



SUMMER
2014

FREE

THE **STINCHAR** **VALLEY** MAGAZINE

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

Peinn Mor Pottery, Pinmore
KA26 0TR
WWW.PEINNMOR.CO.UK



Keith and Beryl Dawdry.



2 Pins Centre

In April the first start of pre-construction work began on the site with (left) work on the temporary car park and (right) laying the new surface water drain to remove the open ditch which ran across the site.

Ayr Writers' Club



Back Row (l-r):
Gail McPartland,
Linda Brown,
Ann Burnett
Maggie Bolton,
Nigel Ward.

Front Row (l-r):
Alison Craig,
Dorothy Gallagher,
Fiona Atchison,
Helena Sheridan,
Greta York.

Ayr Writers' Club

(Picture on inside cover)

Ayr Writers' Club dominated the awards presented at March's annual Scottish Association of Writers Gala Dinner. Seven local novelists, poets, dramatists, reviewers and short story writers brought half of the national trophies back to Ayrshire. "It was amazing, and shows how much talent there is in the club," said award-winning club President Dorothy Gallagher.

In addition to the seven silverware successes, writing by club members was also placed in seven other categories and received a further eight Commendations. However, this year was no flash in the pan. In 2013 the club carried home four trophies and fourteen members had the quality of their writing recognised. Ayr Writers' Club meets at The Carlton Hotel, Prestwick Road, every Wednesday night at 7.30pm. Follow us on Facebook or at the website <http://ayrwritersclub.co.uk/>

2 Pins Community Centre



2 PINS COMMUNITY COMPANY

Company Limited by Guarantee No. 430441
Scottish Charity No. SC043849

In April the first start of pre-construction work began on the site with work on the temporary car park and laying the new surface water drain to remove the open ditch which ran across the site (see inside cover).

The 2 Pins Community Company now own the site in Main Street Pinwherry on which it is planned to build the new community facility. Funding for the site purchase and planning consents has come from Hadyard Hill Community Benefit Fund, Carrick Futures, South Ayrshire Council and The Lendal Trust.

An application has been made to the Big Lottery Investing in Communities Fund and we are pleased to say that we are through to the second stage. Applications are also being made to the Lottery Sports and many Trust Funders. This will involve a considerable amount of work and through development funding from the lottery we propose to employ a part-time development person.

The new centre will provide the community with a new, fit for purpose, meeting and leisure facility. The Community Association will be able to hold larger local social and entertainment events. The SWRI, local Scottish Dance Group and Gardening Club will all have the ability to increase their memberships due to the increased size of the facilities available to them. The new building will benefit a much wider area than just the two villages commissioning it, as it is providing a facility not available within the South Carrick area. The size of it has been chosen to enable it to be suitable for larger rural events including weddings and similar events.

Within the café there will be a small retail shop to provide local people, children and visitors (including those at the nearby caravan site) with the basic necessities of day to day life. Situated within the café, it should become a focal point for the wider area. The significant increase in space for car parking will allow easy access for people

with limited mobility and allow them access to both the Community Council and the Community Association meetings and events, which at the present hall is impossible for some.

With an ageing population, our senior citizens will have an easily accessible meeting place and facilities within which local health clinics and fitness events can be held as well as arts and crafts and wellbeing sessions. Our local primary schools at Barrhill and Colmonell, plus those in villages further afield, will have the opportunity of inter-school games which is denied at present with the current facilities available locally. Local sports clubs will have a new venue with changing facilities for 5-a-side football, basketball, handball and badminton – currently unavailable in the local area. The community will use the centre as a focal point for tourism to display examples of local history, heritage and local points of interest including local walks.

There is still a long way to go and the more the local community support the Directors and committee members by coming along to the monthly meetings and supporting the many events that are planned the faster we will get the new centre.

If you have any ideas, suggestions, comments we would welcome you to come along to the monthly 2 Pins Meetings held in Pinwherry Hall every second Thursday in the month. It is after all a community centre with new and improved facilities, to benefit all communities needs and future aspirations and to this end needs your community support

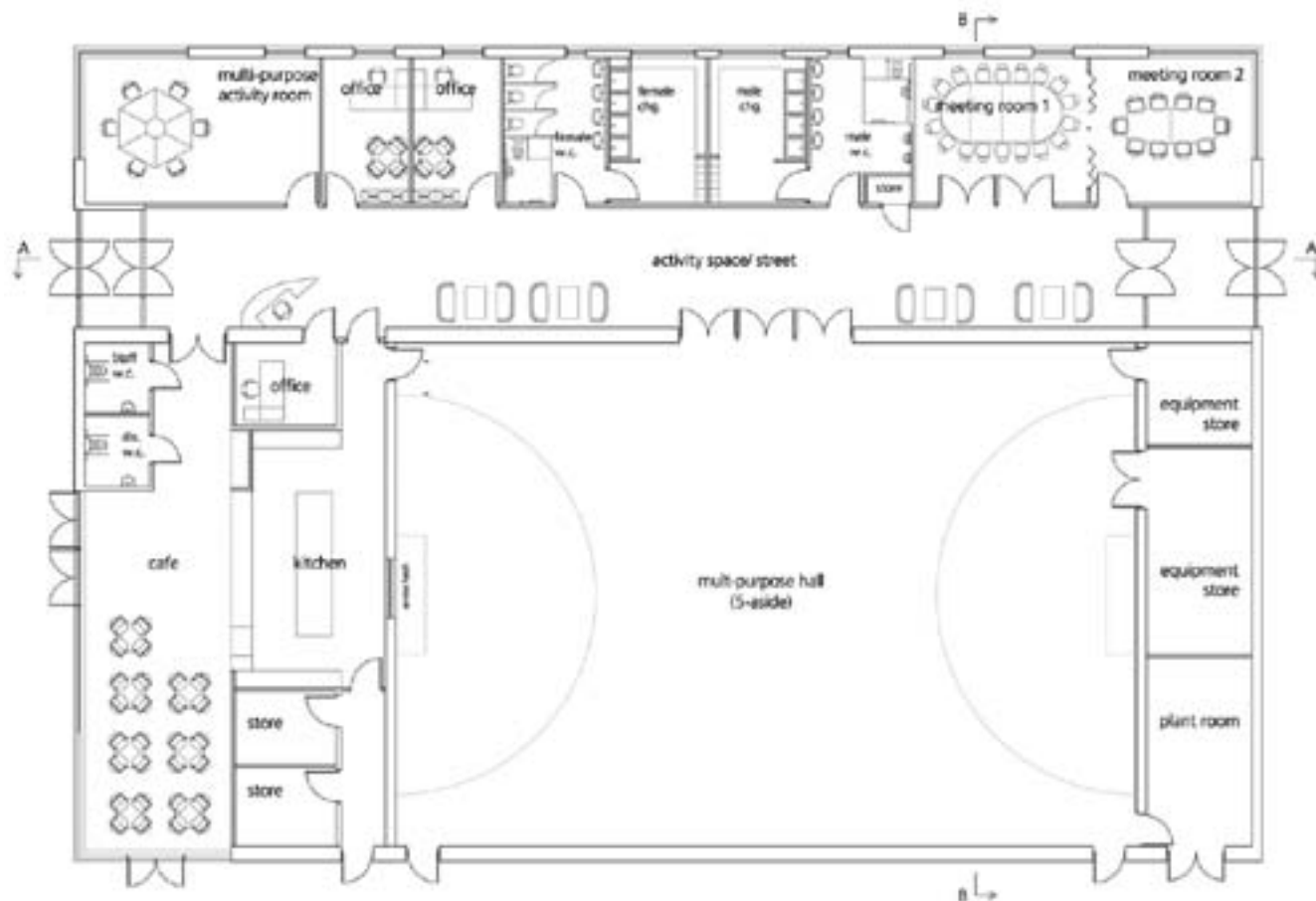
Yours sincerely

Peter Walker - Chairperson

On behalf of the 2 Pins Community Company

The New 2 Pins Centre

The Centre will consist of a multi-purpose hall that will accommodate a 5 a-side pitch or 3 badminton courts which can also be used for functions and social and community events. A community café and small shop, 2 meeting rooms which can be opened up into 1 large room and into the large foyer which can be use to display art and local heritage. An arts and craft activity room for both adults and children. Outside is ample car parking and picnic areas. Other amenities being considered are electric car charging point, cash point, and telephone box.



2 Pins Community Company in partnership with Pinwherry Community Association.

Events for 2014:

Saturday 19th July

Cream Teas & Car Boot sale on Pinmore Green from 2pm to 4pm.

Saturday 16th /Sunday 17h August

A Weekend celebration of events.

Saturday (day)

Craft Fair and Food Fair. Hot dogs and burgers stall.

Saturday (evening 7 - 11.30pm)

Pig Roast and Dance with a full bar.

Sunday 12.30 to 4.30

Fun and games, competitions children's entertainment.

Sunday 14th September

Walking Treasure Hunt for all the family a short ramble ending up at the 2 Pins site

Saturday 8th November

Christmas Craft Fair in Pinwherry Hall

Girvan Youth Trust

Project Cluster Volunteer Co-ordinator

Terri Bell has recently been appointed as a dedicated Volunteer Co-ordinator to recruit and support volunteer groups and individual volunteers in the Girvan and surrounding area. Terri would like to urge any local voluntary groups who would like support in relation to developing and recruiting volunteers to get in touch.

As well as supporting existing volunteers, Terri is keen to recruit new volunteers. If you can spare a few hours per week, would like to get out the house, meet new people, learn new or pass on existing skills to others, then Terri would love to hear from you! Terri is based within Z1 Youth Bar, Girvan and can be contacted on 01465 714729, emailing terri@z1girvan.org.uk or by calling or dropping in. This project is funded until 31st March 2015 by The Voluntary Action Fund and managed by Z1 Girls Group.



Barrhill Primary School

Here at Barrhill Primary school our topic this term is My Village, we are looking at our village past and present. We have recruited past staff and residents of Barrhill Village to take part in a short film being recorded by Reverend Ogston. The children have prepared questions to ask the people being interviewed.

Meanwhile our new school which is being refurbished is due to be completed by the Summer Holidays. We will be inviting the Community along to view the new school when we have settled in.



Barrhill Gala Day

Due to the Primary School being in the Memorial Hall it might not be possible to hold a Gala this year. Representatives from the Community Association have a meeting at the end of May with SAC Education Department to update on progress with the school and when they expect to decant from the Hall. Depending on the school timescale The Community Association will decide if a Gala Day is possible during the summer. If it is possible, Posters will be displayed around the local area.



Barrhill Bowling Club

The Green opened on Sat 3 May and the President Mrs Freda Hirst threw the first jack. A good turnout of members and friends from other clubs had a most enjoyable afternoon's play for the WigWam Trophy kindly donated by Tog Porter. This took the form of a President v Vice President match which resulted in a win for the Vice President, Mrs Irene McCrae's Team.

Our Open Pairs Tournament this year will be held on Saturday 2 August. We have Fun Days on 8 June, 13 July, 16 August & 14 September and everyone is welcome to play in these games. Club nights are Tuesday & Thursday at 7 pm. New Members and Visitors Welcome. We also have Whist Drives arranged for Fridays 27 June, 25 July, 22 August & 26 September 2014.



South Carrick Class Diamonds

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



SOME 2014 DATES TO REMEMBER

JUNE to AUGUST [Balsam Bashing season]

| | |
|-------------------|---|
| 7 JUNE | Barr Gala Day |
| 24 JUNE - 7 JULY | WIMBLEDON |
| 12 JUNE - 13 JULY | WORLD CUP |
| 13 JUNE | Crowning of Ballantrae Gala King and Queen |
| 14 JUNE | Colmonell Fun Day |
| 15 JUNE | Ballantrae Farmers' Market |
| 15 JUNE | Pinwherry Autograss meeting |
| 28 JUNE - 6 JULY | Ballantrae Gala Week |
| 19 JULY | Cream Teas and Car Boot Sale: |
| | Pinmore Green, 2pm - 4pm |
| 13 JULY | Pinwherry Autograss meeting |
| 23 JULY - 3 AUG | COMMONWEALTH GAMES |
| 26 JULY | Ballantrae Church Fair |
| 26 JULY - AUG 3 | Geocaching Mega Event |
| 1 AUGUST | Ayrshire & Arran |
| | Last date for entries in |
| | Stinchar Valley Magazine |
| 2 AUGUST | St Colmon Kirk Fair |
| 9 AUGUST | Colmonell & Ballantrae |
| | Agricultural Show |
| 10 AUGUST | Pinwherry Autograss meeting |
| 16 AUGUST | Craft Fair and Food Fair, |
| | with Hot Dogs-Burgers stall. |
| | On the 2 Pins site Pinwherry. |
| | Evening Pig Roast and Dance |
| | with full bar, 7pm - 11.30pm. |
| 17 AUGUST | Fun and Games, Competitions |
| | & Children's entertainment. |
| | 12.30pm - 4.30pm On the |
| | 2 Pins site Pinwherry |
| 17 AUGUST | Ballantrae Farmers' Market |
| 18 - 23 AUGUST | Ballantrae Smugglers' Festival |
| 22 - 24 AUGUST | Ayr Flower Show |
| 30 AUGUST | Ballantrae Flower Show |
| 7 SEPTEMBER | Pinwherry Autograss meeting |

AUTUMN SV MAG DISTRIBUTED W/C 8 SEPT

| | |
|--------------|--|
| 14 SEPTEMBER | Walking Treasure Hunt for all the family, a short ramble ending at the 2 Pins site |
| 18 SEPTEMBER | Scottish independence referendum |
| 5 OCTOBER | Ballantrae Farmers' Market |
| 31 OCTOBER | Last date for entries in |
| | Stinchar Valley Magazine |
| 8 NOVEMBER | Christmas Craft Fair in Pinwherry Hall |



Ballantrae Church Fair

SATURDAY 26th JULY 2pm

Ballantrae Community Centre

The hall will be open for donations from 9.30am - 11.30am on the 26th. The Ballantrae Gala Queen & King will open the event.

Stalls will include teas, baking, crafts/fancy goods, produce & plants, hamper, tombola, books, bric-a-brac and a variety of different games to keep the children amused!

This is our annual fundraising event and we would ask everyone to please come along and give us your support.

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Heather - The Help



Information has been received about Smuggling in Ballantrae...

"Rumours abound of a landing of salt, silks and fine wines on the beach at Ballantrae on the Monday 18th August... to be hauled away by the locals, some distributed to villagers and some hidden away for transportation inland. Will the authorities make an appearance and will they be paid off, or will the ladies of the village be able to distract them long enough for the goods to be moved? While the authorities search for the hidden contraband, "Smuggler Scarecrows" are displayed by the villagers to create confusion. We hear stories about the families involved in smuggling - but who are they? The children tell stories of smuggling - some are true and some are made up. Are the smuggled goods everything they are made out to be or are some of the smugglers involved in shady deals at the Village Fayre? As the men of the village build up their strength for an even bigger shipment due to be delivered soon, will the celebration of music, poetry and smuggling stories on the Friday, the fun and games of the Village Fayre - with the sampling of the best food and drink Ayrshire can offer planned for the Saturday - go off without a hitch? Will the villagers get away with it and will they light the beacon to signify they are ready for the next shipment?"

Are You Related To A Smuggler Or Revenue Man Who Operated In The Ballantrae Area In The 18th Or 19th Century?

Ballantrae's smuggling history is of considerable local interest because we are able to identify so many of the individuals involved. Did your ancestors live in Ballantrae or the surrounding area in the 18th and 19th centuries? Might you be descended from any of the smugglers or Revenue Officers who were pursuing them? During last year's Festival, Frances Wilkins (author and social historian) launched her new book "Ballantrae's Smuggling Story" which included an Annex listing the names of the Ballantrae smugglers. Copies of the book are available in Craigmains Home and Garden Centre (price £7.50).

Here are some of the stories:

We know that, in the 1750s, a local merchant John Allan, was purchasing cargoes of wine, brandy and rum to be landed on the Isle of Man where they were stored by the Manx merchant George Moore, until there was an opportunity to ship them across to Scotland. William Cumming and Hugh and Thomas McNellie of Ballantrae were the local boatmen who brought those goods to Ballantrae. Again we know that Moore had other customers for contraband goods in Ballantrae including John Earl, David and William Ferguson, John and William McNellie and a 'Mr' Shaw.

In 1770, John McKissock and William McQuiston of Ballantrae were on board the Jean & Ann of Ballantrae when it was intercepted by the crew of HMS Hind after collecting a load of tea and salt from Larne. In later years, Irish salt dominated the smuggling trade. Among the Ballantrae salt smugglers were William Coulter, Henry King and William McWhirter. From the surrounding area, David and Euphemia Galloway at Chapmans Craig, John and Robert Ferguson at Craigans (now Craigance) and William Rodger, innkeeper at South Laggan, were all involved in salt smuggling.

We know that in February 1790, Robert Allan, John Coulter and Hugh Galloway, all fishermen at Ballantrae, used their boats to land tobacco and spirits from a smuggling cutter from Ostend while John Cumming, William Galloway, William McKissock and Hugh Thomson, all living in Ballantrae, were waiting to receive these goods on shore.

When Alexander Coulter senior, Alexander Coulter junior, Hugh Coulter and Robert Coulter, all described as sailors or fishermen in Ballantrae, were involved in smuggling geneva (gin) and brandy in 1814, Thomas Haswell and Hugh Ross, innkeepers in Ballantrae, John Earl, Henry King, Thomas

McCormick and Allan Thompson, sailors or fishermen there, John Eagleston, a weaver of Holm Park, (in Ballantrae parish), Mrs Mary Ferguson Kennedy of Girvan, living in Ballantrae, William McKissock, a farmer at Bankend in Ballantrae, John McWhirter and his wife Mary McWhirter of Dornel, living in Ballantrae, and Mrs Agnes Ross, wife of Hugh Ross, were all subpoenaed to give evidence in the Court of Exchequer in Edinburgh.

Over the years, the revenue officers based at Ballantrae, either singly or two together, tried, mainly unsuccessfully, to stop the smuggling. These men included Robert Cheshire, David Ferguson, John Jeffries, Gilbert McMichan, Andrew McQuaker, David Tarbet and Robert Williamson. They were aided by the revenue cruisers at sea, in particular Captain Craford of the Royal George, Sir John Reid of the Prince Ernest Augustus, and Captain James Dowie of the Prince Augustus Frederick.

These are just some of the many Ballantrae stories.

We are once again working in partnership with Frances in preparation for this year's festival. We are keen to make contact with descendants of the Ballantrae smugglers and revenue men to take part in an event during this year's Smugglers' Festival entitled "Ancestral Footprints". In the run up to the Festival, Frances will work with you to help bring your ancestor's story to life using information from her archives and official documents held at the Burns Monument Centre in Kilmarnock, at the National Archives of Scotland in Edinburgh and on the Isle of Man. There will be no cost to you if you decide to take part. You will be invited to attend the event during the Ballantrae Smugglers' Festival on Thursday 21 August to hear your ancestor's story being told. Frances will omit from her talk anything you do not want revealed publicly. You will receive a souvenir of your involvement in the event.

If you think one of your ancestors was involved please get in touch NOW with Frances by emailing her at ancestralfootprints@franscript.co.uk.

Andy McAlpine

Ballantrae Smugglers' Festival

If you would like to be involved in helping with this year's Ballantrae Smugglers' Festival email Andy McAlpine on andy.mcalpine@btinternet.com or phone him on 01465 831122.

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- To offer services in Christ's name to people in need as part of the Church's mission
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- To identify existing and emerging areas of need, to guide the Church in pioneering new approaches to relevant problems and to make responses on issues arising within the areas of Crossreach's concern through appropriate channels such as the Church & Society Council, the Scottish Executive etc.
- <http://crossreach.org.uk/>

Services

Children and Families

Counselling, Support and Training

Criminal Justice

Homelessness

Learning Disabilities

Mental Health

Older People

Substance Misuse

AGE Concern Girvan

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

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

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

01465 712 032

www.ageconcerngirvan.org.uk

Help Save Ayrshire Red Squirrels



"How you can help..."

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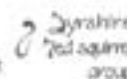
- Report any squirrel sightings, Red and Grey in your local area and garden
- Help to control the local Grey squirrel to stop the spread of squirrel pox
- Help us with red squirrel surveys
- Making and monitoring squirrel feed boxes
- Full training will be given for our volunteers

For full information get in contact with:

Joan Smith
Carrick Grey Squirrel Control Officer
Mob: 07815257385
joan@ayrshireriverstrust.org



Ayrshire Rivers Trust



SV Mag Year Planner 2014

2014 DEADLINES

AUTUMN

WINTER

Final date for articles to Editor

01.08.14

31.10.14

Draft from Editor to Editorial Team

09.08.14

08.11.14

Management Meetings

12.08.14

11.11.14

Draft from Editorial Team back to Editor

13.08.14

12.11.14

Please note our **final dates for articles to the editor** and the **distribution within communities dates**. We hope this will help you ensure articles are submitted in time and their content is date specific.

Draft from Editor to Publisher

15.08.14

14.11.14

Final Draft from Publisher to Editor

25.08.14

24.11.14

Final Draft from Editor to Publisher

27.08.14

26.11.14

Collection from Publisher

05.09.14

05.12.14

Distribution within communities

w/c 08.09.14

w/c 08.12.14

COMMUNITY COUNCIL NEWS

Community Councils are the most local tier of statutory representation in Scotland. They are non-party political. They bridge the gap between local authorities and communities, and help to make public bodies aware of the opinions and needs of the communities they represent. Their primary purpose is to ascertain and express the views of the community to the local authority and other public bodies. Many Community Councils also involve themselves in a wide range of other activities including fundraising, organising community events, undertaking environmental and educational projects and much more. There are currently around 1200 Community Councils in Scotland, all of which are composed of elected volunteers from the community. For more information go to the Scottish Government website www.scotland.gov.uk or the South Ayrshire Council website www.south-ayrshire.gov.uk.

Pinwherry And Pinmore Community Council

Pinwherry & Pinmore Community Council sits on the third Thursday of the month in the Community Hall.7.30pm. Members of the public are welcome. **Please note: Following the June meeting PPCC will sit Bi-monthly.**

MAY 15th + AGM . JUNE 19th - Special Roads meeting. JULY 17th . **No AUGUST meeting.** SEPTEMBER 18th **No October meeting.** NOVEMBER 20th . **No December meeting.** JANUARY 15th . **No February meeting** MARCH 19th. **No April meeting.** MAY 21st + AGM

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

Ballantrae Community Council

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

Barrhill Community Council

Barrhill Community Council meets every fourth Wednesday in the month apart from July and December when there are no meetings • Barrhill Community Interest Company and Barrhill Memorial Hall Community Association are planning to hold a joint open meeting in June to discuss the Car Park and refurbishment of the Memorial Hall. Posters will be posted around the area.

South Ayrshire Council Contact Centre

Don't wait for others to report issues, it may not be done! E.g. road damage 01292 612302, dead animals on the road, water leaks - pick up the phone. Telephone the Customer Services Team on 0300 123 0900. Send a Text message to 0797 1120 498.

Colmonell Fun Day

This year's Fun Day will be held on Saturday 14th June in the village play park. Princess Bethanny Wilson, her Lady in Waiting Evie MacDonald and Page Boy Harry McKechnie will be driven to the park by Mr Hugh Sloan in his vintage car, led by Stinchar Valley Pipers. The crowning will take place at 1pm by last year's Princess Hazel Cloy followed by activities including a Fun Run, Bouncy Castle, Climbing Wall, Douglas the Clown, Face Painting and Nail Bar, Sports, Teas, various stalls, burgers etc. Lovely sunshine has also been ordered and we have to hope that it turns up on the day.

Throughout the week there will be a Football Tournament, Quiz Night, Clay Pigeon Shoot, Bingo, and the Lucky Programme sellers will be knocking on doors offering you a chance to win a cash prize.

Colmonell's Pageant & Cavalcade, 1975

If you remember these events then please can you help?

From researcher Dr Linda Fleming:

"I am engaged on a research project on the history of historical pageantry in the UK along with colleagues at a variety of universities. This research has only been going a short few months, but we have an infant website up and running, which you can check out at: <http://www.historicalpageants.ac.uk/>

One of the first pageants I looked at was the pageant of Ayrshire in 1934, while doing this the lovely librarians at the Carnegie Library in Ayr also dug out an old script for me entitled The Pageant of Colmonell. This was performed in February 1975. I was intrigued by this because village pageants are a bit rare in Scotland and especially during the 1970s when the fashion for these had begun to wane. It was however, a sell out event!

If you can offer any insights I'd be most grateful. The pageant script was written by the then Minister at Colmonell, the Rev. J. H. Hamilton and he did a great job!

Anything and everything you or other members of your community can find would be most welcome. The Colmonell Pageant was one of thousands of such events which took place during the 20th century across the UK. Within the context of Scotland I'm particularly interested in Colmonell however, because it was such a success and within a small community. When I first read it too, I could see what a skilled job the Minister had done in making the subjects engaging.

During the summer, I hope to record some short interviews with people who took part in pageants. If any of the participants would be willing to speak with me, then with their permission, please do pass on their contact details and I will get in touch, by letter or email in the first instance if this is their preference. Or they are welcome to contact me and/or to send me their memories in writing if they would rather do this."

Further information from Claire Pirrie on 841644 or email clairepirrie@gmail.com.

Our Roads

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

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

TAKE THE FOLLOWING ACTION:
Tell South Ayrshire Council Roads Department immediately. You can do this as follows:

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

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



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Yet another ‘fun-filled’ but learning through wider achievement term has been and gone in Colmonell Primary School, with all children from nursery to Primary 7 taking part in a range of activities to extend ‘challenge and enjoyment’.

Primary Engineering

As reported in Ballantrae Primary School article, Colmonell and Ballantrae Primary schools worked together on a joint project to develop STEM – Science, technology, engineering and maths – over a 6-8 week period. The car creating, designing and building project culminated in the successful partnership of Alexander Patterson (Primary 4- Colmonell) and Jessica Orr (Primary 4 – Ballantrae) winning overall at the regional finals in Glasgow at Apprentice Engineer 1 level. Well done Alexander & Jessica.

Big Pedal

Colmonell Junior Road Safety Officers, Jason Patterson and Zak Whetton-Bloom, recently organised for their school to take part in the ‘Big Pedal’; a two week activity to promote cycling to and from school. As Colmonell children are mostly rural and rely on taxis to bring them to school, the boys developed a school challenge activity during which all children cycled within the school playground, during lunch times and playtimes. Almost all children took part daily, over a two week period and this resulted in the school taking third place overall in Scotland. Well done Colmonell cyclists.

Scots Poetry

Colmonell’s annual Scots Poetry competition this year was judged by Dennis Reid and Campbell Crawford from Girvan Burns Society. Both gentlemen take their Scots language very seriously and were impressed by the knowledge, understanding and recitation of the Scots language from all of Colmonell’s children. The winners of this year’s Scots Poetry competition were:

Abbie Robertson

Primary 1 The Wee Rid Motor

Travis MacDonald

Primary 3 Conductress

Charlie Bretherton

Primary 4 Heron

Aliyah Aubad & Jacob McFarlane

Primary 5 The Ballad of Janitor MacKay

Jason Patterson

Primary 6 Willie Wastle

Evie MacDonald

Primary 7 To a Mouse

Spelling Bee

This year saw Colmonell Primary school taking part in their first ever Spelling Bee competition. All children took part learning a range of spelling words and were so successful we nearly ran out of words to spell! A big well done to Travis MacDonald (Junior Winner) and Aliyah Aubad (senior winner) and to everyone else who took part so enthusiastically!

Eco School Activities

Our Eco Group recently organised two very different activities as part of their Green Flag action plan. A visit from the RSPB, based in Lochwinnoch, took place in school in early spring and as a result our children are well versed in recognising both the songs of local garden birds and knowing the names of the birds visiting their school garden. During the activity, children made a range of bird feeders and discussed how to attract a wider variety of birds to local gardens. They also investigated the best places within our school grounds to place bird boxes and as a result have been busy making their own bird boxes.

The Eco committee have also been organising an number of activities around the subject of litter. They have created a whole school litter policy, have planned a local litter pick and planned a competition to design a poster for a litter bin. The successful winner was Johnny McKeachan of Primary 3, and whose winning design is now displayed on our school bin in the front foyer of the school.



Ballantrae Patchwork Group

We are always pleased to see more new members. We meet on Wednesdays at 1 30 pm in Ballantrae Community Centre. If you would like to come and just see what we are doing and don't want to come on your own please contact:

Penny Savage 01465841686 OR Margaret Bean. 01465841635

Bal1 Update

Local Development Plan

A case update was issued on 23 April 2014: "The reporters anticipate that their report will be delivered in May 2014." This is ahead of the June target date. For the latest news, go to this website:

<http://www.dpea.scotland.gov.uk/CaseDetails.aspx?id=94379>



Colmonell Baby & Toddler Group

For more information on the group contact Eileen McCutcheon on 881 191.

The Ballantrae Development Group

Review of the Ballantrae Development Plan

In February the Ballantrae Community Council and the Development Group discussed what had been achieved by the Development Group in the last 3 years and considered a first draft of priorities for the future. The ideas generated in these discussions were incorporated in a 4 page publication which was delivered to every house in the village in advance of a public consultation held in BRICC House on Saturday 3 May. Those who attended the consultation took the opportunity to discuss the various priorities with us and give us their views. Others sent us their views electronically. We are now collating the information received - that will allow us to finalise the plan over the coming months. More information will be included in the next edition of the Stinchar Valley Magazine. We are grateful to South Ayrshire's Community Development Fund for providing some financial assistance to allow us to hold the consultation.

Commonwealth Baton Relay passes through Ballantrae

The baton will be travelling through Ballantrae on Friday 20 June and we want to ensure it receives a really good Carrick Welcome! At the time of going to press we don't have the exact details of when it will pass through the village. Watch local press and noticeboards for details and come along to help us cheer it through the village!

Ballantrae Visitor Information Point (VIP)

We set this up last July in partnership with Craigmains Home and Garden Centre. We have just refreshed the stock of leaflets and information on what to see and do within (roughly) a 30 mile radius of Ballantrae. So whether you are a visitor or a local and you are looking for a good day out - visit the VIP for some ideas!

Ballantrae's Smugglers' Festival: 18-23 August

Detailed planning is underway to build on the success of last year's festival. While there will be some old favourites there will also be lots of new things for the whole family to participate in. This year we are keen to involve more of the communities in the surrounding area. You will find more details elsewhere in this magazine but watch local press and noticeboards for details.

Ballantrae Farmers' Markets

The first market of the season took place on Sunday 27 April and you will find a report elsewhere in this magazine. Future markets are planned for 15 June, 17 August and 5 October from 11am to 3pm at Craigmains Home and Garden Centre. Put the dates in your diary now!

Keeping Ballantrae Safe

Following on from the successful event we held in September 2012 we are currently in discussion with the Carrick Policing Team about running another event in the Autumn with the emphasis on "How to avoid Scams" and "The pros and cons of having a local Neighbourhood Watch scheme". Watch out for details in the next edition of the Stinchar Valley Magazine and also watch local press for details.

Ballantrae Rural Initiative Care In The Community Ltd

Day Opportunity Centre

Ballantrae Rural Initiative Care in the Community Ltd (B.R.I.C.C.) Care Agency was established in 1999 as a company limited by guarantee and a charity with the aim of providing a Care at Home service to frail and vulnerable people living in the South Carrick area and/or the Stinchar Valley to enable them to maintain their independence and remain in their own homes for as long as possible and we are regulated and inspected by the Care Inspectorate and our reports and grading are open for scrutiny on the Care Inspectorate website.

We accept referrals from South Ayrshire Council Social Work Departments, Doctors, hospitals and also self-referrals from individuals themselves or with the help of a family member. We also offer additional services eg Tuesday Club, Volunteer Drivers, Lunch Club etc all supported through the invaluable Thrift Shop open daily in the village.

Our latest service to support people in the local area is the Day Opportunity Centre which opened in September of last year. This new activity is registered with the Care Inspectorate and we are open for scrutiny and inspection.

At present, we operate on a Monday afternoon between the hours of 1.00pm and 3.00pm with an optional lunch being served between 12.00 noon and 1.00pm. At present the cost of each session is £6.00 with lunch costing £2.00. The session cost covers all materials, qualified staff and refreshments throughout the session.

The Day Centre is staffed by fully qualified staff supported by fully trained volunteers. Everyone has completed mandatory training in Moving and Handling, Health and Hygiene and First Aid. The Day Centre also has very strict policies and procedures regarding confidentiality and works within the National Care Standards and the SSSC Codes of Practice. The kitchen has been inspected and passed by SAC Environmental Health.

Lunch comprises a choice of homemade soup and a variety of sandwiches followed by a cup of tea or coffee with biscuits/cakes. We have become very adept at providing hearty, healthy and tasty soups catering for all tastes and if necessary dietary requirements. There is always a choice of soup and sandwiches but we are open to suggestions.

We have participated in a variety of activities since September including:

- Low impact/chair exercises suitable for everyone irrespective of mobility or ability
- Held reminiscence sessions with input from local people who have expert knowledge
- Entertainers from the local area and the local primary school
- We have been on a bus outing to Portpatrick which gave people the opportunity to enjoy the bus run and also a welcomed ice-cream.
- Spent time making Easter Bonnets
- Grown our own pots of daffodils
- Held our own "mini Olympics"
- Participated in quizzes and board games
- Supported with form filling

We also provide a drop-in facility for S.I.S.G. Ayrshire Hearing Support Charity on the third Monday of every month where a fully trained volunteer is available to offer support to change the battery of your hearing aid, clean your mould, renew your tubing and generally offer advice and assistance. There is no charge for this service.

In some instances we can offer support with transport to and from the Day Centre if this is a barrier to your attending. This is a very new service and we are hoping to develop it further and offer more sessions as required. If you would like more information about the Day Centre or any of the other services B.R.I.C.C. can offer then we look forward to hearing from you and answering any questions that you may have.

Tel: 01465 831380

Email: lynne.mcilwraith@btconnect.com
bricc@btconnect.com

Post: Ballantrae Rural Initiative Care in the Community, 12 Main St, Ballantrae KA26 0NB



What a busy term we've had in school from Christmas to Easter. There never seems to be a dull moment.



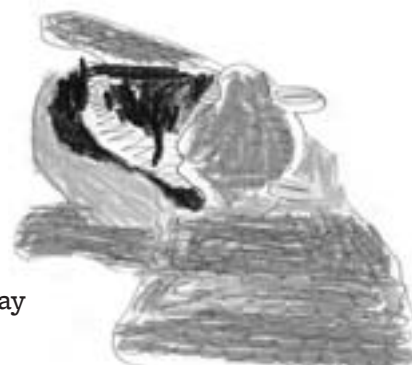
SPELLING BEE (photographs page 32)

We recently held a Spelling Bee from Primary 1 to 7, which all children took part in. This was a fun way to raise the awareness of how important spelling is in our day to day lives, particularly in this modern age of 'text speak'. Our overall winners were Arran Kosak, Primary 3 and Tyler Robertson, Primary 7, with many other children doing particularly well. Well done also to Mrs Claire Strain, our parent winner.

SCOTS POETRY COMPETITION (drawing of Crocodile p1/2)

Many thanks to Mrs Jean Dunlop who recently came into school to judge our Scots Poetry competition. Again, all children competed and there were some 'gey gesserant' (brilliant) wee speakers amongst our children. Our winners were as follows:

| | | |
|---|-----|------------------------------|
| Wallace Lambie | P 1 | The Crocodile (right) |
| Kelsey Edwards | P 2 | The Snawman |
| Rosie Cosslett | P 3 | Voodoo for Miss Maverick |
| Chloe MacIntyre & Kelleigh Mawer | P 4 | Jenny wi the Mumps |
| Jenna MacKinnon | P 5 | The Ballad of Janitor MacKay |
| Robyn Agnew | P 6 | Willie Wastle |
| Zak Jenkins | P 7 | Address to the Toothache |



Scots is particularly important within our school as a Curriculum for Excellence recognises the importance of our cultural background within Scotland. Next session, a further addition to the curriculum will be the teaching of an additional second language within primary schools. This may very well be Scots.

Many thanks to Girvan Burns Club for donating winning prizes of Burns Poetry books to our school.

PRIMARY ENGINEERING

This year we took part in the Primary Engineering Challenge. Children from primary 1 to Primary 7 had to design a vehicle with varying specifications to take part in three different challenges. Apprentice Engineer 1 children (Primary 1s and 2s) had to design a moving car from a shoe box. Apprentice Engineer 2 children (Primary 3 and 4) had to design a moving car from a shoe box and include some safety features. Engineer 1 (children from Primary 5-7) had to design a car based on a wooden rectangular frame, which used motors, gears and pulleys in order to make it go forwards and backwards and up varying degrees of ramps. Vehicles had to be able to travel in a straight line and were also judged on how far they travelled. In local authority heats, Apprentice Engineer winners overall were Lily Kosak and Noah Jenkins, both primary 1 from Ballantrae Primary school. Runners up in the Local authority heats for apprentice engineer 2 were Jessica Orr (Ballantrae) and Alexander Patterson (Colmonell), and representing Ballantrae Primary were Erin Stevenson, Abbie Littlejohn and Adam McCulloch, all primary 7s, who performed very well.

(Photograph of car and winners pages 31-32)

Runners up and winners from the local authority heats went forward to a final competition in Glasgow. A huge well done to Jessica Orr and Alexander Patterson who won Apprentice Engineer 2 overall in the Scottish Regional Finals. We are incredibly proud of our budding engineers of the future!

DOLPHIN HOUSE (pictures page 32)

In March our Primary 6 and 7 pupils spent a week at the Dolphin House in Culzean, where they took part in a range of activities from hill walking to abseiling and skiing. By working outdoors and becoming aware of the environment and how to protect it, our Primary 6/7 children have achieved their John Muir Award. They stayed for three nights in the Dolphin House log cabin and shared their week with a small group of children from Braehead Primary school. Many new friendships were made and a fun and exciting time was had by all.



Ballantrae Flower Show

“Those Dalduff pies are without doubt the best quality pies that I have ever tasted!”

That was a response from a satisfied customer after the recent Ballantrae Farmers' Market. Ballantrae held its fourth Farmers' Market at Craigmains Garden Centre on Sunday 27th April and even with a slight “shore” breeze the customers came out in their droves and went home with a mixture of pies and steaks from Dalduff, pork chops and sausages from Nethergate Larder, fresh free-range poultry and eggs from Brochneil Girvan, vegetables from Dowhill, a selection of cakes and desserts from the local baking stall, crafts and cakes from Barr Stores, soaps from Caurnie Soaps and chocolate from Threepwood Fayre.

The Ballantrae Farmers' Market is really turning into being a regular event for those who are wanting to pick up some really good produce at an excellent price. As one stall holder said “we are now starting to see regular customers coming back again and again”. Add to this the ability to browse and buy at the Craigmains Garden Centre before stopping for a snack or a coffee in their tearoom, or for the young (or young at heart) a trip on the train; the Ballantrae Farmers' Market really is becoming a fantastic way to spend a few hours on a Sunday and buy all the ingredients in the one place to make a truly local Sunday Dinner at the same time.

The next Ballantrae Farmers' Market at Craigmains is on Sunday the 15th June at 11am until 3pm, with two more this year on 17th August and 5th October. With all the regular stalls being augmented with continuously changing produce as the seasons progress, come and visit and see what is new to impress your taste buds.

We hope to see you there
The Ballantrae Development Group

NOTE TO LOCAL FOOD PRODUCERS

The Ballantrae Farmers' Market is now well established and successful. But we could still accommodate a few more stalls, so why not join us? Contact Colin McNally on 07778 872 028 to discuss this further

Saturday 30th August

The Ballantrae & District Horticultural Society Open Flower Show 2014 takes place on Saturday 30th August in Ballantrae Village Hall. The show is open from 2.00pm until 4.00pm.

The schedules, listing the entry categories and an entry form, will be available from either Craigmains Garden Centre or by telephoning Linden Hunt on 01465 831 207. Categories include flowers, vegetables, baking and handicrafts. There are twenty categories for junior entrants.

All entries must be submitted on entry forms from this year's schedule only and completed entry forms may be delivered to Mrs. Linden Hunt at 1 Ailsa Drive, Ballantrae from Monday 25th August to Friday 29th August, or to the Village Hall on Friday 29th August from 6.30pm to 8.30pm.

Exhibits may be staged on Friday 29th., 6.30pm to 8.30pm, or on Saturday 30th. from 8.00am until 9.45am. Judging will commence at 10.00am.





An Independent View

How time flies when you're having fun so the saying goes and it's hard to believe that it has been two years since I had the privilege of being Elected as a South Ayrshire councillor for Ward 8 Girvan and South Carrick. During that time I have worked with all of the communities within the ward to help and assist whenever possible. What is quite clear to me is the fact that all of us are dependent on one another and that working in isolation does not produce a positive outcome. This does not mean that each community does not have their own priorities which have to be addressed but it does mean that we always have to recognise that working together to address wider issues throughout South Carrick will no doubt bring greater benefit to us all.

The one issue that certainly needs to be addressed throughout Carrick and indeed throughout South Ayrshire is Roads. This I believe can be stated with extreme confidence as one of the top priorities for all of our communities and I can assure you that it is also a priority for me. The new Ayrshire Roads Alliance is now up and running with the first meeting of the Ayrshire Shared Services Joint Committee having taken place on May 23rd. This is the committee with four Councillors from East Ayrshire and four from South Ayrshire which will give direction and Governance to the Alliance. As one of the South Ayrshire Councillors on this committee, I will press for measurable improvements to our roads network to make for safe driving conditions and a considerably better driving experience where less damage is caused to vehicles and the potential for accidents is reduced. Better roads are also good for our rural areas by giving a significant boost to the tourist related economy and encouraging drivers to come back and enjoy all that is good in Carrick and throughout South Ayrshire instead of sending drivers away with a negative perception of the area.

Summer is upon us and apart from enjoying all of the local fairs, events and galas, this year we have the Commonwealth Games in Glasgow which will put Glasgow and indeed Scotland to the forefront of sports coverage and hopefully raise the profile of the country for tourism. It will also be the year when one of the most important events in the last three hundred years will take place as Scotland goes to the polls in September to vote in the Independence Referendum. It is not for me to advise one way or another only to say that whatever you decide make sure and use your vote.

Hopefully during the summer season you will have the opportunity to have a break from work and the chance to enjoy some quality time with the family, friends and relatives. Whatever you do or wherever you go, take things easy have a good time and come back with the batteries charged and fully refreshed.

Alec Clark

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

Alert Systems For Peace of Mind

Nowadays, we all want peace of mind and to know that help can be summoned quickly if we need it. Whether we live alone or have a relative who lives alone there is always the "what if" scenario but having an alert system installed gives the reassurance of knowing that help can be summoned 24 hours a day, 365 days a year just by pressing a button.

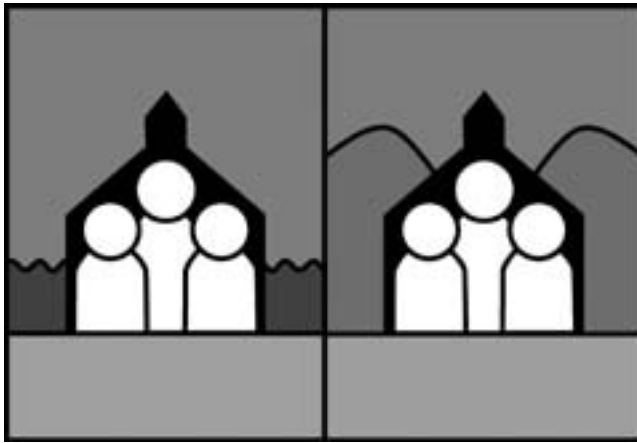
Generally, all alert systems come with a box unit that has two leads – one plugs into the phone line and the other into a mains socket. They come with a choice of either a neck pendant or a wrist alarm, both of which are shower-proof. All alert system clients require two local contacts (about 20 minutes maximum away) so that they can respond if the system is activated. If the contacts cannot be reached the emergency services will be contacted to respond.

If you require help you just push the button and this will alert the call centre who will speak to you via the loudspeaker in the alarm base unit. The very sensitive microphone and loudspeaker will let them hear you even if you are in another room. They already know who you are and where you live so this saves valuable time. They will ask you what the problem is and arrange for help to get to you as soon as possible – even if you can't speak help will be sent.

Unfortunately, unless people meet quite strict criteria and have recurring medical issues these alarms need to be funded privately. There is a one-off payment in the region of £100 for an engineer to install the system and a monthly charge of about £15.00 but this equates to about 50p a day.

If you would like any further information please contact your local Social Services Department or: Ballantrae Rural Initiative Care in the Community Ltd, 12 Main Street, Ballantrae Girvan Ayrshire - Tel: (01465) 831380





Ballantrae Church linked with St Colmon Church

There is no doubt that one of the biggest events in Scotland this year is the Commonwealth Games. Unlike the Olympic Games which happened in distant London, these games are taking place just up the road in Glasgow. I am sure some of you applied for tickets and hopefully many of you were fortunate enough to get some and are looking forward to attending. My family and I applied for a few events and got tickets for Athletics at Hampden Park on the 29th July. However even if you don't have a ticket, I hope you make the effort to welcome the baton as it is carried through Ballantrae and other Ayrshire towns and villages on 20th June.

While the focus is on the sporting events and the achievements that people from all over the world will gain, it is Scotland's opportunity to live up to the reputation we have of being a friendly, hospitable nation. Churches across Scotland are working together to show the love of God to all those that come to the games, under the umbrella organisation called More Than Gold.

On their website (www.morethangold2014.org.uk) they describe their aim is "to enable Christians and churches, working together, to serve their communities, the city of Glasgow and the larger Commonwealth Games family. It seeks to mobilise the Christian community to serve through generous hospitality, social care, outreach and active prayer, demonstrating the relevance of the church today and leaving a legacy of Christian love beyond the 2014 Games."

So as we attend the events, or as we watch them on the TV, let us remember those in Glasgow who will be working very hard to show God's love through acts of service to all those who will gather for the Commonwealth Games. In addition, even if it is not to people involved in the Games, let us do all we can to be hospitable, caring and supportive to all those who visit our communities this summer.

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

Stephen



FORTHCOMING EVENTS

Ballantrae Church Fair

Saturday 26th July at 2pm in Ballantrae Community Centre. Crafts, books, baking, hamper, tombola, bric-a-brac, plants & produce, games, car wash, and teas.

St Colmon Church Fair

Saturday 2nd August at 2pm next to and in our newly extended Church Hall. Jewellery, bric-a-brac, books, baking, tombola, plants & produce, games, and teas.

Church Information

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

St Colmon Parish Church

10am every Sunday in Colmonell, with Sunday Club for all children and young people from 3 years old. 3pm on the third Sunday of the month in Barrhill Memorial Hall. Monthly All Age services are held at 10am in the Kirk Hall to give access to worship for those who find the Church steps are a challenge.

Ballantrae Parish Church

11:30am every Sunday in Ballantrae with Sunshine Club for all children 0 to 12 years old. We also have a midweek service once a month on a Wednesday at 11am and our Evening Celebration which is usually on the first Sunday of the month at 7:30pm.

If you want to contact Stephen, our minister, to check service times or any other reason, his details are:
Rev Stephen Ogston, The Manse, 1 The Vennel, Ballantrae, KA26 0NH - 01465 831 252 - ogston@macfish.com
Websites: www.ballantraeparishchurch.org.uk - www.stcolmonparishchurch.org.uk
We are also on Facebook as 'Ballantrae Church' and 'StColmon Church'



Full details of these and additional events will appear in the Summer edition of this magazine, on our facebook page "Ballantrae Village Gala Week", and on the Ballantrae website www.ballantrae.org.uk

As many of you are aware the money raised from the Gala goes towards the upkeep of the Community Centre. This year, money raised from the Gala, along with a £1000 grant from South Ayrshire Council, paid for new stage curtains to replace the very old curtains which did not meet current fire regulations. We are very pleased with the new curtains and the whole hall looks better. Feel free to pop in and see them when you are passing.

Thank you to everyone who has helped and supported the Gala Week in the past. Every year we think it is the biggest yet, and every year more people turn out to help or just enjoy the many events. Our aim is to make the Gala enjoyable and affordable for the whole family and we will continue to do this as much as we can. Last year the weather was very good to us so fingers crossed this year will be the same. If you have any queries please do not hesitate to call Sharon on 07798710481, To book a stall please call Claire on 07742246827. We hope to see you all at some or all of the events over the week.

Gala Week Diary Dates

Friday 13 JUNE - 7PM

CROWNING OF BALLANTRAE GALA QUEEN AND KING
Ballantrae Community Centre. There will be entertainment, refreshments with home baking and a raffle.

Saturday 28 JUNE - 6PM

**JOHN BOYD MEMORIAL
FISHING COMPETITION**

Ballantrae foreshore. This is a very popular and well attended event with fun for all the family – not just the people fishing. Contact Robert McIlwraith for more details on 01465 831431.

Sunday 29 JUNE - 7PM

CHURCH SERVICE

Ballantrae Church. This year the service will be at the start of the Gala. Thanks to Rev. Stephen Ogston for once again organising this.

Monday 30 JUNE - 6.45 - 7.15PM - Staggered Starts

CAR TREASURE HUNT

Kings Arms Ballantrae. Another popular event for all age groups.

Tues 1 - Fri 4 JULY - (Final on Friday after the Parade)

FOOTBALL TOURNAMENT

Recreational field. Sponsored by McCulloch Rail. This is proving to be more popular every year and it is great to see teams coming from further afield to compete in this very competitive event. Contact Gordon McIlwraith on 01465 831506

Friday 4 JULY - 6pm

PARADE OF FLOATS & FANCY DRESS

Recreational field. This has made a revival in the last two years and has been very well supported by local groups and residents. There is a trophy for the winners and free juice and crisps provided for the children.

Saturday 5 JULY - 1PM Start

GALA DAY

Recreational field. There will be stalls, beer tent, tea tent, burgers, face painting, sand art, characters for the children, bouncy castle, clown with balloons, pet show, trophy tug o' war, sports, a display by the Coast Guard, raffle and many more attractions. We are working hard to keep the Gala Day fresh and we are open to any ideas. Last year's sheep shearing was very popular and we are also trying to secure water balls. A fun and family friendly day is promised for all ages.

Sunday 6 JULY - 1PM

LOUISE KNOX MEMORIAL

BOWLER/NON-BOWLER COMP.

Ballantrae Bowling Green. Sponsored by Gordon McIlwraith, the fishmonger. Family event with refreshments and raffle.

Full details of these and additional events will appear, on our facebook page "Ballantrae Village Gala Week", and on the Ballantrae website www.ballantrae.org.uk

If you have any queries please do not hesitate to call Sharon on 07798710481. To book a stall please call Claire on 07742246827. We hope to see you all at some or all of the week's events!

Glenapp Castle, Ballantrae

**Glenapp Castle, the five star Relais & Châteaux hotel
in Ayrshire, Scotland, Head Chef, Matt Worswick.**

To check availability and to make your booking:

Ballantrae, Ayrshire, KA26 0NZ Tel: +44(0)1465 831 212

Email: info@glenappcastle.com www.glenappcastle.com

Sunday Lunch

A gourmet 3 Course Set Sunday Lunch for only £29.50 per person.
Served from 12.30 to 2.00pm. A prior reservation is required.

Afternoon Tea

A Luxury afternoon tea at £19.50 per person served from 2.30pm to 5.00pm Monday to Saturday and from 3.30pm to 5.00pm on Sunday.
A prior reservation is required

Glenapp Castle Luxury Gift Vouchers

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



Kings Arms Hotel

BALLANTRAE

A warm welcome awaits you in the well stocked lounge and public bars and good food in our restaurant. Sit in or carry out pizza now available.

Your hosts, Suzanne and Brian Stirling, look forward to welcoming you.

| | |
|---------|--|
| ADDRESS | Kings Arms Hotel, Main St, Ballantrae |
| TEL | 01465 831 202 |
| EMAIL | info@kingsarmsballantrae.com |
| WEB | www.kingsarmsballantrae.com |

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e-mail howard.balkissock@btinternet.com

Pinwherry Women's Rural Institute

Remember we meet on the
2nd Monday of each month at
7.30pm, in Pinwherry Village
Hall, and that we are always
open for new members. You
will get a warm welcome.

If you would like more details
then please contact:
Mrs Jean Wyllie President
841279 or Mrs Pat Guthrie:
Secretary - 841 236

Pinwherry Bridge CCTV

Residents in Pinwherry can
help reduce costs for South
Ayrshire Council and council
tax payers by reporting any
damage to Pinwherry Bridge.
If damage is reported as soon
as it happens, South Ayrshire
Council can retrieve the
CCTV footage and claim from
the insurance of the driver
who has done the damage.
**Contact details for the
Council's Bridges Section
are as follows:-**

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

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

Local contact:

John McAlley
Email: j.mcalley@btinternet.com
Tel.No. 01465 841198

Qigong



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

The Ballantrae Qigong classes resume on Monday 1st September at 10.45am. in Ballantrae Community Centre. The term will be divided into two halves of six one hour lessons each:

1st September to 13th October and 20th October to 24th November. The charge for each half term will be £18 if paid in full at the first lesson, or £5 per lesson if paid as individual lessons. You are guaranteed a friendly welcome.

FREE TRIAL

Not sure if Qigong is for you? Come along to the class on Monday 1st September and try it. If it's not for you, it will cost you nothing – if you like it, we would be delighted to have you join our group. The more members we get, the less we have to charge.

If you would like any more information, please contact Janice Ross (Secretary) on 01465 831347.

Lost, Found, For Sale & Wanted

Why not use this magazine to let your neighbours know what you need help with or what you would like to buy or sell? You could save yourself some money, time and a longer journey.

4 or 6 panel doors circa 1910

Taken out of the Kirk Hall in Colmonell. If you wish to view them contact Claire on 841644.

1970 MG Midget 1500:

Heritage vehicle (Tax exempt)
Contact Editor (01465 841 198)

Balkissock Lodge for sale

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



Alec Oattes

Education, Education, Education

In my role as a Councillor, I receive invitations to many events. One of my recent pleasant duties was to attend the Girvan Academy Arts Festival in early April. As usual I was completely bowled over by the skills on show from singers, dancers and musicians. It was a brilliant display of talent from all of the performers.

It is gratifying to know there is so much good work going on at Girvan Academy and I would like to thank all staff and pupils for their hard work in producing this showcase of talent.

I was also privileged to attend the Award Ceremony for three talented artists from Girvan Academy who won the Tesco Bank Art National Competition. This competition was open to 11,200 entries from all over Scotland and Robyn McGeorge, Becca Patterson and Tania McTaggart were awarded prizes in the Group Category. This competition is run in conjunction with the National Galleries of Scotland and again shows the good work being done by teachers and students of Girvan Academy.

I also attended the Dailly Primary School Burns Supper in February which was a delightful experience. Again the talent on show was brilliant, the works and memory of Robert Burns will surely be kept alive by these young pupils, if this display of poetry & song is anything to go by.

In continuing the education theme, it was pleasing to note the success of Jessica Orr from Ballantrae Primary and Alexander Patterson from Colmonell Primary in the UK wide Primary Engineers final in the level two category. The competition is designed to boost confidence and competence in the subjects of science, technology, engineering and mathematics known as STEM subjects.

The STEM theme was part of a week-long project by Barr Primary, Barrhill Primary and Invergarven School. I was happy to attend the prize giving ceremony for pupils from these three schools where terrific enthusiasm was shown by all of the pupils.

It is pleasing to note that in spite of recent criticism from Audit Scotland on the performance of South Ayrshire Council, the Council has a high rating in achieving educational standards and compares very well with other Councils across Scotland.

In finishing, I would like to wish all the readers of the Stinchar Valley Magazine a pleasant summer, let's hope and pray for some good weather for the galas and festivals taking place in South Carrick over the summer period.



Today I went on A Picnic

today's date



In our gang of picnickers were:

my Parents / my friends /

aliens / scouts / brownies

/ my dog Someone else

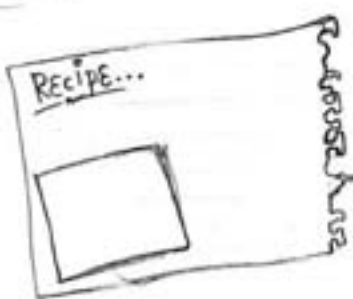
We ate our picnic:



In our picnic basket



OUR Menu



We had great fun on our picnic



We made



We HEARD



WE PLAYED



We Explored

Daisy



Bumblebee



discover and investigate

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discover and investigate

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Ladybird



Flowers



discover and investigate

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learning through the seasons

www.naturedetectives.org.uk



from the archives . . .

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

Colmonell Main Street looking Northwards



Golfers at Parkend Ballantrae - circa early 1900s



DO YOU HAVE ANY PHOTOGRAPHS OR INFORMATION ?

Do you have any old photographs or information about the local area that you wouldn't mind us copying for future reference? We would look after them and return them to you unharmed. We are particularly short of photographs of Barr and Barrhill. Please contact Keith and Christine Brown at kaycee.history@gmail.com

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

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

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THE SMALL PRINT

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East Ayrshire Car Club



**PINWHERRY AUTOGRASS
SUNDAYS | 11am START**

| | |
|----------|----------|
| 15th JUN | 13th JUL |
| 10th AUG | 7th SEP |

Meetings take place at Hallow Chapel Farm, Pinwherry, KA26 0RW
Contact Leonard on 07821 241 454 or Jimmy on 07900 375 150



AM

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The Community Rail Partnership For Carrick And Wigtownshire

Girvan Railway Station,
Girvan KA26 9JF
E-mail: saylsa@tiscali.co.uk
01465 714665
www.saylsa.org.uk

Simply the best!

The Stranraer line is the best performing rural railway line in Scotland following the release of figures by the Office of Rail Regulation that show passenger numbers on

the Stranraer line increased dramatically in 2012/13 and are nearly up to the level reached when ferry services operated out of the town.

The number of passenger journeys is up a staggering 14.4% and the 60-mile line to Stranraer has outperformed the West Highland Line to Fort William, the West Highland line extension to Mallaig, the Kyle of Lochalsh line, the Oban line and the Far North line to Wick and Thurso. Indeed all the Highland lines saw a reduction in passenger numbers last year except the Far North line which returned growth figures of 0.6%

SAYLSA's Chair John McCutcheon said, "It is gratifying to see that the hard work put into marketing the line and the publication of our credit card sized timetables has paid off and proves that with the right effort this line can thrive. It is vitally important that under the new franchise through trains are maintained to the Central Belt aiding tourism and stimulating growth and the Board have

emphasised this point to prospective bidders"

Over a quarter of a million people used the Stranraer line and for the first time this did not include any ferry passengers, which ceased using the port in November 2011. Of the 255,978 passenger journeys the largest increase was at Maybole up 21% and Stranraer increased by 20% no doubt aided by the two-month ticket promotion during August and September 2012. Numbers were up at Barrhill and Girvan too, by 8%.

The numbers also vindicated the effort put into promoting the line by SAYLSA Scotland's only undesignated community rail partnership. Prior to their formation in 2007 passenger numbers grew by 10% but latest figures show that growth since then has been nearly three times higher at 29.4%. By contrast other stations fared less well. Despite an increase in services, Ayr grew by just 1%, Troon by 2% and Irvine 3%.

**For more information on the work of SAYLSA contact:
Richard Carr 07977 139447**



Meetings are held in Pinwherry Hall on the 3rd Wednesday of the month.

A warm welcome is extended to new members and friends. The charge for visitors is £3.00 which includes tea / coffee. We look forward to greeting old and new faces at our meetings.

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

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as above

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Chair@sasf.co.uk
0792 581 335**

The Kettle's On Again In Barr

The beautiful weekend weather brought the Easter crowds flocking to Barr Village where the Village's charity teas staged its first event of the year. Organisers had been hoping for around 100 visitors to take advantage of the fine weekend to come to the village and sample the home made cakes and scones on offer at the village hall. In the event, around 150 hungry and thirsty day trippers as well as locals turned up looking for a 'cuppa' and the volunteer staff were hard pressed throughout the afternoon keeping pace with the steady stream of visitors. At one stage it looked as though the larder was going to be bare as the scones began to run out but in the end, everyone went away well-fed and well satisfied.

Barr Community Shop and Café attended Ballantrae Farmers Market on Sunday 27th April, the day was blustery and cold, but very enjoyable. Judy Brzezinka, Sue and Ricky Sweet helped to man the stall. We had a variety of goods on display, from delicious home made cakes, quilting crafted in Barr and handmade cards made in the village. Senior members of the village enjoy these home made cakes on a regular basis in the Café, where we hold a special "get together" every Tuesday between 11am and 1pm, and anyone who is of retirement age is welcome to come along and have a cup of tea or coffee and a slice of cake or a scone for £1.50.

We are collecting bric-a-brac for a stall at Barr Gala on Saturday 7th June, please bring your unwanted items to the shop or contact Sue Sweet on 01465 861223/861221 for further information. The shop and café will be open as usual on the day and we can provide snacks, crisps, cold drinks, sweets, tea and coffee, together with ice-cream from our brand new freezer. On the 22nd June, the new sun dial mosaic is going to be revealed, and the staff at the shop are planning to set up some fun games for the children in the village, a car boot sale is also planned by the village school.

BARR NEWS



Barr Bowling Club

ISOBEL Wood is pictured throwing the first jack of the season as Barr's bowlers celebrated the opening of the greens at the beginning of this month. Isobel did the honours as wife of this year's President Alan Wood who welcomed a good turnout of members to the opening day of the 2014 season.

Greenkeeper Alan Ringrose had worked hard to ensure that the greens were ready for the 20 bowlers who turned up for the opening day's play and it is hoped that this augurs well for the future of the club with an anticipated 30 members joining this year. Missing from the greenside this year were the rhododendron bushes which have been drastically pruned during the close season. It is hoped that this will help to reduce the 'midgie' population which has made life difficult for bowlers over the years.

For the first time in a number of years the club has joined the Maybole & District league competition in which bowlers from around the Carrick area will compete in a 'home and away' triples competition.

Club competitions are held each Tuesday evening and Sunday afternoons. New members will be made more than welcome and guests are welcome to play. Membership is £20 (£10 for seniors) and should be paid to Isobel Ringrose, this year's secretary.



Barr Gala Day

The Barr Community Association is putting the finishing touches to plans for another bumper Gala Day. Saturday, June 7th has already been earmarked for the celebration which this year will take on a topical "Commonwealth Games" theme.

Once again there will be a full programme of events throughout the day with something for everyone to enjoy. One new innovation will be the Pet Show which will take place in the area of the Putting Green and it's hoped that there will be a good turnout of youngsters with a wide variety of their pets. It's also hoped that the Fell Race will attract runners from around the area as well as from the village as efforts are being made to contact running clubs in Ayrshire in the hope that they'll come to the village to take part in the race over Auchensoul.

One thing which will definitely be different this year is that, for the first time ever, there won't be the traditional crowning of the Gala day Queen. The reason? For the first time, Barr primary doesn't have a girl in Primary 6, from whose ranks the Queen is traditionally chosen. Instead, two P6 boys will take on the 'royal' duties for the year.

GALA DAY PROGRAMME

| | |
|-------------|---|
| Fell Race | 10.30pm start - Register from 10.00 am. |
| Gala Parade | 1.30pm |
| Stalls open | 1.45pm |
| Pet Show | 3.00pm |

Hog Roast in the King's Arms Beer garden

Afternoon Teas in the village hall

Evening Dance - Music by 'Surreal' - Tickets priced £3.50

New Play Park in Barr Gets Funding

The Barr Parish Development Company is delighted to announce that their application for grant funding to build a new playpark for the village of Barr has been successful. The village has been trying to replace the dilapidated play equipment for many years, and the generosity of Carrick Futures and the Hadyard Hill Community Benefit Fund has at last made it a reality. Now the people and children of the village and visitors will be able to make use of exciting new play equipment, including a zip wire, flexiswings, spring mobiles, climbers and multiplay units.

BPDC is grateful to Carrick Futures and the Hadyard Hill Community Benefit Fund. Special thanks also go also to David Lowdon at South Ayrshire Council, and to the Forestry Commission, who dug the drainage free of charge. For more info visit: www.barrvillage.co.uk/community/council/play-area



Quilters Summer Lottery

The importance of volunteer services to local rural communities was recognised when the Stinchar Valley Quilters launched their Summer lottery. The Barr-based Quilters (pictured left) have been hard at work for the last two months on crafting a distinctive quilt which will be the 1st prize.

On the receiving end of their generosity will be Ayrshire Cancer Support, the local Community Action Network volunteer transport service which offers the elderly and infirm in the area help in getting to hospital and health centre appointments and the Scottish Charity Air Ambulance Service which is often a vital lifeline when emergencies strike.

Susan Trotter, the Quilter's President said "We have had two of our ladies affected by breast cancer so we have designed and sewn a predominantly pink quilt and will be supporting Ayrshire Cancer Support who will receive a share of the money raised. In addition we wanted to recognise the importance for rural areas of transport links to vital services which often people living in the cities take for granted. So the Girvan CAN volunteer transport service and the Air Ambulance were seen as two other services which also deserve our support."

It is hoped that the raffle will raise around £3000 to be shared with the three charitable causes. The draw takes place at the Gala Day Dance on June 7th.

Wilma Says It With Flowers

The Parish Church celebrated Easter with a giant daffodil cross in the church grounds (right) which was quite a talking point amongst the many visitors who flocked to the village during the fine holiday weather on Easter Sunday. It was crafted by Wilma Gracie who is pictured making some adjustments to her fine floral display.



School Runs A Mile For Sport Relief

A large turnout packed the village hall for the pre-Christmas performance of Snow White, this year's School Pantomime. All classes including the Nursery class took part and they gave a tremendous performance which delighted all who attended. They are pictured just before going on stage for their big night (left).

Recommended Tradesmen

Would you recommend good work?

Plumber

by Frank Bean
26/11/12

Carpet Fitter

By Frank Bean
26/11/12

Computer Problems

By Jim Fleming
08/11/13

Electrician

By Jim Fleming
08/11/13

Gardening

By Jim Fleming
08/11/13

Eric Gibson

01465 714 791
07522 672 767

Mark Foster

01465 71884
07722 892 263

Robert Carty

01465 479 176
07523 847 119

John Foster

01655 331 257
07526 464 524

Fraser Wallace

01465 831 487
wallace632@

Painting & Decorating

By Ruth Murray

Plumbing/Heating

By John McAlley
08/01/14

Appliance Repairs

By Peter Newland
24/01/14

Plumb/Gas Engineer

By Claire Pirrie
26/01/14

Electrician

By Claire Pirrie
26/01/14

btinternet.com

Ian Picken

07814 962 695

Eric Hyslop

01671 402 646
heat@ehyslop-ltd.com

Howard Galley

01465 831 537

Ross McCulloch

01292 550 954
07766 978 568

Gavin Campbell

01655 882 208
07989 583 238

Scout About With Ballantrae Scouts

Kites were flying high over Ballantrae beach on our Kite Fest. The wind was excellent this year and everyone had a great time. Some of the kites were so high and the wind so strong it was difficult for the Cubs and Beavers to manage. It was an opportunity to show off our new Mess Tent which we were able to buy with a grants from The Scottish Scout Development Fund and SCOTMID.

The Cubs have had a very busy time since Christmas. They have completed the DIY badge by making bird boxes, and the Healthy Eating Badge - cooking pancakes, pizzas, smoothies and healthy sandwiches. They competed in the Margaret McClusky Challenge but as they have won for the last two years they let Crosshill win this time!

Scouts have also gained their Cooking Badge and some their Artist Badge. Some Scouts are keen to do their Photographers Badge.

Now that the light nights are here all our Scout will be outside, and all are looking forward to a weekend camp at the end of May and a summer camp in July.





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Local & Interesting Web Sites

| | |
|-----------------------------------|--|
| Age Concern Girvan | www.ageconcerngirvan.org.uk |
| St Colmon Church | www.stcolmonparishchurch.org.uk |
| Ballantrae Church | www.ballantraeparishchurch.org.uk |
| Ballantrae Medical Practice | www.ballantraemedicalpractice.co.uk |
| Ballantrae Village | www.ballantrae.org.uk |
| Barhill | www.barhill.org |
| The Ancient Tree Hunt | www.ancient-tree-hunt.org.uk/project/hunt |
| Pinwherry/Pinmore | www.2pins.org.uk |
| The Stinchar Valley | www.stincharvalley.co.uk |
| The Carrick website | www.carrickayrshire.com |
| Kildonan Country House | www.kildonancountryhouse.co.uk |
| Galloway & Ayrshire Biosphere | www.sup.org.uk/biosphere/index.htm |
| Red Nose Day | www.rednoseday.com |
| The Southern Uplands Partnership | www.sup.org.uk |
| Scottish National Heritage | www.snh.org.uk |
| The Woodland Trust | www.woodlandtrust.org.uk |
| Sign the Petition Now | www.38degrees.org.uk/save-our-forests |
| Forestry Commission | www.forestry.gov.uk |
| Scottish Environmental Protection | www.sepa.org.uk |
| Girvan Camera Club | www.girvancameraclub.org.uk |
| Girvan Attractions | girvanattractions.synthasite.com |
| Red Squirrels in South Scotland | www.redsquirrels.org.uk |
| Ayrshire Rivers Trust | www.ayrshireriverstrust.org/cisp |
| Ayrshire Red Squirrel Group | www.ayrshirered squirrels.org.uk |
| ASDA Online shopping | groceries.asda.com/asda-estore/index.jsp |
| The Commonwealth Orchard | www.commonwealthorchard.com |
| The Flavours of Galloway | www.flavoursofgalloway.co.uk |
| BBC Web Wise | www.bbc.co.uk/webwise/courses |
| Going Wild | www.goingwild.net |
| The Big Wildlife Garden | www.bwg.naturalengland.org.uk |
| The Peinn Mor Pottery | www.peinnmor.co.uk |
| M.J.A Photography | www.mjaphotography.co.uk |
| Public Services all in one place | www.direct.gov.uk |
| Timetables, Fares and Bookings | www.citylinkonlinesales.co.uk |
| Library Catalogue | library.south-ayrshire.gov.uk |
| Library Services | www.south-ayrshire.gov.uk/library |
| South Ayrshire Libraries Blog | sayrshirelib.wordpress.com |
| Scottish Water | www.scottishwater.co.uk |
| BarrVillage | www.barrvillage.co.uk |
| Stagecoach | www.stagecoachbus.com/timetables |
| Community Police Team | www.strathclyde.police.co.uk/your-community/ayrshire/girvan_and_south_carrick |

Useful Contacts

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

For suspicious articles found on any beach contact the police on 999 and ask for the Coast Guard because it might have come from Beaufort's Dyke; which is the sea trench between Northern Ireland and Scotland within the North Channel. The dyke is 50 km long, 3.5 km wide and 200-300 metres deep.

THE STINCHAR VALLEY MAGAZINE

Editorial Panel

The Stinchar Valley Magazine is published by the voluntary editorial group with the valued support of the contributors, with the aim of supporting the community interest and local businesses.

The magazine is funded by Hadyard Hill and Carrick Futures grants schemes.

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Mail To The Editor

Welcome to the Summer 2014 issue of the Stinchar Valley Magazine. This publication is your chance to read and make the community news in the Stinchar Valley and surrounding region.

If you have any news you would like to send us or comments upon articles you have read in these pages please get in touch. The same goes for any additions to these pages you would like to see in the future and if you have events, clubs or anything that local people would like to attend or hear of. Would you or someone you know like to appear here in the future?

Are you from Ballantrae, Barr, Barrhill, Colmonell, Glen App, Lendalfoot or Pinwherry & Pinmore areas? For all this and anything else that crosses your mind about our communities contact the editorial team. Your input is vital. Be heard, make a difference. Items may be edited for spelling, grammar, clarity or length.

Please contact your area representatives:

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How To Send In Your Articles & Pictures

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

TEXT

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

PHOTOGRAPHS & LOGOS

Please do not place photographs in a Word document.

Photographs should be full size images straight from the camera and scanned images should be high resolution wherever possible and sent as separate attachments from your text please.

SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS

Tell us any special instructions about the layout/content of your article. What are the images about that you want included? Include any Website names and web links that are relevant.

NON-EMAIL SUPPLY OF CONTENT

If you do not have access to a computer or Email you can post or drop off material to our Editor John McAlley at: Ligliartrie Farm Pinwherry KA26 0SL. We will return any material to you.

People in the communities of the Stinchar Valley and beyond are interested in you, your club, your business and your local area:

PLEASE NOTE

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

The Editorial team wish Jim a speedy recovery and look forward to seeing him back soon.



Colomnell & Ballantrae Primary Schools



World Book Day



Easter Bonnets



The Big Pedal



Colmonell & Ballantrae working together for Primary Engineering... and the winning car!



Colomnell & Ballantrae Primary Schools



Winners Noah & Lily



Winners Jessica & Alexander

Primary Engineering



Winners Noah & Lily



Winners Jessica & Alexander



At Dolphin House



P's 1 - 7 Spelling B