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Community Celebration Event (funded by the lottery Awards for All grant)

Funding has been obtained from Lottery Awards for All .To mark the year of the communities success on gaining the grants to purchase of the site, the planting of a tree by the South Ayrshire Provost and the start of pre-construction work on the site on the weekend of the 13/14 September we propose to hold a free community celebration event on the site. January the grant funding from Hadyard Hill Community Benefit Fund, Carrick Futures and The Lendal Trust which enabled us to buy the site, Funding from South Ayrshire Council Rural Fund and Community Fund enabled us to cover legal expenses, insurance. Funding from South Ayrshire Waste & Environmental Trust (SAWAT) has enabled us to start the drainage work and temporary car park. Over the last year the community have worked with our appointed Architects Austin Smith- Lord on designing a building that will meet the communities current and future generation's needs.

Celebration Event over the week-end of the 13/14 September

Saturday 13th Afternoon

From mid-day until 4 pm a children's and family fun afternoon, in the marquee a professional entertainer fun and games, face painting, nail art, hair braids, balloon making animals and lots more. Outside a bouncy castle, pillow fight, Wellington boot throwing, and tug of war. Children can bring a bike along and try their skill on an obstacle course.

Saturday 13th Evening

Dance feature The Daddy Naggins with bar and a Pig Roast meal which will be restricted to 100 people due to the catering. Tickets for the Pig Roast will be available from 2 Pins Members.

Sunday 14th Afternoon

Walking family treasure hunt around the area starting and finishing from the marquee.

The Daddy Naggins

Glasgow's premier Bluegrass band. Ish.

www.thedaddynaggins.co.uk

The Daddy Naggins are a Glasgow based bluegrass band with a difference. Not only do they play electrifying bluegrass and rip roaring traditional tunes and songs, but they also play a range of original and modern classic pop songs, all given The Daddy Naggins special treatment!

To book the band or any other enquiries call Garry on 07515790190. Yeehaaa!

Christmas Craft Fair in Pinwherry Hall Saturday 8th November

The Directors and Members still need your support at the monthly meetings and events there is still a long way to go before we see the new centre built. We are through stage 1 of our Big lottery Investing in Communities bid and are currently awaiting development funding which will enable to engage external experts to develop our final application.

The company are seeking bring back a Rail Station at Pinwherry this would be a rail halt at the 2 Pins Centre, the company have sought the assistance of SAYLSA the local community rail partnership, the aim would be to have a transport hub with the buses stopping at the centre to enable people to access the trains. To move this forward the company will be carrying out a community audit in Pinwherry and Colmonell to ascertain how many people would use a rail stop in Pinwherry. All are invited to come along to monthly meetings the second Thursday in the month at 7.30 in Pinwherry Hall.

Ayr Writers' Club

Another successful season draws to a close for the Ayr Writers' Club. This season, members saw significant success at national level and publications by new writers like Uuganaa Ramsay: Mongol and established writers like Michael J Malone: The Guillotine Choice and Catherine Czerkawska: The Physic Garden. New President, Rhona Anderson is looking forward to the extensive programme planned for next season while noting, 'it has been a fantastic year for the AWC, with new members bringing fresh ideas and talent into the group coupled with a flurry of publications'.



Next season promises a comprehensive programme that will satisfy all appetites from poetry, prose and script writing. There will be a number of guest speakers including BBC Newsnight's Kirsty Wark talking about her new novel set on Arran entitled 'The Legacy of Elizabeth Pringle'.

The new season kicks off on Wednesday 3rd September 2004 from 7.15pm to 9.30pm at the Carlton Hotel, Prestwick, with meetings each Wednesday thereafter. If you have been thinking about becoming more proactive with your writing, or have a burning desire to get started on, or finish that novel, then Ayr Writers' Club is the place for you, where you will be warmly welcomed. Visit the website at www.ayrwritersclub.co.uk or follow the Ayr Writers' Club on facebook.

Members of the Ayr Writers' Club celebrating success at the annual awards dinner. Front row (r-l): Jennifer West; Linda Brown and Wilma Scott. Back row (r-l): Maggie Bolton; Alison Craig; Dorothy Gallagher; Nigel Ward; Yvonne Jack and Catherine Czerkawska.





South Carrick Class Diamonds

South Carrick
Class Diamonds
Keep Fit is held on
a Monday night
in the Barrhill
Memorial Hall at
7 pm and all are
welcome.

Pinwherry Bridge CCTV

Residents in Pinwherry can help reduce costs for South Ayrshire Council and council tax payers by reporting any damage to Pinwherry Bridge. If damage is reported as soon as it happens, South Ayrshire Council can retrieve the CCTV footage and claim from the insurance of the driver who has done the damage.

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

Douglas Hemmings

(Team Leader - Bridges & Lighting).

E mail

Douglas.hemmings@south-

ayrshiregov.uk.

Tel. No. 01292 616377

Scott Greig

(Supervisory Engineer - Bridges).

E mail.

Scott.greig@south-ayrshire.gov.uk

Tel. No. 01292 616659

Local contact: John McAlley

Email:

j.mcalley@btinternet.com

Tel. No. 01465 841198

Ballantrae Rural Initiative Care In The Community

FOR SALE

Ballantrae Rural Initiative Care in the Community Ltd (B.R.I.C.C.) Care Agency

Our Thrift Shop has for sale a SAMBA LITE WHEEL CHAIR in good condition, with instruction booklet. Try before you buy!



Colmonell Baby & Toddler Group

As of 22nd August, Colmonell Baby and Toddler Group will meet on a Friday afternoon from 1.30pm to 3pm. The group meet most weeks in the Church Hall in Colmonell, and the first Friday of the month meet in the nursery at Colmonell Primary School where the health visitor does a baby clinic. The group is open to all babies and toddlers from the Stinchar Valley area.

Parents from the group ran a successful fundraising stall at Colmonell Fun Day and the money raised allowed the children and parents to go on their summer outing to Ayr Farm Park. Staff from South Ayrshire Council's Community Learning and Development Team also organised Peep sessions for the children before summer, where they enjoyed singing nursery rhymes, reading stories and making crafts and there are plans to deliver a further series of Peep sessions soon.

Colmonell Baby and Toddler group would like to thank Colmonell Community Association and Carrick Futures for continued funding which will enable the group to purchase new toys and equipment. Anyone interested in coming along to the group can contact Eileen McCutcheon on 881 191 for further information.

Help Save Ayrshire Red Squirrels "How you can help..." Join us I.. We rely heavily on volunteers to: Report any squirrel sightings, Red and Grey in your local area and garden Help to control the local Grey squirrel to stop

the spread of squirrel pox

Help us with red squirrel surveys

Making and monitoring squirrel feed boxes

Full training will be given for our volunteers

For full information get in contact with:

Jorgen Smitt Carmok Grey Squirrel Control Officer Main 0742525-2185

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Ian Challis Hand Crafted Clocks

Colmonell Tel: 01465 881180

Clockworks Handcrafted Clocks

- * Using locally sourced Ayrshire Slate
- * Recycled Clock Cases
- * Jewellery findings
- * Other reclaimed materials

Ian Challis email: ian.challis@homecall.co.uk



THE HELP

Domestic & Secretarial Services

Mobile: 07900 538201



Let me be your home help – giving you more time to relax and do the things you love.

With over 40 years experience, I am friendly, dependable, and affordable with local references:

- Cleaning just one room or your whole house
- One-off or regular visits
- Start or end of tenancy cleaning
- Holiday Home cleaning
- De-cluttering clear out cupboards and rooms
- Errand running / shopping
- Dog walking or cat sitting
- Secretarial and administrative work

All services tailored to meet your exact requirements, so please call me for an informal chat on how I can help you.

Heather - The Help

SV Magazine 2014 Year Planner

2014 DEADLINES	AUTUMN	WINTER
Final date for articles to Editor	01.08.14	31.10.14
Draft from Editor to Editorial Team	09.08.14	08.11.14
Management Meetings	12.08.14	11.11.14
Draft from Editorial Team back to Editor	13.08.14	12.11.14
Draft from Editor to Publisher	15.08.14	14.11.14
Final Draft from Publisher to Editor	25.08.14	24.11.14
Final Draft from Editor to Publisher	27.08.14	26.11.14
Collection from Publisher	05.09.14	05.12.14
Distribution within communities	w/c 08.09.14	w/c 08.12.14

Please note our final date for articles to the editor and the distribution within communities

We hope this will help you to ensure articles are in time and their content is date specific.

2014 DATES TO REMEMBER

Autumn SV Mag distributed w/c 8 Sept

13 SEPT Fun and games, competitions, children's entertainment. Saturday evening 7pm to 11.30pm a Pig Roast and Dance with a full bar.

14 SEPT Walking Treasure Hunt for all the family, a short ramble ending at the 2 Pins site

18 SEPT Scottish independence referendum

5 OCT Ballantrae Farmers' Market

31 OCT Last date for entries in Stinchar Valley Magazine

8 NOV Christmas Craft Fair in Pinwherry Hall

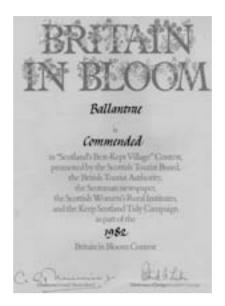
Winter SV Mag distributed w/c 8 Dec

BALLANTRAE in BLOOM love your village

It is now fifty years since the Royal Horticultural Society launched Britain in Bloom. Its aims – to encourage people to improve their local area by growing blooms and vegetables, thus making it green, clean and beautiful; to market the United Kingdom through floral displays; to encourage children to grow plants and take an interest in gardening.

As the Royal Horticultural Society is a United Kingdom charity, Britain in Bloom would apply to all of the United Kingdom. By 1967 Britain in Bloom was supported by the Scottish Tourist Board and the Scottish Women's Rural Institute. Since 1983 Britain in Bloom is also known as Beautiful Britain in Bloom and in Scotland as Beautiful Scotland in Bloom. However, the aims remain the same. There are now 3,900 "Bloom" groups in the United Kingdom including our own Ballantrae in Bloom. These groups enter annual competition in classes according to their population - city, town, large or small village - and judges are appointed by R.H.S. to assess their merits and award prizes and certificates. Ballantrae branch of S.W.R.I. were instrumental in setting up a "Bloom" group in Ballantrae. They invited representatives from all village clubs to meet to put forward their views, to decide if members would like to have a Ballantrae in Bloom group or enter a Best Kept Village competition and if so what should be done to make our village worthy of a prize. These ideas were carried forward and by 1997 the village had earned four Commended Certificates and one Highly Commended. Our school had twice won the top award for school/young people helping their area and shared it on a third occasion. The criticism following each inspection by the judges was most helpful in improving our area.

The Ballantrae in Bloom group have planted many spring bulbs on roadside verges north and south of the village, organised tree planting at the Stinchar bridge and the tennis court and at "black spots", encouraged clean and tidy planting work in gardens and homes, renovated existing garden seats and placed new ones on



appropriate sites. They have set up numerous litter picks and beach cleans and urged our local Council to give help in their domain.

Since stopping entering the R.H.S. competitions, our local group have annually set up summer competitions for Ballantrae - floral tubs, window boxes, hanging baskets, best kept lawn or hedge and best garden (floral or vegetable). These usually produced approximately 100 entries and, on one occasion, 165. Entries could be submitted by individuals or clubs and came from both. The overall effect on the village was significant. The S.W.R.I. gives prizes annually for school children's posters to encourage bloom, tidiness and absence of litter and these are displayed in the village.



Street floral wooden tubs and hanging baskets are refurbished every year as are the permanent containers and Ballantrae in Bloom heavy metal tubs dated 1997 purchased with the help of Lendal Trust. These improvements made over the years are due to the support of finance and labour from local clubs, residents and businesses without whose help they would not be possible.

Do you think Ballantrae in Bloom (sometimes called Beautiful Ballantrae) should continue their efforts to enhance our village? Please let the committee know your opinion by e-mailing Peter Newland at peternewlands:@btconnect.com and he will forward your comments. Thank you.



Children Prepare For Ballantrae Smugglers' Festival

The teachers and the children of Ballantrae and Colmonell primary schools put tremendous energy into the "Smugglers" projects they tackled in the run up to the summer break. Last year they were involved in the Festival in a variety of ways but this year the planning started much earlier and activities were built around the curriculum. This year they made posters, wall boards, and scarecrow smugglers, they practised smuggling songs which they performed during the "Music, Poetry and Smuggling Stories" evening and identified games and activities for the Village Fayre. But their big project was writing their own "Ballantrae Smuggling Story Book" which they also printed, collated and bound themselves when they returned from their holidays.

Yvonne Templeton, Head Teacher of both schools said: "Last year's smugglers festival provided both schools with a great theme in order to deliver a number of aspects of Curriculum for Excellence. The children were fully involved and learned historical and geographical information about local smuggling. They also used their language skills. The expressive arts played a large part of the project and brought the project 'to life' for the children. They created their own pieces of art work, contributed to murals and a Gala day Float; took part in dramatic activities and sang some smuggling songs in class. The children worked collaboratively with each other and with other involved groups. They were actively involved in all projects, their opinions sought and their voices listened to. "

"Because of the huge success last year in terms of outcomes for our children, I fully supported being part of this year's festival. We had the additional privilege of working with an author and social historian to create a book of "Smuggling stories"; an activity which has been of huge educational benefit to our older children allowing them to develop skills within the four capacities of Curriculum for Excellence and to become successful learners, responsible citizens, effective contributors and confident individuals."

Andy McAlpine of the Ballantrae Development Group that organises the Smugglers' Festival said:

"Working with the children proved to be a real eye opener for me. Their enthusiasm and creativity was amazing. I'm glad we worked in partnership with the Head Teacher and her colleagues to ensure the things they were involved in weren't just fun but chimed so well with the curriculum."

By the time you read this, the Smugglers' Festival will be history for another year. If you took part in any of the events during the Festival we would like to hear from you. What did you enjoy? What could we do better? What should we include next year? Responses to info@ballantrae.org.uk please.

Community Council News

Community Councils are the most local tier of statutory representation in Scotland. They are nonparty 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 or the South Ayrshire Council website www.south-ayrshire.gov.uk.

Pinwherry And Pinmore Community Council

Pinwherry & Pinmore Community Council sits on the third Thursday of the month in the Community Hall.7.3opm. Members of the public are welcome. Please note: Following the June meeting PPCC will sit Bi-monthly.

SEPTEMBER 18th NOVEMBER 20th JANUARY 15th MARCH 19th MAY 21st + AGM No October meeting No December meeting No February meeting No April meeting

Minutes of Community Council meetings can be seen on the website www.2pins.org.uk



Welcome, My name is Tricia Watts and with the help of our wonderful cook and great team of volunteers we run a luncheon club.

We serve coffee, tea and cakes.

At 12.00 we serve a three course meal for only £4.50. Join our club and join us for parties, and coach trips and support if you need any. All ages are so welcome.

Please pop in 2, Duff St at the corner of Dalrymple St. We would love to meet you. If you would like to contact me: 01465 712 032 www.ageconcerngirvan.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.

Barrhill Community Council

Barrhill Community Council meets every fourth Wednesday in the month apart from July and December when there are no meetings.

Colmonell & Lendalfoot Community Council

The next meeting will be held in Colmonell Community Centre on Tuesday 23rd September at 7.3opm. Please come along to our meeting if there is anything you think we could help with.

Colmonell Bowling Club

Yet another bowling season will soon come to an end, where does the time go? Our last game of the year will be on Sunday 28th September at 1.30pm, still not too late to come down and have a go! The weather has most certainly been on our side and we have had many lovely afternoons and evenings play. Last year we had a charity game and it was such a success that we decided it should be an annual event. This year's chosen charity was CAN (Community Action Network) and we raised £160 for this very worthy

As usual we are looking for members, and at £28 for adults, £18 for seniors, juniors £7 and family £56, it's probably cheaper than a night at the pictures. Visitors to the area or locals, who are non-members, are very welcome to use our green for £2 game. Access to the club house can be arranged by phoning Evelyn on 881293 or Margaret on 881352. We can loan bowls so all you need is a pair of flat soled shoes.

Our main fund raiser for the green are monthly whist drives held in the Community Centre, these are normally held on the first Friday evening of each month. Confirmation of whist dates can be had from Margaret (881352) as they can be subject to change to fit in with other village whists.



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.

OUR ROADS

If you are driving and spot a road hazard, for example:

- Potholes
- Flooding
- Overgrown hedges
- Overhanging dead trees.
- Anything else on the roads that has the potential to cause harm, loss or injury.

TAKE THE FOLLOWING ACTION:

Tell South Ayrshire Council Roads Department immediately. You can do this as follows:

- Insert www.south-ayrshire.gov.uk into your web browser
- Press A-Z
- Select R for "road faults"
- Fill in the form and send

Do not assume that somebody has already reported the hazard Please remember, South Ayrshire Council cannot remedy faults they do not know about.

Life-Saving Defibrillator for Ballantrae from Scotmid Co-Operative

A new public access defibrillator has been installed in Scotmid Ballantrae to help save lives in the local community, as part of a national partnership between Scotmid Co-operative and the Scottish Ambulance Service.

Store staff have been trained by the Scottish Ambulance Service to use the defibrillator and to perform resuscitation, equipping them with the skills they need to save the life of a person suffering from cardiac arrest.

A defibrillator is a life-saving machine that gives the heart an electric shock to restart during cardiac arrest. Scotmid Co-operative was the first UK retailer to put defibrillators in a large number of its stores. 42 Scotmid and Semichem branches are now equipped with the life-saving machines, with more to be rolled out in the coming months.

Nicola Watters, Store Manager at Scotmid Ballantrae said: "We are really pleased to have the defibrillator in our store. Ballantrae is a tourist hot spot but is quite isolated, so the defibrillator will be a great comfort for the local community to know it's there in case we ever need to use it. The training was very informative and hands on, and the defibrillator was surprisingly easy to use, with clear instructions to help you through each step. It really boosted our confidence and we all feel ready to help our customers and the local community in an emergency."

Daren Mochrie, Director of Service Delivery, Scottish Ambulance Service, said: "The roll out of this public access defibrillator programme will make a positive contribution to safer and sustainable communities around the country. While we have world class ambulance response times in Scotland, we know that in cardiac cases every second counts and that equipping communities with basic life-saving skills and equipment will further improve survival rates."

Scotmid Co-operative has been working with the Scottish Ambulance



Ballantrae-Defibrillator (L-R): Sheona Kirk (Ballantrae Post Office), Karen Telfer, Chelsea Stirling, Sharon Hastings (holding defibrillator), Nicola Watters (Store Manager) and Jennifer McGlashan (Scottish Ambulance Service) after their training.

Service since 2011 to install public access defibrillators in the communities in Scotland that need them most. This includes remote communities where it may take longer for an ambulance to reach, places where there are high instances of cardiac arrest and areas of high footfall. The Scottish Ambulance Service has also provided over 500 hours of training to over 250 Scotmid staff as part of the project.

Acting quickly when someone is in cardiac arrest is crucially important as every minute without CPR and defibrillation reduces survival by 10%. A defibrillator can increase survival chances by 50%.

Colmonell Fun Week

See photos pages 18 & 19. The sun shone on lots of village fun during the Colmonell fun week, and the locals stepped out to soak up the rays and enjoy the activities lined up, kicking off with the football tournament! Eight teams took part and the eventual winners were McCulloch Rail with runners up Dave Macs All Stars. The under 16's friendly match resulted in The Real Madrid beating Colmonell All Stars. Wednesday was quiz night, organised by Heather O'Hare. A record number of teams took part and the worthy winners were Fox Hats. Friday night was Bingo night, organised by Colmonell Primary School PTA, great prizes and again an excellent turn out made the evening a huge success. Friday night was also a Clay Pigeon Shoot organised by Knockdolian Gun Club.

The big day was Saturday and again we were blessed with beautiful sunshine. Princess Bethanny Wilson with her attendants Evie MacDonald and Harry McKechan were driven to the play park by Hugh Sloan and led by Stinchar Valley Pipers. After the crowning ceremony, Kirstie Martin was presented with the Anne Lawrence trophy for her winning design on the Fun Week programme cover. Anne Wilson received a bouquet of flowers as a token of thanks for the many years she has organised the village bonus ball lottery. A new and hopefully annual event was the Colmonell Fun Run organised by Deborah Reed and John Goodenough. Dalreoch and Bardrochat hill (4.8 miles) and for the junior runners/walkers to Oaknowe (1 mile). Stalls, teas, ice cream, Bouncy Castle, Douglas the Magic Clown, Climbing Wall and the very popular Fireman's slide mixed with a lovely sunny day provided the perfect recipe for a very enjoyable afternoon.

Many thanks to those who donated to our stalls, and to those who sponsored or gave prizes for the events, Wm Hyslop & Sons, Boars Head Hotel, Ian and Marion McQuiston, J&W Dunlop, Pebbles Spa and Knockdolian and Bardrochat Estate.

Colmonell WRI

Colmonell WRI had a lovely outing to Stirling for their annual coach trip, with some members visiting the Castle and others opting for a wee wander round the shops. High Tea at the King Robert Hotel Bannockburn and a pleasant evening drive home concluded the day out

The winter syllabus starts off on September 10th with a talk by Gwyneth Guthrie on her acting experiences. October 3rd is the annual Whist Drive, October 8th is a needlecraft demonstration by Ruby Mair, November 12th Annie Sutherland with Games through the ages, December 10th is 'Party time' – a joint celebration with members and senior citizens, entertainment by Music Box. On January 14th Kirsty Hyslop will give a talk on Blood Analysis, February 11th 'Life in the Sherriff Court' by Aggie Crowe, Party time again on 11th March, to celebrate the WRI's 88th birthday with a film show by Mr Hogg on the Stinchar Valley. April 8th a talk by Julie from Girvan Community Garden, May 13th concludes the season, with the AGM and presentation of prizes. This is held at Craigie Mains Garden Centre.

Next year's outing will be on 30th May and suggestions for a destination would be most welcome. Meetings are on the 2nd Wednesday of the month from September to May and are normally held in the Community Centre. If you require transport to the meetings or would like more information, please contact President Nancy Agnew on 01465 891239 or Secretary Margaret Robertson on 01465 881352.

Colmonell Remembers

See picture on centre pages

A small exhibition has been set up in Colmonell Community Centre by Mrs Irene Conaghan to commemorate the brave men from this area who lost their lives in World War 1. You are welcome to view the exhibition any time the centre supervisor is on duty.

Colmonell Graceful Years Club

This year's summer outing took the Graceful Years Club to the Transport Museum and Tall Ship in Glasgow. After a very interesting afternoon the group returned to Malin Court for High Tea. A good day out was had by all.

If you'd like to come along to the Graceful Years Club, they meet every Wednesday afternoon in the Community Centre, to play cards, dominoes, blether and have a wee cup of tea. For more information phone Margaret Robertson on 01465 881352

Ballantrae Patchwork Group

See picture on inside rear cover

The above group resume meeting on Wednesday 12th September 2014 at 1.30pm in the Buffet room of Ballantrae Community Centre.

We would welcome anybody who would like to "have a go" and try something they haven't done before.

On 6th August we had a Pot Luck Lunch at which we welcomed Margaret Sanderson who now lives in the USA. Margaret, who started the Group almost 30 years ago had come to live in Ballantrae not knowing anybody and as she had Patchworked in the States started the group as she found it was a great way to meet new friends. She is still sewing probably more than ever now!

Some of our members are going to the Birmingham Patchwork and Quilting Show, a huge event at the NEC. We are looking forward to hearing all about it in September.

Penny Savage 01465 842686

Colmonell & Pinwherry Brownies

The Brownies start again on Wednesday 27th August, meeting in Colmonell Community Centre from 6.30-8pm. Crafts, games, lots of fun and badges to earn. £1 week includes a snack. For girls age 7-10. For more information contact Lorraine Clark 01465 881391 or Diane McKinnon 831369.

Lendalfoot

Lendalfoot was shocked last month with the sudden death of two of the "Lendal Ladies" Margaret Barr and Isabel Bell. They will be sadly missed condolences to Margaret's husband Ross and son Douglas and Isabel's three sons and their families.

The Lendalfoot indoor bowling will restart in the village hall on 7th October 2014 All Welcome.

Katie Harris and Andy McKay were married in Colmonell Parish church on Friday 25th July. Around 90 guests enjoyed a sun drenched reception in a huge marquee in Carleton Crescent.



The Ballantrae Development Group

Review of the Ballantrae Development Plan

In the last edition we reported that the Ballantrae Community Council and the Development Group were reviewing the Ballantrae Development Plan. Over 90 people responded to the consultation - although this number might actually be higher as some respondents may have discussed their response with their husband / wife / partner and / or children but only recorded one name on the response. The responses were analysed and a paper produced in time for the BDG meeting at the end of June when it was decided we needed more time to consider the content and a separate meeting devoted solely to discussing the analysis was held on 1 August. At the time of writing a presentation to the next Ballantrae Community Council (BCC) meeting (on Tuesday 26 August) is being planned.

Commonwealth Baton Relay passes through Ballantrae

There was a great turnout of children and adults from Ballantrae and the surrounding communities to welcome the Queen's Baton Relay to Ballantrae on Friday 20 June. Working in partnership with Glasgow 2014, there was a "popup breakfast" before the baton went through the village and then we hosted a "Big Baton Breakfast" afterwards. We hope that everyone who took advantage of the breakfast found that it helped set them up for the day and rewarded them for getting out of bed early! To the litter pickers who went out the night before, the folk who ordered and collected the food, those who set out the Community Hall in readiness, the ladies from the RVS and others who cooked and served the breakfast, the various other helpers, and Colin McNally of the BDG who was our "anchor man" for the event liaising with South Ayrshire Council and Glasgow 2014 to make sure things ran smoothly, we say a big "Thank You!"

Ballantrae Visitor Information Point (VIP)

The stock of leaflets in the VIP within Craigiemains Home and Garden Centre have been replenished and they are flying off the shelves! The emphasis is on what to see and do within (roughly) a 30 mile radius of Ballantrae. So whether you are a visitor or a local and you are looking for a good day out – visit the VIP for some ideas!

Ballantrae's Smugglers' Festival: 18-23 August

By the time you read this it will all be over! The programme included some old favourites and some new events and activities. Our list of Partners and Sponsors grew this year. We are particularly delighted that the Festival was designated a "Homecoming 2014" event by VisitScotland and Event Scotland, and that South Ayrshire Council awarded us a Festival Development grant. The children of Ballantrae and Colmonell Primary Schools played a huge part in this year's festival and their enthusiasm and imagination were amazing! See the separate article about their involvement elsewhere in this issue.

Our thanks go to everyone who helped with this year's festival. The winter edition will bring you the highlights! If you took part in any of the events during this year's Festival as a volunteer or a member of the audience we would like to hear from you. What did you enjoy? What could we do better? What should we include next year? Responses to info@ballantrae.org.uk please.

Ballantrae Farmers' Markets

The next market is scheduled for 5 October from 11am to 3pm at Craigiemains Home and Garden Centre. In addition to the goods on sale at the market, at Craigiemains visitors will also find a coffee shop, gifts, books, garden supplies, the miniature train and the Visitor Information Point. Put the date in your diary now!

Ballantrae Gala Week 2014

We have enjoyed an especially busy and successful gala this year and this was attended by people from far and wide. There were people who came from Ayr, Kilmarnock, Fife and Dumfries just to attend as they had been following us on Facebook and they have all contacted us to say that this was the best gala they have attended in years. We always strive to make all events fun and affordable for all the family and are feeling proud that our village welcomes everyone to all events.

Ballantrae enjoyed a fantastic Gala week from 28th June to 6th July. It all started with a bang on the 28th June with the annual fishing competition. There were 30 rods in the water, BBQ, free bouncy castle, face painting, bottle stall and bonfire. After the fishing was won by Sean McIlwraith there was a spectacular firework display by Pyro EFX - a fantastic family evening and a growing and successful event. Sunday 29 June was Songs of Praise, Monday 30th the Car Treasure Hunt, another well attended event. Tuesday 1st July - Friday 4th July was the Football Tournament, sponsored by McCulloch Rail. This was another well attended and successful event and was won by Tommy Robertson's Team, Hendrie the Butchers. Saturday 5th July was Gala Day.

The sun shone and hundreds of people turned out to enjoy the many events. There were stalls, Waterballs, bucking bronco, beer tent, tea tent with home baking, burgers, bouncy castles, 2 storey slide, face painting, cartoon characters, clown, snow cones, candy floss, sand art, tug o' war tournament, fancy dress, pet show, raffle, silent auction and much more. Ballantrae Gala Girls worked hard to organise this and they all enjoyed a slide on the 2 storey slide supplied by Talk of the Town in Stranraer. On Saturday evening there was the annual family barn dance. Destination Anywhere entertained hundreds of people of all ages. This was a fantastic night and was enjoyed equally by all who attended and the band themselves. Thanks again to Fiona and Andrew MacLean for their hard work in preparing the barn and allowing Ballantrae Gala to use this over the last 6 years. The week concluded with the annual Louise Knox Memorial Bowler/Non bowler competition sponsored by G. McIlwraith and again was attended by many.

Ballantrae Gala would like to thank everyone for their overwhelming support over the week. There are now so many willing helpers that it would be impossible to name them all but without them and all the people who turned out over the week, the Gala would not be as successful as it is. Thanks to Howard Galley who has turned up and photographed nearly all our events. Also Ballantrae Coastguard who marshalled the fireworks display. McCulloch Rail for their continued support and of course all the Gala Girls and boys who have worked really hard. Sharon and Fiona would also like to thank everyone for their beautiful flowers and Kerrie at Head Khandi for their voucher and for all the lovely messages of support. Ballantrae Gala 2014 was certainly the busiest and best yet!!



Glenapp Castle, Ballantrae

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Web Site www.glenappcastle.com

Christmas 2014

Glenapp Castle is now taking bookings for special Pre-Christmas Lunches, Dinners and Suppers and our Festive Afternoon Tea.

Pre-Christmas Lunch £39.50 pp Pre-Christmas 3 Course Lunch with a Christmas Cracker

Festive Afternoon Tea £24.50 pp Our festive afternoon tea will include a dram of mulled wine on arrival, tea or coffee, selection of sandwiches, shortbread, mince pies and a mini Christmas Cracker

Pre-Christmas Dinner £65.00 pp Pre-Christmas 6 Course Dinner with a

Pre-Christmas 6 Course Dinner with a Complimentary Glass of Champagne

Pre-Christmas Supper

Thursday 11th & 18th December £49.50 pp A glass of mulled wine on arrival, a festive two course gourmet supper followed by coffee and mince pies.

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Struggling for the perfect Thank you, Birthday or Anniversary gift? Why not give the gift of Glenapp... a luxury gift experience.



An Independent View

One minute it seems as if we are looking forward to summer and the next minute Autumn and dare I say it the man with the white beard are on the horizon. At least June and July were very kind weather-wise allowing children and families to enjoy a fine summer break. The village gala days have come and gone with great success and a fantastic Commonwealth Games had Glasgow buzzing and Scotland celebrating. Now we carry on with the more mundane but very necessary tasks of every day work which are essential to keep the services which we all depend on running smoothly. That will certainly be the case in this new session for me as a South Ayrshire Councillor. A lot of good work has either been progressed or is in the pipeline for our town and villages here in South Carrick. The newly refurbished school in Barrhill which is a vote of confidence in the village will be warmly welcomed and occupied by staff and pupils this new term and I am sure that any open day will be well attended to allow parents and public the chance to see the new facilities on offer. The proposed new school in Dailly is also well on the way with building work on this £2.5million project due to start in the summer recess of 2015 and hopefully we will also see some building activity from Ayrshire Housing and perhaps also movement at last on the Dalquharran Castle development. The new Girvan and South Carrick leisure centre is now back on track following the SAC decision to fund £4million of the £5.2 million costs and we should also see a new harbourmaster's building which will incorporate new shower and laundry facilities for boat crews along with new 24hour direct entry toilets at Knockcushan Street . Barr village will have a new state of the art play park which will be a boon to village children and visitors to the village, this being made possible by wider funding and the co-operative work of local community activists and SAC. In Pinwherry we will hopefully see forward progress with the proposed new 2Pins Centre where a lot of hard work is

These are good news stories but a lot of work remains to be dealt with on a range of issues across the ward not least being the state of our local roads which really do leave a lot to be desired. During the summer I have dealt with or tried to deal with a number of issues which have ranged from the perilous state of the Barr to Dailly road along the track of the Milton Burn as well as dangerous overhanging growth on the Old Dailly to Pinmore road running by Tormitchell Quarry. The real challenges are the often poor state of the A714 Girvan to Newton Stewart Road, the Girvan to Dailly and Dailly to Crosshill Road as well as the streets within our town and villages. I will be working hard to tackle these and other problems in the coming months. In the meantime let's just celebrate the show from Team Scotland at the Commonwealth Games, the hard work of our young folk in trying to achieve good exam results and what was that I mentioned earlier about the man with the white beard!!!

Alec Clark Councillor Alec Clark (Independent)

South Ayrshire Council, Ward 8: Girvan and South Carrick. Office Tel: 07794038476 Email: Alec.Clark@south-ayrshire.gov.uk

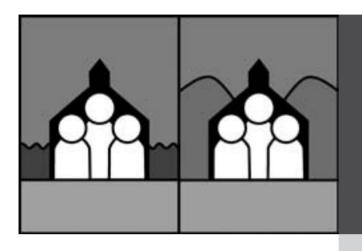


SUNDAY 5th OCTOBER: 11.00am - 3.00pm

Craigiemains Home & Garden Centre, Main Street, Ballantrae

IF YOU ARE A LOCAL FOOD PRODUCER

and would like to take a stall, contact Colin McNally on 07778 872 028



Ballantrae Church linked with St Colmon Church

Well, the date is looming! (Unless, of course you are reading this after 18th September) The date when we in Scotland will have to make up our mind whether we think we should step out and determine our own future by ourself or remain part of the team that is the United Kingdom.

It is a choice that each person of voting age in Scotland will have the opportunity to make, and I really hope that more people make the effort than normally vote in an election, because this is a decision that we will have to live with, for decades to come, whatever box we place our cross in.

The debate could easily divide us, or make those who have moved to live in Scotland from other parts of the United Kingdom feel unwelcome, and so we need to make sure we do not allow this to happen. Regardless of our view on Scotland's future, we are still one people, and only together can we ensure Scotland remains a friendly country to belong to.

It is sad when the result of an ideal, vision or plan is to divide people. We see it too often on the news or read about it in the papers. We notice it in our communities or experience it in our own families. No vision or plan, regardless of how passionate we feel about it, should ever stop us respecting or caring for one another.

In the Bible, in the book of Psalms we read, "How wonderful, how beautiful, when brothers and sisters get along!" (Psalm 133:1) and Jesus said, "Any country that divides itself into groups which fight each other will not last very long; a family divided against itself falls apart." (Luke 11:17)

Therefore whatever choice we make on 18th September, let us make sure that Scotland remains united and works together to realise the bright future it has. This will definitely be my prayer, as I place my mark on the paper, and wait for the results to emerge.

May God bless you all, Stephen

Church Information

We are friendly churches where we gather to celebrate God's love for us and where everyone is welcome.

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

Ballantrae Parish Church

11:30am every Sunday in Ballantrae with Sunshine Club for all children o to 12 years old. We also have a midweek service once a month on a Wednesday at 11am and our Evening Celebration which is usually on the first Sunday of the month at 7pm.

If you want to contact Stephen, our minister, to check service times or any other reason, his details are: Rev Stephen Ogston, The Manse, 1 The Vennel, Ballantrae, KA26 oNH o1465 831252 | ogston@macfish.com

Websites: www.ballantraeparishchurch.org.uk www.stcolmonparishchurch.org.uk

We are also on Facebook as 'Ballantrae Church' and 'StColmon Church'.



BALLANTRAE

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TEL 01465 831 202

EMAIL info@kingsarmsballantrae.com WEB www.kingsarmsballantrae.com

Barr Stores Steering Group

Chairperson Required

Have you got the skills and time to act as Chairperson for the Barr Stores Steering Group? We are looking for a suitably motivated person to take over the position, when Bill Cook, our present Chairman, relocates to Skye in the very near future. Bill has helped our Treasurer compile our accounts, managed our two part-time staff, chaired our meetings and liaised with relevant organisations.

Could you step into his shoes? Please do not expect any remuneration as all work is carried out for the love of the Community Shop and Barr Village. It is envisaged that the post will be shared with a Vice-Chairperson to spread the burden. You will need to be a resident of the Parish of Barr

Interested? Contact Sue Sweet for more details:

email: ricky.sweet@virgin.net telephone: 01465 861223

Pinwherry Women's Rural Institute

Although we are still enjoying a lovely summer and trying not to have thoughts of approaching winter, we are already preparing the syllabus for the autumn programme.

But first of all we want to thank all those who helped make a success of the Cream Teas which were served in the marquee at Pinmore on Sat. 19th July. This was to accompany the Car Boot Sale planned for that day, but the weather being particularly wet; no-one could attempt to display their goods. What could have been a disaster turned into a very successful afternoon with over £300 being raised for the 2 Pins funds. This was due to those who turned out in their wellies and waterproofs regardless of the rain! Thank you so much to all who helped by setting up, providing baking, serving teas, and clearing up at the end. And, of course, to all who braved the elements just to come.

We meet on the second Monday of each month from September to April, in the village hall at Pinwherry at 7.30pm. Our speaker on Sept. 8th will be Mrs Nancy Birse of the Coeliac Association. This will be an interesting evening on a subject that affects a lot of people. The competitions for that night are 1. A vase of wild flowers and 2. A bookmark.

If you are a whist player, we will be holding a whist drive on the 12th Sept.

We are always delighted to welcome newcomers, so come along on the 8th Sept and give us a try!

Further information from Jean Wyllie - 841279 or Pat Guthrie - 841236.

the Phymoth Ship It was on a warm, summer day, That we set off, others you we Crem Text and Side, the placeast rend On teaching black- we were wan fed! Two screentous scores covered in jam A delet of cream - forget the grows! Along with coffic, and lovery strong tea. Ot, counge poor of you were was The however operact, the moneyour filled, work the Apelland, even so sociled, all enjoyed the tomes un an know, Soon, these was featig quite a queue! the lassies' work crowing to the back while atteres, strapped, both their feet, The day here on, raffle helpes on side, Will I, have the somer, from the pool? John · I enjoyed the oftennos chapts becaused Rod on more your but we visit again (Spine to Italia hady work) lived near to full till . Endine Julian 19/1/14. MORRE CAMPBELL. (Great Surveys, my Marchin Schame!) IN BACCHILL RUD PANNERTY. GRINN KAZL OGE. fise white form eveness on ten July

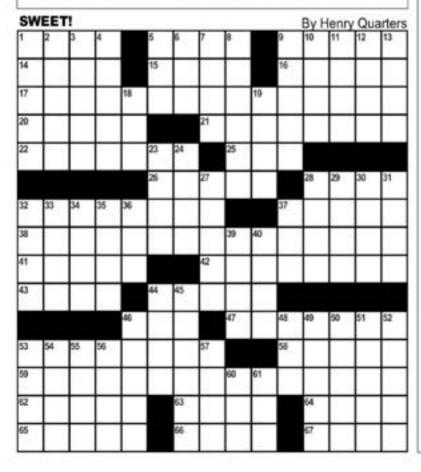
FreeDailyCrosswords.com

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ACROSS

- 1) Not now or the future
- 5) Tolkien villains
- 9) Tea-producing state in India
- 14) Creative input
- 15) Not a happy fate
- 16) Neutral shade
- 17) Very pleasing
- 20) Arm counterparts of fibulae 59) Like some suburban roads
- 21) Parceled out
- 22) Continuing indefinitely
- 25) Van Gogh lost one
- 26) Primitive percussion instrument
- 28) Filly, after maturing
- 32) Collapsible topper
- 37) Ready for a break
- 38) Good time for a walk handin-hand

- 41) Chats
- 42) Become very thin
- 43) Lid lump
- 44) Mortal danger
- 46) Appliance with blades
- 47) Violent storm
- 53) Birds of a region
- 58) Helper, essentially
- 62) Bring to mind
- 63) Saharalike
- 64) Masseuse's supplies
- 65) Palindromist's principle
- 66) Long-gone bird
- 67) Twiggy digs



DOWN

- 1) Excite, as interest or curiosity
- 2) Grown up
- 3) View from the Left Bank
- 4) Golden Horde member
- man out
- 6) Sturgeon product
- 7) Carbonated beverage
- 8) Grin bearer
- 9) More than hate
- 10) Small paving stone
- 11) Recipe directive
- 12) Malaria symptom
- 13) Pinochle combo
- 18) Poetic time after dusk
- 19) Feeling happy appreciation
- Turkish commander (Var.)
- 24) Give money, and expect it back
- 27) Absolute
- 28) Kind of computer
- 29) Stirring solo performance
- 30) It's overhead
- 31) Honer's target
- 32) Withdraws (with "out")
- 33) Land map part
- 34) Hard to hang on to
- 35) Tool for deciduous foliage
- Cousin of a zebra
- 37) Gumshoe
- 39) Send out matter
- 40) Dell, poetically
- 44) Revere in history
- 45) Cluster of nine
- 46) Diamond side
- 48) Daisy of Dogpatch
- 49) Blame for, as a crime
- 50) Murphy who played Klumps
- 51) Unloads
- 52) Secret encounter
- 53) Lookout, perhaps
- 54) On the qui ___ (watchful)
- 55) Macintosh screen symbol
- 56) Bag-shaped fish trap
- 57) Prominent '70s hairstyle
- 60) Get of (discard)
- 61) Words of commitment

Answers available by request to: stinchar-valley-magazine.co.uk



Defibrillator for Ballantrae from Scotmid Co-operative (page 10)



Nick Taylor holds the Queen's Baton aloft on Ballantrae Foreland (page 12)

Ballantrae Gala Day (page 12)

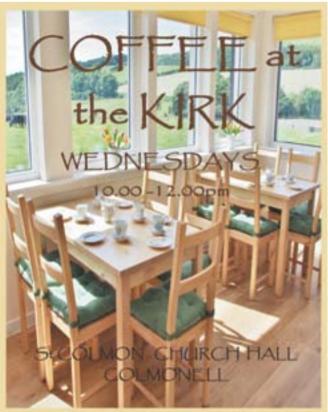


















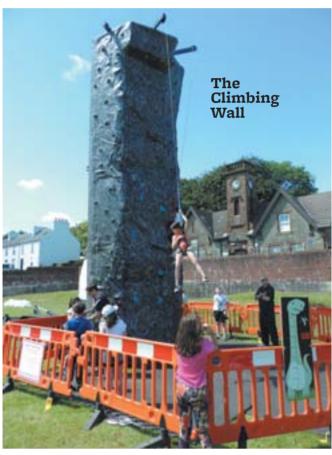


Barr Fun Day (page 29)





Colmonell Fun Day (page 10)









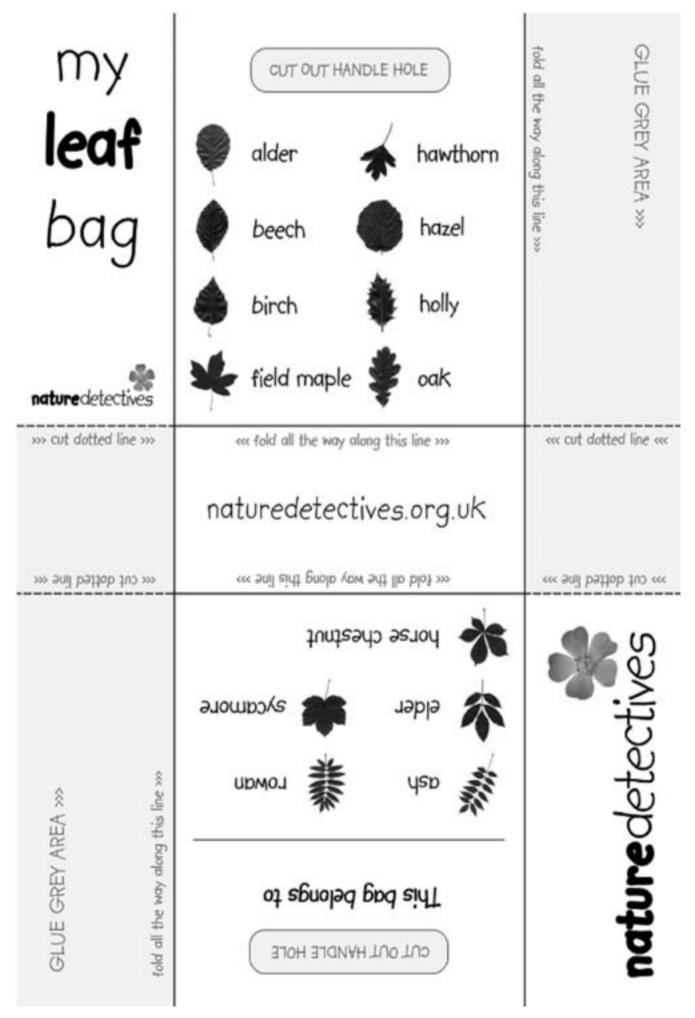




More pictures from Barr







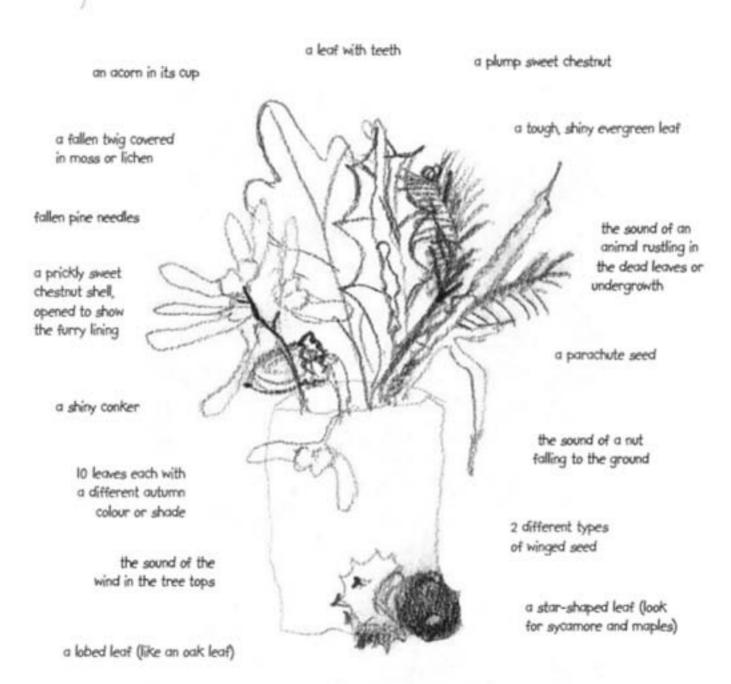
scavenger hunt





autumn

How many of these autumn treasures can you find and collect?



a fir cone with thin, flexible scales

a pine cone with thick woody scales



learning through the seasons

www.naturedetectives.org.uk





Alec Oattes

Dear Reader.

It is my welcome privilege, to prepare this article for the Autumn Newsletter of the Stinchar Valley Magazine.

It has been quite a summer, with the excitement of the Commonwealth Queens Baton passing through the area and of course the Games themselves in Glasgow, as I prepare this article at the end of July, Team Scotland has done exceptionally well in the medals table and Glasgow and Scotland would appear to have won, in the welcoming and friendly way, they have dealt with the many overseas competitors and visitors to the Games. I hope and trust there will be a lasting legacy from the Commonwealth Games for the sporting, social, economic and tourism benefit of Scotland.

I am pleased to report that a Route Action Plan for the A714 has been commissioned by the Ayrshire Roads Alliance, it is planned to improve the A714 over a 2 to 5 year period, from just south of Girvan to the border with Dumfries and Galloway. I am well aware this is long overdue and is a result of pressure from the local community, the press and Local Councillors. The report prepared by AECOM for the Ayrshire Roads Alliance highlights many deficiencies on this route and notes that there has been less than optimal maintenance undertaken over the past few years due to resource constraints on the Council.

The report also comments that the potential for tourism should not be ignored and also improved road safety. I look forward to the full implementation of this comprehensive report, over the medium to long term.

Recently I was fortunate to be able to visit Ypres in Belgium and the Somme area of France for a short holiday, which gave me the opportunity to visit many of the First World War Battle sites, Museums and Memorial cemeteries, maintained by the British Commonwealth War Graves Commission. It was an emotional, sad and poignant trip and one can never under estimate the sacrifice given by the millions from many Countries all over the world.

One of the several places I visited was at Essex Farm near what was the front line. It is here that the Canadian Surgeon John McCrae composed the famous poem "In Flanders Fields" in honour of his close friend and colleague, a verse of which says,

"We are the dead, short days ago, we lived, felt dawn, saw sunset glow, loved and were loved and now we lie, In Flanders fields."

As it is now 100 years since this terrible conflict began, we do well to remember them and that democracy and freedom should never be taken for granted.

Councillor Alec Oattes

Girvan and South Carrick Ward, South Ayrshire Council.

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Lost, Found, For Sale & Wanted

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, £1550 (Tax exempt) Contact Editor (01465 841 198)

Balkissock Lodge

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/scottishcountry-house-for-sale/



Qigong is a series of slow but gentle exercises to help promote health and vitality, and to relieve stress. Classes are conducted by a qualified instructor and are suitable for all levels of fitness, including wheelchair users, and all ages from sixteen and over.

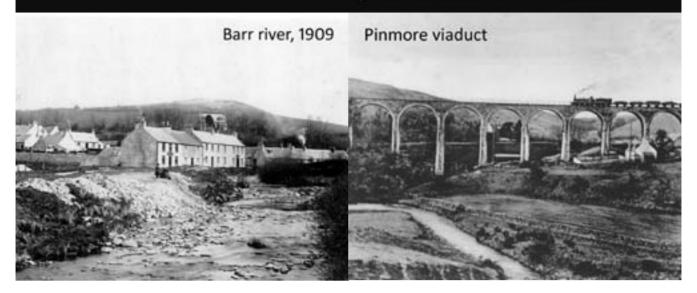
The Ballantrae Qigong classes resume on Monday 1st September at 10.45am. in Ballantrae Community Centre. The term will be divided into two halves of six one hour lessons each: 1st September to 13th October and 20th October to 24th November. The charge for each half term will be £18 if paid in full at the first lesson, or £5 per lesson if paid as individual lessons. You are guaranteed a friendly welcome.

FREE TRIAL - Not sure if Qigong is for you?

Come along to the class on Monday 1st September and try it. If it's not for you, it will cost you nothing – if you like it, we would be delighted to have you join our group. The more members we get, the less we have to charge. If you would like any more information, please contact Janice Ross (Secretary) on 01465 831347.

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.



The 1920's and 1930's was a busy time in the Ballantrae Area. Unveiling took place of the Ballantrae War Memorial by Mrs Hughes Onslow CBE of Laggan and the dedication service was performed by the Rev J H Baxter Ballantrae Minister, Rev Robert Steen UF Minister and the Rev Ewen MacGregor of Glenapp.

First assembly of the Ballantrae Christian Brethren meets in Ballantrae. The New Public Hall was built in Ballantrae and Glenapp Church was restored. Electricity was installed in Ballantrae Parish Church as well as the fitting of a toilet in the Vestry.

Following the Church amalgamation, the Free Church Manse was sold to the Inspector of the Poor for £625. Three years later the free Kirk Building was sold for £65 to a building firm from Cumnock to be demolished. The last of the Bargany Kennedy family left Finnarts House when it was purchased by the Earl of Inchcape.

A Glasgow traveller heading towards Ballantrae stopped his car to watch two weasels and two adders in fierce combat. He tried to separate the fighters by throwing stones and the weasels left the adders and attacked him. One weasel entered the car and settled on the back seat. The weasel was then dispatched by a spanner from the driver's tool chest.

Coal boat XL from IOM sailing to Kilkeel from Ayr sinks 2 miles North of Ballantrae. Crew got into a small boat and managed to row to Ballantrae Coastguard Station where their 'needs' were supplied by local agent for Shipwreck Mariner's Society.

The Earl of Stair intimated he was prepared to give a 5 year lease of a field adjacent to the village free of charge as a Recreation Ground. The Council agreed to equip the field for £60.

River Stinchar flooded the road for a distance of 100 yards but eventually the afternoon Glasgow to Stranraer bus managed to get through although the passengers had to stand on the seats as the bus partially filled with water. Basking shark caught in a net in Lendal Bay by Ballantrae fishermen Robert & Tom McQuiston (salmon fishers) Ayr County Council agree to buy the Toll House with a view to demolish it to make way for a new bridge.

In 1939 Ballantrae village now had 7 ARP Wardens and 5 Special Constables trained on how to deal with gas in Air Raids. Colmonell village had commenced training of 12 ARP Wardens and 9 Special Constables. Post Office announce that a Public Telephone box will be erected as soon as possible Public inquiry was held into the proposed new bridge and road alterations. First part of the scheme to be the section from Ballantrae to Lagganholm including a proposed new bridge which was to cost £35,000

DO YOU HAVE ANY PHOTOGRAPHS OR INFORMATION?

Do you have any old photographs or information about the local area that you wouldn't mind us copying for future reference? We would look after them and return them to you unharmed. We are particularly short of photographs of Barr and Barrhill.

Please contact Keith and Christine Brown at kaycee.history@gmail.com

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

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

Woodland Bang HOTFI

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breakfast
only £99

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THE SMALL PRINT

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137 Main Street Ayr KA8 8BX 01292 286815 Les Anderson (Chair at SASF)

Chair@sasf.co.uk 0792 581 335





Please feel free to contact any of our committee for further information.

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TREASURER - JILL McALLEY

MEMBER - PAT SPENCE

Tel. 01465821377 patspence@ piperpublications.co.uk

MEMBER -NAN WILKINSON Tel. 01465 831704 nan@dunwhinny.plus.net

Our meetings are held in Pinwherry hall on the 3rd Wednesday of the month. A warm welcome is extended to new members and friends. The charge for visitors is ± 3.00 which includes tea / coffee. We look forward to greeting old and new faces at our meetings.

The summer months seem to have flown past, but as always a number of outings were planned. Our first outing was to Bargany Gardens in May. This is the only month gardens are open to the public but it is well worth a visit to view the rhododendrons and azaleas in bloom. There is also a multitude of pathways to explore.

A first time visit was to Drumpark in Dumfries. One of our members came across an advert, so we decided to explore. The owner and sole gardener embarked on a totally different career. However, having inherited the property from her husband's parents, she decided to give it her best shot. What an amazing garden this is and what a knowledgeable person the owner is. The property is part of The Gardens Open Day. However to avoid the crowds, the open day for Drumpark is in May. Hopefully we will plan to visit and non-members are most welcome.

July visit was by coach to Glasgow Botanic Garden and Green Bank Gardens. We are hoping to have the guide from the Botanic Gardens as one of our speakers next session We are planning to visit Enid's garden, an old favourite of the club, in early September, however this depends on availability. Again, non-members are very welcome to accompany us. Please ask a member of the committee. We have a very full programme of speakers both old and new for next session. We resume in September, meeting in Pinwherry hall, third Wednesday of the month. This is a flavour of our developing programme:

September Giles Davies Elmslea Garden Centre, Newton Stewart, propagation

October Louise Bustard Botanic Gardens

November Victoria and Pamela from Gardening Leave PowerPoint presentation, soil types and how to

determine what suits our plants

December Christmas Meal

January Andrea Jones, landscape photography

February Gardeners' Question time. Panel to include Colin Belton (Logan Gardens) and Tessa Knott

(Glenwhan). This proved to be very popular last year and we would welcome your questions!

Please feel free to come along. We are happy to accept questions prior to the meeting.

March to be arranged

April AGM plant swap, cheese and wine.

As above we meet 3rd Wednesday of the month at 7.30pm in Pinwherry hall. In addition to invited speakers we enjoy a cuppa, chat and exchange of ideas and experiences. Non-members are always welcome.

Death of Dr James Farquhar

Barr village has lost one of its most distinguished and respected figures with the death of Dr Jimmy Farquhar of Sunnyside, Glenginnet Road. Jimmy died in the Community Hospital Girvan on Wednesday 11th June after a two-year battle with cancer. He was 87.

A large number of his friends and neighbours from Barr attended his funeral service at Masonhill Crematorium to hear his sons, John and Grant, speak of their father's integrity and humanity. Jimmy's grandsons, Jamie and Tom, read the lessons in the service which was conducted by the Rev Dr B Collie.

Afterwards, Sheila expressed her gratitude for the tremendous support received from the village both during his illness and after his death. Jimmy's ashes will be interred in the family plot in Barr Kirkyard at a later date.



OBITUARY: Dr. James T (Jimmy) Farquhar

Although James Thomson Farquhar, known to all as Jimmy, did not arrive in Barr to settle permanently until 1992, his association with the village started as far back as 1935 when he was a boy of eight.

It was then that his father, until then a partner in a small family firm of Glasgow grain merchants, was forced out of business when motor transport took over from the horse-drawn variety and the demand for this company's products slumped. So, at the age of 39, Jimmy's father decided to go into sheep farming as his new career and it was then that the family moved to the 2000 acre Changue Farm rented to them by the Forestry Commission.

The young Jimmy's first school was Cambusdoon in Alloway where he was a weekly boarder, traveling back to Changue by car on Friday evenings and returning to school on Monday mornings. With the outbreak of war in 1939 and the subsequent rationing, there was no petrol to take him to and from school and so he became a full boarder. After his father was called up to the army, his mother rented a small house in Ayr to escape the isolation of living at Changue with no petrol, no mains electricity and only a limited ration of coal.

In his final year at Cambusdoon, the school doctor expressed concern about the condition of Jimmy's heart - he had by then suffered two bouts of rheumatic fever - and he was sent back to Changue, where the family had returned after his father's discharge from the army, for the final five months of his primary schooling. During this time he showed early signs of a stubborn streak when, bored stiff, but forbidden to ride his bicycle because of the state of his health, he pedaled from Changue to Pinmore and back to the anger of his parents over the escapade.

Holidays and death-defying cycling expeditions over, Jimmy went to Ayr Academy to begin his secondary education and it was here where he became interested in scientific subjects, particularly Chemistry under the inspiring tutelage of the highly regarded teacher, Robert McKell. It was not only in science and mathematics that he began to develop but also, thanks to Dr J Douglas Cairns, who took over as Rector in his final year, a love of literature, particularly the works of Robert Burns. After leaving Ayr Academy with four good Highers in 1945 he entered a four year degree course in Chemistry and Chemical Engineering at the Royal College of Science and Technology, later to become the University of Strathclyde, attaining an Honours degree. Despite receiving several good job offers on completion of his studies, he was persuaded by one of his lecturers to consider taking on a three year junior lectureship which would allow him to carry out research preparatory to his presenting a thesis for a Doctorate which was to follow in 1955. In 1953, Jimmy departed academia and began research work in a newly built laboratory at John and James White's manufacturing plant at Shawfield Works, Rutherglen.

Around then, he and a good friend from his University days decided that it was about time they started to look for girlfriends - or more accurately, wives, Jimmy seemed to be heading for the altar with one young lady in particular. However, at her insistence, she first introduced him to one of her golfing friends, a Banchory-born lawyer called Sheila Grant. At only their second meeting, Sheila, who lived and worked in Perth, confided in him that she wanted a change from the firm's Perth office. So, on only their second meeting, Jimmy told her that she could get the change she was after ... If she married him! The rest is history. Jimmy and Sheila married on March 7th, 1959 in Aberdeen and made their home in Burnside. Their first son, John arrived in 1960 and the following year the family moved to Harrogate in Yorkshire where Jimmy took up a post in a new laboratory with Albright and Wilson. They were to stay there for the next 11 years. Son number two, Grant, arrived in 1962 in Glasgow. Sheila had been staying with Jimmy's mother who had moved to The Croft in Old Dailly earlier that year on the death of his father.

During his time in Harrogate, where he was appointed Research Manager, his department registered several manufacturing processes and registered a dozen patents in which he was named as inventor. One process, for destroying dangerous chemicals, was employed by the US Pentagon.

It was the emergence of the environmental movement and his previous work on the company's waste disposal and water pollution processes which led to his being offered a move to London as its Environmental Manager and in 1972 the family moved to Radlett in Hertfordshire from where Jimmy travelled to work in central London each day. There he embarked on what he described as "seventeen years of enormously interesting work" in which he served on various trade and Government bodies and was a member of the Minister for Industry's Technical Advisory Committee. He spoke on scientific issues relating to the protection of the environment at more than 50 conferences world wide and presented evidence to Committees of both Houses of Parliament. He received a Fellowship of the Royal Society of Chemistry and was awarded a Charter (CChem).

With the death of his mother in 1981, the family was deprived of a Scottish centre where they could visit each year and it was then that they purchased Sunnyside, a cottage at that time in a dilapidated condition. After a great deal of renovation this became their second home. Ten years later upon Jimmy's retirement they moved permanently to Barr where he continued consultancy work and writing articles for scientific journals while also building a large extension to the house. Jimmy was also Chairman of Ayr Probus Club in its Centenary year.

Jimmy and Sheila were firm supporters of the village way of life and strong advocates of the importance of maintaining the fabric which binds it together. He was vociferous and forthright in stating his view on any particular subject, whether on the need to keep the shop and pub open for business or the battle to get a mobile phone mast for the village. The design of the toilet extension to the village hall was described by him in local press headlines as "a carbuncle". But he also had a soft side never more obvious than in the luxury accommodation, complete with central heating, which he built in his garden for Felix, the ubiquitous village cat.

Above all, Jimmy was a family man and he took great pride in all his sons' and grandsons' various career successes saying, with a twinkle in his eye, "Well, they come from good stock, you know." Diagnosed with cancer two years ago, not many were made aware of his illness. Jimmy had decided that he wanted "no fuss".

New Play Park for Barr

A new state-of-the-art play park costing £120,000 will open in Barr in the Autumn. Dubbed the "Super Park" with no fewer that 18 different elements, it will be the best in the area and is sure to delight youngsters of all ages.

Funding was finalised for the Barr Parish Development Company's project last month and the equipment is already under construction by the manufacturers ready for a September installation at the playground behind the Clachan.

The money for the park has come from Carrick Futures which has provided over £84,000 and from Hadyard Hill Community Benefit Fund who have provided just under £41,000 for the scheme. In addition, the Forestry Commission carried out vital and costly drainage work free of charge. South Ayrshire Council will maintain the park after its installation.

Included in the fun-filled facilities are; a 35 metre zip slide for the older kids, two multi-play units with a vast number of different elements, twisters, a flying saucer, double zig zags, several "springers", a land rover play mobile, flexi-swings and roundabouts, talking phones ... the list goes on. A layout of the park is currently on display in the Community Store. Adults haven't been forgotten, there are benches from which they can watch their kids at play. The park will be bordered by fencing and accessed through gates.

There's no doubt that when the word gets around, Barr will be a popular destination for visitors with young kids in tow. Now it will be the adults who'll be being dragged to Barr!

Community Councillor Alex Tait, who drove the project forward with input from the village's youngsters thanked all those who had made it possible; Carrick Futures, Hadyard Hill CBF, the Forestry Commission and South Ayrshire Council, particularly David Lowdon.

Your Chance to Vote on the Future of Dinmurchie

The future of Dinmurchie Farm could be decided soon ... and everyone in the village who is entitled to vote will be asked to take part in a referendum to determine the way ahead. This follows a proposal by the Barr Parish Development Company (BPDC) to make an application to acquire the land and buildings under the National Forest Land Scheme. This scheme, which is administered by the Forestry Commission gives communities the opportunity to buy or lease national forest land on the basis that it provides benefits to the public.

The proposal by the village's Development Company, which was set up by the Community Council, would provide a visitor centre and a multi-purpose space to complement the village hall. The provision of workshop and exhibition spaces for anything from rural skills to corporate conference facilities, continuing education to outdoor events, would, they say, boost the demand for local accommodation and amenities. There is also the potential for the provision of a small hydro-electricity scheme generating income and sustainable local employment.

A spokesman for the Development Company said, "The potential acquisition of Dinmurchie provides a golden opportunity for the village. The Community Right to Buy scheme would enable Barr to reconstruct the derelict farm as an exciting centre for a wide range of events and activities. Which would bring money into the village by generating income for village businesses." Under the rules of the scheme, a ballot of villagers must be held to ascertain whether or not they are in favour of an application to purchase being made. Ballot papers issued by the independent "Democracy Counts" organisation will be dropping through letter boxes very soon with a 5th August deadline for their return. The rules of the scheme say that, in order to demonstrate community support, at least half of those eligible to vote must do so with more than 50% of those voting in favour. Only then will the application go ahead. Votes will be counted on August 6th and if enough people say "Yes", the first step will be to produce a business plan and feasibility study. This would be externally funded and would not cost Barr a penny, nor would it commit the development company to any future course of action.

If you require any further information before making up your mind, contact Merlin Currie (861239)

Barr's Human Sundial Unveiled (picture on page 2)

As the summer sunshine split the heavens on Sunday it was ideal weather for the village to unveil its latest attraction ... a human sun dial. Villagers and pupils from the primary school have been working for over a year now to bring their innovative project to fruition as our contribution to the Carrick Communities Heritage Trail. Situated across the road from the village hall the sun dial is set into the ground with a flat embedded mosaic central panel incorporating the infamous Laird of Changue's footsteps where people can stand and cast a shadow to tell the time.

Residents of all ages have been involved in the project; measuring up for the mathematical accuracy of true north & the markers' positions, donating unwanted crockery for the mosaic and, together with the school children, designing and creating the roundels which mark the hours as the sun changes its position in the sky. All the roundels portray an aspect of the life and times of the village. Project leader, local artist Merlin Currie praised everyone who had contributed and participated in the project and said that it had been "a real community effort". The sun dial was unveiled by Mrs Sheila Farquhar who congratulated everyone on a very fine effort and expressed the hope that many visitors would come to the village to see it.

Barr Pub On The Real Ale Map

The King's Arms Hotel in Barr is now the only pub in the area to offer regular real ale to its customers, according to the latest edition of the CAMRA magazine. Jordan and Kassie's experiment with craft beers has proved a big success with locals and visitors and it has now become a permanent feature on the pumps. No fewer than 6 real ales were available during the Beerfest Weekend on 1st to 3rd August when live music was also on the menu on the Saturday night. The event attracted real ale drinkers from a wide area since the King's Arms had taken a full page advert in the widely-read CAMRA magazine to publicise it.

Barr Gala Day A Big Hit Despite Rain

(see pictures on centre pages)

BARR battled bravely against worsening weather to pull off a successful Gala Day with all of the planned events taking place ... except one. For the only event which had to be cancelled as the heavy rains came down was (wait for it) the DUCK RACE!

Gala organisers had breathed a sigh of relief when they awoke to find the forecasts for torrential rain, thunder and lightning and flash flooding hadn't yet materialised. So the first event of the day, the Fell Race, went ahead as planned with a good field of runners in the junior and senior races. So far, so good, and by the time of the Gala Day parade, this year sporting a Commonwealth Games theme, the skies had cleared again for the procession through the village. This year there was a change in the proceedings. For there was no crowning of the Queen for the first time that anyone can remember. The Queen is traditionally chosen from the Primary 6 class at the local school and this year the class was comprised only of boys. Up stepped David Campbell and Ewan MacKenzie to do the "kingly" honours. Resplendent in kilts and Commonwealth Games official T-Shirts, they led the march through the village in grand style before declaring the Gala Day "open." The Primary School, SWRI, Stinchar Valley Quilters and the Vintage Car Club took part in the parade.

It was amid darkening skies that the day then got into full swing with the stalls on the banks of the Gregg Burn doing a roaring trade, hamburgers stalls and the tea room catered for the hungry as did the village shop and the King's Arms Hotel who put on a Hog Roast. The bouncy castle was again a favourite amongst the younger participants.

The fire brigade added even more water to the proceedings as youngsters queued up to direct the hose towards the other bank of the Gregg Burn where some dare-devils tried to evade a drenching. Alas it was a drenching which everyone who stayed on for the Pet Show, were in for as the previously light rain began to fall in earnest. Rev Ian McLachlan braved the weather to act as the judge and there was a fine turn out of four-legged contestants of all shapes and sizes from which he had to select the winners.

But, as the crowds began to dwindle under the now constant downpour, the Primary School's annual Duck Race down the Gregg Burn became the only "casualty" of the afternoon when organisers sensibly decided that conditions on the river banks and in the ever-swelling Burn were too dangerous to allow it to go ahead.

The day ended with a Gala Dance and Children's entertainment in the Village Hall after which Community Council Chair, Dave Trotter expressed himself delighted with the way the day had turned out. He said, "It didn't look good for us on the Friday night and the weather forecasts were horrendous. But we battled on and got the breaks in the weather that we needed to bring the Gala Day off successfully on the day. We owe a great big 'Thank You' to all who took part and to the committee who organised the event."

Covenanter's Gravestone Returned To Barr

In the end, it didn't quite need the heroics of Harrison Ford in Barr's very own version of "The Return of the Stone" but, at last, our historic Covenanter's gravestone has been re-erected in the Kirkyard more than a year after it went missing. In a simple but moving ceremony, the headstone marking the 17th Century grave of the murdered Covenanter martyr Edward McKeen was rededicated. It marked the end of an 'unholy' and bitter row surrounding the removal of the stone by a restoration group and a year-long fight by villagers to get it back.

A stroll through the Kirkyard by a vigilant local resident almost a year ago led to the discovery that the stone was missing. That sparked some relentless detective work by the village's Community Council and South Ayrshire Council and within a month the stone had been traced to a stonemason's yard in Patna. It had been removed and taken there by the Scottish Covenanter Memorials Association charity without the knowledge or permission of the community and its discovery provoked a furious local response. Step forward Barr's very own "Indiana Jones" in the form of Merlin Currie, who has led the fight to recover the historic artifact. She said "We were appalled at what I described at the time as the 'sacrilegious plundering of our heritage' and we were determined to have our stone returned". That view was strongly backed by South Ayrshire Council whose Bereavement Services Officer, Lizzie Linton, threw the Council's weight behind the village's determination to have their stone back.

With the stone recovered from the mason's yard, South Ayrshire Council appointed Edinburgh restorator, Graciela Ainsworth, to restore it to its original condition and the fruit of her labours was revealed to a small but appreciative gathering in the graveyard who heard Rev Ian MacLachlan sum up the short history of Edward McKeen and rededicate his stone.

Macmillan Coffee Morning In Barr

Vera Dunlop and friends will once again host a Coffee Morning in aid of the MacMillan Nurses. It will take place in the Village Hall on Friday 26th September from 10.15 until midday. To cut costs, no personal invitations will be going out this year meaning more money can go straight to the charity. So put the date in your diary and turn up to support a very worthy cause.

Rural Retains Its Affiliation

Upper Stinchar SWRI has voted to remain affiliated to the Ayrshire Federation. At an Extraordinary General Meeting held in June, members voted 12 to 2 to retain the affiliation. This followed a lively Annual General Meeting held in May in the Village Hall where discussion centred round the level of the SWRI affiliation fee, which is paid annually to the Ayrshire Federation. The whole of the annual subscription amount received by Upper Stinchar SWRI goes to Ayrshire Federation in fees. Some members suggested that, because of these costs, the Rural in Barr should cease affiliation to the SWRI. The Extraordinary General Meeting in June decided overwhelmingly to stay with Ayrshire.

At the AGM proper, President, Wilma Gracie gave a roundup of the year's activities. Eighteen people joined the Rural this session. The Treasurer, Jo Campbell, reported a healthy balance of £648.03 and members agreed to make a charitable donation of £30.00 each to Women's Aid and to The Beatson Hospital. One member pointed out that, in recent years, the committee voting procedure had not properly followed the Constitution, resulting in a narrower choice of potential committee members. It was agreed that procedures would be amended to follow Constitution in future.

At the Prize-giving Ceremony, Yvonne Jack was awarded the Elizabeth Scott Rosebowl for most points in the competitions, with Vera Dunlop in second place and joint thirds for Olive Ball, Janice Common and Rhona Anderson. The winner of the Jean Milner Quaich as overall winner of the Fun Competition was Yvonne Jack. A clean sweep for Yvonne! Agnes Gracie was presented with a Loyal Service Certificate and a floral arrangement in recognition of her many years at Crosshill and Upper Stinchar Rurals.

Wilma thanked her outgoing committee and hostesses for their hard work over the whole year and welcomed Agnes Gracie on to the new committee. Wilma's Quiz entertained teams of members, with plenty of chocolate prizes all round. Committee members provided a delicious supper to round off another enjoyable year at upper Stinchar SWRI.

The next Rural meeting will be on the third Thursday of October 2014. Anyone interested in finding out more about the SWRI in Barr should contact Wilma Gracie, The Clachan, Barr or ask at the Village Store.

Barr Bowlers' British Legion Cup Triumph

See picture on inside front cover. The British Legion Cup was held at Barr Bowling Club on Sunday 15th June with teams from Barr, Barrhill, Colmonell & Ballantrae taking part in the competition. On what was a glorious sunny day, Barr provided an idyllic backdrop for a tremendous day of bowls culminating in a resounding win for the three home rinks from Barr who picked up the trophy for the first time in four years.

Barr Team 1, skipped by Alan Ringrose beat Colmonell by 8 shots; Barr Team 2, skipped by Johnny McKechnie beat Barrhill by 18 shots and Barr Team 3, skipped by Alan Wood beat Ballantrae by 4 shots. Well done the bowlers and congratulations to the winning teams.

A big thank you to our green keeper Alan Ringrose for an immaculately prepared, fast green and thanks to his team for a very well organised competition and day. A great day of bowling was brought to a close with a fabulous afternoon tea provided by Jenny Craig, Maggie Bunnett, John Craig, Jo Muir, Isobel Ringrose, Alison Milroy, Ruth Shreeve, Neta Wilson, Dixie and Jackie Logan. A big thanks also to Doreen Sherry and Elizabeth McKechnie who ran the bar providing well earned refreshment to revive everyone after Barr's well deserved win. Next Years British Legion Cup will be held at Barrhill.



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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Mail To The Editor

Welcome to the Autumn 2014 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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How To Send In Your Articles & Pictures

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

TEXT

Send in text as a WORD or OPEN OFFICE document only.

PHOTOGRAPHS & LOGOS

Please do not place photographs in a Word document. Photographs should be full size images straight from the camera and scanned images should be high resolution wherever possible and sent as separate attachments from your text please.

SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS

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.

NON-EMAIL SUPPLY OF CONTENT

If you do not have access to a computer or Email you can post or drop off material to our Editor John McAlley at: Liglartrie Farm Pinwherry KA26 oSL. 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:

PLEASE NOTE

- The Editorial Team will consider all submissions and make the final selection of material for each issue.
- Small grammatical errors will be corrected in the text of articles. Larger issues will be discussed with the author prior to publication if possible.

Local & Interesting Web Sites

Age Concern Girvan St Colmon Church Ballantrae Church

Ballantrae Medical Practice

Ballantrae Village

Barhill

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 Timetables, Fares and Bookings

Library Catalogue Library Services

South Ayrshire Libraries Blog

Scottish Water BarrVillage Stagecoach

Community Police Team

www.ageconcerngirvan.org.uk www.stcolmonparishchurch.org.uk www.ballantraeparishchurch.org.uk

www.ballantraemedicalpractice.co.uk

www.ballantrae.org.uk

www.barhill.org

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.ayrshireredsquirrels.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.naturalengland.org.uk

www.peinnmor.co.uk www.mjaphotography.co.uk

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sayrshirelib.wordpress.com www.scottishwater.co.uk www.barrvillage.co.uk

www.stagecoachbus.com/timetables

www.strathclyde.police.co.uk/your-community/

ayrshire/girvan_and_south_carrick

Useful Contacts

Barrhill Community Bus Self hire or arranged trips 01465 714 665 Stagecoach Ayr Depot 01292 613 500 MyBus Rural (Mon-Sat 7am-7pm) Door to door transport for Carrick 0845 123 5656 **Accident & Emergency** Avr Hospital 01292 610 555 **Minor Injuries Unit Girvan Community Hospital** 01465 712 571 **NHS 24** 08454 242 424 Samaritans 0345 909 090 **Girvan Community Policing Team** 01465 710 995 Citizens Advice 01776 706 355 Stranraer 10am - 4pm Mon - Fri **SEPA Emergencies** 0800 807 060 **Gas Emergencies** 0800 111 999 **Power Cut/Emergencies Scottish Power** 0845 2727 999 **Emergency Services**

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.

Recommended Tradesmen

Would you recommend good work?

Appliance Repairs By Peter Newland

24/01/14

Building Work By Claire Pirrie

12/05/14 **Carpet Fitter** By Frank Bean 26/11/12

Computer Problems

By Jim Fleming 08/11/13 Electrician By Jim Fleming 08/11/13 Electrician

By Claire Pirrie 26/01/14

01655 882 208

Howard Galley

01465 831 537

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07523 847 119 John Foster 01655 331 257

07526 464 524 **Gavin Campbell**

07989 583 238

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By Claire Pirrie 26/01/14

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08/01/14 ltd.com

Fraser Wallace

01465 831 487 wallace632@ btinternet.com Ian Picken

07814 962 695 **Eric Gibson**

01465 714 791 07522 672 767 **Ross McCulloch**

01292 550 954 07766 978 568 **Eric Hyslop**

01671 402 646 heat@ehyslop-

Sixpence Land

Read All About It - 'Llama Drama in Girvan'

(see pictures on back page)

Our Sixpence land has been steadily growing. One of our neighbours gave us some laying hens and a cockerel and that was how it all started. We were given ducks (one was blind). A lame goat (which we later discovered was pregnant). Some geese, a peacock and 2 kittens....we have other animals including emus. Our Sixpence Land was becoming a safe Haven for all animals. And thankfully our freerange and organically fed hens were producing good size eggs. With



the odd plant and my home made ginger it paid for our animal feed. Everything was going well.

When we were offered a family of Llamas we were a bit reluctant at first as we weren't sure if they would fit in with our other animals and with no funding or financial help, could we afford them? We began by researching Llamas and discovered. Llamas are well socialized and can be trained to halter and lead. They are very friendly and a pleasure to be around. Llamas by nature are curious, and can quickly bond between sheep and goats. Many farmers indicate a special bond between lambs and Llamas. So we agreed to house them and our family of animals got a little bigger.

We waited with excitement for our new family. We prepared their enclosure as they would need to stay there for three weeks to get used to their new surroundings. The day arrived and finally we would meet our Llamas. Then disaster! When the horsebox was opened all three Llamas bolted for it. But worse was to come. They headed for the railway line... DISASTER! as we knew the train was due within the hour. We immediately rang the police and Network Rail who responded within minutes. Between us we managed to catch the female 'Lena' and baby 'Wee Aggie'. But Larry the Llama was off across the

When our community got news of our dilemma everyone jumped into action. Farmer Walker and son were the first to arrive, followed by Mrs Ruth Murrey, Mrs Margarette Walker, Mr and Mrs Stirling and Andrea. And to many others who helped. We thank you all.

As Larry was still wandering, the Vet suggested we have Larry darted with a tranquiliser and we considered this only as a last resort. Fortunately my brother Malky suggested we try and catch 'Larry' one last time. So armed with food, water and a 'lasso,' we drove off to the old school in Pinwherry. With a little Divine help and a couple of throws we finally caught Larry the Llama.

Our family of Llamas have settled well in their new home and I can honestly say, there is never a dull moment here in Sixpence Land and I would say 'swings and roundabouts' just about sums it up. We hope the day will come when we can open our land to anyone who would like to visit our Llamas and all our wonderful animals.

Khomsi family



Scout About with Ballantrae Scouts

See pictures on back page. Our main event this session has been the camp at the end of May, when all sections were involved. The Scouts camped from Friday evening until Sunday afternoon, the Cubs camped from Saturday till Sunday, and the Beavers came for the day on Saturday. On the Friday the Scouts were busy helping to set up the camp (tents, tables, fires, woodpiles etc.) On the Saturday they took part in abseiling and coasteering at the Bennane and later swimming in the sea at Downan, as well as cycling round the area.

The Cubs and Beavers had their walk up the burn and had great fun even though the water was not that warm! With the lighter nights most of our activities took place outside the hall and we went hillwalking and canoeing. Numbers are very strong at the moment, but Claire Strain is leaving us to be Session Clerk at the Church. She will be greatly missed. We presented her with a bouquet of flowers and a card signed by everyone.

Adult Volunteers Make Ballantrae Scouting Happen

Whether you can spare a couple of hours a week or the equivalent of a day a month, we need adults to help provide the best possible Scouting we can for the young people in and around Ballantrae. You don't need to know everything about Scouting – we'll provide full training, induction and ongoing support. What matters is that you are committed, have a sense of humour, bags of common sense and an interest in helping to inspire our young people.

At the Annual General Meeting of the Group held in June we were delighted to welcome some new adult volunteers to join our Group Executive – their role will be to ensure the Leaders have the money and support to enable them to continue to run an interesting programme of activities and events. But – in addition – as we start the new session, we also need adults who would be interested in becoming leaders – working with our young people on a Tuesday evening and also to help with weekend and other activities. Perhaps you have been a leader in Scouts or Guides before and would like to give something back. Perhaps you have just moved into the area and would like to become involved in working with young people.

If you think you might be interested please speak initially to Andy McAlpine, Chairman, Ballantrae Scout Group on 01465 831122 or email andy.mcalpine@btinternet.com. He would be pleased to hear from you.

St Colmon Parish Church

Commonwealth Pot Luck Supper

40 people attended the Commonwealth Supper in the Kirk Hall and enjoyed a varied menu, including African Ground Nut Stew, English Apple Crumble, New Zealand Hokey Pokey Coffee Cake, South African Malva Pudding, Pakistani Samosas, Jamaican Chicken Stew, Irish Stew, Indian Curry, Australian Boomerang Cake and Pavlova, Scottish Clootie Dumpling, Caribbean Fruit Salad, Meat Loaf from The Americas, Moroccan Brioutas and Gambian Brik.

Many thanks to all who chose a recipe and cooked the various dishes, helped to serve them and to those who came and ate them, generously donating £110. Some dishes, like Shabat Shamin, were a bit of an adventure but very tasty! A special thanks to Gina, Alan and Barbara who provided the music.

Kirk Fair Photos page 18. Many thanks to all who helped with days of preparations then erected gazebos, carried goods, set up the tea room etc. and all in pouring rain! And now we know it was all worth it as God blessed us with a terrific £2,700. Look out for the photos in the Kirk Hall. Our thanks also go to the 2 Pins Company who loaned us their large marquee and the residents of Pinwherry who came to put it up. We were delighted to have some new helpers so let's hope the fantastic tea tempts them back next year. The winner of the quiz is Mrs N. Fynes from Girvan. If you would like to know the answers they are available in the Kirk Hall. Mrs Margaret Hair guessed the correct number of sweeties in the jar. Many bargains were found on the stalls, ice cream and burgers tasted just as good in the rain and The Stinchar Valley Pipers added to a great atmosphere. We look forward to seeing you all next year on the first Saturday in August.

Stinchar Valley Pipers (see picture on centre pages)

Stinchar Valley Pipers have come a long way since their first public appearance in 2011. Now resplendent in kilts, waistcoats, glengarrys and fleece jackets, they can give a performance worthy of a more mature and experienced group. However, as they will, the girls have grown and we will soon have to buy them new kilts! This year so far they have performed at Barrhill Circle, Dailly Gala (in response to a last minute SOS), Colmonell Fun Day, Ballantrae Gala and Colmonell Kirk Fair.

If you would like to learn to play the chanter and eventually the bagpipes, classes are held on Monday evenings at Colmonell Community Centre or at other times by arrangement. For further information phone Billy or Evelyn McCubbin on 01465 881293.

Coffee Mornings Every Wednesday refreshments are available in the Kirk Hall, 10am - 12noon so drop in for a chat. Children are welcome to play with the toys in the main hall.

Food Bank Please remember the Girvan Food Bank and if you can buy an extra packet or tin when you're shopping leave it in the box in the Church porch, or take it to South Parish Church Hall between 10am and 12noon on Monday and Friday.

Changes We are all sorry to see Ann Cashman move away and we wish her a happy and healthy new life as she is now living with her son in Stranraer. We are very grateful for the 25 years she has given in working for the Church as an Elder, Church Officer and cleaner, Sunday Club Leader, Presbytery Elder and Secretary of The Circle. Ann slipped away before we could arrange a proper farewell so we hope to bring her back for a get together in the near future.











Smuggler Wall Boards

produced by Ballantrae and Colmonell Primary School Children













