://www.stclairstapestry.com)  
Telephone Number: 01465 821538

Chanter classes and for those who have progressed to the bagpipes are in Colmonell, Adults are also welcome to join the classes, if you would like to learn, contact Billy McCubbin on 01465 881293.



# BARR NEWS

## Barr’s King’s Arms is Open Again

The King’s Arms Hotel has reopened under new management after a period of cosure. Jordan and Kassie Farmery are the couple who will take on the task of reviving its fortunes. InJuly the doors of the pub were opened again and there was a big turn out of locals to wish them success in their new venture. Initially, bar facilities only will be available but, as soon as a refurbishment has taken place, Kassie, expecting a new baby in December, will don her chef’s apron and the restaurant will also reopen with an attractive menu available for would-be diners. It’s a leap of faith for the recently married pair but they are determined to make it work and already have ambitious plans for the future. As “live in” proprietors, they intend to devote all of their energy and resources into making the hotel a “must visit” establishment in South Carrick and beyond.



“Our first task was to get the bar open again so that the village knows that we’re back in operation.” said Jordan. “But as soon as we get the restaurant up and running, starting with a tasting evening on 6th September, we’ll be spreading the message far and wide”.

They aim to get the King’s known throughout the area by building a reputation for good country-pub style food, freshly prepared using locally-sourced produce. When fully operational, they’ll be offering both a bar and restaurant menu as well as a breakfast and ‘take away’ service. Kassie has already been hard at work on the menu which, she hopes, will tempt locals and visitors alike, including walkers and cyclists who may only want to pop in for a sandwich or a light lunch.

“All our food will be home cooked and we’ll use only fresh ingredients with our lamb and beef coming from Jordan’s farm where he will continue to work during the day.Vegetables will also be locally procured where possible so frozen produce will be definitely “off the menu””.

Behind the bar, Jordan is also thinking of trying a real ale if there is a demand for it. He’ll have one available at the September tasting evening to gauge the response. “It’s definitely making a comeback and, if it’s what people want, then we’ll provide it.” he said. There will be live music once a month and the Quiz Night is scheduled to make a return. Jordan and Kassie have been discussing a move into the hospitality business for over a year now and were attracted by the opportunity to take over the running of the village hotel. Both are excited but undaunted by the prospect. “We are very much looking forward to the challenges ahead. We’ll give it our best shot.”

## Gala Day Report

All the tried and tested ingredients of Galas through the years were present at Barr’s Gala Day and a fair crowd turned out to take part in the celebrations and to enjoy a family day out. Once again, the village was looking at its best as the bunting fluttered in the breeze thanks to the efforts of the bowling club members.



The day got off to a great start with a record breaking win in the adult Fell Race by 14 years old Arran Denham. Then it was on to the procession of floats through the village and the crowning of the “King and Queen”, P6 pupils Dylan Ross and Skye Trotter who did a great job in taking their oaths of office in front of a large crowd in the village hall.

The fire brigade, ambulance service and the vintage cars turned out to support the day and the stall along the banks of the Gregg Water were bustling throughout the afternoon with eager customers for the various wares and entertainments on offer. The hamburgers stall was sold out by mid afternoon and the tea room did a roaring trade throughout the day.

In his Chairman’s letter (Page 2), Community Association Chairman Dave Trotter thanked everyone who had helped make the day a success especially the members of the Association Committee who, he said, had shown “unending enthusiasm” for tackling all the tasks in hand. “My sincerest thanks goes out to everyone who gave up their time and energy to make events such as this go off in true Barr style. “We couldn’t have done it without you” he said.



## Barr Community Association Report

Dave Trotter, Chairman of Barr’s Community Association has thanked all those who gave their time and energy to making this year’s Gala Day a great success once again.

Dave said, “The day itself continued to present challenges in respect of the weather, which as an eternal optimist, I believe was actually beneficial to the day. It was not too hot for the Fell race, the Sun was out for the Parade, the rain brought everyone inside for the crowning of the Queen, sun out again for a bit of shopping and to top it off the rain came back at the end of the day to allow us to clear up and prepare for the evening.

The Gala Dance provided a well-earned chance for “everyone” to have a beer and let their hair down after all the hard work over the preceding weeks. I would like to extend a big thank-you to everyone who came along and enjoyed a great bit of entertainment. The Kids entertainment went down an absolute storm and we can highly recommend “Silly Gilly” if anyone needs their kids entertained for an hour or two.

The Committee members can only achieve through support from the village and it is in this regard we feel that direct communication between all of the Village groups will allow all to work together for mutual benefit and ultimately lead to a more cohesive approach to forthcoming Village events. To that end letters have been sent to all of the groups in the Village extending an invitation to them to be represented in the BCA meetings. Working together and supporting Barr’s services; pub, shop, post office, church, school, clubs, Council representatives and the BCA is a collective responsibility.

Support can be provided in a number of ways - attendance, presenting ideas, and last, but not least, active involvement. If you do have any suggestions or objections please come forward and approach us any comments should be directed to the BCA Chairman for a formal response. We will continue to act on your behalf in all aspects of “The Barr” and, improve our lines of communication to ensure that all members of the community can express opinions that matter so much to us”.

## Barr Community Council Report

Hamish Denham, Chairman of Barr’s Community Council has said that the new Council is working hard to reinvigorate a community company previously set up by our predecessors. The purpose of this company is initially to facilitate a new children’s play area and sports field.

Hamish said , “The community company will complement the Community Council and the Community Association working in tandem to take forward community projects. A community company depends upon the support of the membership. In order to launch the company we propose to hold an open day where we seek to explain the workings and gather village input for future projects. Following this there will be an Annual General Meeting(AGM). At the AGM it will be for the members, to decide who will take the company and your ideas forward.

Other ongoing business relates to upkeep of our popular woodland trails, liaising with both the Forestry Commission and South Ayrshire Council.

The support of the community is essential and we will continue to work for you and with you”.

## Barr Community Shop: Outlook Is Good

Barr Community Shop and Post Office is now in its second year of trading and, in its third year, will be depending on its own profits to keep the business operational.

The shop is a non profit making company with any profits being ploughed back into the shop for the benefit of the community. Some of its aims are to provide a friendly customer service and to offer locally sourced produce and crafts all year round.

All volunteers, directors and group members give their time freely. The shop managers, Judy Brzezinska and Mike Ross, who are paid only for part time hours, work above and beyond the call of duty.

Barr Community Shop and Post Office has made great strides since the start of 2013 and we have been busy refurbishing the premises, building a kitchen area and planning a space to offer a small café area for our customers.

The launch of the café took place on Barr Gala Day, and the volume of local support that was received was most encouraging. Now they are planning to provide a focal point for the community and visitors alike offering freshly prepared and cooked food.

The shop’s AGM will be held on Thursday 5th September 2013, 7.30pm, at Barr Community Centre.

## Dates For The Diary

### SEPTEMBER

- 5th Sept: Community Stores AGM, Village Hall 7.30pm
- 6th Sept: King’s Arms Hotel - Food Tasting Night
- 7th Sept: Bowling Club Open Triples Competition
- 15th Sept: Celebrating “Maw Broon’s Afternoon Tea”
- 19th Sept: SWRI Opening meeting of the season
- 27th Sept: MacMillan Coffee morning, Village Hall.

### OCTOBER

- 5th Oct. Barr TeasLadies Lunch & Fashion Show by “Shimmer”



## Upper Stinchar SWRI



Wilma Gracie is the new Chair of the Upper Stinchar SWRI and will lead it through its 85th birthday year.

The Rural is looking forward to a new season of exciting meetings, with many interesting guests. The new timetable starts on Thursday 19th September 2013 at 7pm, with guest speaker Liz Gregg, who will give a talk on flower arranging. This will be held in the small hall at Barr Community Centre. Please note the earlier starting time.

You are very welcome to attend, either as a member or as a guest, and you will receive a warm welcome. The new committee is as follows

Chair: Wilma Gracie  
Vice Chair : Isobel Wood  
Secretary: Sue Sweet  
Treasurer: Jo Campbell  
Press Secretary : Jean Leil  
Raffle Organiser: Netta Wilson  
Points Secretary: Susan Trotter

## Fionn's Big Day

It was a day to remember for Fionn Corbett earlier this month when she went to Holyrood Palace to receive her Duke of Edinburgh's Gold Award.

The award ceremonies were headed by HRH Prince Edward with whom Fionn managed "quite a wee chat" according to Mum, Merlin. A clearly thrilled Fionn had her photo taken with award presenters; adventurer, Calum McNicol and comedienne Jayney Godley.

## Good Start For Bowlers

The weather has been a big factor in Barr Bowling Club's season getting off to a great start. Going from strength to strength, the membership of the club has now reached 30 - the highest total for quite a number of years. As a result, competition is keen on club days (Thursdays at 6.30pm and Sundays at 2.00pm). Ad hoc Saturday games are quickly arranged if the weather is fine and the midgies are staying indoors (or wherever it is that midgies 'chillax'), and these have proved popular.



All greens were in use for the first competition of the year, the 'Open Pairs' with ten rinks taking part. Winners were Dorothy Stewart and Steve Smith who defeated Alan Ringrose and George Campbell in the final. (pictured above with President Johnny McKechnie)

Following the competition, a superb Italian menu was provided in the Small Hall with refreshments also available. The next competition is an Open Triples to be held on Saturday 7th September and entries should be in to Isobel Ringrose (861651) by the 4th of September.

The Club would like to take this opportunity to thank the Community Council for its support as it has managed to buy some equipment and also fertiliser to keep the green in good condition.

## Arran Beats The Big Boys

Arran Denham hit the headlines when he romped to victory in the Gala Day Fell Race ... in the ADULTS category! At 14, Arran is clearly a great prospect, according to one race veteran Alastair Noble of Girvan. Arran's time of 24'17" over Auchensoul brought him in ahead of Girvan Running Club's John Goodenough. Not only that, he accomplished his victory the day after completing his Duke of Edinburgh's Silver Expedition.



## Barr's Facebook Page

Barr's new Facebook page is now gaining lots of hits (464 for Traboyack Barn Dance post) You don't need a Facebook account to visit the Barr Facebook page - interest averages around the 100 mark but we still need another 55 'likes' before we can merge the old Facebook page with this Web site one so tell all your friends!

Barr Village Website has had quite a few enquiries from abroad; people tracing roots with lots of interest in historic pictures - Anyone who has old pics of Barr or Barr folk that we can scan to show on the genealogy page, would be much appreciated. Link to Facebook is: <https://www.facebook.com/TheBarrVillage>

## Heritage Trail

The new Community Heritage Trail will show visitors a little of the individual character of Carrick's different communities. After consultation on themes, local stories and cultural icons, the project has now progressed to the design and implementation stage.

Barr Community Council formed a project group with the Heritage Trail's Project leaders, David Bett Associates & local artists Merlin Currie & Anett Forsyth who have designed a Barr Village human sundial which will be positioned opposite the Village Hall. A flat embedded mosaic central panel will incorporate Changue's footsteps where one can stand and cast a shadow to tell the time.

Barr residents of all ages are invited to be involved in the project; measuring up for the mathematical accuracy of true North & the markers positions, donating crockery/tiles, design input from the Primary School children, installation and further development ideas.

Geo-caching will be incorporated into each Carrick community contribution, although without a signal, Barr visitors may have to download a wee 'app' to allow the mapping to take place as soon as signal is reached. It is hoped that this will form the first phase in forming more creative connections and interest with our local Trails and points of interest around Barr, i.e. each point of the timepiece will relate to one of the Trails e.g. Kirsty's Cairn, the Devil's Trail, Fairy Knowe, Dinmurchie and more. For further information contact: [www.barrvillage.co.uk/news-events/](http://www.barrvillage.co.uk/news-events/)

## Barr Primary: School Report

There was a lot to pack in before the Summer holidays and, as usual Barr Primary School went at it full pelt. The packed June programme began with a "Health Day" when staff and parents came dressed in sports wear.

On 12th June, the presentation took place of a cheque for £1,201.50 to CLIC Sargent which were the proceeds from the school's sponsored walk.

The following day saw the house competition winners (Rowantree) head off on a visit to the Chocolate Factory in Twynholm as a reward for coming top.

The P3 & 4 ACE Beach Challenge was held the following day. This followed on from earlier successful challenge days experienced by the other years in the previous month.

It was all hands to the pumps for four hours of bag packing at ASDA and, a few days later, the P7s went to Girvan Academy to watch their School Show, a lively musical comedy entitled "Back to the 80s" which was enjoyed by all.

The Nursery Class had their own special day out when they went to the Farm Park at the Heads of Ayr which is a "must see" attraction these days.

Getting on towards the end of the month and the P5s & 7s went "Coasteering" with ACE.

Soon it was Gala Day, with the school again winning the coveted prize for the best float in the show with their "Action Heroes" display. Gala King and Queen; Dylan Ross and Skye Trotter did the school proud before a large audience in the village hall. Well done to them. Then it was into a hectic last week.

There was the school trip to Balchriston Beach followed the next day by the Sports at the Clachan Field.

An "Achievement Assembly" was held during the last week and the ever-popular Barbecue was enjoyed by the many who came along to join in the fun before the school closed for the holidays the following day. There was just the car wash in the playground to get done before the holidays could really start in earnest - 7 weeks in the glorious sunshine!

## School Thanks...

...to David Trotter and Kenny Lorimer for setting up and holding an outdoor day for the whole school and nursery back at the beginning of the year. We learned den building and survival skills and all had a fabulous day and we even had hot chocolate and sausages!

...to everyone who took part and supported the Sponsored Walk in aid of CLIC Sargent. We raised the fantastic total of £1,201.50

...to all the Rag Baggers who helped us collect lots of bags and raise £169.50 for school eco funds. We are willing to accept Rag Bag throughout the year, so please feel free to drop off at any time.

## Award

We were awarded the DFS Bronze Award, the first step in becoming a Dyslexia Friendly School, thanks to the hard work of Miss Conway and her Parent, Staff and Pupil Working Party, another well done.

## Goodbye & Hello

We say goodbye to our three P7s who will leave us at the end of June to move on to the Academy and hello to our four new P1s who will be joining us in August making our school role 27 next year. We have no new ante-pre school pupils joining us, so our nursery role will be 4.



# TRAIN YOUR BRAIN

This sheet is a picture of a woodland path. Your challenge: colour it in! Sounds simple eh? No chance! Have you seen the CHAOS that happens when small leaves fall on top of big leaves, which are overlapped by spiky leaves, which are pinned down by rolling berries, which are..... you get the point.

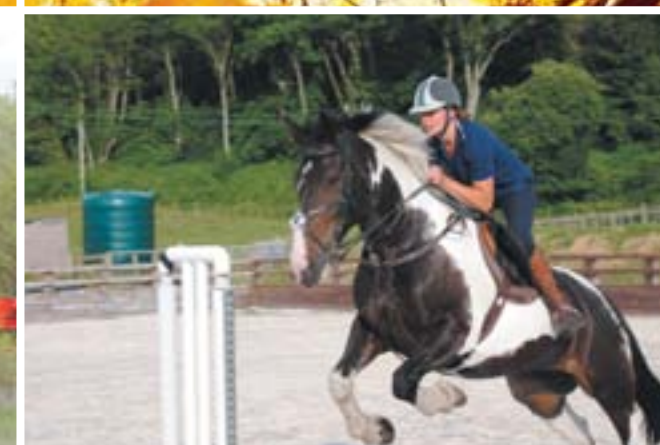
## Here are some colour ideas:

- Use real-life colours (you could put autumn colours on the leaves)
- Match leaves and seeds from the same tree with the same colour--
- Pretend the forest has flooded and colour everything in different shades of blue--
- Put shadows under the edges to make it look 3D--
- Colour absolutely everything a different colour--
- Do your own thing!



Woodland Trust  
naturedetectives

[www.naturedetectives.org.uk](http://www.naturedetectives.org.uk)



2 PINS:  
THANK YOUS  
& MENTIONS

AYRSHIRE  
RED  
SQUIRRELS

What a great community event for the first 2 Pins partnership fundraising event.

Thank you to the Ladies of Pinwherry SWRI for all the baking, tea making, and raffle prizes etc. (I only got 1 scone jam & cream).

Thank you to St Colmon Church for the loan of tables, chairs and children's games.

Thanks to Liz Gregg for the electricity and water (and the toilets).

Thanks to the Pinwherry Community Association for the cups, saucers, urn etc.

Thanks to all the directors and 2 Pins members who helped with the marquee and transport and setting up.

Finally, thanks to the community for supporting the event. We gained 24 new members and it is estimated that over 100 people and 20 children attended the event.

The event raised approx. (at printing) £420.

Looking forward to seeing everybody at the 2 Pins meeting on the 12th September.

Thank you all  
Peter Walker

Pinwherry WRI has many people to thank for the wonderful response they received from various sources for their afternoon tea held on Saturday 24th at Pinmore. Those who organised, erected and dismantled the marquee. Supplied, delivered and returned tables, chairs, dishes etc. Everyone who helped with the teas, sales table and other stalls and those who gave donations for the teas, sales table and raffle.

Carlie Dunbar and Cara Logan were the winners of the number of sweets in the jars.

Very many thanks to all who supported our project in any way. And to everyone who came along we hope they enjoyed their day with us and who helped us raise more than £400.

Jean Wyllie







**More Farmers' Markets to Come**

**Dodgy Folk in Ballantrae**

