

FREE

THE STINCHAR VALLEY MAGAZINE

AUTUMN
2017

**WIN
£20**
See page 3

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, ARECLECH AND HADYARD HILL WINDFARMS

LOCAL AND INTERESTING WEB SITES

THE VILLAGES

Barr Village	http://www.barrvillage.co.uk/
Barrhill	www.barrhill.org.uk
Ballantrae Village	www.ballantrae.org.uk
Pinwherry/Pinmore	http://www.2pins.org.uk
Visit Scotland	http://www.visitsouthernscotland.co.uk/

LOCAL INFORMATION AND THINGS TO DO

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

LOCAL ENVIRONMENT ORGANISATIONS

Ayrshire Rivers Trust	www.ayrshirerivertrust.org/cisp
The Southern Uplands Partnership	http://www.sup.org.uk/
Scottish Red Squirrels	https://scottishsquirrels.org.uk/
Scottish Natural Heritage	http://www.snh.org.uk/
The Woodland Trust	http://www.woodlandtrust.org.uk
Forestry Commission	http://www.forestry.gov.uk/
Scottish Environmental Protection	http://www.sepa.org.uk/

USEFUL HELP WEBSITES

Ballantrae Medical Practice	www.ballantraemedicalpractice.co.uk
Age Concern Girvan	www.ageconcerngirvan.org.uk
Public services all in one place	www.direct.gov.uk
Stagecoach	www.stagecoachbus.com/timetables
For timetables, fares and bookings	www.citylinkonlinesales.co.uk
Scottish Water	http://www.scottishwater.co.uk/
Community Police Team	GirvanSouthCarrickCPT@scotland.pnn.police.uk
"	http://www.scotland.police.uk/your-community/ayrshire/south-ayrshire/
Walking Blog	http://www.scottishhills.com/html/modules.php?name=Forums&file=viewtopic&t=23147

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	0800 0929290
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

We hope you will enjoy the Autumn 2017 issue of the Stinchar Valley Magazine. Once again, we've tried to bring you news of what's been happening in the communities in the valley and the surrounding area. If you would like to submit something for a future edition, please contact me or a member of the Editorial Team - their names can be found below.

DEADLINE FOR NEXT EDITION

WINTER 2017 SUBMISSION OF ARTICLES TO REPS OR THE EDITOR IS

27th OCTOBER

DISTRIBUTION TO VILLAGES WILL BE W/C 4th DECEMBER 2017

Cover Photo: Taken by Harriet Ellis. Autumn Colours, The river bank near Asselfoot. Pentax K-r, f11, 1/320 sec. ISO-1600. Focal length 18mm.

Want to win £20?



Tell us what receiving the Stinchar Valley Magazine means to you?

Do you enjoy it? Does it keep you informed about what's happening in the villages? Does it help promote your business or community activities?

One lucky winner will be drawn from all answers received.

Answers by email

Stinchar-valley-magazine@hotmail.co.uk
or send to **Guildhall, Pinwherry, KA26 0RT**

Answers must be received by 13th October.

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. **Are we doing a good job? Please let us know**

LOCAL REPRESENTATIVES AND EDITORIAL PANEL

Pinwherry and Pinmore	John McAlley (editor)	Stinchar-valley-magazine@hotmail.co.uk Tel. 01465 841198
Pinwherry/Pinmore	Marie McNulty	mariemcnultyg@gmail.com
Ballantrae	Andy McAlpine Peter Newland	andy.mcalpine@btinternet.com peternewlands1@btconnect.com
Barr	Anna Connon	connon.anna@gmail.com
Barrhill	Linda Wild	linda.wild@gmail.com
Lendalfoot	Jim Fleming	margaretfleming775@gmail.com
Colmonell	Margaret Robertson	Tel. 01465 881352
Admin/Treasurer	Marie McNulty	mariemcnultyg@gmail.com Tel: 01465 841168

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
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 Taxi Service	01465 713737		Jim Fleming	05/16
Electrician	Josh Russell		07533 202420	Claire Whitehurst	08/16
Roof & leadwork	Paul Coombes		07732657907	Dr McKenna	10/16
Electrical Repairs	Howard Galley	01465 831537	07894433084	Dr McKenna	10/16
Joinery	Ross Doyle	01465 821433	07825141910	Keith Dawdry	01/17
Garden Machinery	Francis Bowman	01292 262763	07492433338	Ian Terry	01/17

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 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 Dec.
Barrhill	Last 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:

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

Telephone: 01563 503164 or via their website:

www.ayrshireroadsalliance.org - select roads for "Road Faults" or any other categories and complete and send form or by emailing: enquiries@ayrshireroadsalliance.org

SOUTH AYRSHIRE LIBRARY GIRVAN

We run a **Film Club** which is held usually on the first Monday of each month @ 2pm, booking is essential as seats are limited.

Two **Bookgroups** are held each month - one is held on the last Monday each month at 6pm and the other is held on the first Thursday of each month @ 2pm.

Scrabble Club which is held fortnightly on a Thursday @ 2.15pm

Writing Group which is held fortnightly on a Friday at 2pm.

All the above groups are for Adults, simply ring the Library to book or enquire about available spaces.

All events are free.

Mary Stewart Assistant In Charge | Girvan Library | 01465 712813 |

Economy, Neighbourhood and Environment | South Ayrshire Libraries | Mary.stewart@south-ayrshire.gov.uk

Girvan – new opening hours

Day	Open	Close	Open	Close
Monday	11:00	13:00	14:00	19:00
Tuesday	09:00	13:00	14:00	17:00
Wednesday	09:00	13:00	14:00	17:00
Thursday	09:00	13:00	14:00	17:00
Friday	09:00	13:00	14:00	17:00
Saturday	09:00	13:00	14:00	17:00

Ballantrae – new opening hours

Day	Open	Close
Monday	16:00	19:00
Tuesday	15:00	17:00
Wednesday	x	x
Thursday	10:00	12:00
Friday	10:00	12:00

AN INDEPENDENT VIEW

It's great to be back writing this column for The Stinchar Valley Magazine. I was elated to gain top place in Ward 8 at the May Election and it is indeed a great privilege to represent the communities of South Carrick in the Council Chambers once more. I can give you an assurance that your voice will be heard and that our rural communities will be supported to the best of my ability. At the last full Council meeting before the recess it was particularly poignant to see the amendment voted through which reversed the cuts to Gala Day support which had caused such dismay to our towns and villages by providing £20,000 in financial support for one year until such time as the new financial year budget is concluded and will include support for future years.

The Council election in May also provided an important outcome for South Ayrshire and in particular Carrick. That outcome gave myself and my fellow Independent colleague Councillor Brian Connolly the balance of power to help form the new administration which in turn will provide much needed influence for rural folk.

I look forward to the next five years with the confidence that our rural communities in South Carrick and indeed South Ayrshire will be very much at the centre of administration and not, as in the past, at the periphery.

It has been a bit of a mixed Summer weather wise with a beautiful month of May and a bit of a mix in June and July. However Carrick communities have been enjoying the season with Galas and Fun Days that bring out the joy, fun and colour of Summer. It is always a pleasure to attend as many of these events as possible. It was a great pleasure to attend the official opening of The Quay Zone in Girvan where, along with some of our rural Community Councillors, our MSP Jeanne Freeman and our MP Bill Grant, we watched South Carrick Community Leisure Chair Ken Johnstone and General Manager Peter Linton officially open what has already become a very popular and busy leisure and fitness centre for local folk and a must visit destination for visitors to Carrick. It was also good to celebrate, along with Julie Campbell and her team, the 10th Anniversary of the Girvan Community Garden. What a great job the team have done and if you have the chance I would recommend a visit.

I have also had the pleasure of attending some of our Community Councils since the election and it amazes me to see just how vibrant and responsible they are. Community Councillors are volunteers whom I admire because that was my background for many years and, along with others such as community



development associations and local groups, they are the backbone of our rural towns and villages.

Finally it was a great joy to attend the opening of Girvan Harbour Gala in support of the RNLI who save lives at sea. As usual my highlight was taking a trip out in the Lifeboat along with my Councillor colleagues, the Civic King and Queen and their entourage, and of course the crew who lay their lives on the line to save those in peril on the sea. Keep safe and may you and yours enjoy the rest of the year.

Alec Clark

QUAY The ZONE

**4 FABULOUS ZONES
ONE GREAT LOCATION**

POOL, GYM, STUDIO, CAFÉ & PLAY ZONES

BECOME A MEMBER TODAY!

FANTASTIC DEALS ON OFFER

Managed by South Carrick Community Leisure
Made possible by our funders and supporters (see website for details)

Find us on Facebook

Knockcushan Street, Girvan, KA26 9AG
t: 01465 915200 e: info@thequayzone.co.uk
www.thequayzone.co.uk

COUNCILLOR IAN FITZSIMMONS

It is a privilege to be writing for you again. I was a Councillor from 1999 to 2007 for the Girvan Ailsa ward and then for Girvan and South Carrick until 2012. I know that a lot of Community Councils will have changed since then and I hope to get to know you all over the next five years. It was a surprise to obtain over 1,200 votes in the local election. Thanks to everybody who voted. I will work for all of the communities in the Stinchar Valley.

By the time you read this most of the Summer activities will be over and some of the communities will be getting ready for the Autumn. I have a Surgery in Girvan, in the McKechnie Institute, on Saturday mornings from 11.30 until 12 noon. If you cannot manage to get to it please contact me at the County Buildings in Ayr or at home at 15 Smith Crescent Girvan, by phone on 01465712667, or by email at fitzsimmons391@btinternet.com.

I hope everything goes well for everybody and the weather stays fine.

Ian Fitzsimmons



COUNCILLOR PETER HENDERSON, SNP



It was a privilege and honour to be elected to serve as councillor for the ward and I would wish to emphasise that I am here to serve all constituents. I have replaced Councillor Alec Oattes who I know will be a hard act to follow as he was dedicated and hardworking throughout his time in office. I am aware of the task ahead and will endeavour to give of my utmost at all times. Since the election in May I was privileged to assist in forming the new administration.

I was elected to the post of Portfolio Holder for Resources and Performance in the administration and member of the Leadership panel and as such I can ensure that South Carrick will have any concerns and issues raised in the council decisions. I am pleased to say that I managed to successfully move resolutions directly affecting our area, by restoring Gala funding, introducing 20mph speed limits following local consultation in South Ayrshire and supporting reducing the Councillor salary budget by £36,000 per annum.

I have been able to attend Community Council, Development Associations meetings etc along with my colleagues elected in May and pleased to say that we are all working in collaboration for our Ward. The first few months have been extremely busy in finding my feet with procedures and attending numerous meetings and events, in our now enlarged ward. I have managed to get around all of the area on a regular basis and hear and tackle local concerns as well as attending schools and local fun days etc. It has been of benefit to engage and discuss issues around the villages which I will continue to do.

It is by engagement and discussion that we can hopefully address issues of concern to everyone, the rural areas are often seen as the forgotten part of the Council, I will endeavour to make sure this is not the case going forward.

We are fortunate to live in such a beautiful part of the world and we must ensure we retain and grow our rural economy and villages along with regenerating Girvan. The number of dedicated volunteers I have met in all areas is a testament to the people of the area willing to do all they can to support events and community and I will seek to support all areas as much as I can.

I hope that we have a good summer and all events and activities are successful. In uncertain times for many enterprises and communities it's important to ensure that we enjoy community and family times in the sunshine.

Thanks for taking the time to read this column and if you have suggestions on what areas you would like more detail please just let me know.

I look forward to contributing on a regular basis and updating on proposals and changes coming forward. More importantly I will listen and act on your questions and concerns at all times.

Councillor Peter Henderson. SNP

HEALTHY AND ACTIVE REHABILITATION PROGRAMME

Meet the HARP team

A new and exciting rehabilitation opportunity is available to the people of South Carrick and Stinchar Valley known as HARP (Healthy and Active Rehabilitation programme).

HARP has been designed for people who are affected by more than one long-term condition affecting their heart, lungs, cancer, stroke or falls.

HARP provides education, advice and support to help people who have a long-term condition maintain the best possible physical and mental health.

HARP is available across the whole of Ayrshire but runs locally in Girvan Community Hospital physiotherapy gym on a Tuesday.

A dedicated team of senior nurses and physiotherapists who specialise in supporting lifestyle change and self-management can offer an appointment to give people the opportunity to ask any questions or talk about any concerns they have regarding their condition.

The HARP team can offer:

- education to help people understand more about their condition;
- psychological support;
- self-management advice and support group;
- dietary advice and weight management - Weigh to Go;
- smoking cessation support;
- supervised group exercise sessions tailored to individual needs;
- home-based exercise advice;
- referral onto local leisure service exercise sessions.

If you are interested in meeting the HARP team for an assessment, your GP or practice nurse can refer you on to the HARP service. Or, if you would like more information, you can contact the team directly on (01292) 614550.

Isabel's story

Isabel was referred to HARP with angina but also had a history of stroke, MI and Type II diabetes. She was keen to lose weight and increase her activity levels. She attended HARP exercise classes and Weigh-to-Go and has successfully achieved her goals. On completion of classes, Isabel was referred on to Leisure Services to help maintain her physical activity level.

Before HARP

"I wasn't sure what I could do physically.....would it be safe? My mood was really up and down.

HARP

It was good to meet others in a similar situation and let me see face-to-face how other people felt.

It let you see how others coped and that you weren't on your own.....we shared information.

There were experts to show me what exercise I could do that would be safe.

It gave me access to professionals which gave me confidence.

After HARP

I was a lot more confident in my ability to do things.

More confident to try new things.....not as frightened about what might happen.

I don't get as frustrated if things don't go exactly to plan, I don't give up.

If anyone has the chance to go to HARP, they should definitely give it a go."

Community HARP classes are held in South Parish Church, Girvan each Friday at 1pm where you will be looked after by experienced fitness instructors.

If you would like more information on community HARP classes please contact Janey Anderson on (01292) 612849 or email Janey.Anderson@south-ayrshire.gov.uk



BARR

BARR CYCLING CLUB

Barr cycle club update from Chris Gunson.

We have had a busy start to 2017 with courses and assessments to get through for all four of the team.

Back in February Brian, Dave, Fergus and myself all took part in a two day bicycle mechanics course which gave us all the repair and maintenance skills that we needed to complete the course. All the team earned a 'Velotech Silver Award Certificate' which will enable us to carry out repairs and general maintenance work on the village bikes.

Last October I reported that the four of us were about to start training for the British Cycling mountain bike leadership course. By December we had completed a training course, followed by many hours of recorded ride time and a full day's assessment. I am pleased to say that all four of us completed and passed the course, which will enable us to take groups of cyclists out riding.

Hopefully we will be organising a few trips out over the next couple of months to places like Glentroot and Kirroughtree and, of course, our own Barr trails.

We have run one event this year alongside the walking weekend, which was very successful, and hopefully we can continue to build on that.

Everyone is welcome to come and join in from age 8 to adult. Anybody who would like to get involved can contact the Barr Village Facebook page or myself at chrisgunson@btinternet.com

It has been a busy year so far and the popularity of the cycle club has gone from strength to strength with the local kids and visitors alike. Thank you all for your support.



Photo credit: Merlin Currie

Barr Community Shop and Café News



Another very successful summer for Barr Community Shop and Cafe, which continues to grow in a variety of ways. One of our latest achievements was being accepted by The Galloway and South Ayrshire Biosphere as a member. Why is that helpful?

This is a big step forward for the store to realise its potential as a Social Enterprise and join in with the National and worldwide Biosphere movement. Biosphere status is awarded to places where "communities can demonstrate a passion for living and working that benefits people and nature".

What does that mean in practice and why does a small village shop qualify to be part of it? Initially we had to complete an application process showing how we comply with the following conditions:

- 1. Help to conserve the natural resources of the Biosphere:** We use locally sourced supplies wherever possible, reducing transport associated emissions. We are also giving the opportunity for people to shop locally without using private transport. We are actively working with SACT to promote the new public transport system, designed to reduce the need for private transport.
- 2. Support the economy to benefit local people and nature:** The shop offers two part time jobs and a wide variety of opportunities for volunteering. This gives young people experience in the retail sector and helps them to gain statutory certificates and qualifications. We also promote and support local businesses, artists and artisans.
- 3. Promote cultural heritage and local products:** We have a small gallery area displaying local work. The café sells home baking, snacks, local produce, locally grown produce and snacks.



4. **Contribute to the health and wellbeing of the community:** As the only facility in the village that is open every day and open to all we are becoming the main social space. Social isolation and its impact on physical and mental health is well recognised. The shop also does home deliveries for those who are housebound, offering people the chance to remain independent for longer.
5. **Develop knowledge, understanding and promote research:** By lining up with the Biosphere project we would like to introduce wildlife awareness sessions and the chance for local enthusiasts to learn more as well as contribute their own knowledge to local natural history projects. We have been involved in the Red Squirrel projects and the Owl projects as well as advertising many other projects in the area. The unique qualities of Galloway and Southern Ayrshire, its relative proximity to large urban areas, its undeveloped "remote" feeling and its relative accessibility are best experienced by coming here and that is what we are trying to sustainably encourage.
6. **Raise awareness of the Galloway and Southern Ayrshire Biosphere:** We have our new leaflet coming out soon, the first dedicated to promoting Barr as a focal point within the greater Biosphere area. We have included the Dark Sky Park, Glentrool Cycling Centre and the walking trails in and around Barr. Our Facebook and web pages will also help to link the shop and village with other groups specialising in local activities, walking festivals, village events and any other community activities.

The shop is a vital social service within the village. It allows people to remain in their homes due to the high level of personal service provided, and it helps to provide training for young people in an area where such opportunities are limited. One of our volunteers Grace said:

"Volunteering is a fantastic experience that I am so thrilled to be a part of. I've been volunteering for around nine months and it is a perfect way to spend my time. I get a real buzz out of helping people and over the summer holidays can offer my assistance more regularly. Volunteering at Barr Community Store involves a range of jobs that can be transferred into valuable skills and qualities. There are endless benefits of volunteering; gaining confidence with the public was a key one for me, personally. Handling money, time and stock is also important in working at Barr Community Store as well as adapting to using new technology such as the EPOS system. Universities, colleges and employers love seeing voluntary work on a CV or application form as it shows initiative. Problem solving, gaining confidence, time management and working well under pressure are all skills I can now say I possess. It is a wonderful feeling to know that my efforts in volunteering are valued. There is a "community volunteering" course at my school where students can choose where they volunteer and since I am already volunteering I thought it would be best to do it in the shop. I hope to start volunteering more within school hours and at the end of the course we get a Saltire Award."

The shop is providing employment for local people and, with support, hopes to offer more in future (watch this space!!). Many people regard the shop as a social centre, a chance to meet people and have a chat. An opportunity to become part of the community for new residents and the chance to reconnect for others. We all recognise that social isolation in rural communities is an issue and Barr Community Shop is committed to helping to alleviate that when it can. Just one great example is a weekly coffee morning for senior residents (coffee/tea and home baking for just £1.50). We are also developing a youth café for young people to socialise and have access to our new games console. Our newly installed FREE Wi-Fi will help with this. Again this is an area for development if funding can be sourced.

Barr Community shop is a social enterprise in which all profits from the café and other activities are used to guarantee the sustainability of the shop itself. We are a small community that would be severely disadvantaged if we lost our shop which is why the support of organisations like the GSA biosphere, SACT and other social enterprise groups is so important. Yes, we need financial support at the moment but we are growing and will be sustainable with the support of our community and the increasing number of tourists, cycling, walking and wildlife groups that are recognising what we have to offer.

So what is up and coming?

- The calendar girls and boys are being lined up for 2018.
- We have produced a new leaflet promoting not just the store but the whole village and private business within the area. Look out for it pretty much anywhere you go. If you don't see it, tell us and we will get it for you.
- We will be organising more social events including "Reminiscence" events.
- We are actively looking for walking groups to include us in any itineraries that they are compiling for Autumn/Winter walking. If you are a member of a group, or know anyone that is, please let us know.
- We are introducing new menu items including homemade soup and rolls etc. for the Winter.
- We have had a few complaints that we are difficult to find on the web so look out for our new web site that is coming soon.
- We are always looking for new Arts and Crafts products to display and offer a very attractive gallery area that operates on a commission basis, so no rental charges!

In short, whatever we can do to support the sustainability of our local shop we will do. By the way "we" is our fantastically loyal group of volunteers who offer both moral and practical support and can always be relied on to give us a lift when things are difficult; our great staff, Judy and Libby, who go above and beyond time and time again; and our directors who weather the storms and provide great direction and advice.

But most importantly our great customers who support our village through the shop.

This is a real community effort that is working towards being a sustainable, ethical and, eventually, profitable enterprise.

Barr Community Association

Barr Community Association have had a busy few months since the last magazine. We helped with the first official Trails day in the village, with the Vintage Tractors, walkers and supporters. With barely a week to recover the Village Gala day arrived.



Gala day was blessed with superb weather and the whole village buzzed. The Fell race was the best supported for a number of years and the parade, led by the Maybole Pipe Band, was also well supported. We have booked the Pipe Band and the Fabulous Fraser Magician in readiness for the next year's Gala on Saturday 2nd June 2018 by popular request.

The association is currently planning a number of events for the autumn, watch the Barr Village Facebook Page & Village website for dates, but here are a few for your diaries.

- Friday 27th Oct Northumberland Theatre Company
- Saturday 28th Oct Halloween Party with live music provided by Destination Anywhere
- Saturday 4th November Fireworks Night and Guy Competition
- Sunday 19th November Christmas fayre, email thebunnetts@btinternet.com for booking forms.
- Saturday 25th November The Barrstools play the hall.
- Sunday 3rd December, grand light switch on and afternoon fun day.

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

Barr Summer Fete

By Emily Wilson and Ceilidh Lorimer

Miss Burton asked us to do a project on a summer fete

The children had to organise the fete: Emily and Ceilidh had to book the hall. Which means you have to ask if it is available on the date required and tell Wullie (The hall keeper) and sign a form to say when you want it.

We were put into groups and each group had to organise different things.



Hermione, Molly and Rosie made posters to post around the village.

Grant, Kieran and Mason set out the tables on the day. Miss Burton put us into different business groups and each group had to make products to sell. Our group, which was called The Shooting Stars, made phone holders, ribbon wands and coasters.

The other groups made some fancy cups, some clocks and photo frames.

We asked people to come and sell things from other stalls.

The quilters had a stall and another stall sold fancy glass things. There was a jam stall, one with juices and sweets and a few others selling their products. There was a Splat the Rat game, a raffle with lots of great prizes and a guess the birthdate of the teddy. Guess how many sweets were in the jar was won by Harris Berry.

There was a great turn out on the day. The money raised was to buy something nice for the Primary fours. We raised a lot of money so we are sure they will get something really nice.

Thank you to all the vendors and everyone who helped us with our organising. A huge thank you to Miss Burton. Special thanks to everyone who came on the day and we hope you all enjoyed the fun.



BARR VILLAGE TRAILS DAY

On the 28th May, Barr Parish Development Council and Barr Community Association held a successful Barr Trails Day to introduce visitors to the beautiful trails around Barr Village.

David and Sharon Trotter led a guided 8 mile walk around the village and refreshments were provided by Barr Bowling Club on the way. Members from local Ramblers joined this walk and thoroughly enjoyed it.

Others walked to the recently updated Fairy Knowe and smaller walks through the forest.

Chris Gunson led the bike trail riders, a mixture of adults and young people, up round Kirstie's Cairn, and there was a treasure trail led by Annette Cron for the smaller children, which finished in the new lower car park.

Barr Teas provided homemade soup and refreshments in the Hall throughout the day.



The Community Association had also invited the Vintage Tractors who duly rolled into the village and set up a wonderful display which was very much enjoyed by old and young alike.

The Barr Community Store provided special offers on food and ice lollies for the children throughout the day.

The added bonus for our visitors was the good weather and no midgies.

BARR'S OPEN PAIRS COMPETITION

Visiting bowlers who participated in Barr's Open Pairs competition at the end of July had to face everything that the village could throw at them - not only in the shape of some formidable local players but also in the form of some typical Barr playing conditions.

The day's play started in reasonable weather but, with 18 teams taking part, squally but intermittent showers gave way to heavy rain which at one stage halted play for a short period.

Towards the end of the competition though, and to everyone's relief, the rain eased.

However, so did the strong breeze ... CUE THE MIDGIES!



But the determination of the players saw a successful conclusion to the competition which ended with the visiting rink of Peter Dodds and Ann McCulloch coming through to take the honours.

Players from visiting clubs at Barrhill, Ballantrae and New Luce travelled to Barr to take part and they were thanked by Barr president Alastair Smith for their support and their perseverance! He also thanked John and Netta Wilson of Netherbarr Farm for their generous sponsorship of the event.

Photo shows, The finalists of the 2017 Barr Open Pairs with Heather Bourne, Alan Ford, Mrs and Mr John Wilson of Netherbarr Farm (the sponsors), Alastair Smith the club president and the winners Ann McCulloch and Peter Dodds.

BARR VILLAGE MACMILLAN COFFEE MORNING

The ever popular Barr Village Big Coffee Morning in aid of Macmillan Cancer Research will be held on Friday 29th September in Barr Village Hall.

Come and enjoy a wee cuppa. By popular demand we will be having our hamper raffle, homebaking stall plus more.

For more information or to make a donation, call Maggie Bunnett (01465)861062 or Alison Milroy (01465)861668 or email Maggie on thebunnetts@btinternet.com

We hope to match or beat last year's amazing amount of £1091 so come and support this great cause.

SWI CENTENARY CELEBRATIONS



Four members of Upper Stinchar SWI had the pleasure of attending Dumfries House on Sunday 2nd July to take part in the Ayrshire Federation Garden Party. This was being held to mark the 100th anniversary of SWRI/ SWI and was one of numerous events taking place throughout Scotland.

Met by a piper on our arrival, we joined over 200 other rural ladies from across Ayrshire. The day gave us ample opportunity to catch up with friends and acquaintances in the delightful setting of Dumfries House.

The afternoon started with a short speech of welcome from the Federation President, which included a letter from the Duchess of Rothesay. We had time to mingle and blether while enjoying a glass of prosecco and tasty canapés. Meanwhile a young pianist provided a musical background.

Throughout the afternoon a slideshow allowed us to look back at events over the years and, together with photo albums, showed changing activities and changing faces, many now older or no longer with us.

The day ended with what is almost obligatory at any rural event, a cup of tea or coffee with some home-made shortbread, before we headed home.

We all enjoyed our afternoon and had been delighted to have the chance to look out our finery and fascinators for this special day.



TAKE A MAGIC CARPET RIDE AND "BEE" AMAZED AT THIS FORMULA FOR BRIGHTENING THE DARK WINTER MONTHS...

Step 1. Visit Barr Village Hall on Thursday at 7pm once a month from September to May.

Step 2. Thursday 21st Sept at 7pm, Speaker: Executive Chef, David Alexander, from Glenapp Castle talking about Slow Food, Main Competition: Dress a Spoon, Fun Competition: Favourite Cook Book

Thursday 10th Oct at 7pm

Speaker: Ayr & District Beekeepers Association present "A Beekeeper's Year"

Main Competition: Bee Friendly Flower Photography, Fun: An item made from beeswax

November no meeting

Thursday 14th Dec at 7pm

Speaker: Gordon Macdermid from Ayrshire Rivers Trust "all things river related"

Main competition: Trout or Salmon Pate

Fun: Christmas Bauble

Step 3. Join the Upper Stinchar Scottish Women's Institute only £25 for the year. Non-members £4 each visit.

Contact secretary: Michelle Martin on (01465) 861301 email:wendy100uk@aol.co.uk

Liz Copeland (in yellow) who won both overall trophies at Upper Stinchar SWI this 2016-17 session.



EVERYBODY WAS IN BARR FOR THE GALA

It seemed as if anybody who was anybody was in Barr Village for this year's Gala Day.

Look hard enough and you might have spotted Sean Connery, Judy Murray, Nicola Benedetti, Rob Roy, Oor Wullie, Robert Louis Stevenson, Arthur Conan Doyle and Mary Queen of Scots - to name but a few.

For the theme of this year's Gala Day, held in sunshine throughout, was "Scottish Heroes" and the Primary School in particular did a great job of bringing the past to life with a tremendous portrayal of great Scots past and present.

The day kicked off with the traditional race over Auchensoul Fell for all ages before the Maybole Pipe Band led the parade to the crowning of the Gala Queen and the afternoon's entertainment including Fabulous Fraser's magical antics, Bunny Love's petting corner, various stalls, Mystic tarot, dippy ducks, the Pet show at the Pot, teas and bowler's burgers all made a fab fun day!

Well done to the army of volunteers who worked so hard to make the Gala a great success.



BARRHILL

BARRHILL FUN DAY

After months of planning and preparation by members of the Memorial Hall Committee led by Chairman Sarah Malone (who came up with the brilliant idea of the Army Assault Course) the day finally arrived.

A bit of rain didn't keep the crowds away from the Barrhill Fun Day on 15th July. The day began with a fancy dress parade led by The Stinchar Valley Pipers making its way down to the park. Judging took place while the crowd enjoyed some popular tunes from the pipers.

The main event of the day was the Army Assault Course with four teams of four adults and four teams of four children competing on a gruelling course which consisted of a crawl space, zip line, basketball, space hoppers, tyres, hurdles, walk the plank and the Pool of Doom. Phew!

The adult teams also had three extra events. A giant sack race with all four team members in one sack. A human hungry hippos game and a blindfolded ball crawl. Winners of the adults' race were 'The Snails' who certainly didn't live up to their name! Winners of the children's race were 'Little Terrors'. Everyone who entered did incredibly well!

Two inflatables, which the money secured at the South Carrick Decides funding day in February helped to pay for, were enjoyed by young and not so young alike through the day.



Do You Need a Website?

- * 20 years experience
- * All types of website
- * Affordable prices

Quote "Stinchar Valley" for 10% discount

Call 01465 460960
e-mail: tog@wigweb.biz

Wigwam Web Services, Barrhill

Barrhill Badminton Club



Tuesday evenings
6pm - 8pm

Barrhill Memorial Hall

Equipment supplied

Come along and enjoy the fun

All abilities from complete beginner

Welcome!!

Ross Doyle Joinery "Custom Creations"

Ross Doyle
Joiner

07825141910

Guinea Well Cottage
Barrhill

Ross@rossdoylejoinery.com
www.rossdoylejoinery.com



The teas, as always, were very popular with many people commenting on how much they enjoyed them. Hot dogs and burgers from the BBQ went down a storm and sold out before the end of the day.

The special raffle had some amazing prizes generously donated by businesses around the area. A long queue formed waiting to buy tickets during the day. There were plenty of very happy winners when the draw was made at the end of the day.

A very successful and enjoyable day produced an impressive profit of £1,294 which will go towards future events such as the children's Christmas and Halloween parties and next year's Fun Day.



CAR TREASURE HUNT

by Sarah Malone

There were 10 car entries in total with each car costing £5 to enter. The car treasure hunt took us about an hour to complete. Along the way we had to collect 5 Scottish wild flowers and we got extra points if we knew the names of them. We also needed a ball and something red. We started from the car park and made our way up to the train station, we then had to come back down the road into the village and look for clues going through the village and out along the Knowe Road. From there we had instructions to turn around and head back to the car park. We then travelled on foot across the road and down The Avenue looking for the rest of the hidden clues.

The hall committee provided tea/coffee and biscuits and juice for the kiddies. We would not be able to have our fantastic car treasure hunt if it wasn't for Fiona McLean and Sheila Shankland from Ballantrae providing their spare time to do the course for Barrhill village. Hugh Murry was also a great help on the night helping to start off the cars on their hunt and helping with marking the sheets.

There was a tie breaker at the end because 3 teams had the same points. Sheila decided that the first team would be the winning team! Our team won first place (Barrhill Bandits) and Hugh's team got second place with bringing a ball up to the desk, leaving Jammies Team in 3rd place. A cash prize was given to 1st, 2nd and 3rd place.

Well done to everyone that took part!

Finlay's Logs & Kindling

Keep the home fires burning!



Delivered within Barrhill by Finlay

Logs £3 per net or 2 nets for £5
Kindling £5 per net
Call 07990874679 to order

BARRHILL BOWLING CLUB

The sun shone on Barrhill for Opening Day on 6th May. Pauline Keane threw the first jack to start the day. There was a great turnout with 20 bowlers including 3 who were new to bowling and plenty of spectators enjoying the bowling and the sunshine. In a change to the usual format of President v Vice President, Treasurer v Secretary was played instead, with a victory for the Secretary. A big thank you to everyone who came along to support this event and make it a very enjoyable day to remember.

Membership has increased this year and the future is looking bright for Barrhill Bowling Club.

We are very pleased to announce that the club has a new President, David McCutcheon, who grew up in Barrhill. David's hard work and infectious enthusiasm has led to the bowling green and surrounding grass looking neater and greener with the help of other club members.



We are very pleased that funding has been secured from BCIC for a new green mower which, along with some hard work, should be a big help in improving the green through the closed season and getting it back to a good standard ready for the 2018 season.

Twelve club members travelled to Girvan to play in the Carrick Cup Triples on 3rd June. The sun shone and Barrhill had mixed results but an enjoyable day was had by all.

The sun was out again for the British Legion on 4th June where Barrhill had some close games coming joint third overall with Ballantrae winning on their home green. A delicious afternoon tea followed.

The club has been holding 'Try Bowling' to encourage people to either try bowling for the first time, return to bowling after a break, or just come along and enjoy a relaxing afternoon of bowling. It's only £2 to play which includes refreshments at half time. The final 'Try Bowling' day of the season will be held on the 10th September 2pm and Closing Day will be held on Saturday 30th September 1:30pm. Everyone is welcome to join us.

A note from our President David McCutcheon:

May I start with a wee update on things? Our new shed is on order, there's an eight week turn around for good quality. I have spoken to Craig at Aitken seeds in Glasgow our new mower is on order too. I must say the green and surrounds are looking great and green now, although still spongy but the new machine should sort that out in time.

A big thank you to the guys for cutting the lawn and surrounds. Also to the ladies for tea, coffee, cakes and hot dogs. If you would like to try bowling or target bowls please feel free to come along and give it a shot. If you don't have laughter lines when you come you sure will leave with some, especially target bowls lol. Well folks until next time - keep on bowling!

ACUPUNCTURE TREATMENT

JULIE PERRY BSc (hons) M.BAcC FEA.

JULIE PERRY IS A FULLY ACCREDITED MEMBER OF THE BRITISH ACUPUNCTURE COUNCIL AND HAS GAINED A FIRST CLASS HONOURS DEGREE IN TRADITIONAL CHINESE MEDICINE (ACUPUNCTURE) FROM SALFORD UNIVERSITY. SHE HAS STUDIED AT THE NO 1 TEACHING HOSPITAL, TIANJIN, CHINA, GAINING A CERTIFICATE IN TCM. JULIE IS ALSO QUALIFIED IN FACIAL COSMETIC ACUPUNCTURE.

ACUPUNCTURE IS USED TO TREAT A WIDE RANGE OF PHYSICAL AND EMOTIONAL PROBLEMS LISTED BELOW AND MANY MORE.

ARTHRITIS, STIFF NECK, SCIATICA, BACK PAIN, TENNIS/GOLFERS ELBOW
CIRCULATORY PROBLEMS, PALPITATIONS, ANGINA, BLOOD PRESSURE
URTICARIA, ECZEMA, PSORIASIS, SKIN COMPLAINTS
PRE-MENSTRUAL TENSION, IMPOTENCE, IVF, MORNING SICKNESS
URINARY AND REPRODUCTIVE PROBLEMS, HOT FLUSHES, LOW SPERM
NEURALGIA, BELL'S Palsy, STROKE RECOVERY
CONSTANT HEADACHES, DIZZINESS, TINNITUS, SINUS PROBLEMS
TIREDNESS, INSOMNIA, DEPRESSION, PANIC ATTACKS
UNDER THE WEATHER, INDIGESTION, IBS, COLITIS, NAUSEA
RHEUMATISM, SPORT INJURIES, FACIAL COSMETIC ENHANCEMENT
ENERGY LEVELS LOW, ME, GENERAL GOOD HEALTH AND WELL-BEING,

TO ARRANGE AN APPOINTMENT CONTACT JULIE PERRY
01465 821236/07890 502955

3 THE WILLOWS, SCAURHEAD, BARRHILL, SOUTH Ayrshire, KA26 0PZ

SERENITY AHEAD FOR SOUTH AYRSHIRE

By Barrhill Community Council

For some considerable time now your oft-criticised Community Council has been lobbying both the Scottish Government and Police Scotland in an effort to solve the problem of vehicles speeding within the curtilage of Barrhill. With the assistance of our elected representatives there has been considerable progress.

On Thursday 29 June, SAC passed a resolution to impose a 20mph speed limit in all rural villages in South Ayrshire and this scheme will be implemented over the coming months in concert with the Ayrshire Roads Alliance.

In addition, Police Scotland will support a "Citizens' Speed Gun" scheme in Barrhill, Ballantrae, Colmonell and Pinwherry/Pinmore. With a Police Scotland calibrated and approved speed gun available to us, volunteers are sought to implement this initiative. The fact that the equipment is validated by Police Scotland means that evidence thus garnered meets the standard of proof required by our Courts. Volunteers will be subject to "Police Disclosure" rules and must follow guidance from Police Scotland on the location and timing of such exercises.

As well as the above, our Holyrood Minister for Transport and the Islands intends to visit the area to discuss with us the best way of ensuring that the new 20mph limit is adhered to whether in conjunction with our "gun" or on a more permanent and continuous basis. Your Community Council would encourage you, without reservation, to engage with this consultative process to establish the best solution for our village.

The A77 closure programme has also been under review. Perhaps the most radical solution thus far is to funnel only private vehicles on to the A714 when any planned roadworks are implemented, with HGVs being escorted through the roadworks on a "Convoy Escort" system. Early days yet on this, but your Community Council will keep you apprised as and when necessary.

Your Community Council hopes that the above meets with the wishes of the majority of Barrhillians who, lest we forget, made their views about speeding through our village plain in the last Barrhill Action Plan.

As previously said, we are in the early stages of all of these initiatives and the only way to have your voice heard and recognised is to let any Community Councilor know how you feel about all of the above, whether in writing, using this medium, or, preferably, by attending the next Barrhill Community Council meeting in August of this year. It is the intention of Barrhill Community Council that Barrhill should be among the first villages in Carrick to benefit from the initiatives outlined as we have been the leading edge in campaigning on all of these fronts.

None of the above will be a particularly quick fix, but your Community Council hopes that these measures, when implemented, will herald a safer and more peaceful era for all in Barrhill.



SUPREME CHAMPIONS IN BARRHILL



Brother and sister, Drew and Jennifer Hyslop, and mum June Dowie of Balluskie Farm are proving to be very successful at producing prize winning cattle at shows around the country.

To achieve the very high standards required to win at the shows beasts are carefully selected by the family. Charolais Cross and Limousin Cross Cattle are used to show and these breeds are sourced by visiting farms before market to select which 8-9 month old calves to bid for at market or buy the calves direct from the farm. June does the bidding at auctions which she thoroughly enjoys.

Approximately 20 cows are kept on the farm for breeding each year. A suitable bull is carefully selected to match with each heifer individually

to give the best chance of producing a prize winning calf. Once a good match is found the same bull will be used for artificial insemination each year. If the calves are good enough they will be shown around the country.

Females are kept on the farm to breed from after entering into shows. When a male has finished being shown it will be sold. Any young males bred on the farm but not shown are sent for slaughter and the meat is sold to 'We hae meat' in Girvan.

The family started showing in 2004 and since then have received many trophies and titles. Drew and Jennifer show the cattle and June is a judge at some of the shows.





It was the 2011 Scottish National Winter Fair which gave the family their first big win with Limousin heifer Mystique who also won a further 5 more anniversary shows in 2011. Mistique was bought in Carlisle from John Smith Jackson.

The 2012 Great Yorkshire Show saw the second big win with Fantasy.

In 2012 Jennifer won Senior Stockman of the Year at the renowned Smithfield Show.

In 2013 Drew and Charolais cross heifer Bang Tidy were Smithfield Supreme Champions. Then in 2016 Jennifer and Limousin cross heifer Sassy Lassy were Smithfield Supreme Champions. They are the first brother and sister ever to both win the trophy since the Smithfield Championships started back in 1956.

Before winning Supreme Champion at Smithfield, Sassy Lassy has been a winner at the National Limousin show

and AgriExpo and was Limousin Champion and Reserve Heifer Champion at the Countryside Live Show.

At the 2015 Smithfield Show Jennifer won the Steer Championship with home bred Limousin Cross steer Shaken not Stirred, which was named because of having ear tag 007. Jennifer also produced Champion Reserve Steer Jack The Lad who was also a Limousin Cross.

The first big show of the year is the Highland Show where, this year, Jennifer won Supreme Champion with heifer Golden Girl who was purchased in Wales privately from Luke Bowen.

Shows run from May to December. The Great Yorkshire Show, Colmonell, Harrogate Countryside Show, Carlisle and East England Smithfield Winter Show in Peterborough are also entered.

Preparing cattle for shows is a time consuming process. They are washed every other day with cold water to keep the hair on and give a good coat. They then receive a brush and blow dry. A week prior to the show their heads are shaved and their tail and belly are clipped. They are also given a general clip over the body.

On the morning of the show, shaving foam is combed through the hair to give volume and a waxy soap coloured to match the beast is applied. The feet are oiled to a shine and the end of the tail is backcombed into a fluffy ball. Finally the halter is put on.

The cattle get their first experience of being shown at the smaller shows to get them used to the very different surrounding from farmyard to showground. Each beast has their own distinct personality and some really rise to the occasion and enjoy the whole experience of the shows.

Showing cattle is a way of life for the family who plan to continue as long as they are able to.



BARRHILL PRIMARY

Bikeability

The Primary 5-7 children have enjoyed earning there Bikeability Level 1 with the assistance of Mrs Stewart and Mrs Malone. Bikeability is a cycle training scheme designed to give children the skills and confidence they need both to cycle safely on the roads, and to encourage them to carry on cycling into adulthood. The children are looking forward to working towards Bikeability Level 2 in the new term helping them to keep safe on the road on their bike!



Golf

Primary 5's were invited to Trump Turnberry to participate in the golf festival on one of the famous courses.



ACE Days

The primary 4 -7 children have enjoyed a number of ACE sessions throughout the year. They particularly enjoyed Stand Up Paddleboarding at Girvan Beach. We are pleased to say that the parent council have secured funding for the next 3 years for the children to participate in ACE activities.





Kelburn Country Park

The BCIC funded the Barrhill Primary and Early Years Centre to attend Kelburn Country Park. All the children enjoyed the day! We would like to thank the BCIC for their continued support to the school.

Quilting

Mrs Kirk has kindly been coming into school to teach all the children how to design and make a quilt. The children began by taking

pictures around the village and then carefully drawing their designs ready to turn them into part of the quilt. After a lot of careful cutting and stitching the masterpiece was complete. The quilt will take pride of place when it is displayed in the school where it can be admired for many years to come. It's a fantastic achievement and we would like to offer special thanks to Mrs Kirk and our own Mrs Stewart without whom it would not have been possible.



Bowling

The first bowling after school club held at Barrhill Bowling Club was a great success as eight enthusiastic children enjoyed learning about bowling and practiced in the sunshine. All the children said how much they had enjoyed the first session and wished it lasted longer.

After completing 4 weeks of fun bowling games and practice the children have certainly improved their bowling skills. We are planning 4 more weeks of bowling after the holidays to hone their skills ready to compete against the children of Barr Primary School in a match just before the close of season.

Leavers' Assembly

A celebration of the achievements of the children over the year was held on 27th July. A slideshow of photos taken throughout the year was displayed as parents, grandparents, younger siblings and members of the community heard from each of the children in turn about activities they had particularly enjoyed in their own words. Everyone was treated to two excellent musical performances - James played piano and Iona played chanter. Awards were handed out to the children including sports day winners and the trophies for Community and Pride of Barrhill. Everyone also had the chance to admire an amazingly detailed quilt depicting Barrhill which the children had been working on under the expert guidance of Mrs Kirk and Mrs Stewart.



Barrhill School and Community Garden by Annie Clarke

What can you grow in raised beds? Look at Arnsheen Park School and Community Garden to see what is possible.

Once per month throughout the year Barrhill Primary schoolchildren plant and tend the raised beds. It was decided to split the planting between vegetables, flowers and fruit and herbs.

The list of plants so far:

Potatoes, shallots, onions, lettuce, peas, runner beans, broad beans, courgettes, strawberries, gooseberries, blackcurrants, sage, thyme, chives, marjoram, chocolate mint, ginger mint and common mint.

After the Summer holidays the children pick and cook the produce as a classroom activity. The variety of plants grown shows just what you can produce in a small space.

Annual flowers donated by South Ayrshire Council were planted around the School Yard and in Arnsheen Park.



A very big "Thank you" to all who have helped throughout the year.

THANK YOU BARRHILL, FROM THE MOTORBIKER!

I would like to thank the owner of the Barrhill village store. After I had enjoyed his haggis roll and hot coffee on Friday 7th July I realised I had left my motorcycle lights switched on and flattened my battery. His father came out with jump leads and a van to get me going again. This was much appreciated and it was nice to enjoy the community spirit in the village.

Please pass my thanks on.

Kind regards Rodney Wilson

FIRST RESPONDER

With the Community First Responder scheme at Girvan expected to become operational later this year, Stinchar Valley magazine had the opportunity to ask some questions about the role with Jim Young, an experienced volunteer from Troon who has been responding for seven years and has attended well over one thousand 999 calls.

What is a Community First Responder (CFR)?

A CFR is a volunteer trained by the Scottish Ambulance Service to attend 999 calls within the community in which they live or work. CFRs supplement the professional service, they do not replace it, and they are always backed up by a professional ambulance resource. However, because they operate within the local community, they can often bring lifesaving skills to the scene of an emergency before the ambulance arrives, particularly in remote or rural communities where the nearest ambulance may be some distance away.

In the most critical situations, when a patient is in cardiac arrest, for every minute that a patient goes without cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) there is ten percent less chance that they will survive, so you can see that after ten minutes there is little chance of them making a meaningful recovery. This is where CFRs can really make a difference to patient outcomes because they are a vital part of the "Chain Of Survival" which requires early CPR and early defibrillation (delivering an electric shock to the heart) to give a patient in cardiac arrest the best chance of life.

Why did you become a CFR?



I already had a First Aid qualification and a general interest in medicine, so when I heard that the group at Troon were recruiting it seemed like an

ideal opportunity for me to learn more, work as a part of a team and bring some practical help to the local community.

As I have grown in experience I have found that I really enjoy the patient contact and it is very rewarding to support them and their families through difficult and distressing situations. Our local ambulance crews are also very supportive of the voluntary service and it has been a great privilege to work with them and learn more about medical emergencies and how to manage them.

Do you need medical training to be a CFR?

No, the Scottish Ambulance Service provide a full training package. This consists of a modular distance learning package, which covers foundation topics (e.g. patient consent, confidentiality and infection control), basic life support, patient assessment, patient management and traumatic injuries. Potential volunteers then attend a four day course, during which they get to put the distance learning into use during various practical scenarios.

At the end of the course there is a multiple choice written paper and a practical assessment to pass, to ensure that volunteers are safe to attend real patients.

Local groups deliver their own two hour refresher training once a month, following a rolling programme drawn up by the Scottish Ambulance Service. Volunteers must attend the majority of these monthly training sessions to allow them to continue as an operational First Responder.

Can anyone be a CFR?

Potential volunteers must be at least eighteen years old, have a full driving licence and be fit enough to manage the physical demands of the role. They also need to be willing to learn and (as you might imagine) they have to be calm and work well under pressure!

All responders are required to complete a Protecting Vulnerable Groups (PVG) enhanced disclosure.

Do CFRs attend every 999 call within their local area?

No, currently CFRs do not attend anyone under the age of 16, traumatic injuries, road traffic collisions, maternities or psychiatric emergencies.

Ambulance Control will not dispatch a CFR to a call if they have any doubt about the safety of the scene.

When Ambulance Control receives a 999 call which is suitable and safe for a CFR to attend, they will contact the volunteer by phone, mobile data terminal or other locally agreed method to allocate them to the call.

Who funds CFR groups?

Local groups are required to self-fund to purchase a kit bag and training equipment. An Automatic External Defibrillator (AED) is likely to be the single most expensive item of equipment which a group will have to provide.

The Scottish Ambulance Service will replace consumables (e.g. oxygen cylinders and oxygen masks) on a like-for-like basis. Volunteers are also reimbursed for travelling expense incurred when using their own vehicles travelling to/from emergency calls.

If you would like to know more about Community First Responder schemes, or if you are interested in joining the local team, then please send an email to nrrdadmin@nhs.net



LUXURY PODS AT BARRHILL HOLIDAY PARK

New for June 2017 are our 3 brand new Luxury Pods - 2 of which have hot tubs beside them.

Situated at Barrhill Holiday Park, a short distance from the coastal town of Girvan, Barrhill Holiday Park is the perfect place to come for a quiet and relaxing break to get away from it all. Our park is 17 miles from Newton Stewart and has the famous 7 Stanes mountain biking tracks on its door step.

Galloway Forest is a designated "Dark Skies" area and is perfect for star gazing. It is only 11 miles from us and is registered as an International dark sky park, one of only a few in Europe!

Ideal for a short break for couples or a family, your home for your break will be one of 3 luxury pods at Barrhill Holiday Park.

Each pod is fitted out with LED lighting, electric sockets with USB charging points, toilet and wash hand basin, TV, mini fridge, microwave, kettle and heater. The pods are fully insulated and have opening double glazed window and lockable front door.

Outside you have space to park your car, a picnic table and a fire pit – perfect for roasting your marshmallows.

Communal kitchen facilities are provided in the "The Cook House" which is a short distance from your pod, where there are 2 gas hobs, a sink and some cooking utensils. There are also tables and chairs where you can sit and eat.

Your pod has beds, mattresses, heating, lighting and sockets but you will still need to bring all your usual camping gear – sleeping bags, pillows, cups, plates, cutlery, toilet roll, towels, and enough food for your stay.



If using hot tubs then bring flip flops etc.

Sun cream and insect repellent could come in useful at times as well.



Working farmhouse bed & breakfast in Barrhill, S. Ayrshire.
To get in touch, please telephone us on +44(0)1465 821247
or e-mail us at blairfarm@hotmail.co.uk
We will normally respond within 24 hours. Thank you.
Rose Heath, Blair Farm, Barrhill, Girvan, KA26 0RD

Blair Farm Contracting

Bale+wrapping £4.20+VAT, dung spreading, pasture topping, fertiliser spreading - ring for best prices. 01465 821247 or 077999 377 784 or e-mail blairfarm@hotmail.co.uk

A YEAR IN THE LIFE OF AN AIR CADET

by Ethan Wild



Being a member of the Air Training Corps is one of the best things that ever happened to me. It teaches discipline, organisation and manners, but also gives a lot of fun activities such as shooting, flying, camping and many more. Here are some of the activities that I've taken part in.



One of the first things I took part in was the Aircraft Recognition competition in Glasgow at 32F Squadron, on the 18th of August 2016. It consists of attempting to recognise different types of aircraft from pictures that are not necessarily too clear. There were 30 aircraft to recognise, and I never found out my exact mark but I was in the top three of those in our squadron who had entered, and I received a silver medal in the Under 16s round and a bronze in the Open round.

On the same night, there was a modelling contest, where squadrons use Airfix® or similar models to create dioramas, which are entered into different categories. They include a single aircraft, a scene including an aircraft and a miscellaneous

model class. I didn't enter that year, but I intend to enter a lifeboat model into the miscellaneous class this year, as well as taking part in the aircraft recognition contest.

Once a year, there is a meal for local squadrons (mainly 1371 and 137) and VIP guests, which is usually based at Malin Court Restaurant in Turnberry. It is very official, and one of the few ununiformed events throughout the year, the dress code is black tie. Many important officers attend such as the Wing Commander and the Lord Lieutenant. After a very formal meal, the DJ arrives and the rest of the night is spent dancing, chatting and generally having fun.

I went on my Bronze Duke of Edinburgh practice expedition in April, which consisted of two days of walking (ouch) and one night of sleeping (much less ouch). We walked around Loch Trool, which took us up to 15km each way, with some really great views from the top of the hills. The backpacks were heavy, sure, but it was definitely worth it. We got to the campsite quite late and, after pitching the tent, slept well, and a hearty breakfast started the second day. Soon, we set off back again. It was another strenuous journey, and I had never been so happy to see a minibus in my life, but I would still do it again.

Yet another exciting day out was a shooting activity. In May we headed up to 327 (Kilmarnock) squadron to learn how to shoot the No.8 .22 target rifle. Now decommissioned, it is a relatively simple rifle with a grand total of two separate parts – a bolt and the rifle itself. It is easy enough to shoot, but we still needed a six-hour training course and a test of everything there was to be learned about it. All three cadets from my squadron plus one from Ayr passed the test first time, and headed out onto the range. I shot first, and was a couple of millimetres from getting my marksman's badge. We all got to shoot twice more, but I didn't get the badge (yet).

Recently, I was away in Wales taking part in an outward bound camp at RAF adventure training camp Fairbourne. The camp spread over a week, from the 17th to the 24th of June 2017. We took part in several activities; orienteering, hillwalking, paddlesports, mountain biking and climbing/abseiling. We ended up having the hottest summer temperature since 1976 (harsh for a cold-weather guy like me) but it was still a great week.

Both unfortunately and fortunately at the same time, I had to travel another four and a half hours on the Friday night to get to the barracks at RAF Cranwell – my week wasn't finished yet! – because I was set to be competing in the Corps level (UK level) athletics competition the next day. We went to Grantham Athletics Stadium to take part, and I won a bronze medal in the U15 shot put for Scotland and Northern Ireland Region. It was nearly midnight when I got home again, but I wasn't particularly bothered. I'd earned something to put our little out-of-the-way squadron on the map, and that was what counted.

Of course, that wasn't nearly enough excitement for a whole year at Cadets – there was much more!

On the 17th of July 2017, I travelled all the way up to Glasgow Airport with three fellow cadets to do some flying (this is the bit everyone's been waiting for) in the Grob Tutor. Said aeroplane is a single-prop trainer with a cockpit that looks like a bubble, excellent visibility and general ease of flying. The pilot took me up after waiting for a Boeing 737 to head off. It was a rough day,



and I won't lie – I felt rather nauseous after about ten minutes. The pilot gave me a briefing on the controls, the dials, and the buttons. Then he said "You have control", and I was off. It was not very difficult, but the controls were very all-or-nothing – you either moved or you didn't – and it was a constant occupation keeping the plane at the same altitude. I flew about for a bit, then we came in to land and that was it. I climbed out of the cockpit a different Ethan – I had never been in a plane before – and having (mostly) enjoyed the experience, we set off back home.

Some of the activities we do aren't just things outside the squadron and far afield; one of my personal favourite activities is archery, which is a fairly frequent activity on squadron nights. We set up and fire sets of three arrows each, and have a little competition to see who can get the highest score overall.

Another squadron-based activity is PT (Physical Training), which involves spending half the night doing fitness, and the other playing sports such as hockey and table tennis. It is tiring but enjoyable.

On a windy but dry night, we sometimes take a couple of the Blo-Karts down to Girvan Beach. These are basically pedal-karts that are powered by a massive (and I mean really massive) sail mounted on top of it. It's hard to get the right conditions, but when it does happen the biggest kart can reach 70mph.

There are plenty of other events as well, including ones I haven't been to – at time of writing, I will be going to Aldergrove in Northern Ireland for a camp and doing my qualifying Bronze Duke of Edinburgh expedition soon.

Don't forget – anyone from S2 to 17 can join this brilliant organisation. I am writing this to encourage you or someone you know to join Air Cadets. Just come along on a squadron night from 7pm till 9pm on Monday and Thursday evenings, at 1371 Girvan squadron, on Ailsa Street East opposite the post office. To find out more, just go to <https://www.raf.mod.uk/aircadets>

Thanks for reading, I hope this has given a good insight into what happens in the ATC.



SOUTH AYRSHIRE STALKING

Chris and Anne Dalton formed South Ayrshire Stalking around 11 years ago, located at Garryloop in Penkill just a mile out of Old Dailly off the Barr road. Initially, the idea was to provide an introductory course for people who wanted to try deer stalking providing them with formal training and somewhere where they could get sound advice about the process of applying for a licence, handling of firearms and also be taken out on stalks to understand what it was all about. They also wanted to provide a very high standard of accommodation with a big emphasis on home cooking, in effect, provide the complete experience. Guests would be treated to fine dining where they would taste home grown produce from the Garryloop gardens and more often than not, eat the venison that they stalked and shot, watched being skinned, butchered, cooked and then enjoyed eating.



Chris comes from a military background serving as a commissioned officer in the RAF specialising in security. Following retirement from the service, he ran a small horticultural nursery in West Yorkshire. Always a countryman with an interest in natural history, he has been involved in country sports from an early age, first getting into stalking around 25 years ago. Anne has a full teaching career, primarily in the Home Economics/Food Technology field and so their combined experience meant they were ideally placed to set up such a business. They had also identified a real gap in the market for such a venture, there was a definite shortage of really good B&B accommodation with home cooking of local produce and most of the established stalking outfitters at that time really did not want to take novice stalkers.

The gut feeling that they both had proved correct, and from the initial launch in 2006 the telephone has not stopped ringing and the business goes from strength the strength. Around 4 years ago they

were joined by Dean Fletcher who now helps Chris out with the stalking and as a time-served joiner his skills are put to good use building high seats and towers which are needed for stalking activities in the woodland, and he doubles as mechanic and general maintenance man when time permits in between the stalking activities. The services they now offer, apart from the stalking training in both of the Deer Stalking Certificates Level 1 & 2, are butchery courses and deer dog training along with advice to landowners and farmers in any aspect of deer management, required increasingly frequently now as part of any new forest planting or woodland creation schemes.

Scotland is very high on the list of must go to places for visiting hunters – particularly for the iconic Red Stag and more recently the Roe buck. Visitors travel to stalk with Chris and Dean from all over the world and they have welcomed guests to Garryloop from as far afield as Japan, Russia, Korea and Vietnam. Most frequently though visiting hunters travel from Europe, Australia and America. This also benefits local business as these guests will normally stay for an average of 4 days at a time, often travelling with family so they spend time in between stalking outings sight-seeing in the local area.

Whilst most of their activities are in and around South Ayrshire Chris and Anne manage ground in central Argyll, Perthshire and Angus and even as far afield as West Yorkshire. Chris is also a sporting journalist, and recognised as an authority on Roe deer, writing a monthly article for Sporting Rifle magazine he is one of a handful of UK Trophy measures where he assesses the quality of all 6 species of UK deer at the many country shows and game fairs held across the UK. Chris can be regularly seen on The Shooting Show, filmed by Dean, which is a half hour internet based country sports film appearing every Monday night on the internet.

For stalking opportunities Chris can be contacted at:

E-mail Chris@ayrstalk.co.uk or 07710 871190.

Or to view stalking and training or other sporting activities and accommodation go to: www.ayrstalk.co.uk

GIRVAN COMMUNITY SPORT HUB POP UP SPORTS

Girvan Community Sport Hub again delivered Pop Up Sports Sessions in Barr, Ballantrae, Barrhill, Colmonell, Dailly and Maidens over the summer holidays following on from successful sessions that were run in the Easter holidays. Funding from Cash for Kids West Sound was secured to allow the sessions to be run. The theme for the summer holidays was Street Sport.

The sun shone on the children who took part in the first of two sessions in Barrhill. They enjoyed having a go at archery and playing football.



COLMONELL EXHIBITION 2017

By the time you are reading this, Colmonell Exhibition (8 - 10 September) will either be just past or just about to start - so much for timing! This exhibition has been planned to showcase the history and heritage of the village, involving everyone from schoolchildren to more senior inhabitants. Much has changed since the original exhibition in 1976, but thankfully much has stayed the same - although we have a brand new school, for example, it is still an integral part of the community and has been very involved in this event. The church has also been a huge part of both exhibitions, and the refurbished Kirk hall is a modern and fresh venue available for use by the community.

If you are lucky enough to be reading this before the event itself, then please come along, take a look at the village's past, have your tea in the school, and maybe join in with learning to fly fish, a wee game of bowls, or try your hand at our watercolour workshop with Allan McNally. Don't forget our archive film show in the church hall, and the closing barbecue on Sunday afternoon.

Whether you read this before or after the event, the Colmonell Development Group would like to say a huge thank you to everyone who has supported us, including Carrick Futures for funding - see next issue for report and photos.

COLMONELL FUN WEEK 2017

Colmonell held another busy Fun Week, with activities on throughout the week, including a bingo night, circus skills evening and sand-art activity. The Fun Day was held on Saturday 10th June where Kayleigh Robertson was crowned as Princess by retiring princess Abbi Philips, and her attendants were ladies-in-waiting Alana Clark and Kirstie Martin, and page boy Lewis Martin. The princess and attendants were kindly driven by Hugh Sloan, and piped into the park by the Stinchar Valley Pipers.

Fun Week prizewinners were as follows;

Clay Pigeon Shoot - Down the line, 1st Finley Bell, 2nd Adam Hunter, 3rd David McCulloch. Pool shoot 1st Peter Allison, 2nd Adam Hunter. Thanks to organisers Knockdolian Gun Club and sponsors J & W Dunlop.

Quiz – winners Golden Oldies (Lynn Neild, John Hainey, Aileen McGinley, Muriel Gilmore), runners up Cutchy's Cleverclogs. Thanks to organiser Heather O'Hare and sponsors I & M McMcQuiston.

Treasure map winners - Isobel Hainey, Alanah Mitchell and Alanah Mitchell.

Lucky programme winners - 1st Jessie Vint, 2nd Alanah Mitchell, 3rd Duncan Cloy.

Anne Lawrence trophy winner for programme design – Travis MacDonald.

Colmonell Baby & Toddler Group hamper raffle – Jack Telfer

Football tournament - winners Dave Mac's Allstars, runners up the Greenkeepers. Thanks to organiser David McCutcheon and sponsors W Hyslop & sons.

Tug-o-war competition – winners Andy Robertson, Scott Young, Sean Young and David Cook. Runners up Barry Robertson, Grant Hyslop, Alan McGrade and William Westell. Thanks to organiser and sponsor Boars Head Hotel.

Colmonell Community Association would like to thank everyone who helped to organise and make the Fun Week a success.



COLMONELL & LENDALFOOT COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Colmonell & Lendalfoot CC currently have a vacancy for 1 co-opted member. We meet 6 times per year for approximately 2 hrs, and our responsibilities include liaising with South Ayrshire Council and distributing small grant funding from Carrick Futures. If you live in either village and would like to be more involved with your community then please contact Heather O'Hare at heather521ohare@btinternet.com

COLMONELL WI

September 13th sees the start of Colmonell WI's winter syllabus with a demonstration by Sharon Graham and her Darcey products. Friday **October 6th** is the annual Whist Drive in Colmonell Community Centre and all are welcome to join us. **October 11th** meeting is a hands-on demonstration by Beth Blain of Needle Felting. **November 8th** Tom Copeland will talk about 'Fair Trading' and show us some products. **December 13th** will be the Christmas party and the venue for this is yet to be decided.

Everyone is welcome to join us for our meetings and for more information phone Margaret Robertson (Secretary) 01465 881352 or Nancy Agnew (President) 01465 891239.

BOARS HEAD, COLMONELL DO THE DOUBLE!!!

Fresh from their victory in the Girvan and District Domino League, the team from the Boars Head in Colmonell have made it a double by winning the Victor Taylor Memorial Shield - well done to everyone who took part!



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.

They came on foot, bicycles and pony and trap. The local ministers of that time took turns to take services regularly.

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

COLMONELL BOWLING CLUB

Colmonell Bowling Club held their annual McEwen Cup open pairs competition on Saturday 24th June. We had a good entry of 17 pairs and at the end of the day, after a closely fought final, the winners were Peter Dodds and Anne McCulloch with runners up Kieron Balfour and Jack McCulloch. Also in the picture is club President Stephen Challis. The green will close for the season on Sunday 24th September at 1.30pm, come along and have a game even if you haven't bowled before, you will be made most welcome.



LENDALFOOT CARPET BOWLING



The 2017/18 season starts on
Tuesday 3rd October
in the
Lendalfoot Community Hall
at 7.30pm
All are welcome

Equity Bookkeeping & Accounting



Take the stress out of your numbers
Hire a local, certified bookkeeper

- Bookkeeping
- Final accounts
- VAT returns
- Fixed asset register
- Bank reconciliations

Free, initial no obligation consultation

www.equitybookkeepers.com
07480 299279



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 phone 01465 841211

PINWHERRY SWI

Pinwherry SWI celebrated the 100th Anniversary of the Scottish Women's Institute in style at Glenapp Castle, South Ayrshire. The ladies from Pinwherry 'Rural' had a lovely day out with a celebratory glass of fizz on arrival at the castle and a delicious afternoon tea. President Marie McNulty shared with the ladies the history of the SWRI and this was followed by the customary awarding of the cups and trophies for the most points in the 2016-2017 baking, handicraft and homemaking competitions. The day was completed with a walk around the castle gardens.

The ladies at Pinwherry SWI wanted to make this a special day. With the awarding of a small grant by the Pinwherry Community Council a wonderful day was had by all, and also one for the history books as the event was captured on camera for future generations to see. Marie McNulty, the current president of the Pinwherry SWI, said, "The Scottish Women's Institute is just as important now as it was all those years ago. In rural parts of Ayrshire our monthly meetings provide an opportunity to connect with other women, socialise and provide support and friendship. May it go on for another 100 years."



The Beginning of the Women's Institute Movement - Stoney Creek, Canada

In 1897 there was dissent among the members of South Wentworth Farmers' Institute. Secretary, Mr Erland Lee, had suggested that a woman speaker be invited to talk to the institute at the Annual Ladies Night meeting. Despite this opposition, Mr Lee prevailed and an invitation was sent to Mrs Adelaide Hunter Hoodless of Hamilton, Ontario.

Mrs Adelaide Hunter Hoodless was judged as 'a new woman' and was decried from the pulpit and the press. At a meeting in Guelph she had told an almost entirely male audience that they cared more for the health of their animals than for the health of their children. Mrs Adelaide Hunter Hoodless firmly believed that no higher vocation has been or ever can be given to women than that of homemaker and citizen builder.



On 12th February 1897 (Ladies Night), South Wentworth Farmers Institute was held in Squire's Hall, Stoney Creek, Ontario, Canada. Mrs Hunter Hoodless spoke. The theme was: if men needed an organisation to help them grow better crops and raise better livestock then women would benefit from an organisation which promoted better homecraft and mother craft.

Her proposal to found such an organisation was supported. Five days later on the 19th February 1897 a meeting was held in Squires Hall, Stoney Creek. One hundred and one women and one man turned up. At the meeting it was agreed that the new organisation would be called The Women's Department of The Farmers' Institute of Saltfleet. A week later at the second meeting on the 25th February 1897 it was agreed that the new organisation would be changed to The Women's Institute of Saltfleet. Mrs Erland Lee, Janet, wife of Mr Erland Lee, in preparation for the meeting set about writing the constitution and By-laws. These were adopted at the meeting. History had been made.

During the ten years following Stoney Creek, Women's Institutes had spread throughout Ontario. By 1907 there were 450 Branches with 71,154 attendances in that year. The next 10 years brought international growth and Women's Institutes were forming in countries round the world.



**Joe's Taxi
Service**

Please store this number in
your phone

(01465-71)

37 37

**GRAHAM HUTCHISON
AUTO REPAIRS**

Professional Service & Repairs to all makes of
Cars, 4x4 & ATV
(Land Rover Defender Specialist)
EST 12 years

Docherneil
Pinwherry
TEL: 01465 841 233



SWI To Scotland and Ayrshire

The movement took a while to be established in Scotland but Mrs Catherine Blair of Hoprig Mains, East Lothian did all in her powers to get it recognised and established. Catherine Blair was a lifelong campaigner for 'fairness and democracy'. It was her concern for isolated women in rural areas that led her to found the first Scottish Women's Rural Institute (SWRI) at Longniddry in 1917. Macmerry, near Catherine's home, was intended to be the first location for a meeting, but there was an outbreak of measles in the East Lothian village, so it was moved to the reading room in nearby Longniddry. With the aid of Miss Nannie Brown, an active member of the suffrage movement at the time, Catherine was helped to establish Women's Institutes across Scotland.

It was Miss Nannie Brown who came to Ayrshire and started the first Institutes: one at Dunlop and the other at Fenwick. Mrs Houson-Craufurd and Mrs Arthur of Rosemount, realising the amount of help and interest such a movement could do for country women, took on the work and by June 1921 eight Institutes had been formed. As far as records show, Pinwherry Womens' Rural Institute was formed on 12 December in 1921. Miss Hamilton of Daljarrock was President, Mrs Dunlop of Fardenreoch was Vice-President and Mrs MacKinnon from the Schoolhouse was secretary. The meetings were held in the school.

(Excerpts taken from The Best of the Old – the Best of the New – A History of the SWRI Ayrshire Federation 1921 – 2006)

The rural programme has been drawn up for another fun-filled and informative winter's activities. We meet the second Monday of each month in Pinwherry hall from September to May at 7.30pm. Our first meeting is Monday 11th September when we will be looking forward to a cookery demonstration with Mrs Anne Howat. We will also be holding a progressive whist on Friday 8th September, all welcome. If you were wondering if you would like to 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 more information please contact Lana Rafferty (secretary) on 841272.



HIGHLAND SHOW

Border Leicester This was the first Border Leicester championship at the show for David Walker and his family, Girvan. With a home-bred two crop ewe by Atok Atomic from their Alticane flock.

Jean Wyllie from Laggansarroch farm Pinmore received a second prize in the handicrafts section.



PINWHERRY CRAFT FAIR



STINCHAR VALLEY GARDENING CLUB

Autumn is here again, and as usual we wonder where the summer went! We enjoyed a beautiful May, and a pretty good summer too, up to mid-July, at least. Now is the time to make the most of the wonderful autumn colour in the garden and in the woods, before tackling all the cutting down, leaf sweeping and general tidying up chores. It is about a year now since the change of venue for the club, brought about due to access issues. The club continues to have consistently healthy numbers from Pinwherry, Ballantrae, Barrhill, Colmonell and Girvan, and its new venue may be more central for some folk.



Our first visit of the year was to Holmes Farm, near Irvine, where Brian Young, a confirmed “plantaholic”, showed us his richly planted garden, bursting with a plethora of shrubs and perennials both familiar and unusual. We left laden with choice plants from the nursery and, after a leisurely lunch, we enjoyed a tour of the fine garden at Barnweil, where the shrub roses were just beginning to look their best.

Our July visit was to Glenapp Castle, where fortunately the threatened rain held off, and after a delicious lunch at the Victorian Garden Tearoom, we were given a very interesting guided tour of the handsome gardens by the head gardener. Many thought that this was one of the most interesting and informative visits the club had been on.

Our planned visit in August is to Mount Stewart on the shores of Strangford Lough in NI, travelling on the early ferry to Belfast, then by organized transport to this world-renowned garden.

In September our outing is to Millhall, outside Kirkcudbright, and Broughton House Garden in the town.

The club meets on the third Wednesday of the month from September until April in Colmonell Kirk Hall. Throughout the winter months we have a wide variety of speakers covering a great range of topics, mainly those suggested by members.

We resume our meetings in September, and the following is a flavour of our developing programme for next session.

September: Frances Wilkins on “Gardening Catalogues of the 18th and 19th centuries, and what was grown in historic gardens”

October: Louis Wall “The Station Gardener”

November: TBA.

December: Christmas Meal

January: Ann-Maree, head gardener at Glenapp Castle on “The History of the Castle and Gardens”.

Non club members are welcome on all our planned outings and are most welcome to come along to any of our meetings at 7.30 pm, enjoy the talk by the guest speaker, followed by a cuppa, chat and exchange of ideas.

For further details contact

Harriet Ellis

Tel 01465881221

Email harriet@riverstinchar.co.uk

Margaret Bean

Tel 01465841635

Email margaret.bean@icloud.com

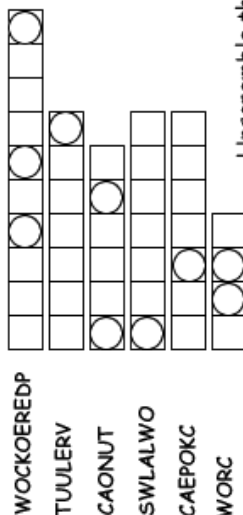
Roger Pirrie

Tel 01465841644

Email rdpirrie@gmail.com



BIRDS PUZZLE PAGE



Unscramble the words at the top of the puzzle, then use all of the letters in the circled boxes to solve the final phrase!

FINAL PHRASE:

"B I _ _ _ _ F
_ F _ _ _ H _ _ _

...FLOCK TOGETHER" phrase!

BIRD WORD SEARCH

Hunt for the words shown on the list below, then circle them as you find them!

J I R O S C K L R Z M L V U W
W I T M Y C X Z L W K D A K N
X U K F U O R R H L O L S J D
T U E D U X E H C I R T S O P
J R J Q E S E B T L Q J Q A M
P T I G A S D W A F M Z R Y A
E A D R M O A F H D A R V I G
G E M O A R K O T J O A V M P
D H X U R T C O U T K R Q T I
I V F S J A I K M E G W U H E
R W I E J B H C S N L X A C M
T J N V F L C U N J Y G M H N
R X C T V A M C O D Q W A H R
A C H A Z M Y C O Y U J M E J
P H L J K B A K L Z G V H U

ALBATROSS
CHICKADEE
CUCKOO
DUCK
EAGLE
FINCH
GROUSE
HAWK
LOON
MAGPIE
NUTHATCH
OSTRICH
PARROT
PARTRIDGE

BIRD ANAGRAM

Rearrange these letters to find the name of a famous cartoon bird:

_ _ _ _ _

DUNK
OLD
CAD

Games on this page are bird-related. Put a feather in your cap when solving these puzzles!

Using just the letters in the word below, can you make at least 10 new words? **RULES:** You may only use a letter as many times as it is shown in the key word. Each word must be at least 4 letters long. **GOOD LUCK!**

BLUEBIRD

the **Kidz** page.com

Make a wild blackberry crumble

wildlife watch



You will need:

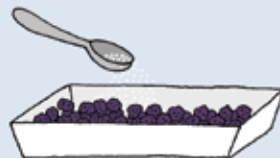
- 450g handpicked ripe blackberries
- 2 tablespoons caster sugar
- 225g plain flour
- 150g soft brown sugar
- 75g butter (soft)
- 1 level teaspoon baking powder
- Mixing bowl
- Ovenproof dish
- Oven gloves



- Between August and October, go out on an adventure picking blackberries.



- Wash the blackberries, and arrange in a shallow ovenproof dish. Sprinkle with the caster sugar.



Remember to get help from an adult when doing this activity.

- Mix the remaining ingredients together between your fingers until it goes all crumbly. Sprinkle the crumble mixture on top of the fruit.



- Bake in the oven at 180C / 350F / Gas 4 for 30-40 minutes



- Leave the crumble somewhere safe to stand and cool down. Ask an adult to check before tucking in. Enjoy!



BALLANTRAE

BALLANTRAE CHURCH LINKED WITH ST COLMON CHURCH



In August, I moved to Glenluce to become the minister for Luce Valley Church, which covers the villages of Dunragit, Glenluce and New Luce. My family and I lived in Ballantrae for eight and a half years having moved there in January 2009 in order for me to become the minister of Ballantrae Parish Church linked with St Colmon Parish Church. Between the two parishes, I covered the villages of Ballantrae, Barrhill, Colmonell, Lendalfoot and Pinwherry.



During my time in the Stinchar Valley, I have enjoyed being involved in the local community in many different ways. It wasn't long after I moved that I was asked to come along to Ballantrae Community Council. It was my first experience of a community council and I obviously showed my interest too much as I was soon co-opted onto it and remained on it for the rest of my time. A couple of years later I found myself chairing the Ballantrae Development Group, which aimed to support and encourage development in the village as well as work with the development projects across the local villages. It will be of no surprise to anyone who knows me that one of the highlights of my community involvement has been the Smugglers' Festival and the opportunity to dress up as a smuggler, even though in the end I did get shot in the back - which I probably deserved!

I have also been actively involved in Ballantrae, Colmonell and Barrhill Primary Schools, whether it has been taking assemblies with a large bag of costumes or helping with their animations or films. I will definitely miss helping with the Christmas shows in each of the three schools, and one of the highlights was supporting Barrhill Primary school as they wrote and performed their own show last year: Jack and the Flight of the Beanstalk 2016. I also volunteered when I could at the Ballantrae Youth Group and have always been willing to offer any group the technical support as required.

My move to Glenluce was not an easy one to make, as my original plan had been to remain where I was for many years to come. However during the course of a week, a few months ago, God made it crystal clear that it was the right thing to do. This should not have been a surprise, as God makes clear in the Bible that his plans are always best, for in Proverbs we read: "We can make our plans, but the Lord determines our steps." (Proverbs 16:9).

And so as a new chapter in my life begins in the Luce Valley, I begin it with wonderful memories of time spent in the Stinchar Valley. It has been a privilege to get to know many of you over the years and I am truly grateful for all your support and I hope our paths cross again in the future.

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 2017.

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

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 the last Sunday of each month in Glenapp Church.

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

We meet at 10am every Sunday in Colmonell. For those who find the church steps a challenge there is a service on the last Sunday of each month in the Kirk Hall, which has easy access.

Ballantrae Parish Church

We meet at 11:30am every Sunday in Ballantrae.

For more information see the following websites:

www.ballantraeparishchurch.org.uk &

www.stcolmonparishchurch.org.uk

We are also on Facebook as

'Ballantrae Church' and 'StColmon Church'.

For any enquiries please contact:

Ballantrae Parish Church - Scottish Charity No. SC008536

Session Clerk: Claire Strain

01465 831246 – clairestrain@live.co.uk

St Colmon Parish Church – Scottish Charity No. SC014381

Session Clerk: Claire Pirrie

01465 841644 – stcolmon.sessionclerk@gmail.com



HOWARD GALLEY

your local
APPLIANCE & SATELLITE ENGINEER

Repairs to most makes of
WASHERS, DRYERS, DISHWASHERS,
COOKERS, VACUUM CLEANERS, etc.

PAT TESTING

I specialise in **FREEVIEW** and **SATELLITE**
MULTIROOM TV (e.g. television in bedrooms)
and **REPAIRS** and **INSTALLATION** of
AERIALS, SATELLITE DISHES, etc.
I can install, repair and go where
SKY engineers are not allowed!

RING ME FOR A QUOTE !

Tel. 01465 831537

Mobile 0789 44 33 084

e-mail howardgalley@outlook.com

BALLANTRAE SCOUT GROUP

by Wendy McKeachan Group Scout Leader



**Ballantrae Scout Group
(2nd Ayrshire)**

May and June were busy months for the Group with the Scout Auction on 20 May which raised £941 and "Ballantrae Scout Group Have Got Talent" which raised £262 and showed just how much talent we have in our Beavers, Cubs and Scouts in Ballantrae. At the AGM and Annual review

on 6 June, I reported on the wide range of activities arranged last year and our Treasurer Ian McGinley reported on the state of our finances (healthy!). John Allsop and Claire Erskine left us during the year and we thanked them for their services. John was appointed Group President, an Honorary role in recognition of his Scouting service to Ballantrae, Andy McAlpine was re-appointed Group Chairman for another year, and a small group of parents was appointed to help with future fund-raising activities. At the time of writing, the Scouts are looking forward to their camp in Aberdeen.

While the Beavers, Cubs and Scouts are having a break during the school holidays we are already starting to think about the kind of opportunities - indoors and out - we would like to offer our young people during the new session. The Group can only run successfully with the active participation of parents - whether simply encouraging their child to get the most out of Scouting or helping out occasionally at meetings. We are always on the lookout for more adult volunteers and we have a range of volunteering opportunities whatever your skills, experience and interests and whether you can spare an hour a week, a month, or just occasionally, we would love to hear from you. Support and training are provided. You can enjoy the fun, friendship and adventure of Scouting on a flexible basis. If you feel you might be able to help please call me on 07831370514.

SCOTTISH WOMEN'S INSTITUTE (BALLANTRAE)

by Jessie Brown

On Sunday 2nd July the Scottish Women's Institute was 100 years of age. To celebrate there was a garden party at Dumfries House. Five members attended from Ballantrae and a lovely day was had meeting lots of friends.



Our new session starts on Monday 4th September with a demonstration by Hendries the butcher of Girvan. On 2nd October there will be a guest night baking demonstration by Diane Buchanan. This will be followed on 6th November by Anne Robertson demonstrating Avon products. The 4th of December will be our dinner out.

We meet on the first Monday of the month in Ballantrae Community Centre at 7.15pm. You are welcome to join us. For more information contact me on 01465 831544.



Craigmains Home & Garden Centre

Craigmains is an independent family run garden centre with lots to offer everyone

VISIT OUR NEW FARM SHOP

- Coffee Shop
- Homeware and Gift Shop
- Plant Area
- Bird Care
- Childrens Play Area
- Donkey
- Miniature Train
- Access to Ayrshire Coastal Path
- Visitor Information Point

Opening Times:
Monday to Friday 9 - 5
Saturday and Sunday 10 - 5

Come in and take a look at our great variety of plants, shrubs, trees and garden ornaments

■ www.craigmainshomeandgardencentre.com
■ Follow us on facebook and twitter

**Main Street, Ballantrae
KA26 0NB
Tel: 01465 831052**

BALLANTRAE DEVELOPMENT GROUP

by Andy McAlpine, Secretary

The first two events of this year's Smugglers' Festival were on the evening of Friday 9 June with the family event in the marquee at the harbour and on Sunday 11 June with the "Smugglers' Contraband Store" as part of the Festival of Food & Drink. More information about these events and other Smugglers' events this year can be found on pages 35 and 36.

Work continues on working with South Ayrshire Council and raising funds for the Play Park Development with a great "Fun Day" on 1 July despite the weather

We have been working closely with the Ballantrae Community Association to appoint new Office-bearers, liaise with South Ayrshire Council, and separate hall issues from the running of events (see page xx) and with the Gaiety in Ayr to bring the Charles Dickens story of Barnaby Rudge in October. Details about that production in Ballantrae and other productions in other communities can be found on page 39.

But most of our efforts over recent months have been devoted to encouraging villagers to take part in the public consultation on the setting up of a Trust in Ballantrae to take over and expand upon the work done over the last 6 years by the Development Group and others, and what the priorities of the Trust should be.

Following the article in the Summer issue of this magazine more people have now expressed an interest in joining the Trust when it is set up, and given their views on what the priorities should be. As we go to press the results of the consultation held between April and June are being analysed, the Articles of Association are being finalised, and we are preparing to recruit a Development Officer to help us take forward our detailed plans. If you live in Ballantrae and would like to join the Trust when it is established, please email me on andy.mcalpine@btinternet.com.



BALLANTRAE COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION

We held an Extraordinary General Meeting on 22 June to bring Community Association members up to date on what had been happening regarding the formation of a Trust in Ballantrae and how that might relate to the Community Hall; to discuss how we separate events from the running of the hall; and to appoint Community Association Office-bearers so that the Association can continue operating and deal with the outstanding hall issues until the Trust is set up. The meeting was well attended with 16 representatives of 9 village groups plus individuals. Two South Ayrshire Council representatives also attended.

The following were appointed as Office-bearers: Laura Cunningham (Chair); Andy McAlpine (Secretary & Vice Chair), Linden Hunt (Treasurer), and Lynn Nield (Bookings Secretary).

The focus of attention for the next few months will be on resolving the issue of utility bills, updating the contact details for the groups in the CA, tidying up the storage facilities under the stage to ensure they meet the future needs of groups, separating the management of the Community Hall from arranging events (such as the Gala, Fireworks, Children's Christmas parties etc), and trying to track down copies of the title deeds and leasing agreement between the village and the local authority (Strathclyde Regional Council at the time).

FIBRE BROADBAND HAS REACHED BALLANTRAE!



Ballantrae has finally made it into the 21st century! Fibre optic superfast broadband is available in the village NOW!

Go to <https://www.scotlandsuperfast.com> and enter your telephone number for confirmation.

If you want the faster connection you have to place an order – it won't be changed over automatically. Our understanding is that BT, Plusnet, Sky and TalkTalk can now supply superfast broadband (for an increased price, of course!), but Virgin Media cannot yet as they don't use the BT network infrastructure.



Over the summer we organised a few events including the car treasure hunt in early July which was well attended. Unfortunately the bounty poker game had to be postponed but we are planning to reschedule. Our psychic night was held in late July and we would like to thank Marie McIntyre and the Stranraer Spiritual Church for coming along. Keep an eye out for future events.

Main Street, Ballantrae, KA26 0JB

Tel. 01465 831202

Email info@kingsarmsballantrae.com

Web: www.kingsarmsballantrae.com

BALLANTRAE CRAFTY BEES

The late Spring brought the sad news that Barbara Ogston and her family are moving to pastures new. Barbara was a founder member of the group and was Chairperson for Ballantrae Crafty Bees for the first four years. We wish the Ogstons well in their new home and Barbara will be greatly missed by all in the group.

In recent weeks we've made felt needle cases, painted terracotta pots, glazed crockery and our summer night out was enjoyed at Jasmins in Girvan. In a 'first' for the group, we have continued to meet throughout the summer this year with a full program of varied crafts. Our AGM is on Monday August 28th when we will organise the programme for the coming year and we also look forward to felting with Linda Irving, a felt artist who is based in the Mull of Galloway.



Would you like to come and join us? Contact me for details or just come along one evening. We meet on the second and fourth Mondays of each month at 7.30pm in the BRICC House in Ballantrae. Membership is only £3.00 per session which includes the resources for the crafts as well as refreshments.

Cordelia Galley (Chair)
balkissocklodge@icloud.com
01465 831 53



BALLANTRAE TODDLER GROUP

by Cheryl Agnew

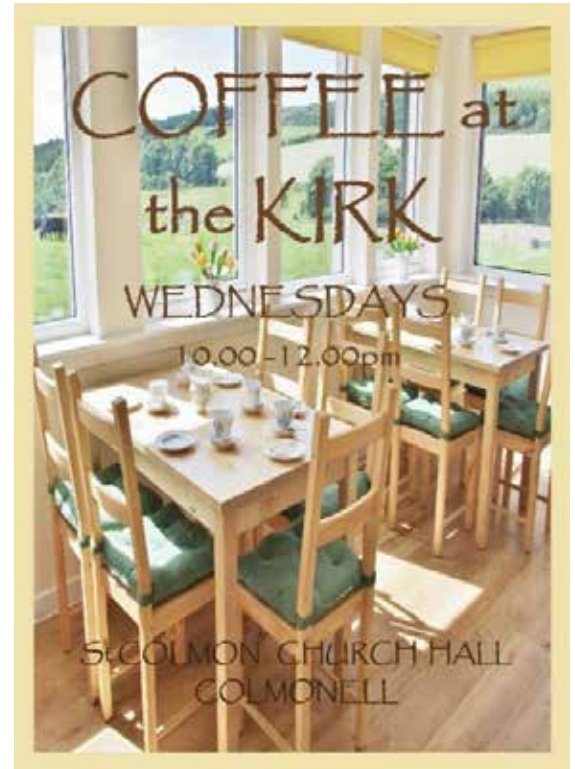
Our Toddler Group had a successful day fundraising at the Fun Day in the park. With our food hamper, treasure map, lucky post box and throw the sponge, we made an amazing total of £256. Thank you to everyone for your support and to Glenapp Castle for kindly donating a prize.

On Monday August 21st we plan to have a toy tidy and clean up. Any donations of used toys or baby equipment, such as bouncy chairs or walkers etc. would be greatly appreciated. We will be in the hall from 9am to receive any items.

The Toddler Group meets every Monday (not on a school holiday) at 1pm in the hall. We charge £1.50 for children over 1 year old and this includes a snack as well as a cuppa and biscuit for adults. We would love to welcome anyone interested in coming along. For more information

contact Hazel on 07533997402 or Cheryl or 07767081602.

We would like to wish Archie, Connor, Jackson, Leon, Meagan and Riley good luck in Primary 1. We will miss you!



The Best of Ballantrae
"Local people, Local stories"
Saturday 30 September 2017
1.30pm to 4pm
in the Parish Church, Main Street, Ballantrae

Entry FREE (donations to church funds would be appreciated)
Tea/Coffee available

Ballantrae Lace; Elsie Mackay's Poem; Old Photographs; Church Mementoes; Floral Art; and lots more!

Please bring along your own personal items/photos to have them scanned or photographed to add to the Ballantrae Archive

STINCHAR VALLEY PHOTO GROUP

by David Littlechild

The Group held its AGM at the end of May. Retiring Chairman Andy McAlpine's Report for 2016-17 recorded that - indoors we had heard from individual members and saw examples of the sort of pictures they enjoy taking whether they are new to photography or have been taking pictures for some time. We saw pictures on all sorts of subjects including wildlife/pets, weddings, the Ayr air show, astro photography, landscapes, local events, and stained glass windows at Colmonell Church. We had outings to Ailsa Craig, Culzean's grounds and Swan Pond, the Red Kite Feeding Centre at Bellymack Farm, various gardens, and Ballantrae Beach (for "painting with light").

Andy McAlpine and Andy Muir demitted office at the AGM. Our Office-bearers for 2017-18 are Karen Stewart (Chair), David Littlechild (Secretary), Howard Galley (Treasurer), Roger Pirrie and Pauline Hewitt (Committee Members). Membership subscriptions for 2017-18 are £10 for 6 months or £20 for the year - in advance - payable by 31 July 2017 and 31 January 2018. Subs are used for a donation for the use of BRICC House for Group meeting nights and refreshments.

Group Nights are on the last Thursday of every month (except December) at 7.30pm in BRICC House, Main Street Ballantrae. Why not drop in to see us? The aim of our Group is simple - to help more people take better pictures no matter what kind of camera you have be it mobile phone, tablet, compact camera or digital SLR. We don't have competitions - our relaxed and informal monthly gatherings provide an ideal opportunity for you to drop in and see us if you have an interest in taking pictures, and to have a natter over a cup of tea or coffee and look at the pictures folk have taken since we met last.



BALLANTRAE SMUGGLERS' EVENTS

by Andy McAlpine



The Ballantrae Smugglers' events for 2017 kicked off on Friday 9 June, with "Music, Poetry and Smuggling Stories" an event for the whole family in a marquee at Ballantrae harbour. The production included the children from Ballantrae Primary School reading stories and poems from the book they published last year, and a performance of "Smuggler", a song about smuggling in the local area. They were joined by "Celtic Voices" and Davie Hunter. The usual Smugglers' Festival characters, The Minister and Doctor, and two new characters - the Innkeeper and The Narrator - enacted an incident which may or may not have been part of Ballantrae's colourful smuggling history!

The Minister, who has been smuggling for many years had a change of heart, concluded that smuggling is a sin, and burned the contraband. Unfortunately the proceeds from the contraband were for the Doctor's

retirement. Forming a human chain, and using buckets, the children tried to help the Doctor put out the fire but without success. This upset the doctor who then shot the Minister! What a great night and a great start to this year's Smugglers' events.

At the Festival of Food and Drink on Sunday 11 June the "Smugglers' Contraband Store" attracted a lot of attention, particularly since the smugglers were giving away free samples of the fine wines recently landed as part of the consignment of contraband, and using a variation of a "treasure hunt", visitors were encouraged to guess where the contraband would be hidden.

This year's Smugglers' Festival is being spread over a number of months. As we go to print plans are being finalised for "Smuggler Scarecrows" to once again appear across the village in mid-August. On 26 August the King's Arms Hotel in Ballantrae are hosting another "Smugglers' Supper", and on 27 August "The Ballantrae Smugglers' Chase" involving skiff racing, will take place in Ballantrae Bay. We'll bring you pictures and the story of these events in the next issue.

On Saturday 23 September a "Smugglers' Road Trip" (coach trip with commentary) will work its way up the coast from Ballantrae, to the heads of Ayr and Barrhill, finishing with the launch of a new book "The Carrick Smugglers". Watch local press, noticeboards, Facebook "Information Ballantrae" and www.ballantrae.org.uk/smugglers for more information including details of how to take part.



FESTIVAL EXCEEDS OUR EXPECTATIONS AGAIN

by Siobhan Liddington

Windy weather didn't deter over two thousand people from turning up for Ballantrae's third Festival of Food & Drink. Visitors flocked to our award winning event which was held in a grand marquee complex at Ballantrae Harbour. Food and drink stalls offering the very best in local Ayrshire and Dumfries & Galloway produce, including fish and seafood, meats, cheeses, chocolates, jams, breads, cakes, cider, wine and whisky all did a roaring trade. This year the festival also attracted producers from Glasgow and the central belt.



Street food, including a mouth-watering range of stone baked pizzas, burgers made with local beef, juices, ice cream, beers, gin and coffee were enjoyed at banqueting tables with stunning views of Ailsa Craig and Arran.



Top chefs Adam McKissock from Dumfries House, David Alexander of Glenapp Castle, Lindsay Guidi of the Home Cook School, Iain Conway of Lochgreen Hotel and Jonathan Pieroni fishmonger, all shared their expertise in cookery demonstrations. Lisa Cutcliffe led foraging expeditions on Ballantrae beach followed by tasting sessions. Ballantrae Primary School pupils' presentation "Pollination" on healthy eating was very well received as was Brenda Anderson's fascinating insight into the history of Scotland's food and drink.

Live music was provided by local group "The Spuds". The "Ballantrae Biosphere" demonstrated the area's passion for living in a way that benefits people, nature, learning and sustainability.

The Festival continues to exceed our expectations. The partnership between producers, suppliers, food and tourism professionals and the local community works well, and brings benefits to us all. The Festival shows that a small village like ours can put on a major popular event with the support of external partners. In addition, we're playing our part in helping to deliver Scotland's national and local food and tourism strategies. Visitor numbers are only one part of the equation. We continue to work hard to improve the visitor experience year on year.

For the first time we held two fringe events to complement Sunday's Festival - one on the Friday, and the other on Saturday - both linked to food and drink - to ensure visitors had a memorable weekend. On the Friday evening, to celebrate Ballantrae's rich smuggling history - including the smuggling of brandy, fine wines, salt and tea - the Ballantrae Smugglers' Festival organised "Music, Poetry and Smuggling Stories", an event principally for children. On the Saturday at the "Edible Cinema" at Culzean Country Park, the audience experienced cinema in a unique way through aroma, texture and taste with one film for adults ("Chocolat") and one for children ("Charlie and the Chocolate Factory"). Both events proved extremely successful.



After the event, Howard Wilkinson, Chair of the Ayrshire Food Network said:

"The food and drink festival scene in Scotland has become very crowded and competitive in particular for one day events. To attract 50 stallholders to an event requires an excellent track record, trust, very careful planning, good promotion, excellent facilities, much attention to detail and an attractive trading/cost proposition. Ballantrae's festival in its third year, has now, in some ways, outgrown Ayrshire itself, becoming an important Scottish regional food festival. More than thirty five percent of the stallholders came from outwith Ayrshire, with several producers travelling from well outside the south west, including those from Glasgow, the Central Belt and Fife."

"One of the key success factors was the diligent, creative and cost effective use of pre-planned social media promotion. This contributed to attracting several thousand customers on a wet and windy day to a small coastal village in Ayrshire. Congratulations to the whole community - you made us very welcome."

Stuart Turner, Head of EventScotland - one of our sponsors - commented:

"2017 has been a great year for Ballantrae Festival of Food & Drink, attracting many producers and visitors from the local area and further afield. Scotland is the perfect stage for events and we are delighted to have supported the Festival as it continues to go from strength-to-strength, offering a fantastic programme of events and activities that showcase the very best of the region's produce."

The Ballantrae Festival of Food and Drink was organised by the Ballantrae Food Strategy Group - local volunteers working in partnership with food and drink professionals and others from across Ayrshire. This year the Festival received funding from EventScotland, part of VisitScotland's Events Directorate; Carrick Futures with funding from Scottish Power Renewables Mark Hill and Arecleoch wind farms; South Ayrshire Council; Craigiemains Home and Garden Centre; SCOTMID; and ScotRail.

I would like to thank all the festival volunteers, stallholders and street food stands, sponsors, suppliers and partners for making the 2017 Ballantrae Festival of Food & Drink possible.



BRICC TUESDAY CLUB

by Shirley McCulloch

On Thursday 13th July the BRICC Tuesday Club were treated to a visit from the Fan Dabi Dozi TV personalities the Krankies who did a wee sketch then had tea and cake before chatting to the members.

The visit was the result of BRICC winning a national newspaper competition.



RURAL WATCH SCOTLAND

Police Scotland, NFU Scotland and Neighbourhood Watch Scotland launched their Rural Watch Scotland initiative at the Royal Highland Show recently.



'Rural Watch Scotland' is an extension of the Neighbourhood Watch concept and a product of the *Scottish Partnership Against Rural Crime (SPARC) designed specifically for the rural communities of Scotland and aims to bring all the benefits of Neighbourhood Watch to rural communities irrespective of location, size or demographics.



The objectives of Rural Watch Scotland are to:

- Reduce crime and the fear of crime by providing the right information, to the right people, at the right time
- Encourage people to think about safety and security for themselves, their neighbours and their community
- Improve community cohesion and well-being
- Work in partnership with national and local service providers to develop more resilient communities that are better prepared against threats, intentional and unintentional, such as crime or extreme weather

In meeting these objectives effective communication between partners and consistent engagement with rural communities will be vital. Neighbourhood ALERT, a targeted, two way messaging system specifically designed in the UK for the purposes of community engagement will play a central role in providing consistent, locally relevant and inclusive communication with people living and working within a rural setting. The last six months has seen the establishment of a local Neighbourhood ALERT administrator network across all areas of Police Scotland.

Rural Watch Scotland encourages people to sign up to receive alerts and advice by email, text or voicemail from local police officers and other approved information providers. Keeping communities informed about crime and other threats in their areas can help prevent crime, keep communities and residents safe, and the response to these alerts can help catch criminals or allow communities to better prepare to deal with local issues.

To sign up to receive local ALERTS users should simply click the green JOIN button on the Rural Watch Website – www.ruralwatchscotland.co.uk. Signing up for local ALERTS does not require anyone to join or start up a formal Rural Watch scheme.

Superintendent Gavin Robertson, who chairs the SPARC Group said: "The availability of a national Rural Watch Alert platform has been one of the main aims of SPARC since it was formed in 2015. I am pleased to see the service come to fruition. I am confident that this direct messaging system will benefit rural communities and I urge farmers, foresters, rural businesses and residents as well as those who regularly visit the countryside for leisure activities to sign up to receive relevant information about rural crime in their area. I am grateful for the funding from Neighbourhood Watch Scotland, NFU Scotland and Police Scotland to bring a consistent messaging service to all rural communities across the country."

The Scottish Partnership Against Rural Crime (SPARC) is a multi-agency partnership that includes Police Scotland, NFU Scotland, Scottish Land & Estates, Scottish Business Resilience Centre, Scottish Government, NFU Mutual, Crimestoppers, the Crown Office and Procurator Fiscal Service and Neighbourhood Watch Scotland.

ANDY MUIR



01465 831 501 07746 521168
All types of decorating undertaken
internal & external

 Andy Muir painting and decorating
e-mail: andy.muir4@btinternet.com

Peaches & Cream
Beauty Therapy

Treatment room & mobile service 07796 980828

Bespoke Bridal Packages are now available to help you prepare for your big day. Phone for details to make your wedding all you could wish for and more.

To book appointments, for information, or a leaflet on treatments just call
Tel: 01465 831040
Mob: 07796 980828
Address:
70, Main Street,
Ballantrae KA26 0NB

SPECIAL OFFERS
New Clients 30% discount on first appointment
Pensioners get a 15% discount on all treatments on Mondays
Book 5 treatments together and receive 1 free

GIFT VOUCHERS NOW AVAILABLE

BALLANTRAE BOWLING CLUB

by Anne McCulloch

The Open Triples sponsored by SCOTMID took place on Saturday 10 June. Winners of the day were Robert McIlwraith, Gary Richardson, and Gordon McIlwraith. Runners-up were Peter Dodds, Jack McCulloch and Anne McCulloch.



Ballantrae Club were the hosts for this year's British Legion Trophy, which saw three teams from Barr, Barrhill, Colmonell and Ballantrae compete for the trophy. Winners this year were Ballantrae with all 3 home teams winning their games. Next year Barr will host the competition.



The Bowler/Non-Bowler competition, sponsored by Gordon McIlwraith, Fishmonger, took place on 2 July where they played for the Louise Knox Memorial Trophy. The results were Winners Gordon McIlwraith and Danny McCulloch and runners up Alan Porter and Brian O'Hare.

We hosted the Open Pairs competition on 15 July sponsored by R Cook Agricultural Engineers and the results were Winners David Teller and Robert Dunlop with Runners Up Kieran Balfour and Jack McCulloch.



AB&BA

2017 has been a busy year for AB&BA Members so far. We were represented at the Ayrshire & Arran Tourism Event at Ayr Racecourse in March and at The Ballantrae Festival of Food and Drink in June where copies of our latest B&B brochures were distributed to both the public and to partner businesses.

Members were invited to attend the 'Style at Sea Exhibition' at the Scottish Maritime Museum who also hosted the first of this year's familiarisation (FAM) meetings providing members with a behind the scenes view of the Museum as well as a complimentary guided tour. Our second FAM meeting was as a new attraction in Ayr. 'The Room, Ayr' is one of many 'escape rooms experiences' throughout the country and AB&BA Members had great fun during our 'Burns Room' game. We were also joined by Lindsay Guidi who owns 'Home Cook School', a Maybole based business, who came to discuss with Members how we can work together to enrich the experiences of guests in Ayrshire. Guests of AB&BA B&Bs benefit from this networking and receive discounts to these three attractions/businesses plus a few others. Future FAM visits to Grants in Girvan, The Whiskey Experience in Kirkoswald and Dumfries House near Ayr are at the planning stage and all FAM events are free to AB&BA Members.

Do you own a B&B and would like to join us? Or, do you own a business and wish to work with us? If so please do contact me.

Cordelia Galley,
Chair for the Ayrshire B&B Association



If you would like more information about our club please contact me on 07917 843135 or Jimmy King on 01465 831457.



GAITY AYRSHIRE RURAL TOURING NETWORK

The Gaiety is pleased to announce its first taste of rural touring events across South Ayrshire. We were fortunate enough to receive a generous amount of funding from Ayrshire LEADER which has prompted the development of a network of venues in hard to reach places across Ayrshire. The list of venues participating is still growing and we look forward to working with communities in the Stinchar Valley to bring the rapture and delight of The Gaiety to your doorstep. We would like to thank LEADER for giving us this amazing opportunity. We must also thank the volunteers in the villages we will be working with for their support and enthusiasm to make this all happen so quickly. This is a huge investment for Ayrshire to establish itself as a culturally diverse and inclusive area of Scotland. With that said allow us to introduce the fantastic events coming to a village hall near you!

the **GAITY**

The Ayrshire Rural Touring Network is proud to present:

BARNABY RUDGE *by Charles Dickens* **Northumberland Touring Theatre Company**

Northumberland Theatre Company's gothic adaptation of the Charles Dickens' classic - Barnaby Rudge is absolutely a play for today. Set against the backdrop of the Gordon Riots of 1780, it is a story of mystery and suspense which begins with an unsolved double murder and develops to involve conspiracy, blackmail, abduction and retribution. Through the course of the play fathers and sons become opposed, apprentices plot against their masters, and there are violent clashes on the streets. And as London erupts into riot, Barnaby Rudge struggles to escape the curse of his own past. With its high drama, strange secrets and ghostly doublings, Barnaby Rudge is a powerful blend of historical realism and grotesque melodrama. Told through Stewart Howson's unique adaptation this will be the NTC at its physical and Gothic best!

"A triumph, the finest theatre I've seen for years, dynamic, powerful and highly enjoyable, two hours of riveting entertainment" (The Stage on NTC)

TICKETS: £10 / £9 (concessions) / £6 (under 16). Recommended age 12+

DATES

Tuesday 17th October at 7.30pm:

BALLANTRAE COMMUNITY CENTRE

Friday 20th October at 7.30pm:

THE QUAY ZONE, GIRVAN

DRACULA ... THE TRAVESTY!

Northumberland Touring Theatre Company
Adapted by Stewart Howson

A touring theatre pop-up performance treat for your Halloween! You've read 'Dracula' the book, you've seen 'Dracula' the film. Now Northumberland Theatre Company presents 'Dracula... The Travesty!' Devised and created by NTC actor and writer, Stewart Howson, from the novel by Bram Stoker, NTC with a cast of three are touring to villages across Ayrshire over the Halloween period – offering some 'fringe' events for the 'TAMFEST' festival. Light, funny and daft but with some genuinely scary moments, this is Gothic storytelling at its best: imaginative, atmospheric and physically exciting. Appealing to family audiences, the performance features all the anticipated elements of the story: wolves, bats and the Brides of Dracula with plenty of audience participation, humour and music. As Stewart Howson quips "Fangs aint wot they used to be! It's bats! There's a lot at stake!"

TICKETS: £9 / £8 (concession) / £6 (under 16).
Recommended age 12+

DATES

Friday 27th October at 7.30pm:

BARR VILLAGE HALL

Sunday 29th October at 7.30pm:

COLMONELL COMMUNITY CENTRE

Tickets for all performances are available from the Gaiety website <http://www.ayrgaiety.co.uk/>

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 good folk of the Stinchar Valley



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.