

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 http://www.barrvillage.co.uk/

Barrhill www.barrhill.org.uk Ballantrae Village www.ballantrae.org.uk Pinwherry/Pinmore http://www.2pins.org.uk

Visit Scotland http://www.visitsouthernscotland.co.uk/

LOCAL INFORMATION AND THINGS TO DO

The Stinchar Valley www.stincharvalley.co.uk The Carrick website http://www.carrickayrshire.com Peinn Mor Pottery http://www.peinnmor.co.uk/

Girvan Camera Club http://www.girvancameraclub.org.uk Girvan Attractions http://girvanattractions.co.uk/ Galloway & Ayrshire Biosphere http://www.gsabiosphere.org.uk/ St Colmon Church www.stcolmonparishchurch.org.uk Ballantrae Church www.ballantraeparishchurch.org.uk

Dark Sky Park scotland.forestry.gov.uk/forest-parks/galloway-forest-park/dark-skies

LOCAL ENVIRONMENT ORGANISATIONS

Avrshire Rivers Trust www.ayrshireriverstrust.org/cisp

The Southern Uplands Partnership http://www.sup.org.uk/

Scottish Red Squirrels https://scottishsquirrels.org.uk/

Scottish Natural Heritage http://www.snh.org.uk/

The Woodland Trust http://www.woodlandtrust.org.uk Forestry Commission http://www.forestry.gov.uk/ Scottish Environmental Protection http://www.sepa.org.uk/

USEFUL HELP WEBSITES

Ballantrae Medical Practice www.ballantraemedicalpractice.co.uk

Age Concern Girvan www.ageconcerngirvan.org.uk

Public services all in one place www.direct.gov.uk

Stagecoach www.stagecoachbus.com/timetables

For timetables, fares and bookings www.citylinkonlinesales.co.uk

Scottish Water http://www.scottishwater.co.uk/

Community Police Team GirvanSouthCarrickCPT@scotland.pnn.police.uk

http://www.scotland.police.uk/your-community/ayrshire/south-ayrshire/

http://www.scottishhills.com/html/modules.php?name=Forums&file=viewtopic&t=23147 Walking Blog

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) | 101 |
| 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 |

STINCHAR VALLEY MAGAZINE



Best wishes for a Happy Christmas & New Year from your Magazine Team

NOTE FROM THE EDITOR

We hope you will enjoy the Winter 2017 issue of the Stinchar Valley Magazine. Once again, we've tried to bring you news of what's been happening in the communities in the valley and the surrounding area

As well as covering events with stories and pictures, we bring you stories from clubs and local people, useful contacts and websites, details of local businesses, something for children and items of general interest.

If you would like to submit something for a future edition, please contact me or a member of the Editorial Team — their names can be found below.

The Cover photograph was taken on the Muck Water, Pinwherry Canon EOS 450Df/5.6./1/60 sec. ISO 200. Focal length 18mm

HOW TO SEND IN YOUR ARTICLES AND PICTURES

Please email articles and pictures to your community representative or to me at the address below. If you do not have access to a computer you can post or drop off material to me at Liglartrie Farm, Pinwherry, KA26 OSL tel: 01465 841198. 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 me.

DEADLINE FOR NEXT EDITION

SPRING 2018 SUBMISSION OF ARTICLES TO REPS OR THE EDITOR IS

26th January 2018

DISTRIBUTION TO VILLAGES WILL BE W/C 05.03.2018

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.**

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|---|--------------------------------|--|--|--|--|--|
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| Colmonell | Margaret Robertson | Tel. 01465 881352 | | | | |
| Admin/Treasurer Marie McNulty | | mariemcnultyg@gmail.com Tel: 01465 841168 | | | | |

Recommended Tradesman

Have you had a good job done?

Drop us an email at Stinchar-valley-magazine@hotmail.co.uk



| TRADE | NAME | TELEPHONE | MOBILE | RECOMMENDER | DATE |
|--------------------|--------------------|--------------|--------------|-------------------|-------|
| Electrician | Gavin Campbell | 01655 882208 | 07989583238 | Jenny Macy | 01/16 |
| Plumbing/Heating | Ian Terry | 01465 712594 | 07733470874 | John Crossan | 05/16 |
| Roofer | Neil Agnew | 01776 705664 | 07763489484 | Peter Newland | 05/16 |
| Taxi | Joe's Taxi Service | 01465 713737 | | Jim Fleming | 05/16 |
| Electrician | Josh Russell | | 07533 202420 | Claire Whitehurst | 08/16 |
| Roof & leadwork | Paul Coombes | | 07732657907 | Dr McKenna | 10/16 |
| Electrical Repairs | Howard Galley | 01465 831537 | 07894433084 | Dr McKenna | 10/16 |
| Joinery | Ross Doyle | 01465 821433 | 07825141910 | Keith Dawdry | 01/17 |
| Garden Machinery | Francis Bowman | 01292 262763 | 07492433338 | Ian Terry | 01/17 |
| 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 - select roads for "Road Faults" or any other categories and complete and send form or by emailing: enquiries@ayrshireroadsalliance.org



£20 POUND WINNER!

In the Autumn edition of the magazine we invited you to tell us

"What does receiving the Stinchar Valley Magazine mean to you?".

Thank you to everyone who responded.

The lucky winner of the £20 note, whose response was drawn from all of the responses received, was Rosemary Stevenson of BRICC in Ballantrae.

Congratulations Rosemary!

AN INDEPENDENT VIEW

Well here we are again, fast approaching the year end. Where does time go when one minute we are looking forward to Spring and Summer yet in the blink of an eye Christmas and the season of goodwill is on the Horizon? It seems only yesterday that the Council Elections were taking place with hustings in Ballantrae and Girvan. However that was in May and the ruling partnership administration has not been letting the grass grow under its feet.

One of the strategic policies of this administration is to make sure that all parts of South Ayrshire are looked after and not only the urban areas around Ayr, Prestwick and Troon. Just like a Jigsaw, you need to look after all of the parts to make the big picture and that is true of all things as each part has a critical role to play for the benefit of all concerned. With that in mind each set of ward Councillors has been meeting to agree on the priorities within the ward which this administration will tackle for the benefit of all.

I'm glad to see that the new Quay Zone Girvan and South Carrick Leisure Centre is being well used and I am sure that the health and wellbeing of South Carrick residents are all the better for the use of this wonderful facility. In Girvan the new Invergarven Special Needs School is now rising from the ground in Coalpots Road just behind Girvan Academy. This new school will be most warmly welcomed by pupils, parents and staff. The new resource will have a Hydrotherapy Pool to give the youngsters massage, exercise and freedom of movement. Facilities like this were only a dream in the present school in Henrietta Street where the standards that have been met in a building which is totally unsuitable, is a credit to all of the staff who work with these children. Not too long now and the dream will become a reality. I know that it will be well used, well deserved and a wonderful place for the special need kids throughout South Carrick.

A quick thanks to Peter Walker, Mark Bradley, Alistair Jardine and others for the work they have carried out in

OPPORTUNITIES IN RETIREMENT – GIRVAN

Within our community, OiR Girvan aspires to enable as many over 50s as possible to improve their outlook, feel valued and remind themselves that age is no barrier to boosting self-esteem. Through our activity groups we seek to build a stronger community of people who will continue to appreciate how enterprising they are, and how much poorer we would be without them.

OiR Girvan runs two classes in Girvan at the Community Centre, Dalrymple Street – one for Keep Fit and one for Line Dancing. All residents over fifty of Girvan and the outlying villages are welcome.

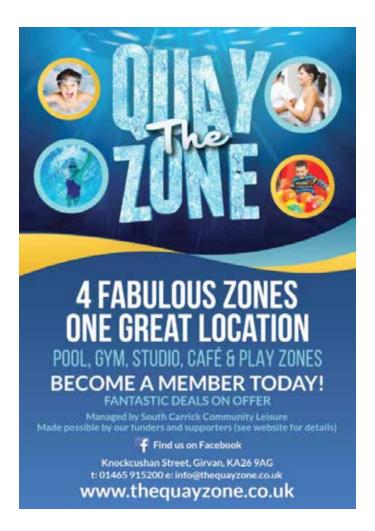


setting up the First Responders Group who will in certain circumstances be first on the scene while the ambulance makes its way to an emergency. These fully trained responders will be a first class asset to the health support of our town and villages. I would urge you to give them your full support for the wonderful voluntary job that they will carry out on your behalf.

Finally, next year is the 350th anniversary of the granting of the Girvan Burgh Charter to Thomas Boyd of Penkill. Look out for a year of Celebrations.

"A Merry Christmas and a happy New Year to you all"

Alec Clark



COUNCILLOR PETER HENDERSON, SNP



The summer can only be described as a few good days between weathers? I hope the poor weather overall has not prevented enjoyment of the many galas and shows held in the ward for everyone. The wet weather has I know caused problems for our farmers and I do sincerely hope we aren't set for a hard winter. With nights shortening it's a sign that we will soon be preparing for the festive season that I hope is special for all.

My schedule over the past few months has been extremely busy but I am hoping that the changes the new administration are putting in place are becoming apparent. Our strategic aims for the next few years have been passed by full council and we are committed to listening and acting on your concerns.

I have continued attending as many events and activities as possible throughout the ward and attended various community councils/organisations and held surgeries in all areas. I have had a full case load for constituents that I have managed to deal with. As Portfolio Holder, I attend many meetings with organisations and outside bodies on behalf of the Council as well as the board of local Charitable Trusts in the ward and South Ayrshire. This has resulted in being kept busy continuously; recently appointed as a board member of the South West Scotland Community Rail Partnership and Elected Vice Chairman for Scotland of the Industrial Communities Alliance for the

UK. This allows me to reflect and raise local issues and to seek investment and ideas for the benefit of the ward and South Ayrshire.

The job of meeting budget savings is not an easy task and there are some hard decisions to be made, however due to budget shortfalls they require to be accomplished. By working within the organisation consulting the people as to priorities and collaboration we will address the situation. I am pleased that the extension and refurbishment to Ballantrae School and Barr School preparatory work has commenced.

As well as the day to day work of the administration and constituency work there has been the opportunity to bring in innovative and practical steps in line with manifesto commitments. The trial of free meals for children during the summer holidays coupled with activities, has been extended for October and dependent on the results will be rolled out next year. I seconded motions supporting the A77 development and WASPI which were successfully passed, and supported motions on limiting high value gambling machines, LGBTI equalities, and funding for breakfast clubs. Legislative changes to council tax charges for empty homes and holiday accommodation were also passed at council.

By the time this is read we will be looking forward to Christmas and I hope that all the plays and activities are a success. For some it can be a lonely time and it is worth checking on neighbours and friends in the community.

My very best wishes for Christmas and the New Year to everyone.

Councillor Peter Henderson SNP

COUNCILLOR IAN FITZSIMMONS

Time seems to be flying by. It does not seem that long since I was writing for the autumn edition. I can mind in my teens older people told me that, as you grow older, time goes in quicker. I did not believe them. How wrong I was.

It is now time, with winter here, to be getting ready for Christmas with all the lights switch on and local concerts and parties. I will try and get to most of them. The summer has gone and I hope all your gala days went well. I managed to get to some of them. The Colmonell exhibition was a terrific event for locals and visitors alike. I was very impressed, as was Bill Grant, the local MP, who had a great afternoon at the school, at the hall, and the church.

Over the next five years I will be attending all of the village Community Councils. At the moment I am attending Pinwherry and Pinmore Community Council and I have also attended Colmonell and Lendalfoot Community Council. I must congratulate all of the members of Community Councils for the work they do for their communities and the time they give up trying to make things better for their villages.

I hope that any of your organisations that took part in the South Carrick Decision Day at Girvan Academy on the 28th October got what they wanted to help them to improve their groups. The Barrhill hall is now being renovated. Congratulations to the Committee for taking this forward. It will be a great asset for the community and I would like to wish them all the best for the future. I am desperate to see it when it is finished. The shop at Barr has become a success with all the extra things they are hoping to bring to the area. It has become a meeting place for locals and visitors. They also have a great Gala Day with



events for older residents and youngsters. Ballantrae have a lot to be proud of too, with the Smugglers events and the Festival of Food and Drink, both of which are now becoming annual events, bringing visitors to the area. Well done to everybody concerned. Pinwherry's new hall will be a great asset when it comes to fruition.

That's all for this edition. May I wish all residents of the Stinchar Valley all the best for Christmas and the New Year, and I hope you get all you wish for.

Yours

Cllr.lan Fitzsimmons.



HEALTHY & ACTIVE REHABILITATION PROGRAMME



Last month we let you all know about our HARP service in the Stinchar Valley area held at Girvan Community Hospital on a Tuesday afternoon.

Delivered across four tiers (see chart below), the Healthy and Active Rehabilitation Programme (HARP) is designed for people living with cancer, cardiac or pulmonary conditions, stroke, diabetes or a high risk of falls, and at least one other condition. Since November 2015 hundreds of people have come through our doors across the whole of Ayrshire and 21 volunteers have joined our team as Activity Friends. It has been a whirlwind and led to developments we never even imagined so we're keen to share our

approach and demonstrate our impact.

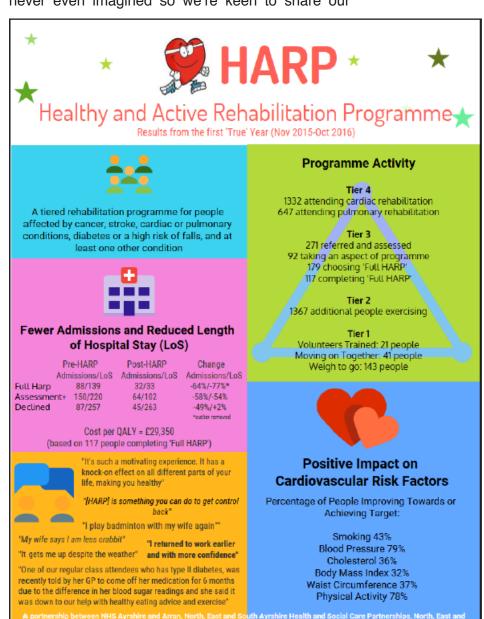
Given the nature of our programme we have looked at the "First Full Year" of HARP i.e. our activity and the outcomes achieved between November 1st 2015 and October 31st 2016. These are summarised in the infographic below.

In more recent months we've worked with colleagues at Ayrshire College to learn about Walking football

and to support their staff and students to understand the needs of people with multiple health conditions. This is a reciprocal opportunity which expands the number of activities we have on offer locally whilst supporting the development of our future workforce. You may also have seen us on social media. We've now got a twitter account (@AAA_ HARP) and a Facebook page (NHS Avrshire & Arran Cardiac Rehab and HARP) Both of these accounts appeal to clients using our services and they allow us to quickly and easily showcase our impact. Take a look at some of our featured client videos and let us know what you think.

Whilst we will continue to develop our service we hope that HARP itself will become an embedded approach to rehabilitation across Ayrshire and Arran and beyond.

If you'd like to know more or are interested in being referred into this service! Please phone the Ayr Team on (01292) 614550



A FARMING MINISTER FOR AYR PRESBYTERY



I'm Rev Chris Blackshaw the new Pioneer Farming Minister for the Ayr Presbytery. On the 1st September this year I began my work, which is very much a new venture for the Kirk as it reaches out to the Agricultural Community to show the love of Christ by the help and support it gives.

I was born into a farming family on the Chatsworth Estate in Derbyshire, on a farm that my brother still farms. I learned how to farm from my father and grandfather and I soon became able to do all farming tasks from shearing to haymaking. I have a smallholding and have a small herd of pedigree English Longhorn Cattle.

I always wanted to be a police officer and that is what I did for nearly 34 years in Derbyshire. In 2011 I retired. The last 12 years of my service I was custody Sgt in charge of 15 cells in the spa town of Buxton.

Always seeming to have had a faith I have been ecumenical in my faith journey, which began in the Church of England; it then took me to the Methodist Church (into which I am ordained) and now to the Church of Scotland. The last 4 years I have been based in Cumbria where I have had responsibility for 4 churches on a part time basis, the other half of my time I was working as Agricultural Chaplain for Cumbria, having responsibility for 10 marts. This is a ministry that I am passionate about and love dearly.

So what does a Pioneer Farming Minister really do? Some seem to think that I am there to convert them and to get them into church (that always makes me smile) that would be wonderful if it happened. In reality I am there to offer my help, support and experience in getting people through difficult times. I suppose the best way to describe it is to give examples of the work I have been doing during the past 2 years in Cumbria; I have helped and supported people who have been suicidal and wanted to end it all. I have been alongside people with mental health problems, some have been sectioned under the mental health act and have had to remain in hospital; I was there with them during this time. A farmer's daughter who had been in a bad relationship, which ended and then the traumatic loss

of her father, saw her turn to drink. She became alcohol dependent and her drinking began to affect the family farm in so many ways. I was able to encourage and support her to get help. Another farmer was facing the possibility of eviction from his farm so I helped to mediate between him and his landlord, which helped him to remain on his farm. A family dispute where a farmer's son was being violent towards his mother, a fatal farm accident where a deaf farm worker was run over and killed by a tractor. This involved bereavement support from so many angles. Matrimonial problems and isolation have also been areas I have helped in. Lobbying Members of Parliament on farming issues and the investigation of animal health issues that affect human health has also been something I have done.

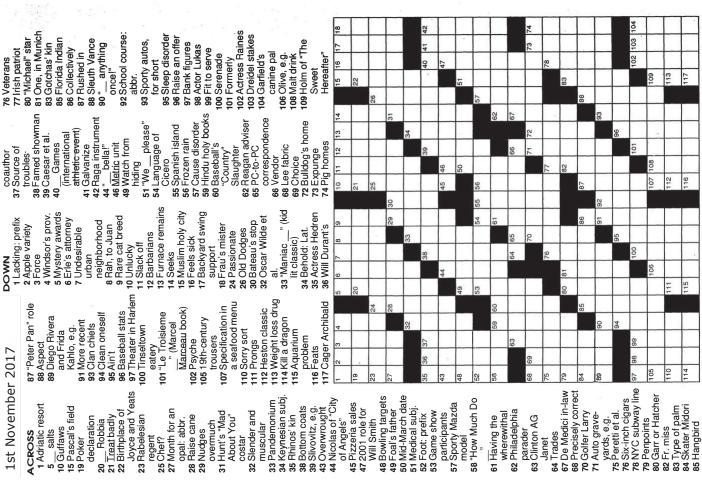
In the floods during storm Desmond 2015, I was part of the Cumbria Farmers Flood Action Group working with several agencies to help farmers who had been affected by the floods. We arranged replacement feed from across the country through Forage Aid and this saw our work recognised when we won the Farmers Guardian Hero of the Year 2016. The list is endless but I hope it gives you just a taste of what I have done and will continue to do. So you now understand why I smile when I say some people think I am here to convert them. My work does involve faith and yes I can carry out all the churchy things too. So the location for me has changed but the work remains the same and I bring with me a good amount of experience of working in this field (no pun intended).

So if you are involved in Agriculture and things are becoming too much for you, or you just want to meet me and chat then please contact me, do not suffer in silence. I am here to listen and to help you work through your problems and you will be surprised there is usually a solution to them.

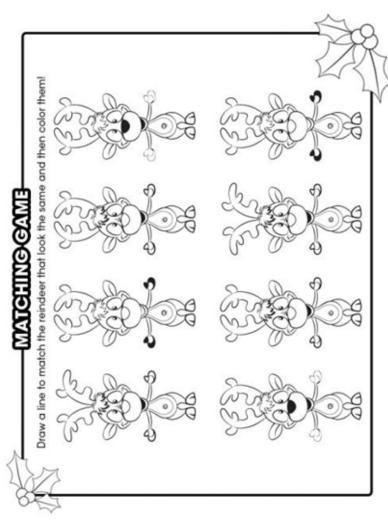
If you want to follow me I am on social media. On twitter I am @AyrFarmers on Face Book I am Ayrshire Farmers Church Support.

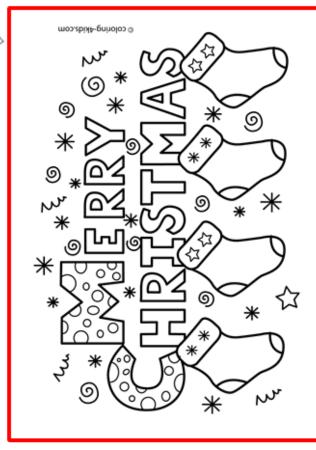
You can also email me cblackshaw@churchofscotland.org.uk or my mobile is 07980 975062. I am also regularly at Ayr mart. I look forward to meeting you.

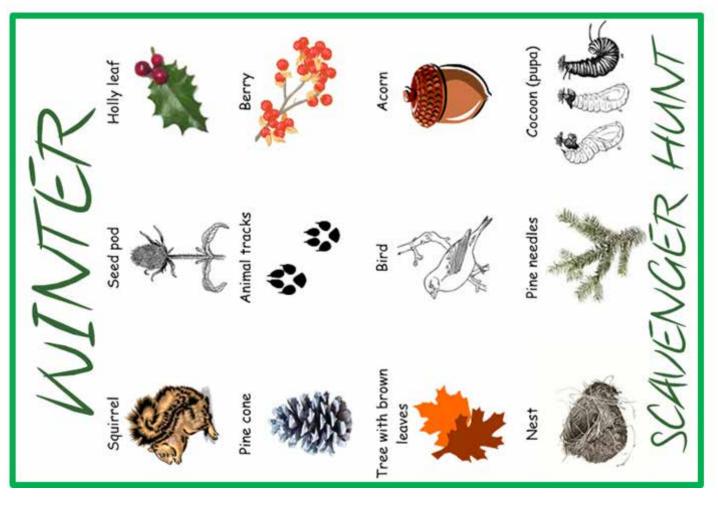












BARRHILL BARRHILL BARRHILL FLOWER SHOW

On 2nd September, after months of preparation, the final event in Barrhill Memorial Hall before the refurbishment began took place.

Entrants from Barrhill and the surrounding area began bringing their flowers, vegetables, baking, preserves and handicrafts to the hall on Friday evening and again on Saturday morning. The hall was bustling with talented and creative people displaying their entries. Then at 10:30am the hall fell silent as the doors were closed ready for judging to begin.

The judges again had a difficult job to decide the winners amongst such an array of impressive entries in each section. They then all came together to select the best exhibit in the whole show.

The Memorial Hall committee members then busied themselves with preparation for providing a delicious cream tea to the visitors, collating the points scored and listing the winners ready for the prize giving at the end of the show and making sure the hall was ready for visitors.

At 2pm the doors opened and a steady stream of people arrived to admire the exhibits, find out if they had won a prize and enjoy one of the now famous Barrhill cream teas.

Tog Porter officially opened the show with a lovely speech. It was nice to see Tog on the other side of the camera after so many years of attending all the local events as a press photographer.



There were many comments about the high standard of the exhibits and lots of happy faces as people discovered either they or a friend had won a prize.



Throughout the afternoon committee members worked tirelessly keeping around 90 visitors supplied with delicious teas and selling raffle tickets.

The final events of the afternoon were the presentation of the trophies and the raffle draw.

The star of the show was Annie Clarke who scooped four trophies; Most Points in Show, Best Exhibit in Whole Show for her collection of dahlias, which also won Best in Flower Section and finally Best in Decorative Section for her Beatrix Potter themed arrangement.

Runner-up Points in Whole Show was Joan McWilliam who won prizes across 4 sections. Best Exhibit in Vegetable Section was won by Lynn Nield for her leeks. Best Exhibit in Handicrafts Section was won by Linda Wild for her watercolour painting. Liz Gillon won Best Exhibit in Baking Section for her gingerbread and Best Exhibit in Preserves and Confectionery Section for her chocolates. Best Exhibit in Biggest Heaviest and Fun Section was Linda Wild for her decorated cake. Carlie McCulloch Watt won Best Exhibit in Children's Junior Section for her painted stone. Ethan Wild won Best Exhibit in Children's Senior Section for his painted stone.

A big thank you goes to the judges, without whom we couldn't run the show. Thank you to everyone who entered the show and came along to support us on the day. Thank you to everyone who donated raffle prizes to help us raise much needed funds. We look forward to seeing you all again next year.

Look out for 2018 schedules in the new year both on-line and paper.

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BARRHILL'S YOUNG PEOPLE

Barrhill's young people were again well represented at this year's Girvan Academy Prizegiving.



Zoe Allan – Certificate for General Excellence in S2

Harry Flower - Prize for General Excellence in S3

Charlie Russell - Certificate for General Excellence in S4

Ethan Wild – Girvan Academy Parent Council Second Year Prize, Literature Award and Prize for General Excellence in S2

BARRHILL BOWLING CLUB



There have been a lot of changes at Barrhill Bowling Club this year. From new committee members and additional club members to changes to the look of the club grounds.

Club members have rallied around and tidied up the area around the green. Cutting back the overgrown edges, revealing the full width of the

> paths which had been taken over by grass and weeds and keeping the grass borders neatly cut.

> We would like to thank the BCIC for providing funding for a long overdue new green

mower which, along with a lot of hard work, should be a big help in improving

the green through the closed season and getting it back to a good standard ready for the 2018 season. We took delivery of the new mower on 8th September and began getting the green in shape straight away. Even after only one cut the green looked quite different.

We have again been joined by children from Barrhill Primary School for after school bowling. Unfortunately the weather wasn't kind and 2 of the 4 sessions had to be cancelled. The remaining sessions were thoroughly enjoyed by very enthusiastic children who very quickly improved their bowling skills with a combination of standard bowling and a range of fun bowling related games. We look forward to running more after school clubs when the 2018 season begins.

We would be very happy to see more new members at the club next year. Please join us at our AGM on Saturday 27th January 2018 at 2pm which will be held in the Memorial Hall if work is complete.





BARRHILL PRIMARY SCHOOL





Community

What a busy term it has been at Barrhill Primary and Early Years Centre! The children have been incredibly busy enjoying the community/school garden and managing to harvest capers/ beetroot and shallots. Annie and the children decided to pickle our harvest so that we can preserve and use it in future cooking. We can't give enough thanks to Annie for all the help/guidance she gives to us and the children! Steve from Grounds For Learning also joined us for an afternoon where the children learned about our environment and

the benefits of what pollination does and how we can help. This project will be extended as the year progresses. Well done to Carlie who won first prize for the painted stone she entered into the Barrhill Annual Flower show.



Excursions

Primary 1 to 3 have enjoyed their topic about Lighthouses and the Seaside. We organised a trip to Girvan where the children enjoyed a trip to the beach and also our Local Lifeboat Station where they got a guided tour. Thank you to the RNLI staff and volunteers.

Mrs Stewart and the Junior Road Safety Officers enjoyed the seminar at Ayr Town Hall recently and are leading changes within the school.



Sporting Activities

Primary 6/7 participated fully in the Active Schools Athletics where they competed against our cluster schools and came second with partner school Barr. Claire, our Active Schools Co-ordinator, had also organised Ayr United Football to come into the school and coach the children. The children thoroughly enjoyed the coaching sessions. Mrs Wild and the other members of the bowling club ran an afterschool club - on the few occasions when the sun did shine the children certainly had fun!



ACF

Barrhill P3-5 have enjoyed their first ACE Day of the new session with Archery/ Bushcraft where Findlay managed to score a bullseye!

Nursery – P2 have had their first session of a Woodland Adventure at Pinclanty Woods!



Fundraising

Barrhill Primary School and Early Years Centre enjoyed going Purple for the day to raise money for one of our chosen charities - Ayrshire Hospice! Thank you for the donations and to Daisy who made some fabulous purple cakes!

A huge thank you to everyone who supported our recent Race Night – we had a lot of fun and raised £536

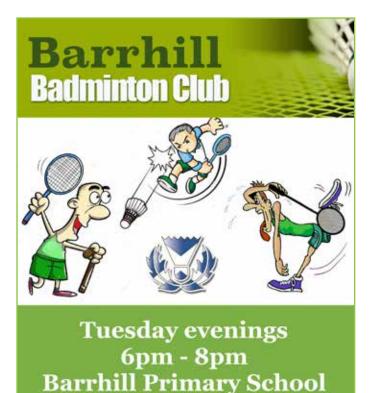


Christmas

We will be holding our annual Christmas Show 'The Stars Come out for Christmas' on Thursday 14th December at Barrhill Primary at 6.30pm – information to follow.







KEEP FIT, KEEP HEALTHY, KEEP HAPPY



Hi, my name is Lyn Brooks

Eight years ago I qualified as an exercise to music instructor.

I work with South Carrick Club Diamonds providing a range of classes for all ages and abilities.

My classes are relaxed, informal and fun!

Class information:

Colmonell Community Centre Monday 2.30-3.30pm

Barrhill Primary School Monday 7-8pm

Girvan South Parish Hall Tuesday 2.30-3.30pm – this class is chair based/ gentle exercise for people who are less mobile.

For more information please e-mail gbrooks55@btinternet.com or call 01465 821413

BARRHILL CRAFT GROUP

The newly formed Barrhill Craft Group enjoyed a great day out at The Stitching, Sewing & Hobbycraft Show at the SEC in Glasgow on Sunday 29th October.

Equipment supplied

Come along and enjoy the fun

All abilities from complete beginner

Welcome!!

As knitters, stitchers, hobbyists and crafters we were in our element with endless supplies, innovations, new products, demonstrations and workshops designed to encourage and inspire our creativity!

I think it's safe to say everyone had a fabulous day, coming home with bags laden with goodies!

The minibus was kindly sponsored by the BCIC.

A new Facebook group has been set up, Barrhill Craft Group and although we have no firm dates yet for our future meetings (at the time of the SVM going to print)

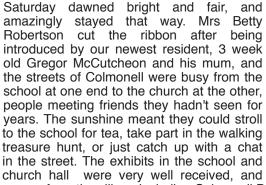
If you are interested in joining the group please contact Sarah Redman 01465 821538.



COLMONELL EXHIBITION 2017 REPORT

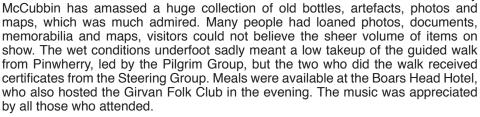
The first Colmonell Exhibition for 41 years was held over the weekend of 8-10 September, and organised by the Colmonell Development Group. We had our fingers crossed for good weather, but when events started on the Friday evening with a bat walk, led by Tom Hastings of the Ayrshire Bat Group, we were sadly disappointed - heavy showers meant the excellent turnout of 18 bat fanciers had to adjourn to the Boars Head Hotel for a very informative Q&A session. We all know a lot more about bats than we did previously, and many thanks to Tom for

an interesting evening. Hopefully we can reschedule this event for next summer.



groups from the village including Colmonell Bowling Club, Colmonell Fire Brigade with an array of uniforms through the years - St Colmon Church, the WI, Colmonell Curling Club, the Whithorn Way Steering Group, Colmonell war documents and research, local Heartstart info, along with local artists and crafters, had all done fantastic displays in the Community Centre. Vintage farm and home implements were a big draw, with much debate over the

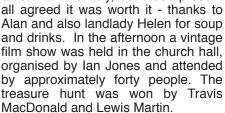
uses of certain items! Local enthusiast Billy



Sunday was back to normal weather-wise, but the church hall and the community centre both had good turnouts - tours of the stained glass windows and headstones were available all weekend. There was an early start for the watercolour workshop held in the Boars Head Hotel, led by local artist Alan McNally, but those present



Feedback sheets from the weekend were extremely positive, the main comment was that there was too much to see in the time available! This event has shown that there is a lot of interest in Colmonell's history and heritage, hopefully we can build on this and plan more events which encourage cooperation and participation in the



village.











Huge thanks to the huge number of people who helped to make the weekend a success, and to the lady who asked if it would be an annual event - probably not!



THE BOARS HEAD HOTEL MUSIC FESTIVAL

The Boars Head Hotel held their first Music Festival on the 6th and 7th October. It was a great success with a sell-out crowd Friday and Saturday with the Dodgy Jumpers and The Maguires.

Paul and Helen would like to thank everyone who made our first music festival weekend successful. The event went down really well and will be an annual event with the next one in July 2018. We have a couple of bands booked already and waiting on another act to confirm.

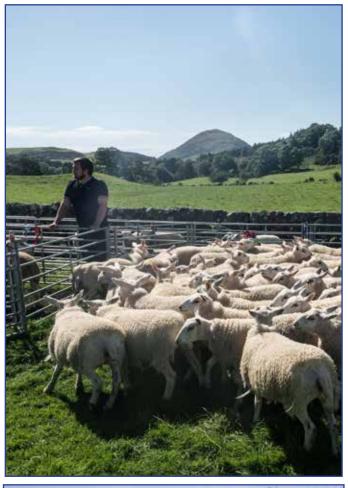


A big thank you to the Dodgy Jumpers and The Maguires for their contribution, also Scot Wilson, Davie Hunter, David Rankin and Ian McKenzie. As said above - thanks to everyone.











PINWHERRY & PINMORE

PINWHERRY SWI

It seems no time since we were planning the winter syllabus and here we are half way through it and looking forward to Christmas and all the celebrations. This is our invitation



to come along and join us. We meet in the village hall at 7.30pm on the second Monday of each month September to may. November sees us having a card making demonstration and joining in making cards ourselves for Christmas with Ina Harryman.

December is our Christmas dinner at Souters Inn. January we will welcome Peter Henderson who will give us a talk on Living in and around a lighthouse. Our whist drive on September was very well attended and we all had a wonderful night and a lovely supper. Our second whist drive will be held on Friday 2nd February 2018 for 7.30pm.

Once again we would like you to come along and enjoy the evenings at the rural.

Lana Rafferty (secretary)

PINWHERRY & PINMORE COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Best wishes for a happy Christmas, and New Year, to our Communities, Residents and those travelling through the region.

COMMUNITY BENEFIT FUNDS – YOUR MONEY

A Guide to what is available and how Pinwherry & Pinmore Community Council plan to use them.

Benefit Funds fall into three main categories.

Small grant funds of £5000.00 from Carrick Futures and Hadyard Hill Community Benefit Fund, supporting organisational project support up-to £500.00.

Direct interest funds from Hadyard Hill Community Benefit Fund, Assel Valley and soon Tralorg.

Discretionary Funds from Kilgallioch and coming soon from Altercannoch.

Pinwherry & Pinmore Community Council area will benefit annually; over the lifetime of the various schemes covering the next 14 -25 years.

Pinwherry & Pinmore Community Council Plans

The CC objective is to support local organisations, deliver environmental and social improvements that will benefit all of the community through targeted annual and multi – year projects. Grant funding will be targeted on these three principle areas:

Infrastructure / Health, Social & Leisure / Tourism.

Budgetary planning will target the annual grant programme allocation to these areas.

Create a strategic reserve that will provide a platform for longer term planning. The strategic reserve will be invested for income with the flexibility to respond to support newly identified community needs.



Progress

The Community Council recently completed a review of 24 short/long term community identified projects collated by the PPCDA together with other PPCDA longer term legacy projects: Revised plans for the 2 Pins community facility: Pinwherry School project.

13 projects had funding agreed.

4 projects are already in process.

3 projects required further cost details, but approved as being needed.

3 longer term legacy projects will be supported by the Community Council as needed.

1 was agreed to come from CC administration budget.

The CC in partnership with the PPCDA will continue to build forward to enhance community facilities. Would welcome your ideas and ambitions for the community – come to our monthly meetings and share your thoughts and ambitions with us. Our aim is to deliver a continuous programme of community enhancement.



PINMORE PLAYPARK

This project is ongoing with a great amount of research and consultation done by Keith Dawdry to see what we can do in this area. Keith has produced plans and images of different types of apparatus which we can take forward to the next stage. We thank Keith for the time he has spent on research and development.

PINMORE AND PINWHERRY DEFIBRILLATORS

We have been awarded the grant funding to move Pinwherry Phone box and to install the Defibrillators in the phone boxes in Pinwherry and Pinmore.

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 or by phoning 01465 841211.

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 or from Joy Chamberlain on 01465 841211

URGENT APPEAL FROM PINWHERRY COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION

We are currently arranging our Christmas events for Senior Citizens and Children in the Pinwherry/Pinmore area. If you have not received an invitation in the past but think that you may be eligible please contact Morag on 01465841641 or campbell0qe@btinternet.com. We would like to encourage as many eligible residents as possible to come and join with us in these enjoyable events.

PINWHERRY CRAFT FAIR

Pinwherry hall was bursting at the seams with many colourful stalls, covered with local handmade items.



















STINCHAR VALLEY GARDENING CLUB

The club continues to go from strength to strength, with several new members joining in September.

In August we had a terrific trip to Mount Stewart on the shores of Strangford Lough in Northern Ireland. We were very fortunate indeed with the weather – hitting the only calm day of the week for our early ferry crossing, and enjoyed glorious sunshine all day. It is a superb garden, divided into several distinct parts – the Spanish Garden,

the Sunken Garden, the Italian Garden and the Shamrock Garden, with beautiful stone sculptures of fantastical beasts throughout. We had an excellent guide in Neil, the head gardener, who told us many tales of the history of both the house and the garden.

The outing in September was to Millhall, outside Kirkcudbright - a very interesting garden on quite a steeply sloping wooded bank, with paths winding down to the shores of the Dee estuary, all planted with unusual shrubs. The general consensus was to try and make a return visit if possible – perhaps in the spring. This was a day of dodging the showers, but we were fairly lucky, and after lunch in the town we visited Broughton House Garden, still full of colour this late in the year.



Our first speaker of the autumn season was

Frances Wilkins, who gave a fascinating talk on early seed catalogues and the suppliers of flowering plants and trees to gardeners in the 18th and 19th centuries. Some of the plant lists that the big estates ordered were huge, one or two of note being notorious for never getting around to paying the unfortunate plantsmen!

October's speaker was Andy McGarva, who entertained everybody with his stories of growing and showing for flower shows including the extreme lengths folk would go to in the old days to guard and protect their prize vegetables before the judging – with reason. A very informative question and answer session followed, on every aspect of gardening.

The club meets on the third Wednesday of the month from September until April at 7.30pm in Colmonell Kirk Hall.

20th December: Christmas Meal at Souters in Kirkoswald.

17th January: Annemarie Mitchel, head gardener at Glenapp

Castle on "The History of the Castle and Gardens".

21st February: Faith Fairbairn "From Quito to Coldstream -

a Journey in Permaculture".

21st March: Carole & Ian Bainbridge, Scottish Rock Garden

Club. "Different styles of rock gardening - "Modern

Rock Gardening a European Approach".

18th April: AGM and plant swap





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

For further details contact:

Harriet Ellis Tel 01465 881221 email harriet@riverstinchar.co.uk

Margaret Bean Tel 01465 841635 email margaret.bean@icloud.com

Roger Pirrie Tel 01465 841644 email rdpirrie@gmail.com

BALLANTRAE

CELEBRATING BALLANTRAE'S HISTORY

Ballantrae Parish Church was the host on 30 September for an amazing event celebrating Ballantrae's rich history. Over 150 people took the opportunity to experience "The Best of Ballantrae" over the years.

Historical items and local memorabilia including press cuttings and photographs, paintings, samples of Ballantrae lace, a collection of Scout campfire blankets and badges collected by the Ballantrae Scouts over the years, a local cobbler's tools, "Ballantrae's Smuggling History", and patchwork quilts were some of the items on display.

Local historians and local groups displayed their collections and villagers brought along their own memorabilia from cupboards and attics and willingly shared it with others. Members of the local Stinchar Valley Photo Group scanned documents and photographs people brought along so they could be added to the Ballantrae Archive.







cups and salvers from the 1700's and silver donated to Glenapp church in memory of the Honorable Elsie Mackay, who was lost trying to fly a plane over the Atlantic.

Local ladies demonstrated their modern day talents by decorating the church with floral arrangements and there

their modern day talents by decorating the church with floral arrangements and there was an opportunity to tour Ballantrae Manse, where refreshments were available along with home baking.

included communion pewter

Colin McNally, one of the organisers of the event, said:

"We were delighted with the interest the event generated.

Our local historians shared their collections, villagers

brought along some of their prized possessions, and local businesses such as Glenapp Castle were happy to lend us items for the day. What was remarkable were the number of conversations generated during the afternoon as people gathered together in small groups to look at pictures and newspaper cuttings to share memories and information. Many of us have old photographs which show village life and village characters from the past.

It's really important to ensure these memories are preserved for future generations. A great afternoon. We must do this again!"

SHELLKNOWE GARAGE Main Street, Ballantrae

Items were removed from the safe in the bank to display on the day. These

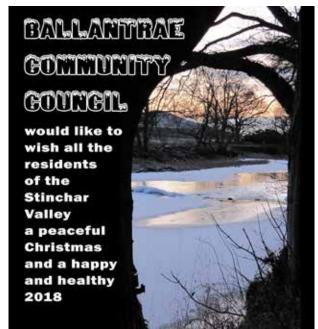
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BALLANTRAE COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION

by Laura Cunningham

We were very pleased with the turnout at our September meeting, with fourteen people attending representing sixteen groups. We have now split the work of the Association into two parts - issues relating to the Community Hall and "Events". We were delighted to hear that the new administration of South Ayrshire Council has reversed the decisions made by the previous administration regarding Gala charges and charging utility bills.

A big issue for us during the coming year will be the sole use of the hall (except the buffet room and the kitchen) by the school from August to December, when the school renovation reaches a critical stage. We are currently working with the village groups most affected to explore other alternatives for their meetings during this period. Our aim is, where possible, to ensure that all groups are able to continue meeting during this time.

As far as events are concerned, we continue to develop and publish a village diary of forthcoming events in partnership with the Ballantrae Development Group. There will be five BCA events during 2017-18:- a Fireworks Display and a Craft Fair in November, a Children's Christmas Party in December, a second Craft Fair in the Spring, and a Gala Day on 7 July to raise funds for the BCA and to provide an opportunity for village groups to raise funds.

We also continue to discuss with other communities how we could better publicise and coordinate the many and varied events in Girvan and the South Carrick villages in 2018.





HOWARD GALLEY





BALLANTRAE PLAYPARK DEVELOPMENT GROUP....

The Next Steps

There have been frustrations involved in moving this large and exciting community project forward. But there is goodwill from officials, councillors, the school and the community to ensure the development of the play park and improve the facilities and for our community. The park development will complement the upgrade of the Primary School during 2018 "The Year of Young People".

Prioritising the phases of the project and exploring potential external funding sources continues, along with local fund-raising.



This included the successful Fun Day followed by a dance in July, offering refreshments at the local Gaiety production of Barnaby Rudge in October. At the time of going to print, we have just been successful in our bid for funding of £1500 at the "South Ayrshire Decides" event on Saturday 28 October which will go towards improving our existing picnic/seating area in Ballantrae Play Park. We had a stall at the Craft Fair in November where we raffled off a hamper. Thank you if you donated something for the hamper.



The aim of the Play Park Development project is to improve the facilities and encourage outdoor activity for our children, our young people, and visitors to our lovely village. We knew this project would take time, determination and lots of support from the community. We continue to champion the project working in partnership with representatives from SAC and are extremely grateful to everyone who continues to support the project. If you are able to help in any way, the group would be pleased to hear from you.

Fiona Stevenson 07917 133220 info@auchenflower-cottages.co.uk or Cheryl Agnew 07767 081602 cherylagnew84@gmail.com

BALLANTRAE CRAFTY BEES



The ladies of Ballantae Crafty Bees have had a productive summer and autumn so far. Painting featured heavily in the crafts during the long summer evenings with members trying out watercolours, painting terracotta pots

and ceramic painting, and beeswax candles were made following the AGM.

The highlight of the autumn has been making felted flowers with fibre artist Linda Irving who travelled from her home on the Mull of Galloway to demonstrate her skills. Members had a wonderful evening and the flowers looked absolutely beautiful with many being subsequently made into brooches.

Would you like to join us? We meet on the second and fourth Mondays of the month at 7.30pm in the BRICC House in Ballantrae. Membership costs £3.00 per session which includes making the craft plus refreshments which are provided by members. Please feel free to contact me for more information.

Cordelia Galley (Chair) balkissocklodge@icloud.com 01465831537









BALLANTRAE SCOUT GROUP

by Wendy McKeachan



This summer saw our Scouts go on an amazing adventure all the way to Aberdeen for a 6 night activity packed camp, the highlight of which seemed to be the "Knights Challenge" (a very

muddy assault course) although the cold hose down afterwards was less popular! Camp was a huge success and thoroughly enjoyed by everyone including the leaders. New friends were made and many new skills were gained. If you would like to read more of our adventures look at our blog kylecarrickscouts.wordpress.com

This term the Scouts have been map reading, designing their own "treasure maps" with hidden prizes in Glenapp forest. They also recently visited

Ballantrae, Colmonell and Barrhill primary schools to promote the Group with a slideshow to demonstrate the fun our Beavers, Cubs and Scouts have.

The younger sections didn't miss out on adventure either as Beavers and Cubs headed

to Culzean Castle for a medieval themed camp and they even found time for a walk to the adventure play park. Since the summer holidays the Beavers have been working towards their Pet Care and Collector badges and took part in a pioneering challenge involving spaghetti and marshmallows! Cubs are also having a busy term working on their Artist and Science badges with some very messy experimenting going on!

As we go to print we have just heard that we were successful in our pitch at "South Carrick Decides" on Saturday 30 September for £1000 to purchase five new 3/4 person tents. Thanks to everyone who voted for us!







STINCHAR VALLEY PHOTO GROUP

Our group focuses on "helping more people take better images". This group is for anyone who enjoys photography, you don't need a DSLR to take beautiful photographs!

Come along, enjoy the company, make use of the knowledge that is shared, have a cuppa "with cake" and if you acquire

some tips along the way then it's been a good night!

The SVPG meets on the last Thursday of the month at the BRICC House, Ballantrae at 7.30pm. If you are interested in photography why not join us? For more information contact Karen on 07701026941

Looking forward to seeing you there!





BALLANTRAE DEVELOPMENT GROUP

by Andy McAlpine

The aim of the BDG continues to be "supporting local businesses, encouraging tourism, and developing unique events for locals, surrounding communities and visitors".

Our Ballantrae Smugglers' Festival this year was spread over 4 months with "Music Poetry and Smuggling Stories" and "the Contraband Store" being held in June and the last 3 events being held in August and September-the "Smugglers' Supper" hosted by the King's Arms Hotel, the "Ballantrae Smugglers' Chase" (skiff racing), and the "Carrick Smugglers' Trail" a road trip with commentary from Ballantrae to the Heads of Ayr.



The latter will result in a new Smuggling book by Frances Wilkins which we hope will be published shortly.

When the Gaiety approached us about bringing the Gaiety Ayrshire Rural Touring Network's production of "Barnaby Rudge" to Ballantrae we jumped at the chance of piloting live theatre in the Community Hall. Feedback suggests the experiment worked. Feedback after the event included:

"Very professional and funny..."

"Theatre on the doorstep..... would like to see more"

"So many characters played by only 5 actors..."

"My introduction to live theatre..."

"The small venue makes the audience part of the performance" "Please come back to our village again..."

As a result of that positive experience, we have secured three performances of different types during the Spring of 2018. Watch Ballantrae News, this Magazine and "Information Ballantrae" (Facebook) for more information.

Work continues on refining the plans for the Play Park Development Project with the organising group raising funds by running the bar at the recent Gaiety Rural Touring Network event. The group hopes to make significant progress on the development of the play park alongside the upgrade of the primary school as part of "2018 - the Year of Young People".

The setting up of the Ballantrae Trust continues to take up most of our time. The public consultation inviting villagers to express



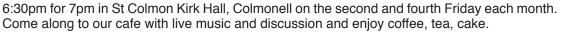
interest in becoming members of a Trust and what they thought its priorities should be, has now been completed and the results analysed. The report has been submitted to the Community Council for information and will be available to the new Board of the Trust when it is elected. The Articles of Association (the Constitution) have been approved by the Scottish Government and, at the time of going to print, the paperwork is with Companies House to register the Trust as a Company. Once established we shall advertise, interview and recruit a part time Development Officer to move us to the next stage thanks to the financial support of the Carrick Futures Community Benefit fund.

BALLANTRAE CHURCH LINKED WITH ST COLMON CHURCH



Forthcoming Events

TASTE & SEE CAFE CHURCH





PRAYER AND WORSHIP

Prayer is essential for our Churches and the world around us, and all are welcome to join us in St Colmon Kirk Hall on the 4th Saturday of each month at 10am.

BIBLE STUDY every Thursday 7.30pm at St Colmon Kirk Hall. Informal discussion over coffee / tea to find out how the Bible benefits our lives.

CHRISTMAS

Friday 15th December Christmas Concert in St Colmon Church at 7pm

followed by refreshments in the Kirk Hall.

Sunday 17th December Carols Evening in Barrhill Primary School at

6.30pm followed by refreshments.

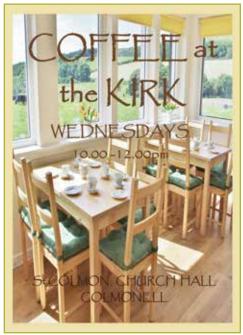
Sunday 24th December St Colmon Church 10am Ballantrae Church

11.30am

Watchnight services in both Churches at 11.30pm

Christmas Day Joint Family Church Service in Ballantrae

Church 10.30am



CHURCH INFORMATION

Everyone is welcome in our friendly churches, where we gather to celebrate God's love for us.

St Colmon Parish Church

We meet at 10am every Sunday in Colmonell. For those who find the church steps a challenge the service on the last Sunday of each month is usually held in the Kirk Hall, which has easy access. And at 3pm on the third Sunday of the month we meet for worship in Barrhill Primary School while the Memorial Hall is shut.

Ballantrae Parish Church

We meet at 11:30am every Sunday in Ballantrae with Sunshine Club for all children 0 to 12 years old. At 3pm on the last Sunday monthly an ecumenical and liturgical style service is held in Glenapp Church.

Contact Details

While our Churches are seeking a minister, our Interim Moderator is Rev Ian McLachlan, so please contact him if you wish to arrange weddings, baptisms or funerals. His details are Email: IMcLachlan@churchofscotland.org.uk Telephone: 01465 713370

For other enquiries please contact

Ballantrae Parish Church Session Clerk:

Mrs Claire Strain - 01465 831246 clairestrain@live.co.uk www.ballantraeparishchurch.org.uk Scottish Charity No. SC008536

St Colmon Parish Church Session Clerk:

Mrs Claire Pirrie - 01465 841644 stcolmon.sessionclerk@gmail.com www.stcolmonparishchurch.org.uk scottish Charity No. SC014381

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



In October St Colmon and Ballantrae Churches held services to celebrate Harvest time and God's goodness in creation. We also remembered our responsibility to care for those who do not have as much as us. As the photographs show, both Churches gathered donations for Girvan Food Bank. Ballantrae Church also made a collection for Christian Aid and St Colmon Church collected £113 for the Royal Scottish Agricultural Benevolent Institution.





BRICC NEW BUILD APPEAL

BRICC has been serving our community for 15 years providing home-care to our elderly residents through the hard work of the 38 employees BUT also through the tireless volunteering and fund raising through the charity shop and the strong team led by the force that is Rosemary!

NOW BRICC NEEDS YOUR HELP. BRICC needs to raise more cash to allow the next part of the vision to start.

We have bought 14 Main Street, Ballantrae and have raised more than half the money required! However, we need to raise a further £400.000 to re-apply for lottery funding and move the project on!

We have plans and permission for a 16 bedded residential home and 4 Sheltered Housing Units to be built on the site of 14 Main Street.

This will obviously bring in the construction of the project and permanent jobs when it is open.

Please if you can help with this project do!

SEARCH your homes for any unwanted items to donate

DONATE – in person or by cheque to

BRICC House 12 Main Street. Ballantrae

EASYFUNDRAISING

This allows you to get businesses to donate while you buy on-line!

LINK

http://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/BRICC/ Download App – Register your cause and when you shop they donate!

If you can help in any other way please contact Teresa on 01465 881305 or Rosemary at BRICC



new residential care home

BRICC House





BARR

BARR COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION



Well another summer has passed and Barr Community Association has been busy organising events for the autumn/winter months. We supported Barr Primary School with their 1st Autumn Fayre and what a success that was. New round tables, sitting 8/10 have been purchased and new tablecloths will be here soon so that our social events will be even more social. The tables had their first outing at the annual Macmillan Coffee Morning and were very well received.

Various events have been booked for November, our village Halloween Party, Annual Fireworks, Christmas Fayre and music night with the ever popular Barstools, reports on all these will be in the next edition of the magazine. However, hot off the press is the sell out success of Dracula the Travesty, put on by the Northumberland Theatre Company.

The NTC is a professional small scale touring theatre

company and their production was fantastic. It was really funny, old and new bad jokes, audience participation.... all in the best possible taste! Their professionalism was superb, their interaction with the audience and engagement of all ages was amazing to watch. The Community Association are really grateful to the rural program that The Ayr Gaiety has undertaken but were also really pleased with the response by the village in supporting this event. Susan Robertson of the Ayr Gaiety was so impressed with the hall decoration, thanks to Merlin & helpers, along with the ticket



sales that we have been offered 2 or 3 productions next year and hope to secure the NTC Christmas show for Dec 2018.



We hope that we can build on this success and our other productions. Our village Christmas light switch on will be held on Sunday 3rd Dec, quiz and children's entertainer Silly Gilly will be running from 2.30 with the lights on at 4.30pm, all welcome. The BCA annual Senior Citizen (VIPs) Christmas Dinner is on Saturday 9th Dec. Invites have been sent out, if you have not received one and are over 60 please call Maggie 861062 or Elaine Denham 861189 asap.

More events are in the wings for 2018 so keep an eye on the village website, Facebook pages and noticeboards around the village.

THE UPPER STINCHAR S.W.I.



We Had Our Cake And Ate It !!!!

The Upper Stinchar S.W.I. enjoyed an entertaining evening at the September meeting when Executive Chef David Alexander from Glenapp Castle Hotel spoke of his work from youth to the

present splendour of Glenapp. Interest, laughter and carrot cake were shared in equal measures and both members and non-members had a memorable night.

The River Runs Through It

Rivers run like arteries through the heart of our villages, but how often do we stop and consider the wonderful world that lies within them. Consider no more and be educated and entertained by The Ayrshire Rivers Trust and their speaker Gordon Macdermid talking all things rivers related on Thursday 14th of December at 7pm.

All Welcome (men included) to Upper Stinchar Scottish Womens Institute in the Village Hall in Barr.

Also on January 18th 2018 a Turnberry rugs talk.



DR J T FARQUHAR CUP FOR 2016/2017.

Reilly Blanchard received the Dr J T Farquhar cup for 2016/2017. The cup is presented the pupil who has shown the best contribution to school life and recognises the hard work and improvement Reilly has shown in all areas, not only academic success, but also personal success as well. The Cup was donated to Barr School on behalf of Dr Farguhar.

Reilly said "I have worked hard and been good and it made me happy to get the cup"

Mrs Farquhar, shown here with Reilly, was keen to congratulate Reilly personally and was delighted that he had received the award, which focuses on good citizenship of the school as a whole as well as academic achievement.

Mrs Farquhar said "I thought it was so nice that he came from a family who do so much good in the village and he is continuing the good work".





BARR WEE WHIST

The Wee Whist was started in Barr in 1965 by Mrs Common and Mrs Gardner, both residents of the village, and it is still going strong. The club started with 5 tables and at its peak hosted 20 tables at each meeting. Although the club is now smaller, it is no less active and new members are always welcome. The Barr group team up with clubs from Colmonell and Barrhill for events to support all three clubs. Recent Wee Whist events have included a trip to Loch Lomond and the Lomond centre.

In previous years the group donated coal, logs and biscuits as Christmas gifts to the senior citizens in the village. The group also organises a Community Christmas meal for members from Barr, Colmonell and Barrhill, which is always a great success. Even Santa drops by to join in the festivities. This year the event will take place in December, the exact date will date be announced nearer the time. The event will be presided over by Jimmy and Agnes Gracie who have been members for 50 years, with the able assistance of Wilma, their daughter, who is continuing with the family Wee Whist tradition.

The club meets every fortnight on Tuesdays in Barr Village Hall at 7.30pm up to the end of April. The next meetings are on the 5th and 19th of December 2017. The first meeting of 2018 will be on the 8th of January.

BARR BOWLING CLUB'S GREENS IMPROVEMENT DRIVE GETS FUNDING BOOST

No sooner had the 2017 bowling season ended than its enthusiastic members began work on preparing the greens for next year's play.

Volunteers stepped forward to carry out a long overdue overhaul of the greens which should make a big difference when the 2018 season begins.

In a day of back-breaking activity, members deep-tyned and scarified the green twice, swept the debris up, sowed grass and spread calcium carbonate on the surface. It is hoped that this much-needed work will act as a good foundation for a greatly improved surface for years to come.

And the club has now been aided by a generous grant through The Thistle Foundation on behalf of Falck Renewables which will enable it to replace an ageing lawn mower, currently in a state of poor repair. The new machine, which can carry out a variety of tasks apart from just mowing the grass, will be a huge asset to the club and enable its long-suffering green keeper, Alan Ringrose to deal with everything that the unpredictable Barr micro-climate can throw at it.

It's hoped that next year's visiting clubs will now have only the midgies to complain about.

BOWLERS END OF SEASON DINNER

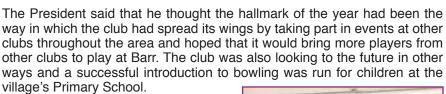
Barr Bowling Club members and friends attended an end of season dinner in the Village Hall to celebrate a successful 2017 season.

And club president, Alastair Smith reflected on one of the best seasons for many years which had been enjoyed by a bumper membership of over 30. All the open competitions were well supported although the end of season Singles championship had to be cancelled due to the weather and will be played at the start of next year's events.



He thanked all those who had supported the club's activities throughout the year, with a special mention for the generous sponsorship of John and Netta Wilson of Nether

Barr and Alex and Joan Wright of Traboyack.



The club spread its wings in other areas too with the introduction of a website and a Facebook page spreading the news of its events and activities far and wide - the Facebook page having already attracted over 300 "followers". This was due to the expertise of John Logan who was thanked for his dedication to the club.

On behalf of members, Alastair thanked all those who had been at the hub of the activities during 2017.

In particular, thanking the green keeper, Alan Ringrose and his willing band of apprentices led by John Bunnett.

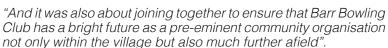
And Isobel Ringrose also merited a special mention for taking on the time-consuming job of secretary as well as spearheading the "catering" department. She was assisted by a veritable army of helpers including; Jenny Craig, Alison Milroy, Maggie Bunnett, Jackie Logan, Anne Hamilton and Dee Laver.

In concluding his remarks, Alastair said that he had thoroughly enjoyed the year and thanked all those who had supported him in his task as

President. The incoming President for 2018 can look forward to exciting times ahead at the club with the village's Development Group tackling the issue of the facilities available around the village hall.

But 2017 had been, in his opinion, a year in which the club had been all about fellowship and fun adding,











BARR VILLAGE MACMILLAN BIG COFFEE MORNING

Barr Village held its annual Big Coffee Morning in aid of Macmillan on Friday 29th Sept. As usual for this small village it was extremely well supported with a Home Baking Stall, Stinchar Valley Quilters with their ever popular cushion raffle, along with our normal fabulous hamper raffle.

As a special one off we were very grateful to Glenapp Castle for their kind donation of a voucher for Afternoon Tea for 2 which we raffled off in a separate raffle with a 2nd prize of a lovely pink glass dish made and donated by Angus Corbett from Aye Glass. This raffle alone raised £158. Jane Littlejohn won the afternoon tea and a thrilled Jo Campbell won the dish.

With home made biscuits and free flowing tea & coffee the attendees generously gave donations, purchased raffle tickets and home baking, giving us a grand total of £1090.75 which has been paid into Macmillan Cancer.

A really big thank you to everyone who helped, donated and supported.

We look forward to supporting this great charity again next year.





BARR COMMUNITY STORES NEWS



The stores was delighted to be involved with the 3rd Ayrshire Alps Sportive on the 27thAugust. Barr stores provided a welcome break or a celebratory cake on finishing the race. Over 320 riders participated in the event and highlighted the increasing popularity of cycling in the beautiful Ayrshire Alps and eating delicious cake at unique, community led facilities. Well done to everyone and we look

forward to seeing you next year.

We are very pleased to announce that we

are now an INTERNET CAFE! We have Wi-Fi, an xBox and a pc. All are free to use. Many thanks to David Irvine for the pc and to all who voted for us at last year's "South Carrick Decides" for the the xBox and Wi-Fi.

This was followed by the annual Scarecrow competition which this year was won by Ellie and Grant Faulds, Judy (Barr Postmistress) created this stunning lady for the Community Store. We became Barr Crowcery stores, with our new volunteer for the day - Ms Scarah Muncro





Judy's fabulous Scare lady Scarah Muncro

The stores also celebrated securing the Barr Trust Award of £500 to host reminiscence coffee mornings and Seniors' Suppers. The Reminiscence Coffee Mornings will take place on Tuesdays throughout November, December and January between 11.00am and 12 noon. The first supper will be held in November (details to come), the 6th of December and January 2018, full details will be published in the stores, on our new Web page and on Facebook or contact the stores directly if you have any questions. So, if you have ever lived in The Barr, or are just interested in what village

30 >>>>

life was like in the "old days", why not come and join us? Remember the village concerts and plays with young residents mentored by the fabulous Mr McGinnis, Gala days, dances, the Jolly Shepherd and the King's Arms, when there were salmon in The Pot, the school, the store, curling? What are your favourite stories?

From times gone by: The raspberry pickers, are you related to or even remember these villagers or this kind of activity?

The store received a visit from Andrew Prendergast of The Plunkett Foundation, Andrew is experienced in advising community assets, like ourselves, on ways to improve sustainability whilst remaining true to our ethos of serving the community. He has produced a fantastic and detailed report with lots of ideas and helpful suggestions, recognising that we are a community service and a vital part of community life.

The stores was accepted by CEIS (Community Enterprise in Scotland) as group which they could offer their many years' experience and depth of knowledge to help make our Community enterprise sustainable. We are looking forward to hearing suggestions after a very constructive initial meeting with their representative Mr Alex Rooney.

Worm Cake: We have successfully applied for a stall at the Girvan Participatory Budgeting Event, held in Girvan on the 28th of October, to secure funds to start a book club in Barr based in the café. This will give people the opportunity to participate in a small group activity and further utilise the café facility.

The BSSG AGM was held on the 29th of September. The event highlighted the issues facing the stores but also the determination to make it succeed. Thank you to everyone who attended, we shall continue to do our best and with the new found support generated at the meeting we will go from strength to strength. We are delighted to welcome aboard two new directors: Mrs Yvonne Wilson who will take on a marketing role and Mrs Dee Johnson-Dallimore, whose beautiful pyrotechnic creations provide a







fascinating point of interest in the stores. Dee will help the store to increase its profile as a local arts and crafts centre.

The shoot for this next Year's Barr Calendar is underway so don't forget to pre-order your copy. As one customer said "There are some images you can't forget" and our Barr Babes (gents and ladies!!) definitely provide these, representing what is best about this community and showing off some fabulous beauty spots.

We are pleased to announce that in conjunction with our well liked Facebook page (Barr Village Shop@barrcommunitystores) we have a new website https://barr-shop.uk/ with lots of information put easily to hand. We'll be adding more community orientated pages over the coming months so watch out for them...Remember to add us as a favourite!

Finally if you produce, or you know of anyone who is producing, Arts and Crafts items, interesting gift ideas or festive foods etc. for Christmas please contact Judy on 01465 861221. We would love to show them off in store.



SPONSOR

THE STINCHAR VALLEY MAGAZINE

IN 2018



and help us to ensure good communication across our villages and showcase village life in this part of Scotland to visitors

The Stinchar Valley Magazine is now in its fifth year. Our budget is smaller than mainstream magazines because our volunteer Editorial Team puts in over 800 hours a year so that villagers across the valley can have a free professionally produced quarterly magazine delivered to their door.

We have received funding support from Hadyard Hill and Carrick Futures Community Benefit Funds for the last 5 years but the Carrick Futures Board of Directors, as a condition of our grant, have asked us to start exploring other sources of income so that the magazine can continue beyond the foreseeable future. That's why we need your help.

Because of the volunteer Editorial Team's efforts, you can be sure that what goes into the pages of the Stinchar Valley Magazine is newsworthy and about our villages. We also include local business adverts and our popular recommended tradesman section not only to show our support for local business, but because many local businesses are generous in how they support their local communities. We want to continue to include local business adverts but rather than charging for them we want to create an opportunity for local businesses to show their support for the magazine and what we are trying to achieve by becoming sponsors.

All donations are welcome and will be listed in our special sponsor page in the magazine. If you wish to remain anonymous we would, of course, respect that.

A contribution of £10 would allow us to produce copies of one issue of the magazine for 9 households; £40 will allow us to produce copies of the magazine for those households every quarter for a full year; £180 will help with postal distribution of the magazine for a whole year to outlying farms and houses in our villages.

If you are interested in becoming a sponsor, please contact Marie McNulty at Stinchar-valley-magazine@hotmail.co.uk

Cheques can be made payable to: Stinchar Valley Magazine or if you would prefer to pay by bank transfer please contact Marie for more details. Cheques should be sent along with your name/business details and address to: Stinchar Valley Magazine, c/o Marie McNulty, Guildhall, Pinwherry, Girvan KA26 ORT