

FREE

# THE STINCHAR VALLEY MAGAZINE AUTUMN 2016



PRODUCED BY THE COMMUNITIES OF BALLANTRAE, BARR, BARRHILL, COLMONELL,  
LENDALFOOT, PINWHERRY & PINMORE

SUPPORTED BY CARRICK FUTURES AND HADYARD HILL WITH FUNDING FROM SCOTTISH POWER  
RENEWABLES AND SSE. MARK HILL, ARECLEOCH AND HADYARD HILL WINDFARMS

# LOCAL AND INTERESTING WEB SITES

## THE VILLAGES

Barr Village	<a href="http://www.barrvillage.co.uk/">http://www.barrvillage.co.uk/</a>
Barrhill	<a href="http://www.barrhill.org.uk">www.barrhill.org.uk</a>
Ballantrae Village	<a href="http://www.ballantrae.org.uk">www.ballantrae.org.uk</a>
Pinwherry/Pinmore	<a href="http://www.2pins.org.uk">http://www.2pins.org.uk</a>
Colmonell	<a href="http://www.visitsouthernscotland.co.uk/colmonell-c1470.html">http://www.visitsouthernscotland.co.uk/colmonell-c1470.html</a>

## LOCAL INFORMATION AND THINGS TO DO

The Stinchar Valley	<a href="http://www.stincharvalley.co.uk">www.stincharvalley.co.uk</a>
The Carrick website	<a href="http://www.carrickayrshire.com">http://www.carrickayrshire.com</a>
Peinn Mor Pottery	<a href="http://www.peinnmor.co.uk/">http://www.peinnmor.co.uk/</a>
Girvan Camera Club	<a href="http://www.girvancameraclub.org.uk">http://www.girvancameraclub.org.uk</a>
Girvan Attractions	<a href="http://girvanattractions.synthasite.com/">http://girvanattractions.synthasite.com/</a>
Galloway & Ayrshire Biosphere	<a href="http://www.gallowayandsouthernayrshirebiosphere.org.uk/">http://www.gallowayandsouthernayrshirebiosphere.org.uk/</a>
St Colmon Church	<a href="http://www.stcolmonparishchurch.org.uk">www.stcolmonparishchurch.org.uk</a>
Ballantrae Church	<a href="http://www.ballantraeparishchurch.org.uk">www.ballantraeparishchurch.org.uk</a>
Dark Sky Park	<a href="http://scotland.forestry.gov.uk/forest-parks/galloway-forest-park/dark-skies">scotland.forestry.gov.uk/forest-parks/galloway-forest-park/dark-skies</a>

## LOCAL ENVIRONMENT ORGANISATIONS

Ayrshire Rivers Trust	<a href="http://www.ayrshirerivertrust.org/cisp">www.ayrshirerivertrust.org/cisp</a>
Ayrshire Red Squirrel Group	<a href="http://www.ayrshireredsquirrels.org.uk/">www.ayrshireredsquirrels.org.uk/</a>
The Southern Uplands Partnership	<a href="http://www.sup.org.uk/">http://www.sup.org.uk/</a>
Red Squirrels in South Scotland	<a href="http://www.redsquirrels.org.uk">http://www.redsquirrels.org.uk</a>
Scottish Natural Heritage	<a href="http://www.snh.org.uk/">http://www.snh.org.uk/</a>
The Woodland Trust	<a href="http://www.woodlandtrust.org.uk">http://www.woodlandtrust.org.uk</a>
Forestry Commission	<a href="http://www.forestry.gov.uk/">http://www.forestry.gov.uk/</a>
Scottish Environmental Protection	<a href="http://www.sepa.org.uk/">http://www.sepa.org.uk/</a>

## USEFUL HELP WEBSITES

Ballantrae Medical Practice	<a href="http://www.ballantraemedicalpractice.co.uk">www.ballantraemedicalpractice.co.uk</a>
Age Concern Girvan	<a href="http://www.ageconcerngirvan.org.uk">www.ageconcerngirvan.org.uk</a>
Public services all in one place	<a href="http://www.direct.gov.uk">www.direct.gov.uk</a>
Stagecoach	<a href="http://www.stagecoachbus.com/timetables">www.stagecoachbus.com/timetables</a>
For timetables, fares and bookings	<a href="http://www.citylinkonlinesales.co.uk">www.citylinkonlinesales.co.uk</a>
Scottish Water	<a href="http://www.scottishwater.co.uk/">http://www.scottishwater.co.uk/</a>
Community Police Team	<a href="mailto:GirvanSouthCarrickCPT@scotland.pnn.police.uk">GirvanSouthCarrickCPT@scotland.pnn.police.uk</a>

## USEFUL CONTACTS

Police (non-emergency) .....	101
Emergency Services (police – Fire – Urgent Medical) .....	999
Accident & Emergency, Ayr Hospital .....	01292 610555
Minor Injuries Unit, Girvan Community Hospital .....	01465 712571
NHS 24 .....	111
Gas Emergencies .....	0800 111 999
Scottish Power, Power Cut/Emergencies .....	0330 1010222 0800 092290
Samaritans .....	0345 909090
Citizens Advice, Stranraer 10am-4pm Monday to Friday .....	01776 706355
Stagecoach, Ayr Depot .....	01292 613500
My Bus Rural, Door to door transport for Carrick. Mon - Sat 7am to 7pm.....	0845 123 5656
SEPA Emergencies .....	0800 807060
Coast Guard, (101 or 999) and ask for the Coast Guard. (for suspicious articles found on any beach)	

## NOTE FROM THE EDITOR

Welcome to the Autumn 2016 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? We cover Ballantrae, Barr, Barrhill, Colmonell, Glenapp, Lendalfoot, 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.

## HOW TO SEND IN YOUR ARTICLES AND PICTURES

You can email your local representatives or send to the editor John McAlley at [stinchar-valley-magazine@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:stinchar-valley-magazine@hotmail.co.uk). If you do not have access to a computer or email you can post or drop off material to our Editor John McAlley at: Ligartrie Farm Pinwherry KA26 0SL. We will return any material to you.

Send in text as a WORD or OPEN OFFICE document. Please do not place photographs in a Word document, attach separately. Photographs should be correctly named; full size images straight from the camera and scanned images should be high resolution (Min 300 DPI) wherever possible. Tell us any special instructions about the layout/content of your article. What are the images about that you want included? Include any Website names and web links that are relevant. If you have a logo or badge – please send a high resolution image of this. Try to avoid vivid colour backgrounds.

### DEADLINE FOR NEXT EDITION

WINTER 2016 SUBMISSION OF ARTICLES TO REPS OR THE EDITOR IS

**28th OCTOBER**

DISTRIBUTION TO VILLAGES WILL BE W/C 5th DECEMBER 2016

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

### LOCAL REPRESENTATIVES AND EDITORIAL PANEL

Pinwherry and Pinmore	John McAlley (editor)	<a href="mailto:stinchar-valley-magazine@hotmail.co.uk">stinchar-valley-magazine@hotmail.co.uk</a> Tel. 01465 841198
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Barr	Vacant	<a href="mailto:barrvillage@icloud.com">barrvillage@icloud.com</a>
Barrhill	Linda Wild	<a href="mailto:linda.wild@gmail.com">linda.wild@gmail.com</a>
Lendalfoot	Jim Fleming	<a href="mailto:margaretfleming775@gmail.com">margaretfleming775@gmail.com</a>
Colmonell	Margaret Robertson	Tel. 01465 881352
	Admin/Treasurer	Marie McNulty <a href="mailto:mariemcnultyg@gmail.com">mariemcnultyg@gmail.com</a> Tel: 01465841168

# Recommended Tradesman

Have you had a good job done?

Drop us an email at

Stinchar-valley-magazine@hotmail.co.uk



TRADE	NAME	TELEPHONE	MOBILE	RECOMMENDER	DATE
Window Cleaner	Peter Schofield		07831 499998	Ruth Murray	6/15
Joiner	W Lyle	01465 831039		Rev Jim Guthrie	
Grass Cutting	Stephen Simpson	01465 710421		Ruth Murray	5/15
Tree Services	Ben Lockwood	01671 403111	07985423790	Ruth Murray	5/15
Electrician	George McCardle		07904353525	John Thorburn	8/15
Electrician	Gavin Campbell	01655 882208	07989583238	Jenny Macy	01/16
Plumbing/Heating	Ian Terry	01465 712594	07733470874	John Crossan	05/16
Roofer	Neil Agnew	01776 705664	07763489484	Peter Newland	05/16
Taxi	Joe's	01465 713737		Jim Fleming	05/16
Electrician	Josh Russell		07533 202420	Claire Whitehurst	08/16

## COMMUNITY COUNCIL MEETINGS IN THE VILLAGES

Community Councils 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. For more information go to

<http://www.south-ayrshire.gov.uk/community-councils/>

	All meetings begin at 7.30pm and are open to the public
Ballantrae	Last Tuesday of the month (except Dec) Public hall start time 7pm
Barr	7pm in the Village Hall every second Thursday in the month except December.
Barrhill	4th Wednesday of the month (except July, Sept & Dec) Memorial Hall
Colmonell & Lendalfoot	4th Tuesday of the month (alternate months from Jan) Village Hall
Pinwherry & Pinmore	3rd Thursday of the month Community Hall Pinwherry

### LOCAL COUNCIL ISSUES - SOUTH AYRSHIRE COUNCIL CONTACT CENTRE

Don't wait for others to report issues, it may not be done! Telephone the Customer Services Team on 0300 123 0900 or 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 or Overhanging dead trees or anything else on the roads that has the potential to cause harm, loss or injury. Do not assume that somebody else may have reported the hazard.

**TAKE THE FOLLOWING ACTION:** Contact Ayrshire Roads Alliance immediately by:

- Telephone: 01563 503164
- [www.ayrshireroadsalliance.org](http://www.ayrshireroadsalliance.org) - select roads for "Road Faults" or any other categories and complete and send form or by emailing: [enquiries@ayrshireroadsalliance.org](mailto:enquiries@ayrshireroadsalliance.org)

## AN INDEPENDENT VIEW

How was your summer? Did you manage to make the best of some valuable free time and a bit of a mixed batch of weather or perhaps you still have some holidays to look forward to? The one certainty is that you will at least have a bit more of a clear outlook than many politicians do. In my last column for this esteemed publication, I wrote that by this time we would know the outcome of the British vote on the European Union referendum. Well we might know what the outcome of the vote was in the light of a less than illustrious referendum campaign from both sides of the fence but given that there was no plan A or B from either

side, we are now in a land of limbo with no certainty of the outcome or endgame. What has been opened is a can of constitutional worms and economic uncertainty which I sincerely hope will not affect confidence throughout the country because we all suffered enough of that during the worldwide economic crisis a few years ago and which still reverberates through the world wide economy. Watch this space and cross your fingers !!!!

For some time I have been banging the drum about changes to policing in Girvan and South Carrick. Some of you who are as



## AN INDEPENDENT VIEW (contd.)

young as me will remember fondly the time when there was such a thing as the village bobby and indeed some villages had police offices. How times change, when we now see that the Girvan police station has been reduced to a suite of offices at the back of the Girvan Community Hospital with no public access and now we have been further informed that the full time inspector for the Girvan and South Carrick Team (Inspector Willie Ramsay) is to be moved on with the position reduced to a part time post of two days a week. The best thing though is the Area Commander dressing the cuts up as leading to better community policing. Have not heard much from the politicians although it will probably read as "wasnae oor fault it wis them ither yins" vote fur us !!

Around two years ago, a hard fought battle was won for the retention of Hillcrest Residential Care Home in Girvan. This well run council facility provides a fantastic level of care and is home to some of our most vulnerable elderly residents who live their lives in it with dignity and respect because of the caring staff who treat them as family. It also provides much needed respite care for many families throughout Carrick to give those who care for loved ones a rest and allow them to recharge their batteries. With the introduction of the new adult health and social care "Integrated Joint Board" and the responsibility for Hillcrest coming under their remit, this board have set the wheels in motion to carry out another review of the

home which will take about nine months. This gives further concern and insecurity to residents, families and staff. I have already made my feelings known and would suggest that you ask your community representatives to pass on your concerns and support for Hillcrest.

Congratulations to all of you communities who add so much to the vivid colour of rural summer life with galas, fetes and fun days. I managed to attend some of these and my appreciation goes to the Community Associations and other groups who put the whole show together with bucket loads of effort and enthusiasm all for the benefit of the communities they call home. I managed to attend the official opening of Dailly Community Garden which was opened by Mrs Sally Ann Dalrymple-Hamilton and had the privilege to meet with Mrs Francis McDowall of Main Street Dailly who celebrated her 101st birthday on the same day 16th July.

Roads are always high on my agenda and I am happy to see the resurfacing of the stretch at Camregan Farm to Old Dailly on the B734. This was a death trap and I have canvassed to have it done for some time. Resurfacing work is also being carried out on a stretch of the B741 at Grangestone by Girvan. This work will make life a bit more tolerable for the communities of Dailly, Barr and Girvan. I hear you say that there is much more to be done and let me assure you that

Carrick roads are always on my radar.

Both myself and Councillor Oattes are still working with communities in relation to utility charges and support at galas. We are making progress with communities to present the case at the South Ayrshire Council Public Processes Panel with a view to reversing the decisions which have a detrimental effect on those folk who give so much of their free time for the benefit of their town and villages. Great appreciation and thanks go to Mrs Eileen McCutcheon of Colmonell Community Association who has been a real driving force in taking the issues forward on behalf of all Associations and also her great support to myself and Councillor Oattes. South Ayrshire Council has reserved £1,000,000 to be used to support those communities who are in a position and who wish to take over their community halls. There are no fine details as of yet, however I will keep you informed.

By the time you read this, autumn will be upon us and the summer holidays a distant memory. Hopefully it will be a good harvest time for farmers and with batteries charged for all in our communities it will be time to take Carrick issues forward once again for the good of all who live and visit our part of the world

Councillor Alec Clark Independent  
Girvan and South Carrick  
Mobile 07794 038 476

## COUNCILLOR ALEC OATTES



Dear Readers,

I find it hard to believe I am already compiling in late July, the Autumn Newsletter of the Stinchar Valley Magazine, apart from late May and early June the summer weather has been pretty poor, however as I prepare this article, we still have the Smugglers Festival in Ballantrae to look forward to, which as ever will be a busy fun filled week of activity for all ages.

It has been a busy summer with the normal, school events and Community Gala days throughout South Carrick. These events are an important part of village life, and to that end Councillor Alec Clark and myself are preparing a case, in conjunction with several Community Associations, to take forward a petition to the Public Processes Scrutiny Panel being held on the 29th. of

September in the County Buildings Ayr. The aim is to have the Council overturn the totally unrealistic utility charges being levied on Village Halls throughout South Ayrshire. The implications of this policy have not been properly thought through and do not recognise the need, value and importance of village halls in the life of rural communities. As only one petition is allowed at each Panel a second petition will need to be brought forward, to a future panel, in an attempt to negate the equally unfair charges being levied for stalls at Village Gala Days.

The previous SAYLSA Mini Bus has recently been transferred to South Ayrshire Community Transport (S.A.C.T.) and is now available for hire for Community Groups located in South Carrick. S.A.C.T. can even provide a qualified driver if this is required. Details can be obtained by phoning 01292 270864 or check out the web site at [www.sacommunitytransport.org](http://www.sacommunitytransport.org) for more information.

At a recent meeting of the partially reformed Carrick Community Council Forum (C.C.C.F) it was agreed to investigate the possibility of applying for grant funding to have charging points for electric cars in each of the Carrick rural villages installed, also as part of this plan it is hoped to have community electric cars made available to local users, which could be utilised by local

people for hospital/doctor appointments, shopping or social visits. It is a bold scheme but in an area with many wind farms, surely with the various funds from Community Benefit and other grant funding this might be a practical solution to local rural transport issues.

Finally I cannot resist commenting on the political turmoil and upheaval as a result of the recent Referendum, where the U.K. voted to leave the European Union. The Referendum outcome will have huge implications for everyone and it would appear that the politicians who advocated Brexit clearly had no idea of what policies to have in place, should their eventual aim be successful. Politicians at U.K. and Devolved levels face a legal minefield of huge complexity, which may take years to agree upon, with literally thousands of clauses to sift through. As someone once said "Be afraid of what you wish for"

As ever I would like to thank the volunteers who serve on Community Councils, Community Associations and the many other people who give of their time and talents to serve on the various organisations which benefit the wider community.

I can be contacted in the usual way, by phone or email, if anyone requires assistance with a Council matter.

SNP Councillor Alec Oattes  
Home Telephone Number 01292 435005

Office Telephone Number 01292 612382  
[alec.oattes@south-ayrshire.gov.uk](mailto:alec.oattes@south-ayrshire.gov.uk)

# ADVENTURE CENTRE FOR EDUCATION

For more information visit our website [www.adventurecarrick.com](http://www.adventurecarrick.com) or call us on 07920 406982 to book your adventure today.

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## AGE CONCERN GIRVAN

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 into 2, Duff Street at the corner of Dalrymple Street. We would love to meet you.

Please contact me on tel. 01465 712032 Website [www.ageconcerngirvan.org.uk](http://www.ageconcerngirvan.org.uk)

## DO YOU HAVE A PASSION FOR YOUR PLACE?

Galloway and Southern Ayrshire Biosphere, simply known as a Biosphere, is an international designation awarded by UNESCO to areas renowned for their special environments which are valued by local people.

The Biosphere Partnership has ambitious goals and wants as many people as possible to share an enthusiasm for this special place by becoming proud supporters and signing up to the Biosphere Charter  
<http://www.gsabiosphere.org.uk/get-involved/charter/>

By agreeing with the six principles of the Biosphere Charter you can demonstrate that you are proud to be a supporter of the Biosphere designation and are playing your part in promoting and developing the sustainability of the area.

The six principles of the Biosphere are:

- ✓ Help conserve the natural resources of the Biosphere
- ✓ Support the economy to benefit people and nature
- ✓ Promote cultural heritage and local products
- ✓ Contribute to health and wellbeing of the community
- ✓ Develop knowledge, understanding and research
- ✓ Raise awareness of the Galloway and Southern Ayrshire Biosphere

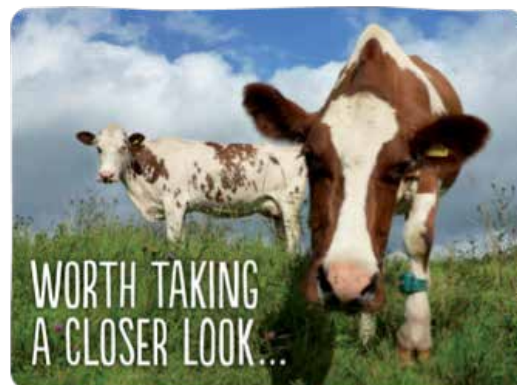
We believe that the more supporters who sign up to the six Biosphere principles the greater the benefits will be. By providing a distinctive badge associated with this special place we can help promote the best environments, local products and services. Using the badge will help others recognise and understand the high quality of our environment and the more we know about our surroundings the more we will want to care for it. Together we will make life better for people and for nature.

The Galloway and Southern Ayrshire Biosphere is for everyone, it brings no new constraints or regulations, so its aims can only be achieved by people wanting to work together to improve our way of life.

Anyone who signs the FREE Biosphere Charter will receive a Biosphere Charter certificate and a 'Proud Supporter' window sticker. Information on events and a regular e-newsletter will also be supplied to Biosphere supporters and we also hope to invite people to take part in a 'Learning Journey' in the Biosphere.

Community groups or businesses that are located within the Biosphere area will also be permitted the use of the Biosphere brand on promotional materials and website.

For more information email [marie@gsabiosphere.org.uk](mailto:marie@gsabiosphere.org.uk)



# BARRHILL

## BARRHILL FLOWER SHOW

The first Barrhill Flower Show took place on 3rd September.

Photos from the day will be included in the next edition of the Stinchar Valley Magazine, along with a list of the main prize-winners.

## 1371 GIRVAN SQUADRON AIR CADETS

2016 is the 75th Anniversary of the founding of the Air Training Corps. 1371 Girvan Squadron cadets hold the Torch that is visiting iconic locations throughout the United Kingdom. Burns Cottage in Alloway is one of the many attractions the Torch will visit.



Corporal Luciana McGarvie and Cadet Calum Johnstone are seen proudly holding the Torch before it continues its journey.

1371 Girvan Squadron is part of the uniformed organisation the Air Training Corps. Based in Ailsa Street East Girvan, the Squadron parades every Monday and Thursday evenings between 7pm and 9pm. You can join from the age of 13 and enjoy the wide range of activities that are available.

Contact our Wing headquarters on 0141 887 3111 or visit [www.aircadets.org](http://www.aircadets.org) for more information or why not just visit the Squadron any Monday or Thursday.



**BCIC**  
**FIREWORK DISPLAY**  
ARNSHEAN PARK, BARRHILL  
**SUNDAY 6TH NOVEMBER**  
**6PM**

EVERYONE IS WELCOME TO COME ALONG  
AND HAVE SOME FUN.....SEE YOU THERE!!!!

FUNDED BY COMMUNITY BENEFIT SCOTTISH POWER  
RENEWABLES

**Barrhill Memorial Hall Community Association**

*Would like to present the forthcoming events....*

<p><b>BARRHILL MEMORIAL HALL COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION Presents</b></p> <p><b>RACE NIGHT</b></p> <p>Saturday 24th September 2016 8pm - 12pm Licensed Bar provided</p> <p><small>Buy your horse £5 and jockey £2 each! Please use a member of the BARRHILL MEMORIAL HALL COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION for more details.</small></p>	<p><b>Halloween Party</b></p> <p>All Barrhill Pre-school &amp; Primary Children very Welcome Friday 29th October 2016 6.30pm</p> <p>Fancy Dress competition Party Games and lots more</p>	<p><b>BARRHILL MEMORIAL HALL COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION</b></p> <p><b>WHIST</b></p> <p><b>WHIST EVENING</b> Being held at Barrhill Memorial Hall Friday 11th November 7.30pm</p> <p><small>Everyone is very welcome - see you there!!</small></p>
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<b>24th September</b>	<b>Race night @ 8pm</b>
<b>28th October</b>	<b>Halloween Party @ 6.30pm</b> Barrhill Pre-school and Primary Children Welcome
<b>11th November</b>	<b>Whist Evening @ 7.30pm</b>
<b>14th December</b>	<b>Barrhill Senior Citizens Christmas Dinner @ 6.30pm for 7pm Meal</b>
<b>23rd December</b>	<b>Barrhill Pre-school and Primary Children's Christmas Party (time to be confirmed)</b>

# BARRHILL GALA DAY

The sun shone on Barrhill for this year's Gala Day on 16th July. The afternoon began with a colourful children's fancy dress parade led by The Stinchar Valley Pipers which ended in Arnsheen Park where the rest of the gala took place.



The tea tent and BBQ did a brisk trade all afternoon as people wandered over to enjoy juicy burgers and delicious home baking.



The bouncy castle and the inflatable slide were very popular with the children along with the rest of the park's excellent selection of permanent play equipment.

The family sports events which rounded off the day were very popular. They began with traditional children's favourites such as the sack race, 10m and 100m sprints and egg and spoon and a children's tug o' war. Then the serious business of the

adults tug o' war events began...

To say they were competitive would be an understatement! The final tug o' war, men vs women was the fiercest battle of them all, with the men eventually claiming victory and letting out a huge cheer!

*It was truly  
a day to  
remember!*

CLUB DIAMONDS

## BARRHILL KEEP FIT

games
laughter
healthy
"Come out and join in"
dance

**FUN**
social
exercise
happy

WELLBEING
enjoy
**ENERGY**

**DATE:** MONDAYS

**TIME:** 7.00PM TO 8.00PM

**VENUE:** BARRHILL MEMORIAL HALL

**ADMISSION:** £2.50 PER PERSON (CLASS FEE)

**ALL ABILITIES WELCOME**

BARRHILL MEMORIAL HALL  
COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION  
Presents

# RACE NIGHT

**Saturday 24th September 2016**  
**8pm - 12pm**  
 Licenced Bar provided  
 Buy your horse 3 and Jockey £3 now!!  
 Please call:  
 07825 223761 or 821266 or 821291  
 for your Race Night tickets £5



# BARRHILL PRIMARY

Barrhill Primary held a beetle drive to raise money for school funds. Farrans kindly donated an iPad Air 2 which was raffled on the night which was won by Daisy.

The p5-7 children enjoyed a residential trip to Dolphin House, which was kindly funded by Barrhill Community Interest Company. The children had a brilliant time.



Dolphin House residential



Dolphin House residential, looking at beach finds

We had a great time, there was lots of fun to be had. First, we went down to the beach and had a look in some of the big old caves. Next, we did some abseiling down the cliffs.

It was scary, but very exhilarating! Then we had a go at doing some watersports in the sea.

On the final day of the trip, we went orienteering around Culzean. Lots of people got lost in the big maze! The shortest time taken to find all of the markers was eight minutes

## Back to School Day 1st April 2016

Parents, grandparents, siblings, former pupils and members of the community all came to school to participate in a "Back To School Day", in which they experienced a day in the life of pupils at Barrhill Primary for a day being taught by the current pupils.

They had a go at lots of different subjects throughout the day. French was the first subject on the curriculum in the morning when the 'pupils' for the day tried to remember what they had learnt in their school French lessons. Colours, months and days of the week were all covered. Everyone sang "Head, shoulders, knees and toes" or "Tête, épaules, genoux et pieds" in French, before playing "French Colour Bingo".

The 'pupils' were then split up into four groups, to go to different activities all taught by some very young looking "teachers" for the day.

In IT, everyone used some software called BBC Dance Mat Typing to practice touch-typing. In Maths, they did a challenge called Big Maths Beat That. In this, you have a series of relatively simple sums to complete in a set time.

In Music, they played some tunes on the glockenspiel and then did some dancing. Scots language understanding was tested by learning the Scots name for items of clothing. The 'pupils' then had to dress their partner in all the clothes as they were given the Scots name. They ended up being very overdressed!

In RME the 'pupils' were given cards to put in order of which they thought were the worst things a person could do. Then everyone drew round their hand and wrote things that they thought were important in life on each finger.



Back to school day, dancing



Members of the parent council who organised and ran the beetle drive

# Community Garden

With the help of parents and members of the community, the children have established a small garden in the planters in Arnsheen Park.

Annie Clarke has been a great help with planning what to plant and helping with the actual planting.

There is a glorious display of flowers now from the bulbs we planted in December. The peas are sprouting, the potatoes are planted, the strawberries are growing nicely and the herbs are looking healthy.



# The 2016 Barrhill ACE Apprentices

Three Barrhill boys Charlie, Ethan and Justin have just completed the exhilarating ACE Apprentice program run by Girvan based Adventure Centre for Education (ACE). Based on the popular TV show 'The Apprentice' the ACE Apprentice programme which has been running since 2007 is a year-long course for teenagers which encourages them to get out and have fun in the great outdoors. The course is a great way of boosting self-confidence, making new friends and trying out lots of exciting activities, both water and land based. This year's events included abseiling, bushcraft, archery, mountain biking, coasteering, gorge walking, canoeing, a visit to a skate park, dry slope skiing and teambuilding – phew! The final event of the year was an action-packed 3 day camping trip to Patterdale in Cumbria on the 22nd-24th of July.



*Ethan, Justin & Charlie*



Here is their story:

"On arrival everyone set up their tents then lit a fire to cook sausages, burgers and marshmallows for supper.

Next morning cereal was followed by sausages and burgers for a hearty breakfast. Everybody was full of energy after a good night's sleep, and so we put on our wetsuits, hitched the canoe trailer onto the van and headed off to Lake Windermere. When we disembarked from the minibus, we unloaded the canoes and took them down to the shore. We set them afloat, put our packed lunches in and paddled furiously out to a small island, each boat determined to be the first to reach it. After all the boats were docked and tied up, we climbed to the top of the island and did a little bit of 'lakesteering', which was basically jumping off the rocks into the water.

Shortly after, we got back in our canoes and set out into the middle of the lake. Halfway there, one of the boats capsized! When they had righted themselves, we started a game which involved throwing a ball into the leader's canoe. Easy though it may sound, the leader was continuously paddling away from us, so one had to keep moving, and you could only hold onto the ball for a maximum of five seconds. Soon there was one victorious canoe and two more capsized, so we rowed back into shore for lunch. When we got back out on the water, we set off to another lakesteering area where we found a rope swing going out across the water, where you could swing from a ledge right over and fall into the lake. It was more than a little exhilarating!

However, soon after we had to paddle back to the shore. We loaded the canoes back onto the trailer, got into the van and set off back to the campsite. Next, it was time for dinner and we had a filling barbecue. We went up to the Barns End Tavern to take part in a pub quiz, which neither team did very well in, before

everybody settled down in their sleeping bags for a last slumber before we went home.

In the morning, we had breakfast from a barbecue and packed all the equipment back onto the bus. Then, we settled into our seats and drove back to Girvan. It was totally ACE!"

When asked to describe their experience of being an ACE Apprentice these were the boys' reactions:

"The thrill of jumping into the unknown was truly awesome!" said Charlie, whose favourite activities were coasteering and mountain-biking.

"A hands-on, feet-first leap into the world of adventure," said Ethan, whose favourite activity was mountain-biking.

"It truly has been an adventure to remember" said Justin whose favourite activities were gorge walking and mountain biking.



## BARRHILL CAMERA CLUB EXHIBITION

Saturday May 6th 2016 saw the inaugural exhibition of pictures by members of Barrhill Camera Club (BCC).

The event was divided into a private viewing for family members and friends on Friday evening, followed by a public viewing on the Saturday. Both viewings were well attended

Thanks go to the Community Council, The Memorial Hall Committee and the Barrhill Community Interest Company (BCIC) for their help and funding throughout the year.

All members had a wonderful time assisted in no small manner by Alan Pratt our President and professional photographer to whom our thanks for his knowledge help and the time he has given up to ensure this was a success.

Thanks also to Maureen McCutcheon for the work put in to ensure the hall was ready for use in spite of some last minute cancellations and additions!

Membership of the camera club is open to all and you can visit our Facebook Page (Barrhill Camera Club) and leave a message requesting to join. Please leave an email address (generic is fine) so we can contact you. No details are passed to 3rd parties.



## Barrhill Badminton Club



**Tuesday evenings  
6pm - 8pm  
Barrhill Memorial Hall**

Exact dates, once confirmed will be published on the  
Barrhill Website (Other>Clubs>Badminton)

Everyone welcome... come along and enjoy the fun!!!  
Equipment supplied

## Barrhill Bowling Club Fun Day

**Sunday 11th September**

1:15pm for a 1:30pm start

Come along and join us for our final Fun Day of the season  
£2 per player which includes refreshments at half time

All ages and abilities welcome

Children under 14 must be accompanied by an adult

If you've never played before why not give it a try,  
we have spare bowls that you can use

**All you need is a pair of  
flat soled shoes**

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07533 202420

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## Barrhill Wee Whist Club



Runs every two weeks starting  
Tuesday 20th September 2016  
until May 2017  
7:30pm start

Everyone Welcome  
Tuition available if required

**COFFEE at  
the KIRK  
WEDNESDAYS**

10.00 - 12.00pm

SECOLMON CHURCH HALL  
COLMONELL

# COLMONELL

## Colmonell WRI

We have some very interesting speakers lined up for the new season beginning on September 14th with Hayley McCrindle on Aloe Inspired. October 7th is our annual Whist Drive. October 12th we have Youdon Lhamo on Nomadic survival in the Himalayas.

November 9th local butcher John McIntosh will give a talk on cuts of meat and cooking tips.

December 14th will be our annual Christmas party, the venue and time still to be decided.

The meetings are held in Colmonell Community Centre and everyone is welcome to join us. For more details please contact President Nancy Agnew 01465891239 or Secretary Margaret Robertson on 01465 881352.

## Colmonell Curling Club

The new curling season starts in October 2016. All games are played at North West Castle, Stranraer. New members would be made very welcome, even if you haven't curled before. For further information please contact Margaret Logan, Dalfask 01465 713291.

## Heart Start Defibrillator

Colmonell village has invested in a community defibrillator, with the help of a grant from the British Heart Foundation. It is situated outside the village hall and is there to be accessed by anyone who is in need of it. An alarm is set off when the box opens but it stops when the box is shut. It is very easy to use with visual and verbal instructions included as soon as it is turned on. I will be doing Heartstart training at regular intervals so that as many locals as possible are aware of simple first aid training in conscious and unconscious casualty, CPR and what to do in the event of bleeding and choking. I would also be happy to assist anyone in the village if they have a medical emergency until medical help arrives.

First training night is on 18th August at 7pm but more are planned as and when is required.

Heartstart training is given by local volunteers and we are available for training for any local groups who feel it would be useful.

**Teresa MacIntyre 01465 881305**  
**dtmacintyre@gmail.com**

## Colmonell Fun Day & Duck Race



▲ William Hyslop collecting Grace Hurcomb's first prize in the Duck Race. Abbi Philips crowned as Fun Day Princess.

Winners of Colmonell Fun Week football tournament - Boars Head



# PINMORE

## PINMORE CHURCH



This small church, almost central to the other village churches in this area was built for Hew Hamilton of Pinmore House in 1878 by Allan Stevenson for tenants, estate workers and the local community to worship there.

Today it is managed by Pinmore Church Trust and services are held in the church on the last Sunday of each month at 2pm. By Rev. John Gillies.

Anyone wishing to attend will be made welcome.

Any Christian denomination can hold services by agreement with the Trustees.

Contact – Mrs J. Wyllie  
Laggansarroch Farm, Pinmore, Girvan, KA26 0TA  
Tel: 01465 841279

## For Sale

### 2 Station Cottages Pinmore

Situated in delightful rural surroundings in the small hamlet of Pinmore which in turn lies in the Assel Valley about 4.8 miles south of Girvan, this 2 bedroom ground floor cottage flat enjoys an attractive easterly outlook across the Assel Valley towards the surrounding hills and farmland. The property further comprises Living Room, Kitchen and Bathroom. Double Glazed and central heating is by way of electric night storage heaters. Lovely established garden. Garage. EER:- Band D (59).



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## LENDALFOOT CARPET BOWLING



The 2016/17 season starts on  
Tuesday 4th October in the  
Lendalfoot Community Hall  
at 7.30pm

All are welcome

# PEINN MOR POTTERY

At the time of writing we have just delivered our exhibits for the RSPB "Art on the Wing" exhibition at the Rozelle Galleries in Alloway which opens on 31st July through 11th September.

On 5th, 6th, and 7th August we have our stand at Ayr Flower Show and are hoping for good weather. There have been some bad downpours over the many years we have done the show, but on the last two occasions we enjoyed lovely sunshine.

These summer months have seen many visitors to the Gallery, some from the west of Scotland on days out, others from overseas, discovering Scotland and finding us on their travels. Almost all are excited about finding a pottery in, as they say, such a remote location. All our visitors tell us what a lovely part of the world we live and work in.

For many tourists, Scotland only starts north of the Central Lowlands and often, when they call on us, they are making a detour around the south west by way of an adventure. Not surprisingly, our rural Carrick landscape blows them away, and they want to know more. So, we have become something of a tourist information office. Unfortunately, we have little or no printed information to pass on to them, e.g. a good place for a coffee, a meal, enjoy a good view, visit places of interest, etc. and they really don't want to go back to Girvan.

Thank goodness we have the Stinchar Valley Walks Club fliers, "Discover the Stinchar Valley". These wee leaflets, designed by Harriet Ellis, are really well received and are so helpful to us in best describing the lovely, scenic drive from Pinmore to Ballantrae. (Yes, Ballantrae, Colmonell, Barr, Barrhill, and Lendalloch, we sing your praises regularly and direct people to you). This year, we have had visitors from Australia, USA and many from Canada. Today we had a couple from Cologne. They have taken away the fliers and the few spare Stinchar Valley magazines we have with great delight, the latter very much welcomed by self caterers.

VisitScotland have offered us any number of tourist leaflets for Ayrshire and Arran, but our visitors want information which is about our rural south Carrick. There must be lots of tourists who pass through all our villages who are not interested in studio ceramics and whom we never see. But listening to those who do set foot in our Gallery, it is very obvious they want to discover more about this area and will make the time to do so if others can guide them.

**The Pottery, Pinmore, By Girvan, Ayrshire, KA26 0TR**  
**+44 (0)1465 841 662 | info@peinnmor.co.uk**



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**JAMIE MACDONALD**  
**SIGN AND ARTWORK**  
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 SOUTH AYRSHIRE,  
 KA26 0SL.  
 TELEPHONE : 01465 841 251  
 MOBILE : 07901 841 355  
 WEBSITE : [www.signandartwork.co.uk](http://www.signandartwork.co.uk)  
 OR find me on Facebook...

**Pinwherry Autograss 2016**  
 last meeting this season is on  
**25th SEPTEMBER 11am START**  
 there is no charge for spectators  
 come and watch the action at  
**HALLOWCHAPEL FARM, PINWHERRY**  
 (opposite the junction of A714 & B734)  
 For more info contact - 07821241454

# PINWHERRY & PINMORE COMMUNITY COUNCIL HOSPITAL TRANSPORT

We are piloting a scheme to assist residents within the boundaries of the Pinwherry & Pinmore Community Council area with the cost of transportation for patients to access appointments, treatments or hospital stays. Any resident who thinks they may qualify is asked to e-mail Joy Chamberlain at

**ppcctransport@btinternet.com or if no internet access phone 01465 841211**

## IMAGINE THIS!

Imagine this: You stop eating. You get stomach pains. You're losing weight - fast. You have no energy. The sun hurts your skin. You lose co-ordination. You're struggling to breathe. Now you're going blind. Worst of all, you can't tell anyone how bad you feel – and even if you could, it's too late for them to help you.

This is what you would experience if you were a horse suffering from liver failure as a result of ragwort poisoning.

Ragwort is poisonous to horses, damaging the liver when eaten. The toxic effect builds up over time, causing irreparable damage. This means that your horse will get just as ill from eating small amounts of ragwort over a long period of time as it would do from eating a large quantity in one go.

Can you be certain that your horse hasn't eaten ragwort before you took over its care? An apparently healthy horse could already have serious liver damage from ragwort poisoning and may only need to eat a small amount more to trigger horrific symptoms.

One of the key things to remember is that there is often no sign of any problem until the condition has progressed so far that nothing can be done to treat it. In most cases the only reasonable course of action once the signs are visible is to have the horse put to sleep.

Liver failure is a horrible way for a horse to die. First they may become lethargic or behave abnormally. They can develop photosensitisation, where areas of pink skin become inflamed and painful when exposed to sunlight, like serious sunburn. They can also lose significant amounts of weight, even though they may be eating well.

Eventually they may go blind, have to fight for breath, start to wander or stagger or stand pushing their head against the wall. The symptoms and subsequent death can come about so quickly that owners have sometimes found their horse dead without warning.

Know your enemy: you must be able to recognise the plant so that you are able to remove it effectively.

It is vital that you ensure your horse doesn't eat ragwort, and you can't assume that they will choose not to eat it. Younger plants can taste less bitter than mature ones so it is possible that horses may consume ragwort without realising it.

It is widely accepted that the plant loses its unpleasant taste when it dies but it is still just as dangerous. This means that ragwort found in hay or haylage, or leaves that have fallen off a plant in the field and died, can very easily be eaten unknowingly and will be just as harmful as a living plant.

1. Ragwort seedlings start to appear in autumn. They are about 10-15mm high.
2. Ragwort rosettes can be found from early spring onwards.
3. Mature plants flower from May to October and can reach up to two metres in height.

After flowering, most of the plants die and the seeds germinate in the area where the mature plant had been.

One plant can produce many thousands of seeds which are covered with a downy substance so they can be easily dispersed by the prevailing wind. They can also be spread by water or by you and your animals.

As a responsible owner, you must remove all ragwort from any areas that your horse can access.

The plant is also harmful to humans, so it is essential to wear protective gloves and cover arms and legs when handling it. Ragwort should be removed before it flowers, but if this is not

possible use a face mask to avoid inhaling the pollen. If you do come into contact with the plant, thoroughly wash the area in warm, soapy water.

The easiest way to remove a small number of plants is by pulling the whole plant up, including the roots. It is best to do this at the seedling or rosette stage and, if possible, after rainfall when the ground is soft. Ragwort can regenerate from root fragments, so it is important to remove as much of the root as possible. A specialist fork can be purchased from retailers to help remove ragwort roots.

The easiest way of tackling a widespread infestation is to spray the paddocks, but you must rest the field for the recommended time after treatment. Agricultural merchants can offer advice and information about available products. The dead plant is still poisonous, so you must remove all traces before putting your horses back out.

Ragwort needs to be disposed of carefully. The most effective way is to burn the weeds, taking all relevant precautions. Defra – the Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs – can advise on this and other methods of ragwort disposal. Ragwort control is an ongoing process. As the seeds can remain in the ground for many years before they germinate, you are likely to find that you will have plants to remove year after year.

If ragwort seed is spreading onto your land from the surrounding area, for advice, in Scotland, please contact the **Scottish Government**



# PINWHERRY

## THE STINCHAR VALLEY GARDEN CLUB

**Chair:** Roger Pirrie.

Tel. 01465841644 rdpirrie@gmail.com

**Secretary:** Harriet Ellis.

Tel. 01465881221 harriet@riverstinchar.co.uk

**Vice Chair:** Nan Wilkinson.

Tel. 01465831704 nan@dunwhinny.plus.com

**Treasurer:** Susan Fairbairn.

Tel. 07707286172 gavin@inter-disciplinary.net

**Social Secretary:** Margaret Bean.

Tel. 01465841635 margaret.bean@icloud.com

**Committee Member:** Gavin Fairbairn.

Tel. 07707286172 gavin@inter-disciplinary.net

**Committee Member:** Lorraine Sinclair.

Tel. 01465821405 lorri.sinclair@btinternet.com

Our meetings are held in Pinwherry Hall on the 3rd Wednesday of every month at 7.30 pm. A warm welcome is extended to new members and friends. The charge for visitors is £3.00 which includes tea/coffee, and we look forward to greeting old and new faces at our meetings.

As usual the summer has flown by. Early May saw us making a return visit to Burnside at Mossblown to see the alpine houses in full flower, and later in the month to the wonderful gardens of Glenwhan and Dunskey at rhodie time. We were given excellent guided tours, being shown the newly made ornamental kitchen garden at Glenwhan, following paths we would have been unlikely to have found by ourselves, and the beautiful upper loch at Dunskey, with a very interesting practical demonstration of air-layering from Gaby.

June saw us visiting Claymoddie and Woodfall near Whithorn, where we were made very welcome by the owners. Both gardens contained outstanding plants, and we enjoyed the contrast between the two, the first being centred round the house, with open views to the surrounding countryside on one side, and

woodland paths on the other, the second being more of a secret, hidden garden behind huge walls. To

complete the day a good lunch was had at the Steam Packet by the harbour in Whithorn.

At the time of going to press we are looking forward to a guided tour of the recently restored walled garden at Dumfries House. Then, later in the month, our final trip is to see the amazing insectivorous plants of Pretty Ugly Plants, near Newton Stewart, followed by Galloway House Garden in the afternoon.

We resume our meetings in Pinwherry hall in September, with speakers both old and new, and the following is a flavour of our developing programme for next session.

**September:** Louise Bustard of Glasgow Botanics, her topic this time being the Glasgow Botanic Gardens themselves.

**October:** Tessa Knott of Glenwhan speaking about the development of her outstanding garden.

**November:** Galloway Forest Park.

**December:** Christmas Meal

The Club is always pleased to welcome new members at any time. An annual subscription costs £12. Please contact Harriet Ellis 01465 881 221 or any Committee Member if you would like to join the Club. Non-members are always very welcome at the meetings at a charge of £3.00. In addition to the invited speakers we enjoy a cuppa, chat and exchange of ideas and experiences.



# 2 Pins Community Centre



Company Limited by Guarantee No. 430441

Scottish Charity No SC043849

**All are invited to come along to monthly meetings the second Thursday in the month at 7.30 in Pinwherry Hall.**

Follow us on Facebook:- 2 Pins Community Company Find our Web Page:- [www.2pins.org.uk](http://www.2pins.org.uk)

<https://www.facebook.com/pages/2-Pins-Community-Company/779985358786545>

## Meeting Dates 2016:

**Every Second Thursday in the Month in Pinwherry Community Hall 7.30pm**

## NEW BOARD DIRECTOR WANTED FOR 2 PINS COMMUNITY COMPANY – TREASURER POSITION

The 2 Pins Community Company is looking for a new board director to take on the responsibility of treasurer. The position is a voluntary role and will need approximately 1-2 hours commitment a week plus attendance at monthly board and member meetings. The role will involve accurately recording 2 Pins Company financial activities and keeping the board and its members informed on the company's financial position. Duties will include maintaining a local bank account in the charity's name.

There is no requirement to have any previous financial or accounting experience, although you will find the role easier if you have experience in bookkeeping, cashbook and spreadsheets.

The 2 Pins Company will be moving into on-line accounting using 'xero' cloud based software programme so training will be available to the person taking on the treasurer role.

This is a great opportunity to contribute to the work of the 2 Pins Community Company if you have experience of, or are interested in accounts and book keeping. The treasurer's role is essential for making sure our organisation runs successfully and helps us achieve our vision for a new community centre in Pinwherry.

For more information on the role and the application process please email  
**Peter Walker – Chair**  
[peterawalker@btinternet.com](mailto:peterawalker@btinternet.com)

## PINWHERRY SWRI



The rural programme has been drawn up for another fun filled and informative Winters activities. We meet on the second Monday of each month in the Pinwherry hall from September to May at 7.30pm. Our first meeting is on Monday 12th September when we will be hearing an interesting talk and slideshow all about Life on St Kilda by Jean Guy. The competition is 3 truffles (same) and a wildlife photo. We will also hold a progressive whist on Friday 9th September. All welcome. If you have been wondering if you should give it a go, then come along and find out. You will get a warm welcome from a friendly group of women, perhaps learn a new skill and hear from speakers with interesting stories to tell. Please take this as an invitation to join us. We look forward to seeing you. For further information, please contact Lana Rafferty 841272 (secretary).

# CRAFT FAIR, VINTAGE & REAL ALE DAYS

**These were very enjoyable events, thanks to all those who attended from far and wide!**

Next Pinwherry Craft Fair in the Community Hall Pinwherry is on the 12th of November 2016



# BALLANTRAE

## BALLANTRAE CHURCH LINKED WITH ST COLMON CHURCH

During the summer holidays in France, I did two new things, first I grew a beard, and second I started using pastels. I don't think I need to say anything more about my beard, but I have found painting with pastels to be very relaxing and amazingly the finished results have looked similar to the photographs I had based them on.

On Thursday 14th July, I painted the image you can see after a walk nearby to where I was staying. It shows a strip of meadow flowers growing between a field and a path. It was an enjoyable walk; however, it was the events of that night, which will always come back to me when I see the picture.

That evening my family and I had been into our local town to see the Bastille Day celebrations and when we returned home, I started to draw the image, which had inspired me that afternoon. It was as I was in the process of painting it that I heard about the terrible news of the events in Nice. As I continued to paint, I would occasionally read the latest news, and in my mind, the flowers are representative of the lives lost that evening. They were flowers picked too early, and I am sure our thoughts and prayers are with all the families affected that night.

Life can often bring unexpected events and it is easy to lash out at God and blame him when disaster strikes. While I do not know why certain events take place, I do know that God loves and cares for us all. It was Jesus who said, as quoted in



Matthew 6:28 - 30, "Look at the lilies of the field and how they grow. They don't work or make their clothing, yet Solomon in all his glory was not dressed as beautifully as they are. And if God cares so wonderfully for wildflowers that are here today and thrown into the fire tomorrow, he will certainly care for you. Why do you have so little faith?" God's care for us is seen so clearly in Jesus Christ, who died and rose again in order that death and fear would have no hold of us. So let us know the love of God, in whatever situation we find ourselves, for since he cares for these beautiful wildflowers we know that he cares for us.

God bless, Stephen

## FORTHCOMING EVENTS

### Taste & See Cafe Church

6:30pm for 7pm in St Colmon Kirk Hall, Colmonell Every 2nd and 4th Friday of the month throughout 2016.

Come along to our café with live music and discussion. Enjoy coffee, tea, a variety of cakes and hot chocolates.



### Sunday at Glenapp

An opportunity to share in a reflective style of worship that draws on the ecumenical patterns that have arisen from different liturgical traditions across the UK and the world, such as from the Iona Community.

At 3pm on Sunday 25th September and 30th October in Glenapp Church.

### Alpha Course

Alpha is a series of sessions exploring the Christian faith, typically run over eight weeks. Each talk looks at a different question around faith and is designed to create conversation. Alpha is run all around the globe, and everyone's welcome.

Each evening which will be held in St Colmon Church Hall, will start with a meal, followed by a short film about an aspect of the Christian faith. After this, we will have time for discussion, as we explore and question the theme for that evening. The next Alpha course begins on 22nd September and if you want more information or are interested in attending please contact Stephen (details below).

### 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. For those who find the church steps a challenge the All Age service on the first Sunday of each month is usually held in the Kirk Hall, which has easy access. 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 0 to 12 years old. We also have our contemporary Sunday at Seven service 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 to arrange visits, weddings, baptisms, funerals or anything else, his details are:

### Rev Stephen Ogston

The Manse, 1 The Vennel, Ballantrae, KA26 0NH  
01465 831252 ogston@macfish.com  
[www.ballantraeparishchurch.org.uk](http://www.ballantraeparishchurch.org.uk)  
[www.stcolmonparishchurch.org.uk](http://www.stcolmonparishchurch.org.uk)

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



**ALVN**  
Ayrshire Litter Volunteer Network

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"Do a Little"...  
... "Change a Lot"

**Volunteers Wanted**

Join us at: [www.alvn.org.uk](http://www.alvn.org.uk)  
Call/text: 07730 392 770  
Email: [litterless@alvn.org.uk](mailto:litterless@alvn.org.uk)











**ALVN volunteers  
Mrs. Lynn Nield and  
Mrs. Linden Hunt  
in action in Ballantrae.**

**What is the  
Ayrshire Litter Volunteer Network?**

The ALVN is an association of like-minded individuals who aim to promote care for our environment and pride in the communities in which we live. The objective is to change attitudes to litter by having a regular visible presence and setting an example for others to follow.

**What does "Adopt a Street" entail?**

Volunteers commit to clearing a post-coded street of litter. It costs nothing more than a little of your time and can have a huge impact.

**Where can I get more information?**

Either visit the ALVN website [www.alvn.org.uk](http://www.alvn.org.uk) or telephone Mrs. Linden Hunt 01465 831207 or Mrs. Lynn Nield 01465 831769.

# BALLANTRAE DEVELOPMENT GROUP (BDG)

by Andy McAlpine, Secretary

We ran a session at the Ballantrae Youth Club with Police Scotland and South Ayrshire Community Safety to explain the importance of **good driver behaviour** in an attempt to build on the work we did at the "Keep Ballantrae Safe" event in September. Our aim is to improve the behaviour of drivers on the approach to the village, and as drivers pass through the village. The young people came up with a number of innovative ways they could influence the behaviours of friends and family and they will be running a project focusing on HGVs during August. More in the next edition of this magazine!

We were represented with others from the village at the first meeting of South Ayrshire Council's **Rural Forum** to share experiences and concerns with other rural communities and ensure the village's voice is heard.

One of our sub groups ran a very successful **Festival of Food and Drink** in June with around 3000 people attending. This year's **Smugglers' Festival** started in June with a "Smuggler's Road Trip", the launch of the Children's Smuggling book, the publication of our booklet of "Smuggling Trails" in and around Ballantrae and the "Smugglers!" exhibition in the McKechnie Institute in Girvan in partnership with the Friends of the McKechnie. The Festival ends in August. You'll find reports on both events elsewhere in this magazine.

We have continued to replenish the stock of leaflets in the **Visitor Information Point** at Craigmains with activities / places of interest roughly 30 miles / a couple of hours drive from Ballantrae. We issued the third edition of **Ballantrae News** at the end of July.

We continue to work in partnership with **local businesses** in a variety of ways depending on their needs and we have helped local groups with **grant funding** applications.




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# SCOUTABOUT



We were delighted the Scout Association decided to mark John Allsop our Group Scout Leader's 40 years in Scouting by making a presentation at the District Annual General Meeting. Over the years John has given hundreds of youngsters a great time as part of their weekly programmes and outdoor activities. In the pictures you'll see some of the things Ballantrae Beavers, Cubs and Scouts have been doing in May and June at the Woodland camp and on the beach.

By the time you read this the programme will have started for the new year. We can always do with assistance - as Leaders or parent helpers. If you would like to work with children from Ballantrae and Colmonell then we would love to hear from you. Just come along and see us on a Tuesday evening or speak to one of our existing Leaders.






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Please note that the gardens are open most days until 15th October but please check the website ([www.glenappcastle.com](http://www.glenappcastle.com)) for details or call the Castle direct.

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## BALLANTRAE SWI

The new session of the Ballantrae SWI will open in September. Meetings are held monthly in the Community Centre at 7.15pm. The annual subscription is £15 for members but we welcome visitors who are only able to join us for one meeting at £2 per evening. No evening at "The Rural" is complete without tea and coffee being served! An interesting syllabus is being planned for the session September 2016 to May 2017. The first four months are as follows:

**4 September:** Baking demonstration by Mrs Anne Walker

**3 October:** Memories of Guernsey by Mrs Angie McClinton

**7 November:** Open Night with visiting Rurals and Friends, Flower arranging demonstration by Mrs Margaret Finlay

**5 December** Christmas Dinner

Details of further plans will appear in future editions of Ballantrae News and the Stinchar Valley Magazine. If you have any queries please contact Mrs Jessie Brown (01465 831544).

## BALLANTRAE PATCHWORK & QUILTING GROUP

The above group restarts on Wed September 14th at 1 30pm in the Community Centre. We would love to see new members coming along. Just pop in and see what we do even if you have never done Patchwork before but would like to try we will help you and talk about what you could do. We finish at 4pm. Members only pay £1 a week and you get a 'cuppa' and a biscuit.

If you would like to speak to someone beforehand please give me a call. Penny Savage 01465841686. Or Margaret Bean 01465841635,

We have fun and share ideas.



## BALLANTRAE CRAFTY BEES:

Ballantrae Crafty Bees are back! After a busy year of crafting activities our members have returned from holiday full of new ideas for our new session.

Over the spring term, our activities included quilling, iris folding, making burlap wreathes, decorating mirrors and using cartonage to decorate bags.

We would be delighted to have some new members join us - all over the age of 18 are welcome - no upper age limit! We meet on the 2nd and 4th Mondays of each month in BRICC House at 7.30pm. Each session costs £3 which covers the use of BRICC and all craft materials.

Please come along, or if you'd like more information contact Barbara Ogston on 01465 831252.



## STINCHAR VALLEY PHOTO GROUP

Photo Group meetings are very informal. We meet on the last Thursday of every month (except December) at 7.30pm in BRICC House in Ballantrae. The group exists to encourage more local people to take better pictures. If you are interested in taking pictures - whether it's with a mobile phone, compact camera or digital SLR - why not come and join us. You'll be made very welcome!

# BALLANTRAE SMUGGLERS FESTIVAL 2016

by Andy McAlpine

Ballantrae's Smugglers' Festival is inspired by stories of smuggling in Ballantrae and the surrounding area in the late 1700 and early 1800s. Now in its fourth year, this year's Ballantrae Smugglers' Festival took place during the period June to August. We wanted to move away from the idea that our Smugglers' Festival had to be over a number of consecutive days in August.



A "Smugglers' Road Trip" from Stranraer to Girvan in June followed in the footsteps of the 18th and 19th century smugglers. Also in June, the children of Ballantrae Primary School launched a book of smuggling stories, poems and illustrations for children (see below / alongside). Copies are available, price £7.50, from me at 42 Foreland Ballantrae 07920517700 or from Toby Press, 8 Mill Close, Blakedown, Kidderminster, Worcs., DY10 3NQ email: tobypress@franscript.co.uk.

The story of smuggling in the Ballantrae and Girvan area was told in the Smugglers! exhibition in the McKechnie Institute in Girvan in June and July. Over 500 people visited the exhibition. Details of four "Smuggling Trails", piloted last year, are now available from the Visitor Information Point at Craigmains Home and Garden Centre in Ballantrae with maps of the trails and the smuggling stories related to each one.

We were delighted with the response to the Road Trip, the Children's Book, the Exhibition and the "Smuggling Trails". At the time of writing this article we are in the middle of the detailed preparations for the 4 events in Ballantrae in August. We look forward to the return of the fabulous tall ship La Malouine. The added bonus for us this year is ITV are planning to film her and her involvement in our Smugglers' Festival for a half hour programme.

The evening of Friday 5 August with the Landing of the contraband in Ballantrae Bay will be one of our most ambitious events to date. This is the first time we have tried to re-enact the whole story involving the transfer of the cargo from La Malouine to small boats. They will bring it to shore where it will be loaded onto horses and carts before being spirited away through the village ready for onward transportation inland.

We are also looking forward to the "Strongman Challenge", "The Smugglers' Supper" in the King's Arms Hotel and "The Ballantrae Smugglers' Chase" - with crews of smugglers in skiffs vying for the locally crafted trophy.

We'll bring you the full story in the next edition of the Stinchar Valley Magazine.

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# Ballantrae FESTIVAL OF FOOD & DRINK

Ballantrae's second Festival of Food and Drink on Sunday 12 June, once again saw visitors flocking to what is becoming one of the must "go to" events of the food calendar.

A giant marquee in the wonderful setting of Ballantrae harbour overlooking spectacular views provided the stage for over fifty food stalls, celebrity chef demonstrations and food foraging expeditions. Sparkling sunshine, some of the best food available in Scotland and laid back music combined to create a fantastic atmosphere. Organisers say none of it would have been possible without the help of a large band of volunteers, the police, hospitality and tourism students from the Ayr campus, first aiders and, of course, the visitors themselves.

Festival Organiser Susan Crosthwaite said:

*"Once again the small village of Ballantrae punched well above its weight by pulling off a highly successful food event which attracted visitors from all over the country. When we first decided to have our own Food Festival, the intention was to put Ballantrae well and truly on the food map. We have more than achieved that. My thanks to the team and all the volunteers as well as the stallholders and funders for creating such a wonderful experience."*

*"We will be updating the website with photos and comments from this year's event and we will continue to update the website and our facebook page with local food and drink news throughout the year so please keep checking in."*

## **Congratulations to the Prize Draw winners:**

- 1st Prize:** Ballantrae Festival of Food and Drink Hamper – NB Irvine
- 2nd Prize:** P&O return ferry trip to Larne for two adults and a car -BH Straiton
- 3rd Prize:** Glenapp Castle Champagne Afternoon Tea for Four – JS Glasgow
- 4th Prize:** A bottle of Hendricks Gin – HE Colmonell, DM Ballantrae, E&A Colmonell and DC Ballantrae.

**Stinchar Valley locals enjoy the event along with Glenapp Castle chefs Tyron Ellul from Malta and David Alexander from Stranraer.**



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Monday	4pm – 7pm
Tuesday	3pm – 5pm
Thursday	10am – 12noon
Friday	10am – 12noon

# BALLANTRAE GALA WEEK

What another fantastic Gala Week! The fishing competition, the Football Competition, the Parade of Floats and Fancy Dress, the Gala Dance, the Bowler / non Bowler Competition and of course Gala Day itself once again showed that the village can pull out all of the stops and put on a great show.

This year the organisers battled not only with the weather but uncertainty over increased costs from South Ayrshire Council which could have scuppered Gala Day but thanks to last minute support from Ayrshire LEADER the event went ahead. The Gala party were fabulous and did a great job. Sharon Robertson, Fiona Roper and Linden Hunt have been the masterminds behind the gala for years. But this was their last Gala Week - they are now handing over the organisation to the younger "Gala Girls". Thanks ladies for all you've done!



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Find the Forest Floor colouring sheet and get your favourite colouring pencils ready!

Colouring in sounds simple, right? No chance! Have you seen the CHAOS that happens on the forest floor? Small leaves fall on top of big leaves, and these are overlapped by spiky leaves, which are pinned down by rolling berries...

Choose one of our colouring ideas and get cracking!



Real-life colours (try using autumn colouring)



Put shadows under leaf edges to make them look 3D

Do your own thing!



Choose a different colour for everything

Pretend the forest has flooded and colour everything different shades of blue

Use the same colour to match leaves and seeds from the same tree



Once you've finished colouring, check the answer sheet to see if you're right.

Feel free to copy and share this for personal and educational use - and don't forget there are loads more brilliant activities to download on our website!  
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Download and follow the instructions and get colouring - it's not as easy as it looks!

Did you find them all? Check out the answer sheet to see if you're right!

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Scientists use quadrats (squares of metal) to investigate what's on the ground. Use a ruler and pen to divide your sheet into quarters and number them.

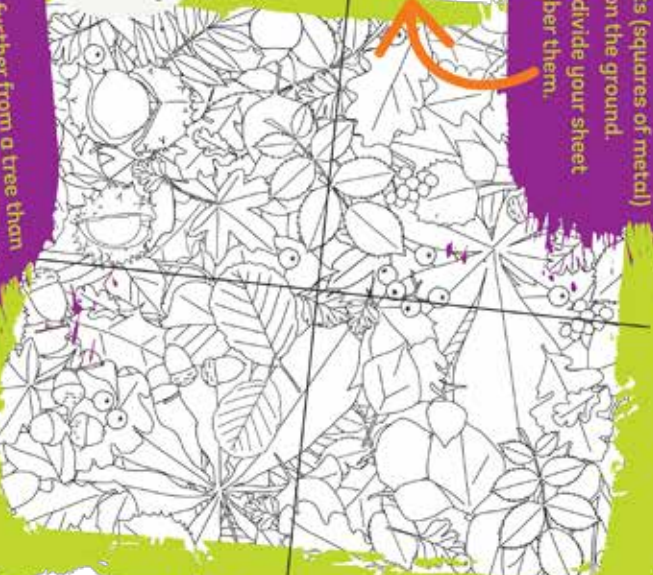
1	2
3	4

Which quarter contains the most conkers?

How many berries in quarters 1 and 3?

Leaves will blow further from a tree than its fruits will fall. Look at where the leaves and fruits are and predict where you think they come from.

Which quarter is nearest the oak tree?



How many different trees can you identify? Can you name them?

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Did you spot and colour everything? Check your sheet against these answers.

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# THE WHITHORN WAY

*By Sylvia Jenks Paisley Abbey and the Scottish Pilgrim Routes Forum*

The Whithorn Way is a long distance footpath from Glasgow to Whithorn. The walk was inspired by the 'Paisley 850 Pilgrimage' which celebrated 850 years since the founding of Paisley Abbey.

The pilgrimage was walked, in monthly stages from July 2012 - July 2013 and then on eleven consecutive days arriving back in Paisley on St Mirin's day 15th September 2013

Following on from the success of the pilgrimage we were invited to join the SPRF (Scottish Pilgrim Routes Forum) with a view to developing the Whithorn Way.

In December 2013 the route researched to extend to Glasgow Cathedral.

In April 2014 the Paisley 850 Pilgrims walked from Paisley to Glasgow via Govan to formally extend the route.

A Steering Group has now been formed and work has been done to improve the route by taking certain parts off road.

The whole route although not signposted yet, follows known pathways such as cycle routes (NCR 7), the Ayrshire Coastal Path, the Carrick Way and the Stinchar Valley Walk from Lendalfoot to Colmonell and Pinwherry.

Through advertising on Facebook we actually had our first official pilgrim in the form of Derek Stewart from Hawick. Derek is a historical enactment enthusiast and asked if he could have more in depth information and instructions for walking The Whithorn Way from Glasgow Cathedral to Whithorn Priory.



His intention was to walk the distance of the advertised 127 miles in 8 days. We had to inform him that after altering parts of the route the mileage would in fact be more like 145 miles. He began his adventure on Monday 20th June.

He said he would manage it in nine days and walk it in traditional mediaeval period clothes of the 13th Century!

His cloak would become a blanket, his walking staff a tent pole and a blanket would become his tent.

Every part of his gear from his boots to his small sundial 'watch' was as authentic as it was possible to be.

He was spared the tent on most nights. At Girvan he was met by Brother Patrick of the Trochrague Guest House. At Pinwherry he was kindly offered accommodation by a retired minister, at Barrhill he was met and offered a bacon roll and accompanied as far as the Martyr's Tomb, at New Luce the village hall became his bedroom, at Mochrum it was the Manse. Derek had so many tales of help and hospitality along the way which were most heartening for members of the steering group.

Derek arrived in Whithorn at 2:00p.m on Tuesday 28th June.

There was a free lunch waiting for him at the Whithorn Trust but before he could either rest his feet or sit down to eat he had to complete the Pilgrimage at the undercroft of the Priory at Whithorn.

He was also expected at Whithorn Primary School where he talked to the children in a brilliantly engaging fashion capturing the imaginations of the youngest to the oldest child.

Now he could eat and rest his feet!

Derek stayed as a guest of Reverend Alec Currie at the manse in Whithorn on the 28th June and completed his adventure by walking to St Ninian's Cave and along the coastal path to the Isle of Whithorn the following day before heading back home by bus.

The Whithorn Way, while we are waiting to develop things further, is open for anyone to walk at anytime.

In fact the more interest shown the easier it would be for us to move forward with our ambition to make 'The Whithorn Way' one of 'Scotland's Great Trails'.

**Follow us on Facebook: [www.facebook.com/whithornway](http://www.facebook.com/whithornway)**

**Also for maps information etc. on the Whithorn Way website [www.whithornway.org](http://www.whithornway.org)**



## BARR GALA

Barr Gala began with an overcast Fell race in the morning. All the participants ran well, (possibly trying to get away from the midges), thankfully, it stayed dry kicking off a great day!

**Fell Race Winner:** John Goodenough, Gamekeeper at Colmonell. Been 2nd previously

**2nd:** Dave Trotter

**Winner of Ladies Cup:** Yvonne Davies

**Youth Winner:** Euan McKenzie

**Middle Junior Group:** Rafferty Blair

**Youngest Junior Group:** Rosie Denham

The Gala parade began the carnival flavoured festivities; Best Float - Quilters, Best family: Yvonne Davies & granddaughter, and with entertaining drum rhythms, Special prize: Barr Primary School Samba Band.

The crowning of the Gala Queen, Eleanor Gunson then opened the afternoon's events all over the village with A.C.E. providing archery at the Clachan, fun games and a variety of stalls around the Glebe & putting green, Pony rides in Burnbank field provided by Ailsa View Equestrian, local artists on display in the Barr wee Gallery at Kirk Angus and even tarot reading at the 'invisible bus stop' (erroneously removed by SAC).

An excellent demonstration making shoes from a straight bar by top farrier and member of the Scottish Farrier team Devin Crerar and local farrier John Paterson, drew a fascinated crowd at Kinnoull. Horse 'Mushroom' who is 26 years old has just won the 80cm League at Ailsa View Equestrian with local Gill Ross stood patiently for Devin while the ducks raced down the River Gregg.

There was plenty of choice in refreshments and snacks at the village store and Barr Bowlers burger stall, with afternoon teas provided by Barr Teas in the Hall and the Kings Arms cooking up a delicious Hog roast.

Further afield, the pet show at the Pot raised a few smiles, feathers and fluff and the day's festivities rounded off with music in the evening by Koda in the pub.



# Barr Bowling:

The Barr Bowling Club has taken part in the Carrick League and although not high on the table, it did have better and closer games than last year. The bowling green is looking fine and healthy thanks to 'Carrick Futures' small grants funding from the BCC and the extremely hard work of Alan Ringrose & team. They are hosting their Open Pairs generously sponsored by John & Jackie Logan with 15 teams competing including teams from other clubs outside the village.



# Barr Quilt Show 30/31 July

ScotWest Credit Union kindly awarded the Quilters £250 towards the cost of the raffle tickets & licence and there was a further donation from the Co-op towards the teas & coffees for £40,

There was a fantastic display of handiwork and craftsmanship in Barr Village Hall celebrating the talent of Stinchar Valley Quilters with a raffle including the grand prize of a very fine quilt set, hand made by the Quilters, and trade stands such as RM Hobbies also supporting and showing their wares.

This first quilt show in Barr was a great success with a lot of visitors being very complimentary, leaving lovely comments and 'looking forward to the next show'. (It is proposed that the Quilters display in Barr will now take place bi-annually). This fine exhibition showcased very beautiful work and all involved should be very proud of themselves as they put Stinchar Valley Quilters firmly on the map.

The winner of the raffle Grand prize quilt was Lindsayston Farm.

If anyone missed the Barr Quilt show in July, the quilters will be showing their work at the SAC Community Fun Day in Ayr on the 10th Sept.



# Barr Horse News:

Barr lass Sophie Grater won the 60cm league at Ailsa Equestrian, then won both the 70cm & 90cm classes at the Dalrymple show on 'Finnegan' and John Paterson has been selected to be a member of the Scottish Field Trial Team with his spaniel Bub, and with all his dogs, attended the Game Fair at Ragley Hall at the end of July.

# 'Barr wee Gallery'



'Barr wee Gallery' opened its doors for the Summer with the 'Open Studios Ayrshire' in April. 'Open studios' offers the opportunity to gain an insight into artists work practice and Merlin Currie opened up the studio space at the rear of the Gallery shared with 'Aye Glass' for visitors. A trial free bus service was provided using Carrick community transport, thanks to funding by 'Carrick Futures' to enable rural residents access to the Carrick studios taking part.



Although there was not a huge take up of the service, it was welcomed by many, with the biggest drawback being the distance between venues that dictated the timings suggesting a more flexible approach could be more successful if there were two vehicles on the circuit. People who come across the Barr studio/gallery for the first time are surprised and delighted by the 'wee gem' and were made very welcome at the Open Studios event with teas, coffees, rolls & home made soup by Merlin plus home baking provided by Barr Teas.

As a scene-painter and prop-maker in London, Merlin's versatility and experience was in great demand, working for the Royal Opera House for many years & freelance for West End Theatre, TV and Film productions.

Since returning to Scotland to concentrate on family in 2000, Merlin, an eclectic and resourceful artist, continues to utilise theatre skills in engaging communities and young people through many creative projects and workshops across Scotland. The studio in Barr provides a wee glimpse into that intriguing world in addition to the personal artwork that is produced there. The Barr wee Gallery showcases Merlin's own artwork, Aye Glass fused glassware, Clachan wood, Capercaillie pet portraits, Pinmore pottery, Celtic Shore jewellery and other local artists' work.

The Open Studios weekend drew such favourable comments that the working studio continues to open for visitors during Gallery opening times - Sat/Sun 10-5 until September, or by appointment – Tel 01465 861 239

## BARR PRIMARY SCHOOL

### Barr Primary school held a successful fun family BBQ to raise funds in May

The South Ayrshire Percussion Ensemble and Barr Primary Samba band provided entertainment and Sheila Farquhar was presented with a painting by local artist Merlin Currie to celebrate and thank her for her long standing support and time in the Parents Council as she sadly retires.



# AYE GLASS ACCOLADE!

Local glass artist Angus Corbett, 'Aye Glass' of Barr village, was privileged to be invited to display his beautiful hand crafted fused glass to HRH the Prince of Wales at the official opening of the Prince's Trust new Wolfson centre in Glasgow. The Wolfson Foundation funded the Glasgow centre to tackle youth unemployment and provide Scotland's biggest employment and enterprise hub with its excellent record of helping young people like Angus, into work.

Prince Charles spoke to Angus for more than ten minutes and displayed great interest in Angus's work, asking in depth technical questions about his creative process and procedures. The glass on display was greatly admired by all and several of the visiting dignitaries made purchases before returning to London.

Angus was struggling to find work as a young person living in a rural environment after graduating in glass design/production in Glasgow. However, he was



fortunate to be introduced to a Prince's Trust adviser who encouraged him to consider setting up his own business through the Prince's Trust Enterprise programme.

Angus was enrolled in the Explore Enterprise course, which enabled him to produce a business plan, cost the setting up of his studio and rebuild his self-confidence and self-esteem. He then presented his business case for "Aye Glass" to the Prince's Trust funding panel and successfully gained a start up grant to buy materials and tools to complement a second hand kiln that he had acquired through friends of the family.

Angus continues to develop his business with the support of Prince's Trust business mentor Walter Smith and was awarded a Prince's Trust 'Determined to Succeed' award last year. Despite a challenging setback in the autumn involving painful medical procedures to stabilise the deterioration of his sight, Angus is again focussed on the future. With the help of a further grant for materials from 'Arts for All' through the Ayrshire Young Artists Network and an expansion loan from the Prince's Trust, he is indeed determined to succeed and regularly participates in Prince's Trust events.

You can find 'Aye Glass' fused art glass locally at the 'Many Thanks' gallery gift shop in Mauchline, 'the Wave' in Girvan, the 'Barr wee Gallery' and Culzean farmer's/craft market on the first Sunday of the month.



The "Aye Glass" studio is in the rear of the "Barr wee Gallery" and visitors are welcome any weekend during gallery opening hours (10-5 Sat/Sun until Sept) or by appointment.

**Tel. 01465 861 239**

**Aye Glass, Kirk Angus, the Avenue, Barr KA26 9TX**

**[www.ayeglass.com](http://www.ayeglass.com)**

**[www.facebook.com/AyeGlasswork](https://www.facebook.com/AyeGlasswork)**

## Happy Haircuts



## Happy Dogs

**Lexie Trafford**  
**Happy Haircuts**

**Barr Girvan**

**01465 861639**

**Dog Grooming For All Dogs At Your Place Or Mine**

**friends.com@hotmail.co.uk**

**07964208159**

# THE ARRAN COASTAL CHALLENGE

The Arran Coastal challenge was taken on by Barr parents Sharon Trotter and Chris Gunson who raised a whopping total of over £2,400.

The 100 km run (walk/shuffle) took place in one day (28 May 16) to raise money for Yorkhill Children's hospital, Glasgow and Barr Primary School, South Ayrshire. Yorkhill Hospital do fantastic work for so many seriously ill children, not to mention a young boy at Barr Primary School who has been battling leukemia over recent years - thanks to Yorkhill's

wonderful support and care he is now in remission.

**Congratulations to the amazing pair and the fab supporting team for such an incredible result!**



Support team Skye & Hamish



Made it!



facebook.com/kimayresphotography

# 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.

**Knockdolian Castle** On the North Side of The Stinchar and adjacent to the public Road about 2 Miles from Colmonell. The Ruins of an ancient Castle which appears from the date stone to have been erected in the year 1636. Its walls are all entire, about three feet in thickness, and composed of lime & Stone. It Rises to an elevation of three Stories the two upper floors of which are Stone. It is the property and was the Residence of the Cathcart family previous to the erection of the New castle adjacent. At the west Side of the castle are several grassy Slopes or Ramparts, the remains of the outer defences of the Castle. Extract from Scotland's Places Ordnance Survey Books Ayrshire Volume 13 "The house of Knockdolian, the remains of which stand on the east, at the foot of Knockdolian Hill, where Abercrombie wrote - shortly before the Revolution- was the seat of the McCubbins. Here he says "is shewn what art and industrie can do, to render a place to which nature hath not been favourable, very pleasant by planting of gardens, orchards, walks and rows of trees, that surprise the beholder with things so far beyond expectation in a cuntry so wild and mountainous ." such was Knockdolian House at the end of the 17th Century." Paterson's History of Ayr.



**Ardstinchar Castle** In the east end of the village of Ballantrae. The ruins of an ancient Castle Supposed to have been built about the middle of the 14th. Century by the Lords of Bargany. It stands on rising ground immediately above the public road at the east end of the village of Ballantrae. The walls, which are of Considerable thickness, are nearly level with the surface, except two sides of what appear to have been a Square tower at the South East end. The remaining portion is about fifty feet high. From its situation in a narrow part commanding two entrances in Carrick, this fortalice must have been of considerable importance in remote times. Extract from Scotland's Places Ordnance Survey Books Ayrshire Vol 7 "The ruins of the Castle of Ardstinchar are situated on a rock above the River Stinchar, a short distance from Ballantrae; and forms a prominent object to the traveller from the South. The date of its erection is unknown. It was however, a strong hold of the Kennedies of Bargany, for a period of 250 years. It consists of several square towers which protected an embattled wall, enclosing a considerable space; and which appears to have had also strong defences, particularly on its west or entrance angle." Extract from Paterson's History of Ayr.



**Pinwherry Castle** - dating from the 16th century is L-shaped, measuring 35 by 30ft. The entrance, on the ground floor was in the re-entrant angle, the first floor was a hall and there was a wing staircase. Broken bonding at the west wall's continuation suggests the existence of a walled enclosure to the north. The house belonged to the Kennedy family in 1596-7. The remains of Pinwherry Castle are situated in the grounds of a private house and consist of roughly coursed masonry walls 1.3m thick standing to 13m high. There are indications of barrel vaulting on the lower floor while a few stairs remain in the South West corner and in the wing beyond the doorway. There is no trace of a walled enclosure. The building is situated on a slight mound which appears to be natural with some modification due to landscaping. Extracts from Canmore



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

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