

The background of the cover is a photograph of autumn foliage. In the foreground, there are many maple leaves in shades of orange, red, and yellow. In the background, there are green hills under a blue sky with some clouds.

# THE STINCHAR VALLEY MAGAZINE

FREE

## AUTUMN 2018

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

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

# LOCAL AND INTERESTING WEB SITES

## THE VILLAGES

Barr Village	<a href="http://www.barrvillage.co.uk/">http://www.barrvillage.co.uk/</a>
Barrhill	<a href="http://www.barrhill.org.uk">www.barrhill.org.uk</a>
Ballantrae Village	<a href="http://www.ballantrae.org.uk">www.ballantrae.org.uk</a>
Pinwherry/Pinmore	<a href="http://www.2pins.org.uk">http://www.2pins.org.uk</a>
Visit Scotland	<a href="http://www.visitsouthernscotland.co.uk/">http://www.visitsouthernscotland.co.uk/</a>

## LOCAL INFORMATION AND THINGS TO DO

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

## LOCAL ENVIRONMENT ORGANISATIONS

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

## USEFUL HELP WEBSITES

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

# USEFUL CONTACTS

Emergency Services (Police, Fire, Urgent Medical, Coastguard) .....	999
Police (non-emergency) .....	101
Coastguard, (non-emergency e.g. suspicious articles found on any beach) .....	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



## NOTE FROM THE EDITOR

We hope you will enjoy the Autumn 2018 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 a member of the Editorial Team - their names can be found below.

## HOW TO SEND IN YOUR ARTICLES AND PICTURES

Please email articles and pictures to your community representative or to the address below. If you do not have access to a computer you can post to Guildhall, Pinwherry, Girvan KA26 0RT. Please remember to include your name, address and telephone number and let me know if you want anything returned.

### When you are sending material by email.

Please send text as an attached Word or Open Office document. Please do not insert photographs into the Word document. Please attach them separately and name them. Images straight from the camera, scanned images and logos should be high resolution (min 300 DPI) wherever possible. If in doubt please speak to your community representative or to the Editor.

### DEADLINE FOR NEXT EDITION

WINTER 2018 SUBMISSION OF ARTICLES TO REPS OR THE EDITOR IS

26th October 2018

DISTRIBUTION TO VILLAGES WILL BE W/C 03.12.2018

Thanks to Harriet Ellis for the cover image

**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		Stinchar-valley-magazine@hotmail.co.uk
Pinwherry/Pinmore	Marie McNulty	mariemcnultyg@gmail.com
Ballantrae	Andy McAlpine Peter Newland	andy.mcalpine@btinternet.com peternewlands1@btconnect.com
Barr	Margaret Bunnett	thebunnetts@btinternet.com
Barrhill	Linda Wild	linda.wild@gmail.com
Lendalfoot	Margaret 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](mailto:Stinchar-valley-magazine@hotmail.co.uk)



TRADE	NAME	TELEPHONE	MOBILE	RECOMMENDER	DATE
Plumbing/Heating	Ian Terry	01465 712594	07733470874	Dorothy Duffy	01/18
Joinery	Ross Doyle	01465 821433	07825141910	Keith Dawdry	01/17
Garden Machinery	Francis Bowman	01292 262763	07492433338	Ian Terry	01/17
Painter	Jamie MacDonald	01465 841251	07901841355	Jill McAlley	09/17

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

## SOUTH AYRSHIRE'S NEW RECYCLING SYSTEM 2018-19

The council are changing the way South Ayrshire recycles, with two new smaller bins being introduced between October 2018 and April 2019 to increase the amount and quality of recycling collected, while also reducing the amount of waste sent to landfill.

25,400 tonnes of waste was sent to landfill in 2017 which leads to increased costs to the public expense. At present large quantities of recyclable materials and food waste are placed in general waste bins.

To improve South Ayrshire's current household recycling rate of 52.5%, new ways of collecting materials are being put in place.

This new way introduces two new smaller bins\* for '**Paper, card and cardboard**', and '**Glass Bottles and Jars**', while the existing blue bins will be used for '**Metals, plastics and cartons**'. The new look system includes:

- \***Paper, card and cardboard** (new 180L GREY bin, collected every four weeks)
- \***Glass Bottles and Jars** (new 140L BLACK bin with PURPLE lid, collected every six weeks)
- Metals, plastics, cartons (240L BLUE bin, collected every four weeks)
- **Non-recyclable waste** (240L GREEN bin, collected every three weeks)
- **Food waste** (23L caddy, collected every week)
- **Garden waste** (240L BROWN bin from 46,000 households every four weeks)

Girvan will be the first area to go live in October 2018,

Every household in South Ayrshire will be sent full details of how the new service will operate, including collection calendars.

# Are you a business owner operating in the villages of the Stinchar Valley?

The Stinchar Valley Magazine will be changing the way we include business advertisements starting from the Winter 2018 edition. Since the magazine began we have been supporting local businesses with free business adverts. We want to continue to support local businesses but we need to become more self-financing as a magazine and our funders have asked us to start exploring ways of generating income. The changes for businesses involve 2 options:

## OPTION 1 Join our 'Little Ads Club'

For £10 a year you can have a credit card sized advert in the magazine in the winter, spring, summer and autumn editions or

For £20 a year you can have a double credit card advert in the magazine in the winter, spring, summer and autumn editions

## OPTION 2 Have a larger paid advert in the magazine

This option is available to those businesses in the Stinchar Valley and others outside the area. It offers a reasonably priced option for businesses wanting a larger advertisement to promote their business

Prices for an advert in one edition

- Half page £60
- Full Page £100
- All 4 centre pages £300
- Back page £150

**Payment for all adverts would be in advance.**

If you wish to join the 'Little Ads Club' or would like a larger paid advert in the magazine please contact Marie McNulty for more information on

**Stinchar-valley-magazine@hotmail.co.uk**

**What's special about your PLACE?** GALLOWAY AND SOUTHERN AYRSHIRE BIOSPHERE

**PLACE: People Land Art Culture and Environment**

**YOUR PEOPLE** – Community groups, youth groups, elderly, land managers, local businesses, schools, all abilities

**YOUR LANDSCAPE** – Forests, rivers, valleys, hills, beaches, lochs, farm land, settlements, geology

**YOUR ART** – Community projects, inspiration, vision, local identity, experience, creativity, engagement

**YOUR CULTURE** – Archaeology, historic sites, past, present, future, traditions, heritage, myths, legends, languages and religion

**YOUR ENVIRONMENT** – Natural heritage, flora and fauna, biodiversity, location, views, nature, wildlife

**What are the aims of the PLACE project?**

- The PLACE Project will help you celebrate the cultural & natural assets of your local landscape; your People, Land, Art, Culture and Environment
- We will work closely with your community to create events & activities to help engage & share your landscape's special features
- We will introduce your community to artists, writers, geologists, archaeologists, historians, wildlife experts etc. to uncover & share hidden gems in your community & the surrounding landscape
- We hope to heighten your sense of pride for your local environment & encourage your involvement in decision making that affects your community
- PLACE will encourage new tourism opportunities for your community

**What do we, as a community, need to do?**

- PLACE Project Community Officers will come and meet with your community to discuss the PLACE project
- We will discuss any queries you may have and help you get the most out of the project
- We want your whole community to be involved, so please tell others about the PLACE project
- Together we will start planning a series of activities & events to get the project underway
- We need to know about your people, community groups, events and organisations, so please get in touch

**Let's Talk...**

**Lynsay Forsyth**  
07741 660388  
lynsay@gsabiosphere.org.uk

**Jono Hudson**  
07741 660387  
jono@gsabiosphere.org.uk

**GSAB Office,**  
Kirkcubright Courtyard, Stronard  
Newton Stewart DG8 7BE

**www.gsabiosphere.org.uk**

**It's time to discover & celebrate your PLACE**  
[www.gsabiosphere.org.uk](http://www.gsabiosphere.org.uk)

GALLOWAY AND SOUTHERN AYRSHIRE BIOSPHERE LOTTERY FUNDED South Ayrshire Dumfries & Galloway



## AN INDEPENDENT VIEW

What great summer weather we have enjoyed this year. As I write this column the forecast is for more hot weather. In rural parts, this of course also presents challenges for farmers with less growth in the grass for grazing animals as well as water conservation. However in general it has been welcome, especially for families with children on school holidays who can make the most of the great outdoors and our glorious coastline. There have been many great outdoor events and galas this summer that have been really enjoyed with the fine weather. It was such a happy day at the Ballantrae Gala until the sad news spread throughout the village that there had been a tragic road accident just south of Ballantrae. I am sure that the thoughts of all are with the family.

Hot or cold, our roads are always on the radar and there have literally been times this summer when the tar has been melting. The good news is that some good work has been taking place to make it easier for those using our roads. Timber Transport funding along with matching finance from South Ayrshire Council has allowed the Ayrshire Roads Alliance to carry out good work on the A714 Girvan to Newton Stewart Road with the stretch from Corwar to the D&G boundary now completed. There has been significant investment over the last few years on the A714 and I do believe that although not perfect, it is much improved. Of course the A714 is not the only route either having work completed or work yet to be carried out. This administration has managed (even with tight budget restraints) to make a real term increase in funding to our roads system. I know that it can never be enough without central government prioritising investment in the road network; however we as elected Councillors always try to support those who work on our roads system to make it the best that it can be.



As the South Ayrshire Councillor linked to the Galloway and Southern Ayrshire Biosphere, I had the pleasure a few weeks ago to attend a special awards ceremony in the Stone Barn at Culzean Castle and Country Park. This was to award the Biosphere accreditation status to local businesses who had applied and through hard work had managed to achieve the criteria required to make the grade and receive the accreditation award. Well done to the local businesses who made it and may they be the first of many. This in essence will be a mark of quality which will give assurance to those who are potential customers and a feather in the cap of those who have achieved the award. It is also a first step along the way of using the status of the Galloway and Southern Ayrshire Biosphere to put this corner of Scotland on the map. Look out for this accreditation symbol as you use local businesses.

Keep well until next time.

**Councillor Alec Clark**

## COUNCILLOR IAN FITZSIMMONS



The summer is now behind us and what a summer! We've seen the best weather for years and all the Galas and Fetes enjoyed the sunshine. Now is the time to get ready for Autumn – harvests getting underway, Churches preparing for their Harvest Thanksgiving and gardeners getting their gardens ready for winter.

The Hall in Barrhill is now open and what a difference it is after being renovated. The Barrhill Community Interest Company has started off well and hopefully will continue to improve the village for the residents.

It is sad to see what happened to Ballantrae School, but with what has happened, the village will now get a

brand new school. It was disappointing that the Food and Drink Festival was cancelled but possibly it will be back on the Agenda for next year.

It is anticipated Barr will be getting their School renovated next year.

Invergarven School in Girvan will now be opened – what a place it is going to be for all the pupils. Hillcrest had a great 40th Birthday party and Girvan Academy enjoyed huge success with their People and Place day.

Colmonell had a Participatory Budget day which was very successful. I was pleased to see this being held in a village, and hopefully more taking place in villages will follow.

There is a lot going on in the villages and this is thanks to all the volunteers who make it possible.

**Councillor Ian Fitzsimmons**

## COUNCILLOR PETER HENDERSON



The sun streaming in through the windows as I write is a continuation of the glorious summer it has been. All the Galas and shows that have taken place around the ward have benefited from the weather, with good attendance and enjoyment for all. It has been a joy to view our beautiful part of the world while meeting many in the ward. Visitor

numbers to the area are up with many new people discovering our unique part of Scotland that is often overlooked, hopefully they will return again.

The weather has also had its downside with rural communities and farmers having struggled with the awful spring now facing problems with lack of rain for the crops and animals, this will have a knock-on effect for us all.

I have had another extremely busy few months and so far, haven't managed to get away for a break, however with weather so nice it has been good to experience all parts of the ward, hopefully it has been beneficial to have assisted many and the communities.

The weather has also assisted in moving forward with improving roads and services, the administration I hope you will agree are making a difference and ensuring that our area is not forgotten or overlooked.

The new Invergarven school is nearing completion and is on time and budget. It will transform services and facilities for our children and improve their lives. It will be

a fantastic asset for our area and communities. The fire at Ballantrae School will put a delay on completion of the new/refurbished school. While a setback, I am happy that there were no injuries and that arrangements to ensure no disruption to education were in place rapidly.

As I visit the villages it is heartening to see the community involvement in projects and schemes from new play areas, community gardens and numerous initiatives. There has also been an upsurge in business ideas and projects commencing, with the Council assisting where we can and supporting in many practical ways. I am pleased to be part of the initiatives being launched by the Council to help generate business and employment.

The Council has gone through a major restructuring and I hope that you will see the changes filtering through to better and more efficient services as we go forward.

As well as my ward duties, my role in the administration and membership of many outside bodies has kept me very busy, but also gaining benefits in experience and raising the profile of South Ayrshire on a wider stage.

With continued uncertainty around the future of our country with what can only be described as the shambles of Brexit (no matter which way you voted), it places more work on the Council to ensure that, as far as practicable, we are prepared for all eventualities. In times of austerity this is not going to be easy but I will ensure that our area's priorities and needs are to the fore.

Congratulations to Hillcrest on 40 years serving the community.

**Councillor Peter Henderson SNP**

## PINWHERRY & PINMORE

### PINWHERRY & PINMORE COMMUNITY COUNCIL

#### TRANSPORT TO AND FROM MEDICAL SERVICES

It is now over two years since Pinwherry & Pinmore Community Council instigated a scheme to assist residents with the cost of transport to and from medical services. This scheme has been very successful and so far, has paid out over six hundred pounds. The scheme gives a generous mileage allowance or pays full public transport costs. The application form is simple and easy to use, and all details remain fully confidential. The scheme does not arrange transport

The application form is available on the Pinwherry & Pinmore Community Council website, from [ppcctransport@btinternet.com](mailto:ppcctransport@btinternet.com) or from Joy Chamberlain on 01465 841211

### SWIM OR GYM?

If you are twenty years of age or younger and live within the Pinwherry & Pinmore Community Council area, you can still apply for a free three month membership of the Quay Zone Girvan. This can be either a swimming membership or if over 16 years of age a gym membership.

Application forms are available on the Pinwherry & Pinmore Community Council website, from [mechamberlain@btinternet.com](mailto:mechamberlain@btinternet.com) or by phoning 01465 841211



# VILLAGE WALKABOUT



A walkabout took place by some residents of Pinwherry on the 8th July. We met at the 2 Pins Field and our walk took us to the picnic tables on the B734 road to Colmonell, then back up to Pinwherry Hall, back down over the bridge to the village entry sign, and then back to 2 Pins Field. The idea was to spend a bit of time walking around the centre of the village identifying what looks good, things not so good, and suggestions for improvements.

The intention was to see our village from the eyes of the visitor as too



often we don't always notice things living in a place, sometimes we just get used to things being the way they are. The outcome of the walk has been shared with groups and organisations representing Pinmore and Pinwherry, 2 Pins Company, PPCC, Pinwherry and Pinmore Community Development Association, the Community Association and SWI.

Over the coming months we will look to see what action we can take from some of the things highlighted from the walk. A few things that were highlighted for potential improvement were smartening up Jubilee Bridge and making it a more attractive entrance to the village from the Colmonell Road. Cleaning up the village's entrance signage, tidying up the bus shelters, more strimming of grasses at road sidings, removal of plant growth over traffic road warning signs and painting Pinwherry Bridge.

If you want to get more involved in the community and the work of the villages of Pinwherry and Pinmore, why not find out more by contacting Pinwherry and Pinmore Community Development Association



## 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**





# Date for your 2019 Diary

## Auld Lang Syne - 26th January 2019 Pinwherry Hall

Auld Lang Syne is a new one-woman theatre show from Scottish musician Mairi Campbell. Auld Lang Syne has just premiered at the Edinburgh Fringe so we are really looking forward to welcoming Mairi and her show to Pinwherry.

Auld Lang Syne tells a very human story through Mairi's personal relationship with the world-renowned Scottish Song.

The performance braids together three stories: a childhood friendship, early married life and her adventures with the song. Auld Lang Syne is a potent, funny and heartfelt show that uses Mairi's personal experience to create a piece that resonates with the wider universal truths.

Mairi Campbell is a pioneering figure in Scottish music. Mairi has won several awards for her musicianship including Instrumentalist of the Year and Scots Singer of The Year at the Scots Trad Music Awards.

**For more info on the evening and to reserve your tickets contact Morag Campbell Tel 01465841641.**

## PINWHERRY S.W.I. by Lana Rafferty

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 10th September when we will be looking forward to hearing from the pharmacist Jacqueline Sloan about looking after our general health.



A baking demonstration in October and our open evening in November will be with the Ayrshire Hospice. We will also be holding a progressive whist on the evening of Friday 7th September. All welcome.

If you are wondering if you would like to give it a go then come along and join us. 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.**

## EVENTS CO-ORDINATOR

The joint fundraising team of Pinwherry Community Association and 2pins Company urgently requires a volunteer to coordinate the organising and development of all future events.

**If you would like further information please contact Morag Campbell on 01465841641.**

## Wanted: Help with putting up our event marquees

**Can you spare a couple of hours - 2 or 3 times a year?**

We are looking for volunteers to help put up our community marquees when we have events at Pinwherry and Pinmore. For example our recent Cream Teas run by the SWI (Pinwherry Rural). It would be great if we could gather a list of names who we could give a call to when they need to be put up and taken down.

If you would like to put your name forward please email Marie on [pinwherryinmore@gmail.com](mailto:pinwherryinmore@gmail.com) or send us a text saying you are happy to be on our contact list leaving your name Tel. 07557907006



### Progressive Whist Night

Come along to our Progressive Whist Night

Friday, September 14<sup>th</sup>

7.30pm start

Pinwherry Hall

£2 entrance

Including supper by the ladies of Pinwherry SWI

# GIRVAN

## JOLLY GOOD SHOW AT GIRVAN

by Rhona C.S. Anderson



**Jolly Good Show performers played their part in Girvan's celebrations of 350 years as a Burgh of Barony.**

Amidst the busy hubbub in Girvan's Community Garden, marking this Year of Young People, a Summer Sketch was performed. Taking the audience back in time, the scene is set for Girvan notable, Mistress Crawford of

Ardmillan to begin her quest for a new cook at the Girvan Hiring Fair.

Imagined and written by local writers, Yvonne K. Jack and Rhona C.S. Anderson,

this comic sketch was brought to life by The Jolly Good Show producer, Ann McGinnis and her troupe of actors.

In recognition of this Year of Young People, six of these twelve talented local performers were under-14, showcasing great theatrical talent in South Carrick.

Look out for the Jolly Good Show returning to the local stage with a brand, spanking new pantomime production in December 2018. Oh yes they will!



### Girvan Community Market

**Every Friday in the Town House 10am to 3:30pm**

We sell a wide range of items including home baking, homemade bread, free range eggs, jams, chutney, candles, aloe vera products, gifts and plants

We also serve tea and coffee to sit in or take away

Stalls change every week. Tables are £15 please call Pearl McGibbon on 07765464275 to book



# BALLANTRAE

## ENCOURAGING RED SQUIRRELS

by Christopher McCulloch & David Ollier

We are delighted to be able to share some pictures of wildlife in the Ballantrae area with readers of the Stinchar Valley Magazine.

Whilst primarily concerned with the preservation of Red Squirrels, our cameras occasionally get a picture of other species people rarely see. Our efforts in the area between the River Tig and Smyrton, including the woods at Glenapp Castle, have seen a significant increase in the Red Squirrel population.

We have been doing this for just over 4 years and this year, we have Red Squirrels at 14 of our 17 feeding stations, compared to only 1 four years ago.



## Upgrade of Ballantrae's Play Park and Recreation Ground

The Play Park Development Group is now working within the new Ballantrae Trust. The Trust has received charitable status which opens up many more grant funding opportunities.

The team is very keen to make the equipment available to the school for use during the day and as a result the MUGA has been chosen as one of the priorities along with installation of a Trampoline and an upgrade to the seating area.

One of the Trust's Development Officers, Chris Hanna, has been working with the Playpark Sub Group team to establish the programme of redevelopment and assist with grant applications, which to date have brought in £15,650 for the MUGA. Additional applications totalling around £70k have been submitted to various funders. Responses are awaited. Planning permission has been submitted to South Ayrshire Council and is expected by early August.

The Play Park Sub Group has also been busy carrying out local fundraising since our last update. They held an Evening of Mediumship back in May at the Kings Arms which raised over £350. Thanks go to Brian and Suzanne Stirling for allowing the event to be held at the hotel. The Sub Group also took a stall at the Ballantrae Gala and with some young helpers raised a further £131.

The team is delighted to report that they have the following funds in place: MUGA - £15,650; Trampoline - £2,000; Seating Area - £1,500; General funds - £7,076; a total of £26,226.

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# BALKISSOCK LODGE RECEIVES BIOSPHERE ACCOLADE

In June Balkissock Lodge B&B was awarded a Certification Mark from the Galloway and Southern Ayrshire UNESCO Biosphere "in recognition of high quality standards in delivering environmental and sustainable development benefits to the Galloway and Southern Ayrshire UNESCO Biosphere"

The award ceremony was held at Culzean Castle and speakers included Dr Beth Taylor (Chair, UK National Commission for UNESCO), John Thomson and Ed Forrest both of the GSA Biosphere. The awards were presented by Scottish Government Cabinet Secretary for Culture, Tourism and External Affairs, Fiona Hyslop (pictured on the left with Cordelia Galley of Balkissock Lodge) who fondly remembers childhood holidays in Ballantrae and splashing about in the river Stinchar.

Two other micro businesses were also awarded a certification mark: Adventure Centre for Education (ACE) based in Girvan and Salad Brew based in Borgue in Dumfries and Galloway.



This accolade makes Balkissock Lodge not only the only B&B with a biosphere certification mark in Scotland, but possibly in the whole world!

*Cordelia Galley receiving her award from the Scottish Government's Cabinet Secretary for Culture and Tourism, Fiona Hyslop.*

*Image courtesy of Howard Galley*

## THE BEST OF BALLANTRAE OVER THE YEARS

*by Colin McNally*

Ballantrae Parish Church is once again hosting an afternoon of historical items and local memorabilia from 1pm to 4pm on Saturday 29th September in the church building to show what is and has been the "Best of Ballantrae" over the years. The church has wheelchair access. Admission is free. Children should be accompanied by an adult.

Local people from Ballantrae have been asked to look in their attics and cupboards to find any items of interest relating to the village's history and story and to bring them along. We are particularly keen to see pictures, cuttings and documents relating to local youth groups and organisations, and also, given the sad recent events, we will be looking back at Ballantrae Primary School.

Locals Keith and Christine Brown have been collating pictures and photographs for years and they will have some of these on display.

As part of the Ballantrae Year of Young People 2018 project, the Ballantrae Trust has been exploring with some of our young people, the possibility of "Linking Technology and History" and there will be some examples of this for you to see.

In addition there will be an opportunity to view Ballantrae Manse as it is the venue for teas, coffee and refreshments. There will also be a home baking stall.

We hope you'll join us on the day.

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BALLANTRAE VILLAGE**



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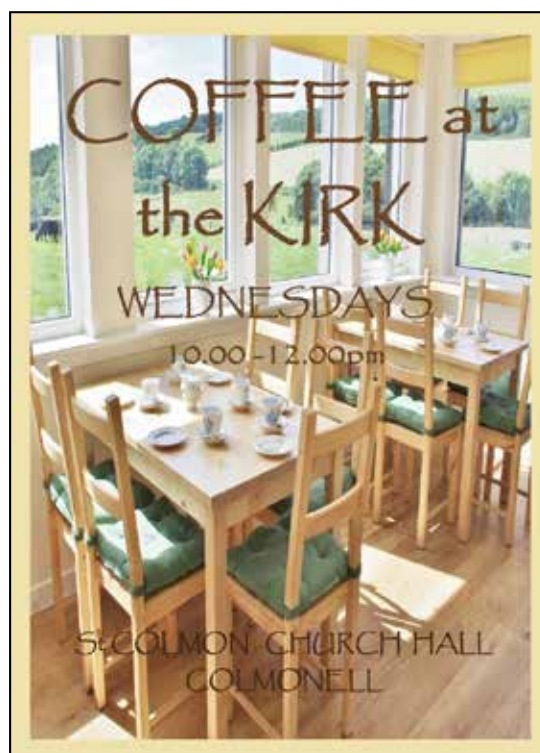
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**The Best of Ballantrae**  
"Local people, Local stories"  
**Saturday 29 September 2018**  
1pm to 4pm  
in the Parish Church,  
Main Street, Ballantrae



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 GARDENING CLUB

by Tom Smith

We are pleased to report that the three summer outings mentioned in the last Stinchar Valley Magazine more than met our expectations. The key to their success was that at each garden their owners, or their professional gardeners, were delighted to spend their valuable time with us, and to explain how they had been planned, developed and maintained. They were all super examples of landscape gardening, each with a highly individual slant.



Annmaree Mitchell, well known to us for her work at Glenapp Castle, showed us round Balker Farm at Castle Kennedy in May. The late Lady Stair designed and tended it for many years, and her legacy of 4 acres of trees, shrubs and flowers, many of them rare in Scotland, has continued to be lovingly maintained by Annmaree and her team. Then, on June 20th we were at Woodfall Gardens at Whithorn, guests of Ross and Liz Muir, who had created a unique garden out of scrub and waste ground. We marvelled at how, apparently new to gardening, they had done it so well.

In July we were closer to home at Glendoune House, Girvan, where Mr and Mrs Briggs showed us around their estate that stretches from Coalpots Road to the railway line behind it. Planted in the mid nineteenth century, some of their rhododendrons are now the tallest and biggest in Scotland, and some of their trees are so unusual that the owners didn't know their names. Neither, we are afraid, did we! Mr Briggs modestly insisted that he wasn't really a gardener, but his reclaimed walled garden belied that. A welcoming cup of tea completed our visit.

The August 29th meeting is at Dalswinton near Dumfries where the highlight promises to be a replica of the first ever steamboat from the end of the 18th century, sailing on its loch. We look forward to that. If it lives up to the quality of the other visits it will be a fitting finale to our 2018 garden visits.

The Autumn season starts with a get-together in Colmonell Kirk Hall at 7.30 on Wednesday, 12th September. It should be a convivial evening, and an opportunity for us to chat about all things gardening, what we would like for the club in the year ahead, and to introduce new members to the club. We are a small club of people who enjoy gardens and gardening. We don't hold competitions and you don't even need to have a garden to join us! Please put the date in your diary and come along – it will be fun. We will have a wide range of speakers during the winter months and we will have our usual festive meal in December. We hope you enjoy them.



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Our new session starts on Monday 3rd September at 7.15pm in the Community Centre with Floral Art by Margaret Finlay a well known florist from Girvan.

On Monday 1st October it will be Massage Therapy by Kate Adams from Stranraer. On Monday 5th November, Annette Torbet will be demonstrating crochet, with a chance to try. On December 3rd we are having a meal out.

**We will be delighted to welcome new members. For more information telephone Jessie on 01465831544.**

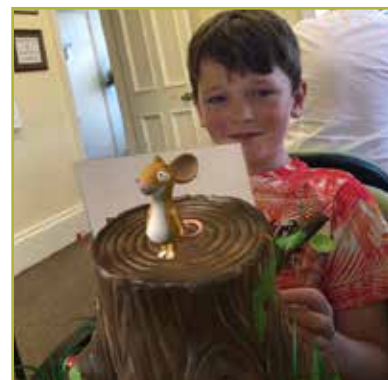
## BALLANTRAE SUMMER ACTIVITIES PROGRAMME

As we go to print, Ballantrae is in the middle of an ambitious Summer Activities Programme which has been organised by the Ballantrae Trust and partners, providing around 30 activities and events for Ballantrae's young people over the summer holidays.

Andy McAlpine, Chairman of the Trust and co-ordinator of the activities said "Our Year of Young People 2018 Project, of which the Easter and Summer Holiday programmes are a part, are the launchpad to try to get more young people involved in the life of the village. We are grateful to the many organisations - including the Ballantrae Scout Group - and individuals, who have provided a variety of imaginative and exciting activities over a seven week period."



Pictures of the Ballantrae Scout Group's summer activities can be found elsewhere in this magazine.



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*Silver Daisy*

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Contact me for more details or follow on Facebook or Instagram @silverdaisygifts

Cordelia Galley  
silverdaisygifts@icloud.com





# AMBITION FOR BALLANTRAE

On 27 June, the Ballantrae Trust and the South Ayrshire AMBITION Programme hosted a short workshop for existing and potential start-up businesses in Ballantrae. Andy McAlpine of the Ballantrae Trust explained that bringing AMBITION to Ballantrae was part of the Trust's aim - i.e. to support local businesses and encourage the creation of new jobs. After a short presentation during which AMBITION'S Calum McPhail explained the various elements of the programme - the AMBITION to Achieve, Start, Grow, Employ, Invest, Inspire and Network - each of the 9 participants from the 8 local businesses which were represented, had a one-to-one with an adviser. The four people who had expressed interest but who were unable to attend on the day because of other commitments subsequently had separate discussions with AMBITION. After the event in Ballantrae, participant comments included:



*"The Ambition program was explained clearly to the group with plenty of time afterwards for one on one question and answer sessions. We have arranged a date for them to visit us on site to take things to the next stage."*

*"A great opportunity to talk over plans and ideas in a relaxed way with someone independent without having to drive to Ayr."*

*"I found the event very helpful and very encouraging. My wee venture is at a very early stage and most ideas just in my head at the moment. I felt encouraged and more confident after talking to the adviser. She liked my ideas and made some comments that made me think of new ideas for how to take things forward from here. Also the presentation was great. Informative without dragging on. Great and worthwhile event. Thanks for arranging."*

## THE BALLANTRAE TRUST

by Andy McAlpine

The Trust Board was elected on 1 May so we have now been up and running for 3 months.

We have recently secured planning permission for a Multi-Use Games Area as the first stage of the Play Park Upgrade, fundraising is continuing, and we hope to have the funds in place by the end of this year. Our "Ballantrae Theatre" performances are attracting good audiences. So far we have brought 4 theatrical productions to the village and at least 4 more are planned before Christmas. We are also working with Driftwood Community Cinema based in Dumfries and Galloway to bring cinema back to the village. We ran a workshop "AMBITION for Ballantrae" for new & existing businesses in partnership with South Ayrshire Council's AMBITION programme. The Board wants to see the Ballantrae Festival of Food and Drink return in 2019 and is already considering what needs to be done for that to happen.

The Trust is on the look-out for suitable premises within the village to establish a Trust office. Ideally we are looking for a situation which is central, encouraging access from the public.

As we go to press, we are in the middle of running an ambitious Summer Activities Programme with our partners from within and out-with the village which is providing around 30 activities and events for Ballantrae's young people over the 7 weeks of the school holidays. More details about each of these activities can be found elsewhere in this magazine.

The Trust now has 78 members. Anyone who supports the aims of the Trust can be a member. Ordinary members are people who live in the Ballantrae Community Council area. Associate members live outwith that area and Junior members are aged between 10 and 15 yrs. If you would like to join us please email our Development Officer Chris Hanna on ballantraetrust@gmail.com. There is no fee to join.



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# BALLANTRAE COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION

*by Laura Cunningham*

## BALLANTRAE GALA

The days and weeks leading up to the return of the Ballantrae Gala Day on 7th July were very hectic for all concerned. The new Community Association committee and all the volunteers worked flat out to ensure that all the preparations were complete. We were on the recreation ground from very early in the morning setting up the gala field for a day that everyone was looking forward to. From the outset, conditions were favourable; the sun shone all day long, the pipers piped and the crowning of the Gala Queen and King went off without a hitch; our Gala Party were exceptional! There was an excellent turn out from villagers and visitors alike and all the stalls were busy; the tea tent and the bar did a roaring trade. The local councillors who kindly volunteered judged the slightly chaotic pet show without major incident and all the participants went away with a prize. Feedback from all the stall-holders, attendees and gala organisers was extremely positive so we couldn't have wished for a better outcome. Bring on Gala 2019!



## THE COMMUNITY HALL

The installation of the replacement windows to the hall is now complete. The contractor carried out a wonderful job and the new windows look great. At the time of writing we are still in discussions with South Ayrshire Council as to the use of the hall, specifically the degree to which the school will occupy the hall during the extended period of the school building renovations. We will update the community once we have further information.



## BALLANTRAE BOWLING CLUB

Our Open Triples competition was sponsored by Scotmid. The winners were Craig Agnew, Leslie Connelly, and Hilary McClung. Runners-up were Alan Porter, Dougie Porter, and Andrea Porter. The Open Pairs competition was sponsored by McCulloch Rail. The winners were Hilary McClung and Neil Agnew. Runners-up Alan Ford and Kath Eadie.



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# BALLANTRAE SCOUT GROUP

by Kate Thomson

Ballantrae Scout Group have had a fantastic time this summer with a packed programme of activities and camping. After a big fundraising push, both from ourselves and a successful bid to Carrick Futures, we have had "ACE days" with Adventure Carrick organised for all sections throughout the holidays.

Our Cubs are just back from 5 days National ScotJam Camp at Lochgoilhead where they have had all sorts of outdoor and water based activities and thoroughly enjoyed themselves! At the time of writing, our Scouts have just started their week at ScotJam and were hugely looking forward to it after seeing the Cubs in action!

If you would like to come and join in with all this fun and adventure we will have spaces soon when we start again for the new session. Beavers are aged 6-8yrs, Cubs are aged 8-10.5yrs, and Scouts are 10.5-14yrs. Boys and Girls are welcome! For more information please contact Wendy McKechnan on 07831370514 for Scouts, Stacey Stewart on 07809266526 for Cubs, and Kate Thomson on 07765490649 for Beavers.

We look forward to meeting again in Ballantrae from the beginning of September. See you then!



## STOP PRESS: Ballantrae Scouts are the Champions!

On the last day at Lochgoilhead, Ballantrae Scouts Adam, Rueben, Johnny, Josh, Hayden, Jacob and Cameron won the Bell Boating Competition with three Scouts from Inverness. Each dormitory had 2 teams and there were 4 dormitories therefore 8 teams in total.

The 2 teams from the same dorm raced first. Our lads won. They then worked their way through the other heats to become the overall champions. Great result!



## BALLANTRAE AND COLMONELL GYMNASTS

The Ballantrae and Colmonell gymnasts (competition gymnasts pictured) were successful recently in a grant funding bid for much needed equipment and training aids. The group continues to go from strength to strength with around 60 gymnasts from the two communities. Claire Erskine and Stacey Stewart of Ballantrae the group leaders were, for the fourth year running, in the top three finalists in the South Ayrshire Council Active Schools Volunteer Parent of the Year category for their work with the gymnasts. They came second this year for the third time. Claire said "The award is a recognition of our whole team which includes Chloe Hibbins, Alison Mackay and Ellie Hosking who all do a brilliant job working with the youngsters, and the parents, Community Councillors and others in Ballantrae and Colmonell who support us".



# BALLANTRAE PRIMARY SCHOOL

## P5-7 ACE Day Surfing

This term our senior pupils enjoyed an ACE day at Girvan Beach. They enjoyed paddle boarding in a warm sea, however, they had to battle against the wind at times. This resulted in the children practising their swimming over and over again! The children also had the opportunity to learn rowing skills and use these to play a number of different games on the Boating Pond in Girvan.



## P5-7 ACE Day Glenapp

An adventure was had by all on a recent ACE day at Glenapp. Pupils from P5-7 walked up the gorge. This year they traversed over rocks and fallen trees making their way towards the waterfall. The children learned some important water safety skills and enjoyed playing in the mud on the way back to the minibus!

## Parent Council Sponsor Day

The Parent Council shook it up this year and instead of a sponsored walk we took part in a number of different activities including dancing, relays, long distance run, skipping and obstacle race. The children

thoroughly enjoyed the activities and look forward to doing something similar again next year.



## Girvan Primary

After the events of 4th June this year, the children started their adventure at Girvan Primary School. The staff and children were welcomed by everyone at Girvan. Ballantrae Pupils have settled well and are enjoying using the outdoor space in the quad. The trim trail is a favourite of all and the senior pupils have enjoyed playing football on the grass area. We even have a Willow Dome to enjoy!

## Culzean Summer Trip

Children, Staff and Parents had a fantastic time on their summer trip to Culzean this term. They explored the Gruffallo Trail and wild life garden. The children then enjoyed time at the adventure playground and managed to involve the staff in some games. After lunch, delicious ice-cream was had by all.

## Winter by Jemma Rennie

Winter clouds look extra fluffy like cotton candy.  
In the exciting winter there's cheerfulness and love.  
Next time when winter come's I hope it's the same.  
The children who have great fun are cheering for snow.  
Excitement we can hear out of us is grate.  
Raining snow out of the cloud's that's cool.  
Snowing all the time is super great.  
Now it's time for hot chocolate inside.  
Our favourite thing when it snows is snowball fights.  
When children are sleeping some of us dream about snow.

## My Window Seat by Rosie Cosslett

I wake up in my warm bed my dreams still swirling in my head. I go to my window seat and my heart warms although outside the snow swarms. A monstrous blizzard is swirling around; the grass hardens as it touches the ground. But all of a sudden the blizzard stops like Jack Frost has loosened his chops. Small fluffy angels dance to the floor I put on my clothes and rush to the door. I step out and the cold hits me hard, bitter although it looks like a Christmas card. The dainty dancers fall without a care coating and covering my sticky up hair. As I trudge and trudge I suddenly get wet as if it was water not snow that I had met. I can no-longer feel my fingers and toes but I will stay out as long as it snows. Mum calls me in and I cough and splutter she sends me to bed and closes the shutter. When she leaves I get out of bed although I truly had a sore head. I opened the curtains to look at the snow, never wanting to go, I sat and sat. I was freezing especially my feet but I just sat on my great window seat.



## P7 Visit to Edinburgh by Louisa Nutt

On Tuesday 13th March Primary 7's went to Edinburgh to see the Finals of the School Mock Court Case Project which we took part in during term 1. We shared a bus with Sacred Heart Primary and we had to meet them at their school really early at 7:30am, I was so tired. My mum took Millie, Rosie, Louise and I to Girvan and we met Miss McDonald and Mrs Sloan at Sacred Heart Primary School. After a while the bus came to get us and it took 3 hours to get to Edinburgh.

Finally after a really long journey we got to Central Hall in Edinburgh where the event was being held. We went inside and we were allowed to use new fancy toilets. Then we went up to the 3rd floor and got settled in our seats. Before, the finals of the Mock Court Case began a Scottish band played to welcome the sheriff in.

During the Court Case we had to sit very quietly and were asked to take part in a competition which involved doing an observational drawing of the court room during the case. It was quite hard to draw exactly what we saw.

After the final court case finished the award ceremony began and Ballantrae Primary School was lucky enough to receive the Advocacy award. Primary 7 were really excited to receive this award on behalf of primary 5/6/7 and enjoyed showing it to the rest of the staff and pupils the next day on their return to Ballantrae.





# STINCHAR VALLEY PHOTO GROUP

by Karen Stewart

After our AGM at the end of June, six of us went to Girvan Harbour and had a session flying a photographic drone. What an experience. Everyone proved very adept at the controls and you'll be pleased to hear that after we had all flown it the drone is still intact! After the flying lesson we stayed on for the sunset and we weren't disappointed. We did quite a lot of experimenting and sharing of information and techniques. Members will see the results of our efforts at a future group evening.

At the time of writing we are looking forward to future visits - Glenapp Castle in July and Turnberry Lighthouse in August. Over the summer, as well as visits we had some summer programme themes - "Shallow Depth of Field" (May); "Night Shots" (June); "Long Exposure" (July); and "Macro" (August). Members were encouraged to keep their efforts on a memory stick so we can see them on a night when we have inclement weather.

With effect from September we'll resume group meetings on the last Thursday of the month (except December) at 7.30pm in BRICC House, Main Street, Ballantrae. The aim of our group is simple... to help more people take better pictures (using phones, compact cameras or digital SLRs).




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# BALLANTRAE CHURCH LINKED WITH ST COLMON CHURCH



While we seek a minister, our churches remain open and active, and we very much appreciate those who show their support by attending services or events. The manse in Ballantrae is now ready for our next minister and the vacancy is widely advertised, with full information available on our parish websites.

Our interim moderator, Rev. Ian McLachlan, is doing an excellent job inviting different ministers to lead Sunday services and our Worship Team fills in when necessary. Rev McLachlan will conduct any baptism, wedding or funeral.



We are working hard to continue God's work in the community and the world. Our Church families aim to care for those around us in any way we can; share the Good News of Jesus, pray for everyone locally and around the world. If we can be of any assistance, please do not hesitate to get in touch. Our contact details are below.

## SERVICES

Communion will be celebrated in both Churches on Sunday 9th September.

### Ballantrae Parish Church

11:30am every Sunday in Ballantrae with Sunshine Club for all children up to 12 years old. On the first Sunday of each month at 3pm a liturgical and ecumenical service is held in Glenapp Church and followed by refreshments. We are grateful for the dedication of the team that lead these services.

### St Colmon Parish Church

10am every Sunday in Colmonell. Some may find the church steps a challenge, so on the last Sunday each month the service is held in the Kirk Hall, which has full disabled access. At 3pm on the third Sunday of each month a service is held in Barrhill Memorial Hall. Children are welcome at all services with colouring books and toys provided. All services are followed by refreshments in the Kirk Hall.

## NEW SEASON OF WEEKLY EVENTS

Café Church has stopped, and a new season of weekly events has begun. Thursday evenings at 7.30pm in St Colmon Kirk Hall, Colmonell, except Filling Station in Girvan on the 3rd Friday of the month. All are free, but donations are gratefully received towards expenses.

All are welcome, and we hope the variety offers something for everyone to enjoy while strengthening friendships.

### 1st Thursday:



#### Bible Study

Over a coffee discover how the Bible, No. 1 bestselling book, is relevant in our lives today

### 2nd Thursday:



**Food & Friendship** – join us for a pot luck supper. Just let Claire know for catering numbers.

### 3rd Friday:



**Filling Station** – 7 for 7.30pm Woodland Bay Hotel, Girvan. An evening of contemporary worship music and inspiring speakers.

### 4th Thursday:



**Film Night** with refreshments available. Contact Claire for details or to request a film.



### 4th Saturday at 10am Prayer & Praise

Our world and our communities need prayer, so please join us for a time of praise music and prayer.

### Coffee @ Kirk

Every Wednesday St Colmon Kirk Hall is open between 10am and 12noon for coffee, tea, biscuits for the price of a donation. Books are available to borrow or buy.

Every 7 weeks a podiatry clinic is held. Contact Claire Pirrie to book an appointment.

### Best of Ballantrae

Saturday 29th September 1 to 4pm. Building on last year's success another event will be held to celebrate everything about Ballantrae. We would love to see you there.

### Ballantrae partnered with Lwambasa Church, Malawi



Lwambasa currently does not have a full-time minister and is one of the poorest regions in Malawi. Thanks to everyone who helped fundraise to provide seeds and fertiliser. A team from Alloway church travelled to Malawi in July to work with schools and photos are on Alloway church

website – [www.allowaychurch.org](http://www.allowaychurch.org)

In September Ayr Presbytery will be hosting a team of four visitors from Malawi.

## CONTACT DETAILS

Interim Moderator: Rev. Ian McLachlan - 01465 713370

Email - [IMcLachlan@churchofscotland.org.uk](mailto:IMcLachlan@churchofscotland.org.uk)

Ballantrae Parish Church Session Clerk:

Mrs Claire Strain – 01465 831246

[clairestrain@live.co.uk](mailto:clairestrain@live.co.uk)

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

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St Colmon Parish Church Session Clerk:

Mrs Claire Pirrie - 01465 841644

[stcolmon.sessionclerk@gmail.com](mailto:stcolmon.sessionclerk@gmail.com)

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

Scottish Charity No. SC014381

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

St Colmon Church is celebrating that one of our members, Andy Muir, is beginning training to become a Church of Scotland Minister of Word and Sacrament. To help with Andy's expenses members and friends recently did a sponsored climb up Knockdolian – quite a challenge for some of us!



# COLMONELL

## NEW PLAY EQUIPMENT FOR COLMONELL



Children in Colmonell are enjoying the new play equipment which was purchased with a grant received from Carrick Futures with funding from Scottish Power Renewables Mark Hill and Arecleoch wind farms, as well as funding from a South Carrick participatory budgeting event. The play equipment has been a great success with the school making good use of it too. Colmonell Primary School were involved in deciding which piece of equipment to purchase, and the 'Nexus Altitude 11' was the clear winner. Colmonell Community Association would like to thank David Lowden of South Ayrshire Council for his help with the purchase and installation of the equipment. The Association also plan to buy a new picnic bench for the park.



### Colmonell Community Garden

Colmonell Gardening Club and School Community Action Gardening Group have been very busy in the community garden next to the village hall. The space has been transformed, with a new wheelchair accessible picnic bench and junior picnic bench now in place, lots of colourful planters and hanging baskets and a sign for the garden handpainted by Jamie MacDonald. Funding for this was received from the South Carrick Decides participatory budgeting event. Anyone is welcome to visit the garden and there is also a barbecue area available for use. A garden party was organised in July and summer activities for children have also been taking place on Wednesdays during the summer holidays. Thanks to everyone involved for their hard work in making the garden look so good, including Helen, Dawn, Mark and Rosie, and from the school Lyn, Johnny, Tyler, Lucy, Amy, Masie, Morgan, Will and Mahim.



### Colmonell Baby and Toddler Group

Colmonell toddlers had a great morning at Jumping Jacks in Stranraer for their summer outing. 14 children attended and had fun in the soft play area before enjoying a delicious lunch. There were a few tired faces when it was time to go home. The group managed to raise funds for the outing through their stall at Colmonell Fun Day and also from the sale of an anagram quiz on nursery rhymes. The lucky £10 winner was Alexander Wilson from Colmonell. Colmonell Baby and Toddler Group is also funded by Carrick Futures with funding from Scottish Power Renewables Mark Hill and Arecleoch wind farms.

Over the summer, the group have been meeting 'out and about' to enjoy the sunny weather and will return to Colmonell Kirk Hall on Friday afternoons from 1.30 – 3pm at the end of August. All children under 5 years from the Stinchar Valley area and their parents are welcome to attend, the cost is £1 per child. For more information contact Eileen McCutcheon on 07730602677.





# COLMONELL PRIMARY SCHOOL

## ACE Days

The Primary 4 to 7 children took part in 2 ACE activities this term. These involved Paddle Boarding and Canoeing at Girvan Beach and Gorge Walking at Glenapp. The pupils all thoroughly enjoyed their days and some even managed to stand up on the paddle board without falling in! The teachers didn't even manage this! We were lucky with the glorious weather and will look forward to more ACE days next year!

## Inverclyde

This year the Primary 5 to 7 pupils and staff visited the Sport Scotland centre in Inverclyde, participating in a range of activities from trampolining in an Olympic gymnasium to cycling round Millport. The week was jam-packed and the children had to be very independent and active, however they rose to the challenges of the week and thoroughly enjoyed themselves.

## Sports Day

This year pupils came together and participated in Sports Day with team spirit and a hope to win the House Trophy for the year. They performed team chants and dances to intimidate their opponents! The pupils ran in a variety of races which encouraged them to apply all of the skills they have developed throughout the year in PE classes. All children participated brilliantly. Well done to our individual winners, winners of the relay race and the winning house: Cragneil!



## BOARS HEAD GIN FESTIVAL

Our second Gin Festival on Sunday 27th of May was a great day and the weather made it even better. We would like to thank all who supported us in this event and hope to see you all plus others for our next one.

A special thank you to Selkirk Gins, Solway Spirits, Pickering Gin, McCleans Gin and to John Duffy for the music.







# REMEMBRANCE

This year Remembrance Sunday commemorates the centenary of the signing of the Armistice of the First World War, which came into effect on the 11th hour of the 11th day of the 11th month 1918. Bruno Peek, UK Pageant Master is organising "A Nation's Tribute" and St Colmon Church and Colmonell have signed up to participate and have also signed the Poppy Scotland Pledge to try and raise £1,980.

Working together St Colmon Church, Colmonell & Lendalfoot Community Council, Colmonell Community Development Group, Community Association and Primary School will hold an open weekend over Remembrance weekend.

On Wednesday mornings at Coffee @ Kirk volunteers are creating poppies by knitting, using plastic bottles, painting slates etc. aiming to have hundreds to decorate the church and village. As well as selling the usual poppies fundraising for Poppy Scotland will be through making and selling poppy decorated items.

Volunteers from the Commonwealth War Graves Commission are organising stones with the name of each of the dead to be placed at the Memorial. Each churchyard stone will also be marked, and histories told.

## Saturday 10th:

Church - organ recitals of music from the war years; soup lunch in the kirk hall; exhibition of church history and information about those named on the stained-glass War Memorial window and Commonwealth War Graves.

Community Centre - exhibition of information and history of those named on the village War Memorial; relevant children's activities. Refreshments with donations to Poppy Scotland.

## Sunday 11th:

Please note change of Church and War Memorial times

06:00 Piper at the War Memorial to play "Battle's O'er".

09.30 Remembrance Service in Church followed by procession to

11:00 War Memorial Act of Remembrance. Followed by refreshments, music and Memories in the Community Centre.

6.55pm Bugler at the Church plays "The Last Post".

7.05pm Church bells ring in celebration of Peace.

*Please note Acts of Remembrance will be held as always at Barrhill and Pinwherry War Memorials and details will be available nearer the time.*

## "LIVES GIVEN & REMEMBERED" – Memorial Boxes

As part of the Centenary Commemoration, this project offers everyone in the villages of St Colmon (Arnshean Barrhill & Colmonell) Parish i.e. Colmonell & Lendalfoot, Pinwherry and Barrhill, the opportunity to make a memory box about a loved one involved in the Armed Forces. When we think about lives given they were, and are, given not only by dying but also by serving in so many ways and then having to live with the consequences e.g. ill health.

A Memorial Box can honour any Armed Services person or group and can contain anything you wish e.g. photographs, memorabilia, uniforms, medals, floral tribute. Whatever you think tells the story of the person you are honouring by creating it. Please consider using copies or photographs of items.

After Remembrance Weekend St Colmon Church would like to collect the Lest we Forget and Remembrance Sheets from the boxes and have them bound into a book, so that future generations may read about those remembered and never forget.

Memorial Box packs with guidelines can be purchased for the price of a donation to be filled with mementoes and stories and placed in Church to be viewed over the weekend. We would appreciate knowing as soon as possible if you are interested so that sufficient numbers are ordered in good time.

If you are an individual, a group or a school in this Parish and you would like to order a Memorial Box pack please contact Claire Pirrie on 841644 or by emailing [stcolmon.sessionclerk@gmail.com](mailto:stcolmon.sessionclerk@gmail.com)

We hope you will join us in making this Remembrance Day a fitting tribute to those who sacrificed so much for us all.



## COLMONELL SWI WOMEN'S INSTITUTE

The winter programme will start on 12th September with a talk by Linda Wood on the work she does with fish! On October 10th we will have Fiona Robertson to give us a demonstration and talk about her flower arranging. Raphael from the Whisky Experience is coming on November 14th to give us an insight about what happens at Kirkoswald. December 12th is Christmas party time - place and time to be decided at a future meeting.

Our meetings are held in Colmonell Community Centre every second Wednesday of the month and start at 7.30pm. All new and old members will be made most welcome.



# COLMONELL FUN WEEK 2018

Glorious sunshine helped make another very successful Colmonell Fun Week, with a variety of events throughout the week. This included the football tournament, a quiz night, a clay pigeon shoot, a bingo night organised by Colmonell Primary School and for the children a sandart activity and disco.

The Fun Day was held on Saturday 9th June where Kaiyah Hopkins was crowned as Princess by retiring princess Kayleigh Robertson. Her attendants were ladies in waiting Abbie Robertson and Lyra Williams and page boy Alastair Shankland.

The princess and attendants were kindly driven by Rab Smith, and piped into the park by the Stinchar Valley Pipers. Entertainment on the day included Roadrunner and mascots Catboy and Stuart Minion, Bunny Luv petting zoo, Colmonell Fire Brigade, a rodeo bull and Pirate ship shooter bouncy castle.

## Fun Week prizewinners were as follows:

**Clay Pigeon Shoot** - Down the line, 1st David McCulloch, 2nd Findlay Bell, 3rd Stuart Clarke. Pool shoot winner David McCulloch. Thanks to organisers Knockdolian Gun Club and sponsors J & W Dunlop.

**Quiz** – winners Cutchy's Cleverclogs (Lorraine O'Hare, David McCutcheon, David McHarg, Jack Milroy), runners up The Almosts. Thanks to organiser Heather O'Hare and sponsors I & M McQuiston.

**Treasure Map Winners** – Shaun Cook, Alana Clark. Lucky programme winners - 1st Stuart Clarke, 2nd Anne Wilson, 3rd Isobel Hainey. Shuttle curling highest score – Morgan Jones. Post a pound winner – Gareth Jones.

**Anne Lawrence trophy winner for programme design** – Travis MacDonald.

**Colmonell Baby & Toddler Group hamper raffle** – Heather Mullan.

**Football tournament** - winners Nestle, runners up The Boars Head. Thanks to organisers Grant Hyslop & Alan McGrade and sponsor D McCutcheon & son.

**Tug-o-war Competition** – winners Andy Robertson, Scott Young, Alan Clarke and David Cook. Runners up Emma Drummond, Danielle Murphy, Alice Allan and Ailsa McWilliam. 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 COMMUNITY GARDEN PARTY

by Eileen McCutcheon

After such a warm summer, unfortunately rain and wind meant that Colmonell Community Garden Party had to be held indoors in the village hall. The weather did not dampen spirits however and there was a good turnout of adults and children to enjoy a delicious barbecue served by Helen from the Boars Head Hotel and children's entertainment provided by Uncle Billy.





## BARR BIKES

Hi everyone

What a summer time we have had this year, it must be the driest I've seen the forest trail in the last two years and we have been making the most of it on our local trails and having trips out for our summer program to places like Glentool and Kirroghtree forest park trails which have been a big hit with good numbers of riders turning out and enjoying drier trails and the sunshine.

If you would like to join in you can bring your own bike along or use one of our bikes, we have 14 bikes of various sizes and cycling helmets to fit most people.

All rides on Saturday mornings will leave from Barr village hall. We will meet at 9.15am and leave at 9.30am. Can all riders please bring appropriate clothing, food and water for the ride along with a filled out consent form for under 16's (essential).

**The following Saturday dates will run from September until the end of October.**

Sat 15th September	Sat 6th October
Sat 29th September	Sat 27th October

And finally we hold a club social evening on the last Friday of the month, in the small village hall from around 8pm onwards, everyone is welcome to come and join in. It will be bring your own drink and snacks, we will supply the tunes. Come along and join in, we will look forward to your input and suggestions.

Our last social of 2018 will be on Saturday 1st December with a bar and live band. This will be a fundraiser and we are lucky to have booked the popular Electric Velvet Band. Watch for posters !

Please find all the above info on the Barr Village Website and Barr Bikes facebook page or contact [chrisgunson@btinternet.com](mailto:chrisgunson@btinternet.com) or call Chris on 01465 861135.

**Chris Gunson**



## BARR COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION

The BCA have been busy supporting various events and initiatives in Barr. Our chair along with John Bunnett were busy prior to the annual Trails day putting up the new way posts supplied by the Forestry commission and temporary new maps which we expect to be replaced with permanent ones shortly.

John Bunnett along with a number of the villagers contributed Fairy Houses to the Fairy Trail. These were very popular and have now found a summer home at the leader of the Fairies aka Merlin's wee garden at the wee gallery .... watch for new editions which are currently going for Fae Planning...!



No sooner had we cleared away from the Trails day but Gala Day sped towards the group at speed. The new bunting, thanks to a small grant from the Community council, was duly put round the village following the route of the parade. Hanging baskets spilled with flowers and the stage for the crowning of the Queen, Marley, and King, Harris, was built. The weather was kind, the fell race had the best support for years, the Maybole Pipe Band led the parade, this year's theme Barr does Broadway Musicals. For some reason totally unplanned we seemed to have a lot from the musical Wizard of Oz backed up with a large group of Cats!

The stalls were all well supported and we are looking forward to next year.

The BCA have arranged a number of Theatre events in the coming months. See the Diary Dates. We have just hosted Jango Starr which though we did not have a big attendance was really really good and the kids on the front row made the whole performance joining in with the traditional cry "its behind you!" It was nice to see our favourite magician Fabulous Fraser come to watch, he is already booked for next gala, as are the Pipe Band!



  
**GLENAPP**  
 CASTLE

Glenapp Castle's Victorian Tea Room is now open till mid-October  
 Opening times 11.00am to 5.00pm

We invite you to come and relax in the Victorian splendour of the  
 Glenapp Castle gardens.

Our Victorian tea room menu offers a choice of teas and coffees as well  
 as home-made lemonade. The menu also offers a choice of light bites, a  
 selection of sandwiches and a choice of sweet treats including our  
 Glenapp cream tea.

For a special occasion why not enjoy a refreshing cocktail  
 or a glass of Prosecco followed by a garden walk!



*The castle gardens are open most days from April to mid-October and we recommend  
 that you call first to check before visiting on 01465 831212.*

Glenapp Castle Hotel, Ballantrae, Ayrshire, Scotland KA26 0NZ.  
 Telephone +44 (0)1465 831212. [info@glenappcastle.com](mailto:info@glenappcastle.com)

## Barr Diary Dates

Month	Event	Venue	Time	Cost
<b>September</b>				
1st & 2nd	Last weekend for Barr Wee Gallery Opening "11 till 4pm There after by arrangement with Merlin call 01465 861239"	Kirk Angus	11 to 4	Free
Sat 8th	Barr Bowling Club Open Triples £150 1st Prize Sponsored By John Gregg Fencing. Call Isobel Ringrose to enter 01465 861651	Bowling Green		£9
Fri 14th	After Hours Quintet, live music, 1920s onward. New Orleans Jazz all the way. Covers, Originals. Join in with dress and dance! See Ayrshire Rural Page for details.	Hall		
Sat 15th	Final Judging of the Barr Sunflower & Marrow Comp.	Hall		Free
Thurs 20th	Upper Stinchar Womans Institute See Poster	Hall	6.45pm	£4 visitors
Friday 28th	MacMillan Cancer Big Coffee Morning Hamper Raffle, Cushion Raffle, Cake Stall Contact: Maggie 861062 or Alison 861668	Hall	10am	Donations
<b>October</b>				
Mon 12th	Martha, live theatre See Ayrshire Rural Page for details	Hall	2pm	
Sun 21st	Twisted Tales, Halloween Theatre See Ayrshire Rural Page for details	Hall	7pm	
Sat 27th	Halloween Dance with the Barrstools In aid of Barr Primary School Tickets: Barr Primary or Village Shop	Hall		
<b>November</b>				
Sat 3rd	Village Fireworks Display and Bonfire and Fireworks at playpark	Village	6.30pm	
Sat 10th	Remembrance Exhibition 100 years	Hall	11am	Donations
Sun 11th	Remembrance Sunday Wreath Laying	Hall	10.45am	to the
	Exhibition and refreshments All items welcome from family and village. Anything connect to the wars/military service. Contact: Sharon Trotter 861044	Hall	11.15am	Poppy Appeal
Fri 16th	The Full Bronte, live theatre See Ayrshire Rural Page for details	Hall	7pm	
Fri 16th	Village Christmas Fayre and Car Boot Teas available all day Tables £10 to book call: Maggie 861062	Large Hall	11 - 3pm	Free
Sat 29th	Northumberland Theatre Company Christmas Show See Ayrshire Rural Page for details	Hall	7pm	
<b>December</b>				
Sat 1st Dec	Barr Bikes Fundraiser with Bar and Live Band Electric Velvet	Hall	8.30pm	

**Village Website:** [www.barrvillage.co.uk](http://www.barrvillage.co.uk) **Village Facebook:** Barr Village

**Barr Community Association:** Chair: Dave Trotter 861044 Treas/Hall Bookings: Maggie Bunnett 861062



Live music and theatre mixed with Halloween, Village Fireworks and Christmas Fayre will see us through to December and we will end 2018 with our Hogmanay Village Party in the hall.

Thanks to everyone in the village who help, support and provide cakes!





# BARR PARISH CHURCH

It has been some time since Barr Church featured in the Stinchar Valley magazine. Like so many churches around the country Barr Parish faces difficult times with a diminishing congregation. However this has not dampened down the spirits of the minister, Rev. Ian McLachlan and his elders - Hazel, Sharon and Yvonne. They have been hard at work to fundraise for much needed refurbishments to the church building. They are also keen to explore different ways of encouraging wider community involvement.

Last Christmas a Six Lessons and Carols Service was held on the eighteenth of December. This was followed by a warm and welcoming Watchnight Service on Christmas Eve. The local Primary school held its own Children's special Christmas service which was attended by parents, family members and friends. For the Easter service the Church was adorned with an 'Easter Tree' decorated with glittering eggs and ribbons. The School also held their own event in the church, giving a modern twist to the judicial proceedings of the Easter story.

This beautiful, rural church with its picturesque setting has been the venue for a wedding service and also more recently a special 'renewal of wedding vows ceremony.' Throughout the year there are special Communion Services held every three months on the first Sunday of the month.

Fundraising events have included a Bake Sale, a Harvest Festival Quiz (2017) and a Games Table at the Easter Sunday Teas run by Barr Community Association.

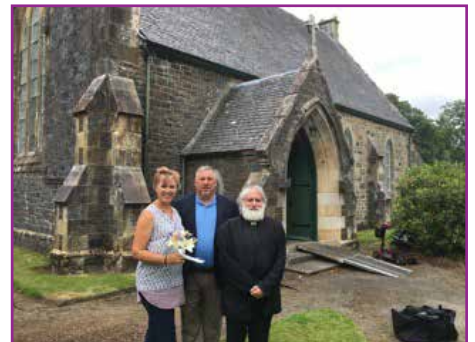
With the main part of the church newly painted the next main focus of the Board and Session is to address the remedial works required to carry out repairs and redecoration to the Church's gable end.

Barr Church has been very grateful to the General Trustees for their support in helping to fund the main refurbishments. Additional funding streams though have needed to be identified and we are grateful to the Baird Trust and the Fergusson Bequest Fund for their promise of grants. Further funding is required to complete the repairs to ensure the building's long term future.

So there will be future fundraising events in the lead up to this year's Harvest Festival, which have been boosted by the £45 of vouchers gifted by Barr Community Shop. So a very big thank you to the shop, as well as Barr Community Association and the village community for all the support we have received over the past year or so!

Dates on forthcoming events will be published in Barr Community Shop; on the Village Hall noticeboard and at the Church.

Normal services take place every Sunday morning at twelve fifteen in Barr Parish Church to which everyone is very welcome to attend. Barr Church is also rather unusual among churches in that it is open throughout the year - seven days a week, three hundred and sixty five days a year for anyone to spend some time in it.



## BARR AT HOLYROOD PALACE

When a buff envelope of quality arrived with Buckingham Palace stamped on it our immediate thought was not of an invite. How wrong we were, an invite was indeed in the envelope! An invite to nothing less than the Royal Garden Party at Holyrood Palace.

Postie said he had delivered a few in the area....who else we wondered? Over the next few days we found out that Sharon Trotter and Douglas Faulds had been invited along with Colin the Gamekeeper at Bargeny Estate, so it was going to be a group outing. We discovered on the day that Andrea Currie had also been invited.

We were all extremely honoured and thrilled to be invited. Outfits sorted we met up at Holyrood Park and proceeded to have a lovely afternoon tea in the grounds of the Palace. We saw various Royals, mainly at a distance and mingled with the Royal Company of Archers.

The weather was warm and sunny, the gardens beautiful and the whole experience delightful. A box ticked that we have never expected to be ticked.





## BARR BOWLING CLUB

Barr Bowling Club held its annual Open Pairs Competition on the 21st July. The run up had been a challenge to the Greenkeeper with weather more suited to the Med rather than the South West of Scotland. Considering the amount of rain we had over last autumn and winter the green was determined to be more brown than green.

Long hours of tender care, special feed and lovely care resulted in more green than could be expected helped by a few night of gentle rain. All the players had been practising on the new "fast" dry green only to turn up on Saturday to grass which had been rained on for hours! So much for our practising too much 'weight' taken off, too little 'grass' given resulted in some interesting results during the initial round robin.

The green dried during the competition providing the finals with a faster and less predictable green again. A fiercely fought 5 ends left the score 5 to 3 with Freda and George needing 3 to win. Alan Ford and Cathy managed to keep their cool and though they lost the last end by 1 they were crowned the winners. Cup and Prize monies were presented by Isobel Ringrose, President and John Paterson, farrier, our generous sponsor.

We are now looking forward to our Open Triples on the 9th September, anyone interested in putting in a team to try and win the £150 prize money please contact Isobel on 01465 861651.

**The club meets on a Thursday and Sunday, all welcome.**



## UPPER STINCHAR S.W.I. MEMBERS TAKE A VIRTUAL TOUR



The business of the 2017-18 AGM of Upper Stinchar SWI at Barr was followed by a tribute to another 'Barr'.

From a short film, the 'Rural' ladies learned that Barr's namesake in France, the picturesque town of Barr in the region of Bas-Rhin, is the wine capital of Alsace. This town, with its weekly market, is commended in French Towns in Bloom competitions for its floral displays. The film showed well-kept, half-timbered houses with shuttered windows, cobbled streets, pretty red-tiled roofs and church spires; enough to make us wish we could take a trip to Alsace to see Barr for ourselves.

Continuing the French flavour of the May meeting, everyone enjoyed a supper of continental meats, cheeses, pastries, crusty bread, crackers, quiche, salad and desserts prepared and served by committee members.

The evening's entertainment kept up the French theme with a keenly contested quiz kindly compiled by Michelle Martin.

The meeting was pronounced a great success with everyone wished 'Bon Nuit' as they headed for home in Barr, South Ayrshire.



## STINCHAR VALLEY MAGAZINE ON HOLIDAY

**Our magazine is a popular read for all in the valley so an idea came up ... what about areas further away. How far does it travel or could it travel?**

With this idea in mind a copy was packed when we recently went to Mull. Not really sure what I had in mind but it was in my backpack when we stopped to talk to one of the locals. Turned out the lady was none other than Judy Fairbairns who had written an excellent book called Island Wife, a memoir of a woman's life on a remote Scottish Island from young girl to grandmother. After a lovely chat we left her with our copy with a promise to email future editions.

During the recent Barr Trails day a copy was taken by a visitor from Belgium who in turn has sent back a picture of the Magazine in Brussels, in fact the magazine went to the parliament building in Brussels. Perhaps a last visit before Brexit! Katrina is so keen on the travelling magazine that it has now visited Madrid and is currently moving onto Slovakia!

So here is the challenge...do you have a story of who likes our magazine and how far away is it read? I know it is emailed to various relatives....send in your stories, with a picture if possible, and each edition we will select some to print.

Aye Glass in Barr have kindly offered a voucher for the best in the next edition so let's see where our magazine wanders!





# BARR TRAILS DAY 20TH MAY 2018

'Barr Bikes' kicked off a fine day first with a ride out around the Changue Forest paths.

While 45 enthusiastic walkers set off for the guided walk including the main Fairy Knowe Trail, led by locals Sharon & David Trotter, Barr fairies allowed their homes to be visible to smaller persons for 'Trails day' reappearing on Barr Gala Day for their Summer residency at the Barr wee Gallery 'one acre' wood! Barr Trails Day was very well supported by walkers from various rambling clubs and other organisations around Ayrshire as well as local residents. Maggie and John Bunnett manned the very welcome Bacon Roll stop just before the ascent of the Fairy Knowe. The fairy trail in the lower woods saw small people collecting clues leading to a pot of wish stones, looking out for the fantastic fairy doors & avoiding a Tree troll along the way before returning to Barr Stores to collect & decorate fairy cakes.

A wood carving demonstration was held outside the Hall which was very entertaining and First Responders attended with a display in the Hall foyer.

The walkers arrived back at the Hall in the afternoon ready for their soup, tea and cakes having had a most enjoyable walk. A big thank you to all the volunteers who helped make Barr Trails Day 2018 such a big success.



## BARR PRIMARY SCHOOL

This term has been the busiest by far. The pupils once again enjoyed an extensive summer outdoor learning program supported by Adventure Centre for Education which included extreme rock pooling, canoeing and Gorge Walking.

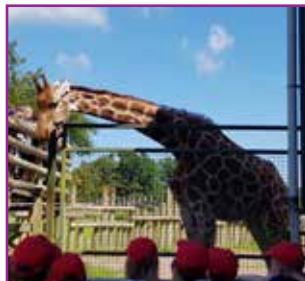
We had many visitors come into the school to talk to the pupils about topics relating to their class projects and a special visit from Strathclyde Fire and Rescue team.

A number of new beds of flowers have been planted as part of the Pollination Project with Grounds for learning and look forward to seeing them all bloom when we return in August. Pupils were invited to attend the first ever Tryathlon at Girvan Quay Zone which was run by Competitive Schools, where they were able to 'Try' a triathlon on a smaller scale. Pupils swam, cycled and ran to complete the challenge.

Sports day followed soon after with pupils competing in races such as the egg & spoon, sack race and relay. Albany walked away as House Champions after securing the most points. Our summer term would never be complete without a summer school trip. The Primary school visited Blair Drummond Safari Park in Sterling whilst the younger Early Years pupils enjoyed a day at the Heads of Ayr Farm Park.

We bid farewell to our Primary 7 class at the Leavers Assembly where each pupil spoke of their fondest memories from Barr Primary. Awards for achievements were presented and parents enjoyed a performance of the chanter, glockenspiel and singing.

**Alexis McRae**  
Barr Primary





# BARRHILL

## BARRHILL FUN DAY *by Gillian Young*

Barrhill Village had a very successful Fun Day despite the heavy rain showers. The Fancy dress parade was led by the Stinchar Valley Pipers to the Memorial Hall where participating children were kindly judged by Rod Ekern our new resident of Arnsheen Church (thanks Rod). Fancy dress winners: Best Girl, Harmione Stanley as a Unicorn. Best Boy, Finlay Hegarty as Captain Hook. Best Couple, Tyler Crowhurst as The fantastic Mr Fox and Erin Hughes as a Unicorn. Youngest Boy, Tobias Stanley as Captain America. Thank you to all the children for making such a great effort.

Later, the children were entertained by The Zoo Lab who brought along a wide variety of animals and reptiles. A massive thank you to Colmonell Fire Brigade for taking the time to bring their engine and crew to allow people to look around their equipment.

A very popular bouncy castle, candy cart and mascots were supplied by A+J Castles. The afternoon teas went down a treat as always and of course our BBQ was in hot demand. Our Ice Cream Stall run by Nick and Nicky Crowhurst was thoroughly enjoyed and helped everyone to cool down and our raffle and tombola were well supported throughout the afternoon.

Lilias Hegarty, Jenny Murray and Gillian Young (The Hall Committee) would like to thank everyone for their kind donations for the raffle and tombola and the delicious home baking which were all very much appreciated.

We would also like to put a big thank you to Nick Crowhurst, Nicky Crowhurst, Kirsty Hughes, Frances Donnelly, Kassie Farmery, Mark Bradshaw, Hugh Murray, Gavin Hughes and Johnny Thomson for all their help, without which our Fun Day could not have gone ahead.... Thank you!!

Many thanks also to The Stinchar Valley Pipers for entertaining us. Also many thanks to Louise Ottoway our Hall Caretaker for all her help on the day and also to Linda Wild for doing the photography.

*A great day was had by all.....Thank you.*



## COMMUNITY BBQ & DUCK RACE

On behalf of Barrhill Primary School, our Summer Fundraiser organised by the Parent Council this year was a Community BBQ! We were blessed with sunshine and a light breeze which kept our infamous midges at bay...

The highlight of the evening was a Duck Race with 175 sponsored ducks making their way from the bridge in the village to their finishing point at Arnsheen bridge next to the park.... then the rather wet business of retrieving them began!!

We had football, tug of war, baking sales and a raffle, and delicious burgers to tuck into. We had a fantastic turnout from our Community who helped to raise in excess of £500 for our school, which is hugely appreciated!!

Many thanks to everyone who helped this to be such a success!



A group of keen crafters of all ages and abilities meeting on the 1st Thursday evening of every month throughout the year in Barrhill

Everyone welcome

For more info please contact Sarah 01465 821538

Or see our Facebook page



# BARRHILL BOWLING CLUB

The season started on a dry but cold day when President David McCutcheon threw the first jack. Nineteen players played 10 ends on the much improved green. Vice President Penny Keane won the annual President v Vice President and was presented with the trophy by Tog Porter who donated the cup. Sandwiches and home baking provided by club members followed an enjoyable afternoon's play.

The 29th June was a glorious evening when 14 Barrhill players battled it out against 21 players from Newton Stewart in the annual Newton Stewart friendly match. It was great to see so many players on the green and after 15 ends Newton Stewart were declared the winners. A delicious tea followed in the newly refurbished Memorial Hall.

Barrhill took part in the annual Carrick Cup, triples, fours and singles matches and although we didn't progress to the next round the club's many players who have only recently started bowling gained some valuable experience.

The new midge machines which were funded by the BCIC have made a huge difference to the club this season, players no longer have to wear midge nets when playing and don't come home covered in little bites anymore! We would like to thank the BCIC for providing funding for Calor Gas refills and bait traps to keep the midge machines running.

Work has continued to get the green and grounds into shape led by Martin Rennie our new groundsman and Ethan Wild cutting the green and surrounds. The green is unrecognisable from the poor condition it was in at the beginning of last year and the grounds have been transformed with many improvements thanks to Martin's many hours of hard work throughout the year.

Funding from the BCIC has allowed us to install a disabled ramp to allow easier access to the grounds along with a new gate to match the existing gates. We have also received funding for additional gravel for the paths around the green. Funding for green cutting wages has also been provided. Thank you to the BCIC for providing funding to allow us to make these improvements to the bowling club.

Thanks also goes to Barrhill Community Council for providing funding for polo shirts and waterproof jackets emblazoned with the Barrhill Bowling Club logo.

The bowling season is drawing to a close but there is still time to come and join us for a game. The final Fun Day of the season is on Sunday 16th September 1:45pm for a 2pm start, all welcome. Closing day is on Saturday 29th September at 1:30pm.

The final bowling club whist drive of the year will be held on Friday 28th September 7:30pm in the Memorial Hall. Thank you to everyone who has come along and supported these enjoyable evenings and a special thank you to Irene McCrae who kindly runs the whist evenings.



# BARRHILL CRAFT CLUB

**Barrhill Craft Club are a group of keen crafters of all ages and abilities, meeting on the 1st Thursday evening of every month throughout the year in Barrhill Village Hall.**

We have had a busy couple of months with excellent attendance at recent club nights.

In June we had an evening of crochet led by Eunice Murray. Crochet is a process of creating fabric by interlocking loops of yarn using a crochet hook. With a record attendance of over 20 ladies (and girls!) of all abilities a great fun night was had by all, with delicious refreshments provided by members.

July saw us learning cross stitch with Dianne Gunning. Cross stitches in embroidery, needlepoint, and other forms of needlework include a number of related stitches in which the thread is sewn in an x or + shape. Another good attendance and everyone loved the cross stitch night once again, with most people taking their projects home to complete.

As an extra event one of our members, Heather Shuckburgh, organized a **Willow Weaving Workshop** open to all – and we couldn't have asked for more.

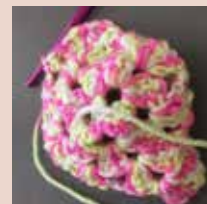
Excellent tutorship from Geoff Forrest of Sustainable Designs, superb eats from Lia at Glenalty Country House, a sparkling Hall from Louise our Caretaker (who tidied up all that willow we left behind) and Aileen our club Treasurer – as it's no mean feat keeping track of us all.

Everyone should be extremely proud of the wonderful plant supports they made - who knew they would be quite that big! Congratulations to gold winners - Carol and Caroline who both won a Willow Weaving Book and an extra set of willow, so they can do it all again at home!

**If you would like to come along please get in touch, all ages & abilities welcome.**

**We have members travelling from Girvan & Ballantrae to join us each month.**

**Barrhill residents £2 per person, non-residents £3 per person.**



## 2018 Planner

### ABOUT US

A group of keen crafters of all ages and abilities, meeting on the 1st Thursday evening of every month at 7pm throughout the year in Barrhill Memorial Hall. Everyone welcome, so come along and join us.

<b>6 SEPTEMBER</b>
Candle Making
<b>4 OCTOBER</b>
Christmas Crafts
<b>1 NOVEMBER</b>
Christmas Wreaths
<b>MORE INFO</b>
Free membership
Session charges: £2 Barrhill residents, £3 non-residents
Full details on the Barrhill Craft Group Facebook page or from The Shop, Barrhill.



# Barrhill Community Interest Company – Moving Forwards

Barrhill Community Interest Company (BCIC) has been busy over the past couple of months, opening the newly refurbished Memorial Hall and engaging a new part time Community Development Officer for Barrhill; Amy-Dee Watson. Amy, who has been working for Creetown Initiative since June 2011, has carried out a broad range of community projects locally in Dumfries and Galloway and further afield across Scotland and brings with her experience in community development, arts project development, youth work management, graphic design and film making, fundraising, market research and general work with community groups and charities. Amy is contracted to 2 days a week working with BCIC and is usually based in the Memorial Hall office on Tuesdays 9:30am – 4pm – please do pop in for a cuppa and a chat. As she works as part of a close-knit team, Amy is also assisted by her colleague Chris Hanna and manager, Andrew Ward. Please contact Amy on 01465 821000 (Tuesdays) or 01671 820654, or via email, amy.barrhillcic@gmail.com. BCIC also has a website; [www.bcic.org.uk](http://www.bcic.org.uk) and a Facebook page @bcicbarrhill.



BCIC has advertised to employ a Community Grounds and General Maintenance Worker for the village of Barrhill. Change to BCIC has advertised to employ a Community Grounds and General Maintenance Worker for the village of Barrhill and a new village in bloom project will be implemented, including the installation of planters. The board is also considering building a new storage building to the rear of the Memorial Hall. Many other exciting community projects are in the pipeline and more information will be released soon.

The refurbished Memorial Hall is a great asset for the village and is open for bookings, including one off events and regular user groups. There is a large hall with badminton court lines, a spacious, fully equipped kitchen, a smaller meeting room and full disabled access, including toilet. The hourly tariff is £5 for Barrhill residents and groups, £18 for private hire and £22 for commercial hire. For more information or to book, please contact Louise Ottaway on 07387759052.



## KILDONAN COURTYARD CLOCK TOWER

by Bill and Liz Ottaway

Last year we purchased a couple of the cottages within Kildonan Courtyard and became the proud part-owners of the clock tower. Sadly, the clock itself wasn't working. We have spoken to a local resident who remembers that the clock wasn't working fifty years ago. Another member of the community can remember looking across from the railway and seeing that the clock was working and the time was correct in about 1946.

On inspection it was found that most of the internal mechanism was missing. The cast iron clock faces were backed by badly damaged opal glass, and the faces were mounted within a rotten wooden frame surmounted by a wooden roof clad with lead. The clock hands were made of aluminium – a state of the art metal in 1920 when the courtyard was built, and corroded in place.

It has given us enormous pleasure to spend six weeks renovating the tower. Scaffolding was skilfully put up around the tower on two of the wettest spring days. An engineer specialising in tower clocks came from Cumbria and removed the clock faces and remaining mechanism, carefully lowering them into the Courtyard. They were taken back to Cumbria where they spent five weeks being repainted and new glass being applied to the inner surfaces. New hands were made from steel and the mechanism was cleaned and freed up and missing parts replaced. A skilled carpenter helped us to repair the wooden parts of the tower, letting in new timbers where the original had rotted away completely, and creating new surrounds to house the clock faces themselves. We then painted the outside of the tower and impatiently waited for the clock faces to return home.

The clock faces returned looking beautiful with fresh black paint and new glass. It was an exciting three days lifting the faces back into place, installing the mechanism and attaching them to a wireless system that will ensure that the clock is always showing the correct time. LED lights were installed that will back-light the faces at night.

We hope that you will agree that this restoration has enhanced this local landmark and that everyone will enjoy seeing the clock in full working order again.



## MY SWEET PATOOTIE

**Friday 7 September at 7.30pm to 9.15pm - Colmonell Community Centre**

Tickets: £9, Concessions £8, Children £6. Family friendly. (£7 for all adult tickets booked before 29 August). Tickets can be booked with Heather O'Hare: heather521ohare@btinternet.com.



Tall tales, corny jokes and top-flight musicianship. My Sweet Patootie is a nonstop family-friendly neo-vaudeville stage show from Canada featuring virtuosic musicianship, uncompromising vocal harmonies and humorous storytelling. Sounds of vintage swing, blues and roots-nostalgia collide in the band's original song writing and carefully chosen covers. It's a feel-good musical experience promising to entertain music lovers of all kinds. This is a BYOB event.



## THE AFTER HOURS QUINTET

**Friday 14 September at 7:30pm - Barr Village Community Centre**

Tickets: £9, Concessions £8, Children £6. Family friendly (£7 for all adult tickets booked before 9 September). Tickets are available from the Barr Village shop or by contacting Maggie Bunnett.

The After Hours Quintet, are a collective of 'bright young things'; resurrecting the songs, instruments and techniques of an otherwise forgotten era. With an irresistible sense of ease and exuberance, the washboard fidgeting, banjo rolling, horn-howling swingsters, have been scorching audiences with their hot-jazz on an international scale since 2012.



## CATHERINE WHEELS PRESENT: MARTHA

**Friday 12 October at 2pm - Barr Village Community Centre**

Suitable for ages 4+

Tickets: £5.50, Concessions £5, Children £4. Family Tickets 2 adults and 2 children or 1 adult and 3 children = £15. Tickets are available from the Barr Village shop or by contacting Maggie Bunnett.

Who is Martha? Martha lives by the sea... Martha lives alone... Martha doesn't need anyone... She is stubborn, eccentric and highly independent. Who are Martha's friends? Not her next door neighbour. Not her helpful postman. Nor her secret admirer from across the bay. One day she has an unexpected visitor and for Martha life will never be the same again.

## 'OWDYADO THEATRE PRESENTS: TWISTED TALES

**Sunday 21 October at 7:30pm - Barr Village Community Centre**

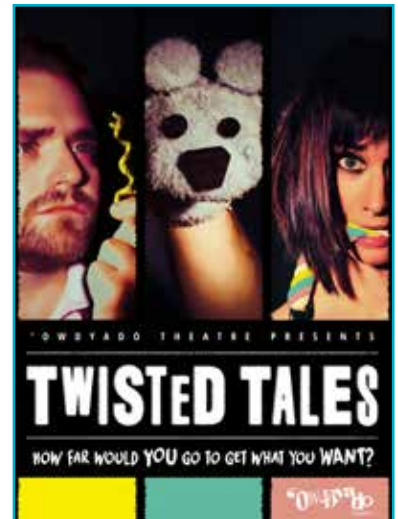
Suitable for age 14+

Tickets: £9, Concessions £8, Children £6 (£7 for all adult tickets booked before 9 October. Group bookings: 10 people or more = £6.50pp)

A hospital ward where the best prescription is an escape plan, two kids' TV presenters consider how best to dispose of a cadaver, and a locked-room game that slowly twists to the sinister. Three different plays that all ask the same question - How far would you go to get what you want?

For their fifth outing 'Owdyado Theatre brings you three twisted tales from three distinct voices. Inspired by cult series The Twilight Zone and Inside Number Nine this series of dark comedies is co-written by Daniel Richards and Charlotte Bister.

Get set for an evening of Twisted Tales.



## INDEPEN-DANCE PRESENT: FOUR GO WILD IN WELLIES

**Friday 26 October at 4pm - Colmonell Community Centre**

For ages 3-5yrs and their families

Tickets: £4.50, Concessions £4, Children £3.50. Family Tickets: 2 adults and 2 children or 1 adult and 3 children = £12.00. Tickets can be booked with Heather O'Hare: heather521ohare@btinternet.com.

A whimsical adventure featuring bobble hats, scarves, tents that have a life of their own and, of course, lots of fun in wellies! Four Go Wild in Wellies is a new show for audiences aged 3-5 years from Indepen-dance4, Scotland's inclusive professional dance company.





## NORTH SOUTH THEATRE: PALS

Friday 9 November at 7:30pm – Colmonell Community Centre

Suitable for ages 9yrs+

Tickets: £9, Concessions £8, children £6 (£7 for all adult tickets booked before the 29th of October). Group bookings: 10 people or more = £6.50pp. Tickets can be booked with Heather O'Hare: heather521ohare@btinternet.com.

Inspired by war diaries, Pals is an amusing and touching piece of theatre set during the first years of the Great War. This poignant story follows Stan, George and Joe as enthusiastic pals who volunteer to join Kitchener's new army. Their experience of life on the Western Front is a stark contrast to what was promised by the officers signing them up: "Back before Christmas, they said."

Embarrassing medicals, French girls, lice, rats and shrapnel wait for them but their strong friendship and sense of humour will enable these pals to stick together through it all. Mark the centenary of the end of the First World War with this emotive piece of new writing.

The evening will be a fundraiser supporting the Colmonell project marking the centenary of the Armistice.



## SCARY LITTLE GIRLS DO: THE FULL BRONTE

Friday 16 November at 7:30pm – Barr Village Community Centre

Suitable for age 16+

Tickets: £9, Concessions £8, (£7 for all tickets booked before 5 November. Group bookings: 10 people or more = £6.50pp)

Roll up, roll up for a cabaret celebration of your favourite literary sisters, their lives and times!

Join us as we pay homage to Charlotte, Emily, Anne and their family through story telling, music, audience games and sketches. Hosts Monika (glamour puss, academic, thespian) and her assistant Brannie (dog's body, ensemble cast, backstage crew), create wuthering delights in a show that is the anarchic love child of French and Saunders and Hinge and Brackett! A delight for literature aficionados and theatre fans alike – and of course every devoted Brontëphile!

## NORTHUMBERLAND THEATRE COMPANY: THE LITTLE MAID WHO DANCED TO EVERY MOOD

Thursday 29 November at 7:30pm – Barr Village Community Centre

Suitable for all the family

Tickets: £10, Concessions £9, Children £6. (£7 for all adult tickets booked before 17 November. Group bookings: 10 people or more = £6.50pp). Family Tickets: 2 adults and 2 children or 1 adult and 3 children = £24.00

ART favourites, Northumberland Theatre Company return with their new family show. Adapted from Helena Nyblom's Scandinavian children's adventure by new writer Laura Jayne Ayres who has toured as an actor in several shows with NTC. Through dance, song and exciting physical theatre, we follow our heroine on her journey to find her true place in the world. Meeting grouchy farmers, a flock of flamenco dancing pigeons and finally a handsome prince - but is the life of a princess something our little maid truly wants? And will she still be allowed to dance?

## CELTIC CHRISTMAS STRINGS

with Maire Ni Chathasaigh & Chris Newmanon

Saturday 8 December at 7.30pm - Ballantrae Church, The Vennel, Ballantrae

Tickets: £9, Concessions £8, Children £6. Family Friendly (£7 for all adult tickets booked before 27 November) available from Craigmains or the Gaiety Box Office 01292 288235. Duration: 130 mins

There's something magical about harps, and particularly at Christmas, though Máire and Chris's alchemy on harp and guitar creates a very special magic at all times. Individually famed for originality, innovation, and virtuosity on their respective instruments, together they have created one of the most distinctive voices in modern acoustic music and brought their unique musical vision to venues large and small in twenty-two countries on five continents. Their many recordings express both the depth of their commitment to tradition and an eternally playful, curious and adventurous spirit. Their new Christmas show features a breath-taking blend of traditional Irish music, swing jazz and bluegrass, plus festive favourites given a fresh voice with arrangements that are intricate, inventive, moving and beautiful, and performed in their characteristically heart-warming style – a spellbinding treat for mid-winter.



## Three Genres of Music, Three Different Venues

The Ayrshire Rural Touring Network is offering a deal where customers can buy a ticket to a musical event in 3 venues for £18. The events are "My Sweet Patootie" in Colmonell (7 September); "The After Hours Quintet" in Barr (14 September) and "Celtic Christmas Strings" in Ballantrae (8 December). Contact the Gaiety Box Office 01292 288235 or visit [www.thegaiety.co.uk/rural-touring-network](http://www.thegaiety.co.uk/rural-touring-network) to take advantage of this offer.



