



The Stinchar Valley Magazine

SPRING 2019

FREE

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

stinchar-valley-magazine@hotmail.co.uk

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
Colmonell Village	www.colmonell-village.co.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 & S. Ayrshire Biosphere	http://www.gsabiosphere.org.uk/
St Colmon Church	www.stcolmonparishchurch.org.uk
Ballantrae Church	www.ballantraeparishchurch.org.uk
Dark Sky Park	scotland.forestry.gov.uk/forest-parks/galloway-forest-park/dark-skies

LOCAL ENVIRONMENT ORGANISATIONS

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

USEFUL HELP WEBSITES

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

USEFUL CONTACTS

Emergency Services (Police, Fire, Urgent Medical, Coastguard).....	999
Police (non-emergency)	101
Coastguard, (non-emergency e.g. suspicious articles found on any beach).....	999
Accident & Emergency, Ayr Hospital.....	01292 610555
Minor Injuries Unit, Girvan Community Hospital.....	01465 712571
NHS 24	111
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Scottish Power, Power Cut/Emergencies.....	0800 0929290
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Citizens Advice, Stranraer 10am-4pm Monday to Friday	01776 706355
Stagecoach, Ayr Depot	01292 613500
My Bus Rural, Door to door transport for Carrick. Mon - Sat 7am to 7pm	0845 123 5656
SEPA Emergencies	0800 807060



NOTE FROM THE EDITORIAL TEAM

We hope you will enjoy the Spring 2019 issue of the Stinchar Valley Magazine.

Once again, we've tried to bring you news of what's been happening in the communities in the valley and the surrounding area..

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

HOW TO SEND IN YOUR ARTICLES AND PICTURES

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

When you are sending material by email

Please send text as an attached Word or Open Office document with a minimum 11 size font. **Please do not insert photographs into the Word document.** Please attach them separately and name them. Images should be high resolution (min 300 DPI) wherever possible. If in doubt please speak to your community representative.

DEADLINE FOR NEXT EDITION – SUMMER 2019
SUBMISSION OF ARTICLES TO REPS OR THE EDITOR IS 26th April 2019 (business adverts 19th April)

DISTRIBUTION TO VILLAGES WILL BE W/C 03.06.2019

Thanks to Robert Wilson for the cover image

EDITORIAL PANEL The Stinchar Valley Magazine is published by the voluntary editorial group with the valued support of the contributors, with the aim of supporting the community interest and local businesses. Please note The Editorial Team will consider all submissions and make the final selection of material for each issue. **Are we doing a good job? Please let us know**

LOCAL REPRESENTATIVES AND EDITORIAL PANEL

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Barrhill	Linda Wild	linda.wild@gmail.com	
Lendalfoot	Margaret Fleming	margaretfleming775@gmail.com	
Colmonell	Margaret Robertson Howard Wilkinson	howard.wilkinson2@btinternet.com	Tel: 01465 881352 Tel: 01465 881260
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Recommended Tradesman



Have you had a good job done?

Drop us an email at Stinchar-valley-magazine@hotmail.co.uk and we can list them here.

TRADE	NAME	TELEPHONE	MOBILE	RECOMMENDER	DATE
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 July & Dec) Public hall, start time 7pm
Barr	7pm in the Village Hall every second Thursday in the month (except July & 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



Want to advertise your business in the Stinchar Valley Magazine?

Since the magazine began, we have been supporting local businesses with free business adverts. We want to continue to support local businesses but we have had to become more self-financing as a magazine.

There are two options now for business adverts in the magazines.

Option 1 Join our 'Little Ads Club' – (Exclusively for businesses within the Stinchar Valley villages of Barr, Barrhill, Pinmore, Pinwherry, Colmonell, Ballantrae and Lendalfoot)

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

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

Option 2 Have a larger paid advert in the magazine

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

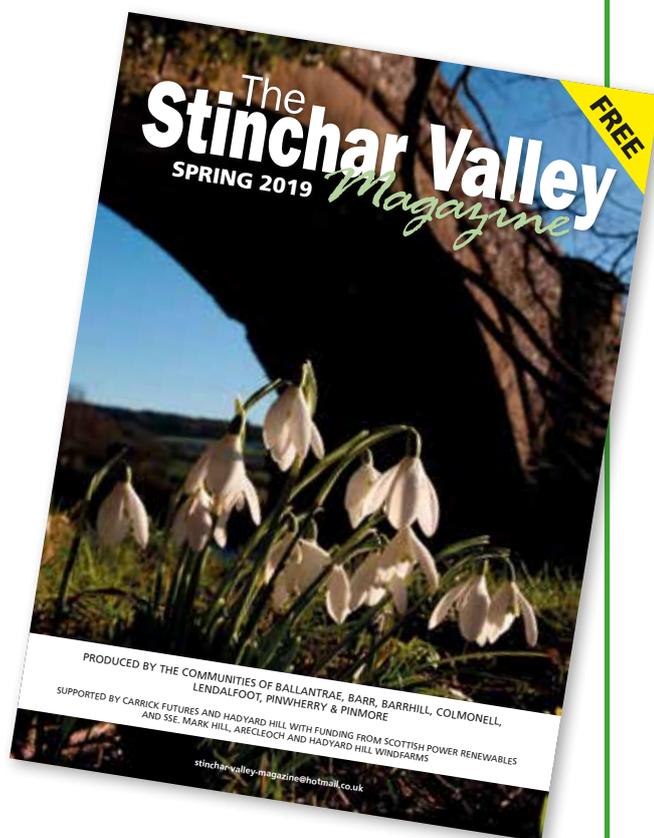
Prices for an advert in one edition

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

Payment for all adverts is in advance.

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

stinchar-valley-magazine@hotmail.co.uk



AN INDEPENDENT VIEW

Christmas is but a distant memory and as I write this column, Rabbie celebrates the 260th year since his birth in Alloway. This year I had the privilege to attend the prestigious Robert Burns Humanitarian Awards which were held in Burns Cottage with good company, three brilliant finalists, along with mirth, music, song, poetry and of course good fayre. "A guid nicht was had by ane and and a". A full report on the wonderful finalists will be available in the South Ayrshire Council online magazine "South Ayrshire Live". This is also an interactive magazine that can be used to see what is happening in your own local area with full colour photos and videos.

At this time of year when some thoughts stray towards lambing time and perhaps even spring, the thoughts of Councillors are focussed on the Council Budget, the financial settlement from the Scottish Government, and the consequences of the decisions that have to be taken on behalf of all of our communities. However by the time you read this column all will be revealed and hopefully any changes will be well managed.

Many of the issues that affect local residents of our towns and villages are social isolation, poor transport links, access to good broadband and Wi-Fi, housing problems, roads, flooding, medical access and more. Hopefully these will be just some of the challenges which will be taken on board and addressed by the new South Ayrshire Rural Forum. Some readers of this esteemed publication will remember the Rural Panel which was a Council Panel that travelled and held meetings in various rural locations throughout South Ayrshire and actually engaged with residents. The Rural



Panel was disbanded by the last Council Administration and left a void in the representation of our Rural Areas. It was decided at the outset of the new Council in 2017 to progress the setting up of a new Rural Forum whose membership will consist of rural elected members only from South Carrick, North Carrick and Kyle. The Forum has now been set up and I have the privilege to have been elected as chair. It will hold its first meeting in Crosshill at a date yet to be fixed. The date, time and Agenda will be well publicised in advance and we hope that there will be a good turnout of folk from all of our rural areas. Forum Members are determined to make sure that we will work together with our constituents to make a real difference to our local communities.

Until next time, keep well, keep safe, keep warm and look forward to a beautiful Spring Season.

Councillor Alec Clark (Independent)

COUNCILLOR IAN FITZSIMMONS



When you read this, Spring will be in the air, daffodils and tulips will be in bloom, gardeners will be out in the garden cutting grass and preparing for the summer. All the local groups will be preparing and organising their annual events. I hope we will be as lucky this year as we were last year and that this summer weather is just as good.

Invergarven School is now open. What a great school it is, with wonderful staff. Barr school will have started their renovations, or will be starting. Ballantrae Primary School will be about to open for the benefit of the community. The Ballantrae

pupils who went down to London to appear on This Morning had a great time.

The three Councillors were invited to some of the primary schools' Christmas Nativities. What a wonderful group of children we have in our schools and they all gave excellent performances. Thanks go to all the teachers and helpers who gave a lot of their time to make sure everything went without a hitch.

I will be attending Barr and Dailly Community Council meetings this year and three of the Colmonell and Lendalfoot Community Council meetings.

I hope everyone enjoys the Spring and Easter holidays, and the weather stays fine.

Councillor Ian Fitzsimmons

COUNCILLOR PETER HENDERSON



The dark nights are receding now and spring will soon be here with new growth all around. It is always a time of hope and reinvigoration. The Girvan Folk Festival will start the season of major events in the area and I hope it builds on its years of success with concerts in villages. Social events in all villages are important for the community but, like many things, depend on volunteers and community participation.

New initiatives to attract Tourism in the area are showing signs of gaining traction with new walking and cycling enterprises growing. The rail service and A77 development are part of the Government consultation that will hopefully see improvements in our area. The introduction of 20mph speed limits to villages is also progressing with proposed plans being presented to communities for debate and amendment. Your input is important in tailoring each community's needs.

Over the winter I have continued the practice of attending Community Councils, holding Surgeries etc. in the villages, and assisting many individuals and groups as best I can. It is only through contact and communication that I can represent the villages and surrounding areas needs correctly.

Work at the Council continues to be busy with ongoing cuts to budgets and austerity continuing, it makes the task of delivering services in the face of increased demand very challenging. I can however assure you that our area will have strong representation and will not be sidelined in decisions made.

I do hope that by the time this is read that we have some clarity on the total shambles that is Brexit as it is having a severe effect on decisions and finance as well as adverse effects on all sectors of industry in the area. The lessons and initiatives from our local area assist me in representing our needs on the various external bodies I attend which raises our profile and influences decisions.

The Ballantrae Primary School work being complete and children returned to the new building is another aim achieved. Work at Barr School means that all rural schools have either seen new schools or major refurbishment. The completion of works providing a vast improvement to the Girvan - Barrhill road is another aim met. Work will continue on improving our roads infrastructure in the area.

Looking forward to the lighter nights, flowers etc. Thanks for taking the time to read this.

Councillor Peter Henderson SNP

MUSIC LESSONS

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Rebekah Donn BMus(Hons), MMus
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Based in Ballantrae

BARRHILL

Barrhill Primary School



PARTNERSHIPS

We'd like to say a big thank you to Bill Russell for taking time to visit the senior pupils and share with them his experiences of the Arctic and the Rainforests.

P7s have been lucky to work with Irene McCrae, to improve their whist skills which they will then use to engage with members of our village community. Thank you Irene.

The pupils have been thinking hard about what activities and experiences they would like to access in their village and met with Amy-Dee Watson this week to share their ideas. We look forward to working closer with her in the coming months.

The campus police officer, PC Gregor Mackintosh, has visited us this week to develop our understanding of internet safety. He will also be working with our P6s and P7s on a community project to promote good citizenship and provide the pupils with a sense of pride and ownership of their village.

COMMITTEES

Every term the pupils get a chance to work in their committee groups. Miss Ferguson and the Rights Respecting Schools group are working towards achieving silver level for the school. This term they are looking for adults to be part of their steering group and introducing a suggestion box into the school.



Mrs Logan and the Eco-Schools group have introduced a recycling programme to pupils and staff and we now know what to put in each bin and what to do with our food waste. This term they will highlight the problem of littering.

Our Junior Road Safety Officers and Mrs Stewart have designed posters and are now going to be working with the Nursery pupils on being safe around roads.

CHRISTMAS

We were treated to two fantastic performances of Cinderella and Rockerfella. Thank you to everyone for coming along and supporting us. A huge thanks also to the BCIC for funding the sound and light equipment – this really enhanced the performance for actors and audience.

SPORTING ACTIVITIES

With the support of staff, parents and the Active Schools' team, our pupils continue to attend a range of sporting activities in the cluster. They were awarded the Spirit of School Sports Award at the handball competition at Colmonell for their teamwork, supportive sportsmanship and empathy shown towards others.



Barrhill Community Interest Company



by Amy-Dee Watson Community Development Worker

Trout Inn Investigations

Barrhill CIC has carried out investigative work on the viability of the community purchasing and running the Trout Inn as a pub and restaurant. We have carried out research, feasibility and survey work. At the time of writing we are planning an open meeting on Saturday 9th February in Barrhill Memorial Hall to present this information to the community.

Barrhill Development Trust

The SCIO (Scottish Charitable Incorporated Organisation) application for the creation of Barrhill Development Trust, has been completed and submitted to the Scottish Charity Regulator (OSCR). We hope the charity will be up and running within the next month or two. As mentioned in the previous magazine, the CIC will remain, in order to continue to distribute the winter fuel payments.

Barrhill Youth Activities

Barrhill CIC are currently consulting with the local children and young people to find out information about the kinds of activities and clubs they would like to see provided for them in Barrhill. We will use this information to work to develop activities and opportunities that meet their needs and wishes as much as possible.

Barrhill Film Nights

On the fourth Saturday of each month we plan to run FREE film screenings at 7pm from the Barrhill Memorial Hall. Our

first screening on 31st January was “The Follow Up of one of the most Successful Film Musicals Ever, Featuring the Music of ABBA!” (For licensing purposes we can't tell you the name of the film, but hopefully you can work it out!)

Barrhill Business Boost

Barrhill CIC is teaming up with Business Gateway Ayrshire to deliver a series of free business development workshops, support and advice for new, existing or pre-start up businesses based in Barrhill and the surrounding area. The initial “Meet the Advisers” workshop was on 23rd January in the Memorial Hall and had a fantastic turn out of delegates from local small businesses in Barrhill, Colmonell and Lendalfoot. Feedback from both the delegates and Business Gateway Advisers was positive and, given the high level of interest and great attendance at the initial workshop, we will be able to provide follow up courses on specific topics. These are likely to be Social Media Marketing, Website Development, Finance and Internet Sales and we'll do our best to be able to provide as many of them as possible. We hope to have more details soon.



If you are interested in attending any of the upcoming Barrhill

Business Boost workshops, please get in touch with Amy via email amy.barrhillcic@gmail.com, phone 01465 821000, or find us on Facebook @bcicbarrhill.

Correction from Winter 2018 issue

Apologies for an error in the article **Arnshean Church Conversion**. It should have read: The clock will be connected electronically to the bell and cause it to ring **12 times at noon each day**. Instead of: The clock will be connected electronically to the bell and cause it to ring **12 times each day on the hour**.



New Year, New You?

Pilates and Keep Fit classes are being held in Barrhill Memorial Hall.

Pilates Style Classes are suitable for any age and fitness level and aim to improve core strength, posture and balance with emphasis on breathing and gentle stretching.

This class is held on Wednesdays from 7:15pm-8pm

South Carrick Club Diamonds Keep Fit Classes are suitable for people who like a more active class. The aim is to improve fitness through aerobic and core exercises and include circuit training.

This class is held on Mondays from 7pm-8pm

If anyone is interested in either of these classes and would like more information please contact Lyn Brooks on:

01465 821413

Barrhill Christmas Craft Show & Craft Fair

by Linda Wild

With the invaluable help of 8 members of Barrhill Craft Group, my idea of a Christmas Craft Show came into being. Months of planning and preparing all came together on 1st December. A very good turnout kept the hall busy all afternoon.

There were 206 entries in the show including an excellent selection of entries made by the children of Barrhill Primary whilst at school. A big thank you goes to the school for providing the time and materials for the children to create their very creative entries.

Delicious teas which were served all afternoon were enjoyed by many visitors to the show. Thank you to everyone who made and donated their home baking. A popular tombola ran with lots of happy winners taking away an array of prizes which were kindly donated by craft group members and members of the community, thank you to you all.

Six craft tables run by members of Barrhill Craft Group provided a wonderful selection of gifts and cards for Christmas and also a delicious selection of food to purchase. Christmas shopping at its best!

I would like to say thank you to everyone who supported the Christmas Craft Show in any way. Firstly the members of Barrhill Craft Group who helped with the planning, setup and most of all working so hard on the day, the show could not have happened without you ladies, thank you so much for your support.

A special thank you goes to everyone who took the time to make and bring along their entries, a visual feast! There would have been no show without you and I hope you will enter in both the Barrhill Flower Show and the Christmas Craft Show again next year. Thank you to the judges who had the difficult task of selecting the winners from so many excellent entries.

Thank you to everyone who came along on the day to support the event for a look round. I hope you all enjoyed the afternoon.

Thank you to the BCIC and Barrhill Community Council for funding which allowed us to put the show on and purchase the medals and trophies.

Finally, a big thank you goes to Santa for coming along to hand out the prizes and the selection boxes.



Barrhill Craft Group

It's been a fantastic first year for our club with attendance good at monthly meetings and lots of new members joining throughout the year.

We started the year at a slow pace due to snowy conditions but at our first proper meeting of the year we had record attendance for crochet.

During the year we have been very creative expanding our skills with classes in clock making, Christmas biscuits, cards, wreaths, and cross stitch and I would like to thank everyone who has come along and helped with these events.

One of the highlights of the year for me has been the success of our poppy making which not only recycled a lot of plastic bottles but added a focal point to the village's commemorative remembrance celebrations. We all look forward to our 2019 efforts.

We organised two very popular willow weaving workshops with people travelling from far and wide to attend and I hope that in 2019 we can have more.

A trip to the creative craft show was organised by the club and I know that everyone who attended came home with lots of ideas and inspiration for future crafting projects.

Our final event for the year was the 1st Barrhill Christmas Craft Show and what a great day it was! A huge thank you to everyone who entered and helped with the organisation of this event. I have had lots of positive comments from villagers and hope to see more entries at this year's event.

I would like to thank the BCIC for funding some of our projects and hope that they will continue to support us in the future.

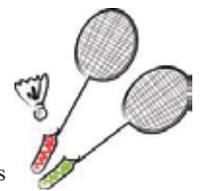
Sarah Redman - Chair



Barrhill Badminton

by Andrew Clegg

The badminton club started in 2015 after a 6 week pilot run by Claire Rogerson of South Ayrshire Council. When the pilot finished there was a generally held opinion that it had been an enjoyable experience and we would like it to continue. An application was made to the Barrhill Community Council Small Grants Fund provided by Carrick Futures and funded by Scottish Power Renewables. The application was successful and the funds were sufficient to hire the Memorial hall on a weekly basis for 40 weeks. Since then funding has been found on a yearly basis to keep Barrhill Badminton running. The funding illustrates the point that the windfarms can have positive effects for the community. In fact the small grants fund supports many activities in the village which would not exist without grant funding.



Since the initial period, when getting racquet to meet shuttle was something of a struggle for those who had never played before, the quality of play has vastly improved. We would be unlikely to win anything in a club match situation but that is not our reason for playing. What we have is a very pleasant social evening which includes activity on the badminton court and time to just sit and chat.

Over the years there has been a core of 10 regular players with another 31 participating at one time or another. Considering the number of people in the village this is a really good attendance.

Barrhill Badminton is from 6pm to 8pm on Tuesdays in the Memorial Hall and runs from September to July. Racquets for juniors and adults are available so all that is required is a pair of trainers.

BARRHILL REMEMBERS



In Tribute to the Forces

by Trevor Jones

When I was asked to do an article about the display of soldiers I made for the day of the memorial, for all those who lost their lives in all wars, I was proud to be selected to offer a view, on what it meant to me, to prepare and remember those brave people who took up the challenge to protect us, and continue to do so...

The memories of war and the history of it are with us all in different ways and you, as I do, will always have your particular moments of reflection that are important to you at certain times in your lives, not only on memorial day each year, but also daily, as the conflict of war is never far away, in this fast growing world we live in.

The display of these soldiers came about by my thoughts about the world we live in and a brief glimpse of war, shown to me when we went to see, WARHORSE, at the theatre in Edinburgh. After a glimpse of what it must have been like through this amazing story, it led me to think of a fitting way to contribute to Centenary Year of Poppy Day in our village, a display of figures to represent the forces who take part in all conflicts around the world...

I designed the first figure on a piece of scrap plywood that was lying around my workshop, made the first soldier and then it naturally progressed to the Navy and the Airforce, the Scottish Piper and the Nurse..there were of course many others who could have been added, but then we all know the other services that would always be there to help when needed.

Having seen them arranged with the poppies they made such a statement display that I thought, rather than put them in the shed until next time, why not have them in our Commonwealth graves area, where visitors can see them and have their own thoughts of reflection as they visit the loved ones...

May we always honour and Remember the fallen,
Each day we live is a Future they never had.....

With Great Respect,
T. Jones



BARRHILL REMEMBERS

Remembrance Weekend Commemoration Events

by Amy-Dee Watson
BCIC Community Development Worker

Photos by Richard Brown

To commemorate the 100 year cessation of WW1, members of the Barrhill Craft Group created a poppy cascade which was displayed on the front of the Memorial Hall, along with a "There but not There" soldier, 30 painted stones and 30 hand decorated plates fastened to poles along the Main Street, to represent the 30 fallen soldiers from Barrhill. Furthermore, restoration work was undertaken on the Memorial Hall plaque by Jamie MacDonald on behalf of our community; a fitting tribute.

The community gathered at the War Memorial in Barrhill at 3pm on 11th November and then attended the Service of Remembrance in the Memorial Hall, followed by afternoon tea. Members of the community also planted 30 iron poppies in front of the poppy cascade, with Mr Kennedy planting the "last" Barrhill poppy.

BCIC also received the book of Barrhill Fallen from the Girvan and District Great War Project's Lorna and Ritchie Conaghan. The book was presented to Johnnie Thomson, BCIC Chair. The plan is to have the book on permanent display in the Memorial Hall but in the meantime anyone interested in viewing can do so when the office is open, usually most Tuesdays.



Barrhill Craft Group

by Penny Keane

Barrhill Craft Group held some very well attended meetings to craft poppies for the centenary of the Armistice at the end of the First World War. A dedicated group of people knitted, crocheted and made plastic bottle poppies to be attached to a mesh which was mounted on the Memorial Hall. This provided a backdrop for 30 metal poppies, one to represent each of the fallen from Barrhill.

With the great help from the Girvan and District Great War Project pebbles were painted, named and placed on the war memorial.

30 plates decorated with poppies and the name of each of the Barrhill fallen were placed on the lamp posts along Main Street and a large fabric poppy was placed on the bowling green.



BARR



Barr Community Association

Christmas seems a long time ago and by the time this article is seen hopefully Spring will be just round the corner. Snow has wrapped the Stinchar Valley in a pristine white blanket but plans for our 2019 events are in the pipeline.

However, first a roundup on the events held since the last edition of this magazine. Just before our annual Christmas Fayre The Gaiety put on The Full Bronte, the memory of Wuthering Heights at School put a number of people off coming, what a treat they missed. It was funny, spiky and no way boring! The Scary Girls were just that...they took no prisoners and we have not laughed so much for ages.

The Christmas Fayre on the next day welcomed new and old stalls to the hall, which was decked out with festive lights and decorations. It was great to see so many stalls and the visitors to the fayre enjoyed the varied selection, homemade items, baskets and tombola. The association provided homemade soups and baking in the small hall. Before November ended we hosted the Northumberland Theatre Group with their Winter production of The Little Maid who Danced, again this was a hard title to sell but the patrons who attended and the children found it a delightful production.



The Christmas lights switch on was combined with the Barr Bikes Fundraiser where we ran the bar donating half the profits to the Bikes. The band was fantastic and in a flash we had entered December with a short run to our Annual Christmas Dinner for the Senior Citizens (VIPs) in the village. Despite a panic with the hall dishwasher, we managed to serve a full three course dinner, all homemade along with homemade puddings to over 60 VIPs plus helpers. The Primary School performed a selection of Carols and Skye Trotter performed a solo prior to dinner. Once again we were entertained by Fabulous Fraser, Magician. Thanks to all who cooked, served, cleared and most of all who came to enjoy this Christmas feast.

For Hogmanay the hall was open and a great disco was supplied by Deja2, they had a fabulous light system and we even had a giant countdown clock taking us to Midnight.

We have had one of the last Ayrshire Rural Touring Network Theatre, Auld Lang Syne with Mairi Campbell. As this was on the 25th January we had planned a wee Burns supper but revised this to Haggis themed nibbles with a wee glass of wine in the interval. All who attended had a lovely evening and enjoyed sitting on our new chairs, kindly funded by Hadyard Hill Benefit Fund.

The next planned Theatre is a Murder Mystery ... The Hot Cross Bunny on Sat 20th April at 7.30pm Bar will be run by the BCA with Easter Themed Prizes...tickets will be available from the Village shop or from Maggie Bunnnett. As this is Easter Weekend Barr Wee Gallery will reopen and then every weekend till Sept.

Finally two main dates for your diary, Barr Trails Day Sunday 19th May, Fairy Knowe Trail, Bacon Butties on the lead trail route and more, keep an eye on the Facebook page and website for more information. The other date is the Barr Village Gala. Maybole Pipeband will be leading the parade again and stalls are available to book, thebunnetts@btinternet.com or call Maggie on 01465 861061

Upper Stinchar Valley SWI

Upper Stinchar Valley SWI had a delightful birthday supper at Austin's in Girvan as our annual November meeting. The food and company made for a really enjoyable evening. It was just a shame some of the members were unable to attend.

Our December meeting was captivating canapés by the Home Cook School. A great turnout of members plus 12 guests were welcomed by Isobel Wood.

Introducing the evening, Home Cook School owner Lindsay said, "Tonight is about decadence!" and we were not disappointed.

The theme for the evening was a demo and tasting of Festive canapé recipes. For the ladies at Upper Stinchar SWI, Lindsay demonstrated and created lovely, bite-sized

delights: mini puff-pastries with spinach, pine nut and feta; smoked salmon mousse on blinis and caramelised red onion and brie crostini. The array of finished canapés was fit for a five star banquet: every delicious one was eaten and enjoyed!

Lindsay is a passionate advocate for Ayrshire produce: at our evening she used products from Salthouse and Peppermongers, based in Ayr; Jeju's Bake house in Maybole; Corrie Mains eggs, Ballochmyle Brie cheese and Peroni's fish which can be ordered from McFarland's butcher in Girvan.

Lindsay has such a friendly, approachable yet professional manner and she made each of us feel part of a very special evening.

Thank you so much from the Rural ladies!



A difficult act to follow but local photographer, Mary Hogg from Crosshill came to talk at our January meeting. Mary and her husband have been photographing the locality for many years, this time the subject was the Stinchar Valley from the source in the moors, through our own 'rift valley' all the way to the sea. For some it was a well known journey but for the rest it was extremely informative, great pictures and local landmarks. Cairns, a castle and burial mounds were shown. Most of the pictures are part of the Geograph project which has been on going for many years with the aim to have a photographic record of the whole of the UK. You can look at any of these pictures or indeed anywhere you are interested in on the website www.geograph.co.uk. With a light supper supplied by Isobel Wood and Rhona Anderson it was a fine way to start 2019.



Barr Bikes

Thanks to everyone who supported the Barr Bikes Fundraiser in Barr Village Hall on the 1st December. It was a great night dancing to Electric Velvet who were so popular we are hoping to book them again. The Barr Community Association ran the bar and split the profits with us so along with the sealed bid auction for our old bike stock we made over £700 for our funds.

No dates have been arranged for 2019 yet but keep an eye on our facebook page, village facebook and website....as soon as we know you will know!

In the meantime we are looking at running an Outdoors First Aid Course. Perfect for walkers, cyclists, people with kids or anyone else interested in learning new skills and looks good on a CV. The course will be run over a weekend hopefully in the hall, with 5 - 6 hours a day and the certificate lasts 3 years. So we hope everyone will be ready for our new season. In the meantime Happy 2019.



Barr Parish Church

Another year over - the Nativity scene, tinsel and Christmas tree boxed! The New Year is a time for reflection of the past and contemplation of the future - new challenges and opportunities yet to be found. So much has happened over the past year, renovations and repairs to the church was no small feat, communions, celebrations of Easter, Harvest and Christmas, Remembrance, renewal of vows and funerals - the special occasions we came together, generations young and old. So much has been achieved under the auspices of Rev Ian McLachlan. Unfortunately, however, by the end of November Rev Ian McLachlan had to take leave for an extended period of time.

We are thankful Rev. Jim Guthrie, Dr Anderson and Rev. Edgar Ogston have taken up the helm. On 19 December 2018 we had a wonderful Carols and Lessons Family Service led by Rev Jim Guthrie. Having sang our wee hearts out with choruses of 'Once in Royal David City' and 'In the Bleak Mid-Winter' the mince pies, tea and coffee were much appreciated. This event did, however, set the 'Barr' for the village carol charity singers who ended their marathon trek at the church to finish on a crescendo on Christmas Eve. The soup served certainly improved the vocals !!

To hail in the New Year Rev. Guthrie suggested a family service followed by 'short bread and mulled apple juice'. The event was so well received it has now been adopted as a 'new tradition' in the Barr Parish Church calendar. Talking of calendars the dates are filling up - its going to be a busy year. First on the agenda was the Girvan District Group meeting followed by the Ayr Presbyterian meeting on 26 January. Indeed, challenging as it is keeping up with all these activities, it is encouraging to know so much work is being done to support Churches like ours.



Barr Sheepdog Trails

by Neil Gillon

Nurseries are for dogs under 3 years on April 1st and who have had no trial prizes at an open Trial before September, it is a good competition for new handlers because everyone are running new dogs. It is a bit more level competition, there are 9 teams of 5 dogs from all over Scotland go to a final in March to find best individual and team. It is a big competition with many foreign handlers coming over to spectate and buy new dogs. Nursery Trials are held in many places and two of these were recently held at Farms in Barr.

Nursery report for Trial held at Knockgerran Farm, Barr. The weather was bright, cold and breezy. The field we used was undulating and rising gently. The sheep were mules, bolted down fetch, good to drive ,tricky to pen ,needed held but not pushed too much

A total of 14 dogs ran.

Trial 1 Judge : Ian Lockhart

Craig (breeding he ran him last year)

Ran out and lifted clean, slipped fetch gates but otherwise on course, drive good lines but slipped a sheep 2nd drive gates, clean finish.

Sia clean start also, straight fetch, wavers on drive being offline at times,lost the trial at pen with a few breaks before getting them in, shed clean.

Trial 2 Judge : Sam Rae

Rose (b white Malta glen, c chambelayne bessie), ran out, lifted and fetched clean, minor wavers on drive and low on cross drive cost a few points, a break at pen cost him a few more but still left him well in front on home ground .

Doug also ran out, lifted and fetched clean, but falling out of line on drive cost him victory and a break at the pen also slipped him further behind, but a clean shed cemented his 2nd place.

The next Trail was held on 12th Jan at Upper Barr Farm, Barr. This has 220yrd outrun ,flat hold then rising at handlers.



The sheep were mule ewes, light but easy managed on course, though they needed care at pen, didn't like pressure. Weather for the 1st trial was cold and breezy, unfortunately by the 2nd trial the weather turned dreich! With cold mist rain and wind!

13 ran

Judge for 1st Trials was Mosse Magnusson

J Shennan	Floss	78 points
JR Welsh	Sonny	76 points
Dalcairney	Doug	74 points
C Darwent	Dot	74 points
N Gillon	Lass	70 points
I Fergie	Craig	70 points

Floss, clean out, hesitation on lift, straight fetch but split gates 2 and 2. Wayward lines on drive low on cross drive, Broke at pen and hesitation at shed. Sonny, slightly short but best fetch, good drive till 2nd drive gates, then headed them, tried again circled them, then missed gates on top side , slight break at pen and clean shed.

Judge 2nd trial Lotte Magnusson

JR Welsh	Sonny	87 points
I Fergie	Craig	79 points
K Donald	Sia	75 points
Dalcairney	Doug	71 points
C Darwent	Dot	71 points
J Shennan	Floss	64 points

Sonny, wide out slow lift, excellent fetch, drive low on cross drive, half break at pen, clean shed. Craig, stopped short, minor wavers on fetch, good lines on drive, few breaks at pen and failure to take control quickly enough at shed.

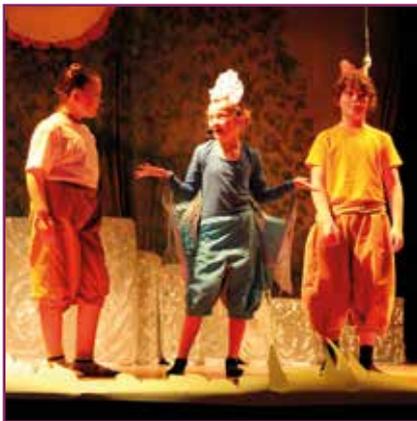
Barr Primary School

P3-5 ACE day

The juniors enjoyed a day Bush crafting with the Adventure Centre for Education team. They learned survival skills such as how to build a fire and shelter. Hot chocolate and cookies were a huge hit along with roasting marshmallows around the fire to warm the feet after a fun day enjoying the wilderness.

Barr Beats – Competitive Schools Dance Competition

Molly, Marley and Emily practiced a 3 minute dance routine with Mrs McRae after school to compete at the Competitive Schools Dance competition in Troon. The competition saw 24 schools compete in 2 categories, junior and senior heats. The girls routine won 2nd place in the senior category. This was the 1st time Barr Primary had entered the competition so to come away with a trophy was just fantastic.



Lion King Jr

Barr primary wowed family and friends with their Christmas show The Lion King Jr at the village hall. The show gave every pupil the chance to enhance their creative talent and experience the enjoyment of performing for an audience. The Lion King Jr was generously supported by the Parent Council and Barr Community Association. This allowed the school to purchase the licence; new sound equipment and invite and transport guests from local care homes and organisations as a Christmas treat. The children performed beautifully and the shows were a huge success!

CRAG

We were fortunate to have the team from CRAG visit the school once again to spend time with the pupils creating beautiful lanterns which would then be part of the Festival of Light in Girvan.

Christmas fun

There was a lot of festive fun to be had on the run up to Christmas at Barr Primary. The church service had the junior pupils re-enact the traditional nativity whilst the senior class provided a more modern message with songs from Maria Carey and Ed Sheeran. Pupils and staff enjoyed a fabulous Christmas lunch, a Christmas party with a special visitor in a red suit and a trip to the Gaiety Theatre to see Aladdin.



School Extension

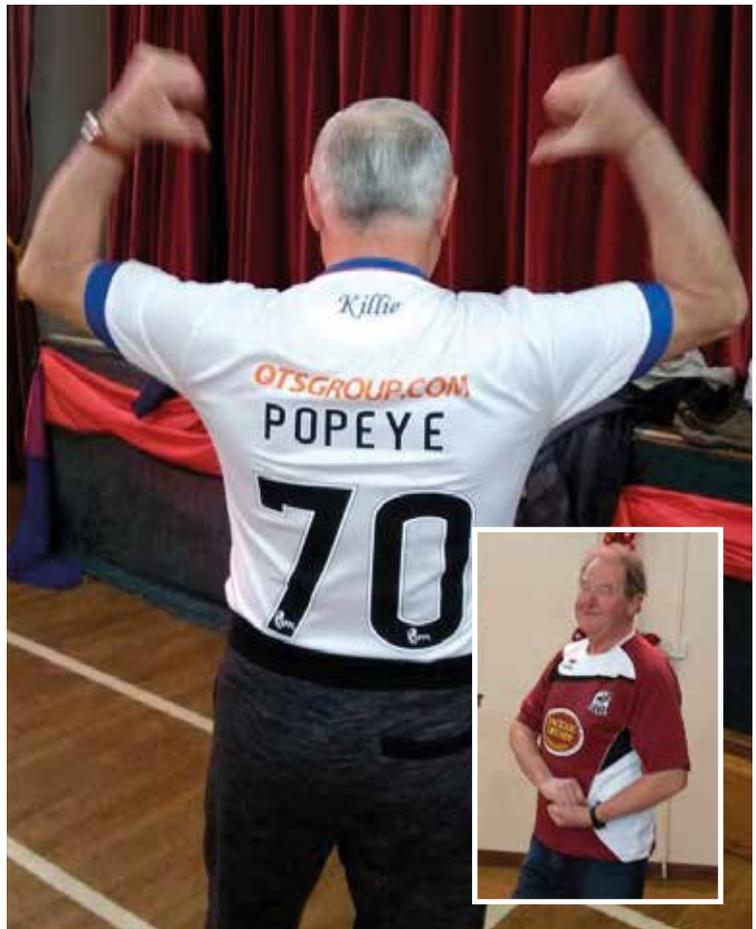
Barr Primary School's new extension is planned to start work on April 1st, 2019. As you can imagine, this is a very exciting next step for us at Barr Primary and Early Years Centre. This extension and refurbishment will enable access to additional hours for Early Years pupils, will enhance learning for all our young people and provide an environment fit for purpose for all stake holders. The proposed plan will have the school completed for August 2019.



Barr Walking Football

In December 2018 the residents of Barr were invited to a taster of walking football in the Community Hall. For those of you who are unfamiliar with the game of walking football, it is as it's name would suggest football played with no running at all. This makes the game more accessible to people of all ages, and abilities. In Barr because the games are indoors a softball is used and the ball is not allowed to be played above waist height.

The first session was well attended with even people from Girvan attending. Considering this was the first time many of the people had played in years there was still a good degree of skill allied with passion displayed. It gave the players a chance to rekindle the dribbling skills and deft touches from bygone days. Leading scorer was Alastair Smith with the "Arab" (Dundee United) proclaiming that the trickery of Paul Sturrock was still alive in his twinkle toes. Award for tackling his own team mates the most goes to Alan "Chopper" Hamilton with unfortunate Alan Ringrose the recipient of his attention. All in all a good evening was had by all.



A second session was held on the 10th Jan with the result being a close 14 – 13 after the four 15 minute periods. The next session is being held on the Wed 13th Feb, keep an eye on the Barr Village Facebook page for future dates. The session starts at 7pm for an hour and is open to anyone – all you need is a pair of trainers/soft shoes. For more information contact John Logan at john.ross.logan@gmail.com.

Barr Community Stores

Just before Christmas we were pleased to introduce our new "loyalty card" for the shop. This is the second part of our plan to distribute the £10,000 donation we were so lucky to receive last year. Customers who spend £5 in one transaction receive a stamp on their card – when they have 10 stamps we exchange the card for a £5 voucher to be spent in the shop. This is proving very popular with our loyal customers!

At the time of this going to press, we have workmen outside (in miserable weather, poor chaps) - they are re-surfacing the pavements along our road and have kindly offered to re-do the area outside the shop: this should leave us with room for more seating outside, which is good news for the cyclists and walkers who call in during the better weather that we hope is not that far round the corner!

Advertisement for Barr Wee Gallery featuring local artists' paintings, prints, cards & crafts. Includes contact information and a cartoon goat painting.

Barr Wee Gallery
featuring Local Artist's Paintings, Prints, Cards & Crafts incl.
Aye Glass Clachan Wood PeinnMor Pottery Celtic Shore jewellery
Open Weekends 11am - 5pm 19th April - 1st Sept
or by appointment
Tel. 01465 861 239
www.barrweegallery.com

Colmonell Development Group Christmas Lights Switch On

Our 4th annual Christmas event was held on Monday 3rd December 2018 starting from 6.15pm with our Light switch on by The Duchess of Wellington who was accompanied by our Primary school poster competition winner Euan Milroy. A visit from Santa Claus followed shortly after arriving in Colmonell Fire Engine. Carol singing was then held around the village while teas, coffees and mulled wine accompanied by some sweet treats were served in the Community Centre. To finish off the night we had Creetown Silver Band entertain us with some popular Christmas songs for all to sing along to. All in all another successful event, with a lot of hard work from local residents as well as the development group, from very kind donations to the work involved in preparing and putting up the lights around the village. A huge thank you to everyone involved!

Michelle Mitchell
CDG Secretary



Pilates

Beginners and intermediate level Pilates style classes are being run by Lyn Brooks on a Thursday night in Colmonell Community Centre, from 6pm. The classes take place in 6 week blocks, and fees can be paid in full at the start of the block, or per night. Pilates aims to improve core strength for the spine and pelvis through a series of exercises which incorporate breathing, posture and control. A class will work on balance, strength, flexibility and posture and can be adapted to suit each individual's ability. If you are interested in attending contact Lyn Brooks on 01465 821 413.

Colmonell Fun Day

The Fun Day will be held this year on Saturday 8th June, with activities taking place in the week leading up to the Fun Day, from 3rd June. Attractions this year include Stinchar Valley Pipers, Bunny Luv petting zoo, facepainting and inflatable assault course. Further details will be available nearer the time on the Colmonell Facebook page and in the local press.

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limited edition prints of SW
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Commissions Undertaken.

Colmonell Primary School



On 21st November, Primary 4-7 children participated in a 'Day of Dance' at Troon Town Hall. They had a great day and enjoyed performing the Scottish Country Dances they had been practising in school with Mr & Mrs Hirst.



We had a great time learning Bah Humbug! and performing it to parents, family, friends and members of the community. It was a great success and all of the children worked incredibly hard to produce a fantastic show. Thanks to everyone who supported us. We raised £727.50 for School Funds.



We held our Christmas Fayre and Coffee Afternoon on 10th December and had lots of fun raising money for our school fund. We raised £569.92! Thank you to everyone who could make it along!



On Friday 14th December our Early Years Centre children had a wonderful time at our Jingle Bell Morning with Primary 1/2. They made lots of Christmas crafts and the Nursery Choir gave a fantastic performance at the end of the morning!



Nursery and P1-4 Christmas party – everyone had a brilliant time playing games, dancing and eating party food but the best part was Santa coming to deliver us some lovely presents!

Colmonell Scottish Women's Institute

19 members enjoyed a Christmas Dinner at Malin Court on the 5th December to end 2018.

On January 9th 2019 we had Linda and Ethan Wild demonstrating. Ethan giving an in-depth talk about his involvement at the Air Cadets, and Linda showing us how to make a Butterfly Brooch.

Raphael from The Whisky Experience will be talking to us on February 13th and on March 13th we celebrate our 92nd birthday party with a Potluck supper and games.

We will be trying our hand at painting on April 10th with local artist Alan McNally.

Our AGM is on May 8th when everyone goes to Craigmains Garden Centre for a light supper and presentation of the Points Cup.



The Annual trip will be on Saturday 25th May ... the destination has yet to be decided.

Anyone interested to either join us on meeting nights - the second Wednesday of the month at 19.30 at the Colmonell Community Centre, or to go on the trip please contact Margaret Robertson on 01465 881352



Colmonell Baby & Toddler Group

Children at the baby and toddler group had a great time at their Hallowe'en and Christmas parties. The fancy dress competition at the Hallowe'en party was judged by Dawn Campbell and Mark Bradley and the winners were Freya, Abbie and Scott. Santa paid a special visit to the group at their party in December and the children all enjoyed playing party games, making crafts and having snack.

The group meet every Friday in St Colmon Kirk Hall from 1.30pm to 3pm. All babies and children under 5 years from the Stinchar Valley area welcome.



**For more information contact:
Eileen McCutcheon on 881 191.**

Race night

Colmonell Community Association is holding a Race Night to raise funds for the village fun week. This will be held on 18th May in Colmonell Community Centre, starting at 7.30pm. Licenced bar provided by Boars Head Hotel, over 18s only. Come along for a great night out to support a worthy cause!



Girvan Folk Festival Outreach concert

Several well-known Scottish bands will be playing at Colmonell Community Centre on Saturday 16th March as part of a Girvan Folk Festival outreach concert. Popular folk band Haggerdash will headline the event which kicks off at 7.30pm, with another 2 acts to be confirmed. Tickets priced £6, or £5 for concessions available on the door or from Eileen McCutcheon on 881 191. There will also be a raffle on the night to raise funds for improvements to the village hall and re-opening of the public toilet block. A hamper will also be raffled for Cancer Research.



Colmonell Community Association parties



Colmonell Community Association Hallowe'en and Christmas parties went down a treat once again, with children enjoying party games, a delicious spread of food and dooking for apples before going out guising around the village. Martin Ramsay and Margaret McBride kindly judged the fancy dress competition for the Hallowe'en party, and the winners were as follows:

Pre-school – 1st Thomas, 2nd Fraser, 3rd Ryan

P1-3 – 1st Alastair, 2nd Morgan, 3rd Cerys

P4-7 – 1st Trina, 2nd Lewis, 3rd Harry

The Christmas party was also well attended with Santa popping in for a visit and he even left a gift for every child. Thanks to all helpers who made both of these parties a great success and especially Yvonne Templeton for organising party games.



SOUTH CARRICK

Club Diamonds

Join us for weekly classes

IMPROVE AGILITY, FITNESS AND STRENGTH

All age groups welcome

Colmonell	Monday	2.30 – 3.30 p.m.	Colmonell Community Hall
Barrhill	Monday	7.00 – 8.00 p.m.	Barrhill Memorial Hall
Girvan	Tuesday	11.30a.m – 12.30p.m.	Girvan South Parish Church Hall
Girvan	Wednesday	11.30a.m.– 12.30p.m.	Girvan South Parish Church Hall

£4.00 per session

Funded by Girvan Community Council and Kilgallioch Community Fund



BALLANTRAE

Ballantrae Playpark Development Group



We are making progress! In November 2018 we had a stall at the craft fair in Ballantrae where we raised a total of £174. A huge thank you to Claire Stephen who came down from Dundee with her Candelite candles. Claire very generously donated commission and raffled off fantastic prizes. The £200 voucher was won by Faye Agnew and the lucky square winner was Laura Cunningham.

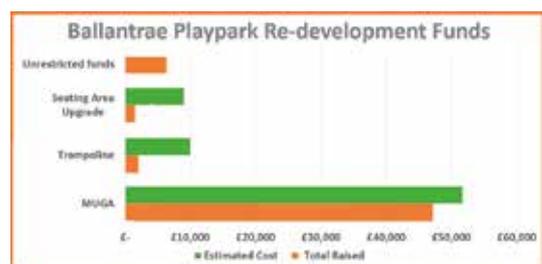
On 23 January the group met in the Kings Arms Hotel to discuss the application for the next round of available funding through "Participative Budgeting". We decided to apply for two items of equipment - two sensory panels. If successful with our application these panels will brighten up the new seating area, invite active and stimulating play for various age groups, and those with additional needs. But for this to happen we will require people to come along and support us by voting for the group. Watch local press and Facebook posts for more information.

We discussed where we currently are regarding funding received to date, deadlines of when funds require to be spent, and how to make this achievable within the constraints placed upon us which are unfortunately outwith our control. We are adamant that the priority in the next few months is to ensure that the MUGA, seating area and trampoline are pushed forward for these to be in situ to enable use by the community this year!

Please see the graph alongside which shows our current funding position against each element of the project, although we are waiting to hear from other grant funders as detailed later in this article.

Following a recent successful application to the Big Lottery Awards for All, funding is almost all now in place for the MUGA. This is a fantastic achievement and we are extremely excited to see this being moved forward. The supplier has intimated an installation date may be possible for May 2019. The estimated installation time for the MUGA is 3 weeks. Fingers and toes crossed!! Several grant applications are being submitted for the remaining funds required for us to purchase and install the ground trampoline. We should hear the outcome of this submission by the end of March. If this is achieved, the group hopes to have this installed immediately after the MUGA installation has been completed.

A funding application has been submitted to Ayrshire Leader towards the redevelopment of the seating area. We want to make this accessible to all. We should hear if we've been successful by April.



We continue to move the Playpark Development project forward however we really do need more support. The group started a few years ago and now we are seeing progress however numbers are drastically low! Please volunteer to support us and give us your suggestions. Contact us by phone, email or attend our meetings. Maybe you have ideas or are in a position to organise fundraisers within the community? We look forward to hearing from you.

The Playpark Development Group
(a sub group of The Ballantrae Trust)

Fiona 07917133220 info@auchenflower-cottages.co.uk
 Cheryl 07767081602
 Kenny 07837385213
 Chris Hanna ballantraetrust@gmail.com

BALLANTRAE THEATRE

in association with the Ayrshire Rural Touring Network

Tuesday 18 June at 7.30pm in Ballantrae Community Hall

549: SCOTS OF THE SPANISH CIVIL WAR

Running time: 75 minutes.

Suitable for ages 14+ (contains strong language)

'549: Scots of the Spanish Civil War', a play with songs and storytelling, is a timely insight into one of Scotland's almost forgotten conflicts.

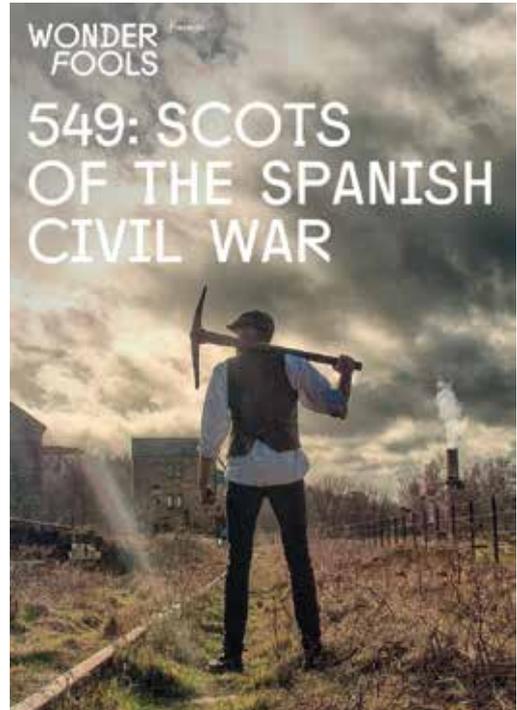
'549' follows four miners from the streets of Prestonpans to the valleys of Spain. They gave up everything they knew, for a land they did not know, for a people they had never met, and for a cause they believed was right.

The Play: 1936 - In villages, towns and cities across Scotland, 549 lives are gradually intertwining. People of different backgrounds, ideologies and religions. Spurred on by their burning passion for equality and freedom, they would form the Scottish ranks of the Spanish Civil War's legendary International Brigade.

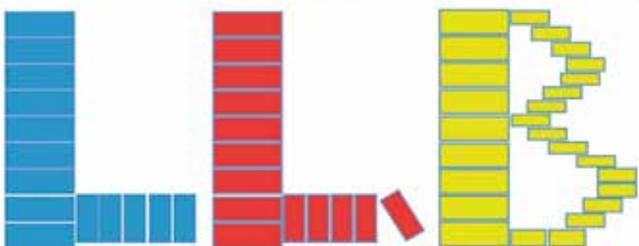
"The Citizens Theatre supported the inaugural production of 549 and enjoyed a sell-out run with wonderfully diverse audiences celebrating local heritage and a fresh approach to contemporary Theatre" - Dominic Hill, Artistic Director, Citizens Theatre.

The Scotsman ★★★★★

The Herald ★★★★★



**REGISTERED CHILDMINDER
BALLANTRAE VILLAGE**



Laura's Little Builders

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Operating hours 7.30am until 6pm, Monday to Friday.

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Laura Cunningham
Tel: 01465 831785
Mob: 07702 375120
Email: lccunningham60@gmail.com



Laura's Little Builders Childminding



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Ballantrae**

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Main Street, Ballantrae, KA26 0JB
Tel. 01465 831202
Email **ballantraekingsarms40@yahoo.com**
Web: **https://ballantraekingsarmshotel.co.uk**

The Ballantrae Trust

by Andy McAlpine

Two cinema screenings - "Peter Rabbit" and "The Guernsey Literature and Potato Peel Pie Society" in association with Driftwood Cinema and "Christmas Celtic Strings" in partnership with the Ayrshire Rural Touring Network brought our programme of cultural activities for 2018 to a close. "The Red Turtle" animation kicked off our cinema programme for 2019. As we go to press we are finalising our programme of theatre, cinema and music for 2019.



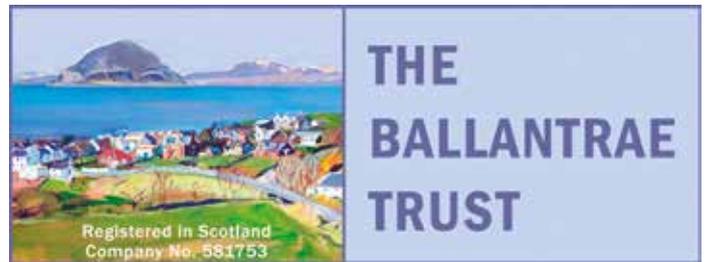
We continue to support businesses in Ballantrae and the surrounding area through our "AMBITION for Ballantrae" project and seven new & existing businesses attended the "Digital Marketing Strategy" workshop run in November in BRICC House by Digital Boost and Business Gateway. We hope to bring another workshop to the village in the Spring.



We have almost secured enough funding to build the Multi Use Games Area (MUGA) and the sub group presses on with their detailed plans for the rest of the Playpark (see the article elsewhere in this edition).

Our award winning Ballantrae Festival of Food & Drink will definitely return this year - this time as a two day festival (8/9 June). Watch local Facebook pages and future editions of Ballantrae News for details. Our thanks go to Leonard MacKinnon and his colleagues John Cowieson, Mhairi McKenna and Laura Cunningham for a great Hogmanay Ceilidh to bring in 2019 with 120 people attending. Thanks too to "The Wah Wahs" (and Colin Irving the guest fiddler) for their fabulous music. £250 was raised for this year's Festival of Food and Drink. The hall is already booked again for next Hogmanay!

We have also secured funding for a new all-embracing village website and are currently gathering information from community groups and local businesses so they can be featured in it.



In November, with the Community Council, we co-hosted a public consultation - "Democracy Matters" which considered whether more decision making and budgets should be delegated to the local community.

Our Board recently visited two very different neighbouring Trusts in Creetown and Kirkcudbright to see their inspiring projects and discuss some of the challenges they have faced and how they have addressed them.

We continue to publish and volunteers hand deliver Ballantrae News and the Stinchar Valley Magazine and we now have our own Facebook page "The Ballantrae Trust". Please "like" it if you have not already done so.

Our search for permanent Trust office premises continues but, in the meantime, we have established a temporary Trust office in the Community Hall. Chris Hanna, our Development Officer will be in the village every Wednesday and available in the office between 11am to 2pm if you have anything you'd like to ask her or discuss.

Our membership now stands at 121.

Our Priorities for the foreseeable future include:

- The Play Park and Recreation Ground Development (in particular the MUGA)
- Planning the Ballantrae Festival of Food and Drink 2019
- A new all-embracing village website and improved use of Social Media
- Cultural Activities (Theatre, Cinema and Music)
- Supporting Local Businesses and Tourism

If you would like to get involved with any of the Trust's projects please email Chris, our Development Officer at: ballantraetrust@gmail.com or call me on 07920517700.

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Book 5 treatments together and receive 1 free

GIFT VOUCHERS NOW AVAILABLE

Ballantrae Primary School

Ballantrae TV stars! by Donna Ball

A journalist from the ITV News Desk made contact with the school in late November after they discovered our school had suffered a major fire in June 2018, resulting in the children and staff being relocated to Girvan Primary School. After some discussions between Mrs Templeton and their Producers, This Morning invited our P2 pupils and accompanying parents/teachers to join them in their Studios to sing Christmas Carols on Monday 17 December.

This Morning flew us all to London on the Sunday and we stayed overnight in a hotel in Hammersmith. On the Monday morning we were collected and taken to the ITV Studios where we were allocated the "Green Room". Our first celebrity sighting was Dame Joan Collins who was leaving the building after being on the Good Morning Britain show.



During the morning the children practised their songs on a stage outside around ITV's Christmas tree. They had several "takes" of the songs then Eamonn and Ruth came out to film the interview with the children and Yvonne Templeton. Jackson was asked what he missed most about the school, he replied "the Lego as it all got burned".



Once the children had finished filming their songs, we had lunch and then skated on ITV's outside ice rink. Unbeknownst to us, the skating was also shown on This Morning – the children loved watching this from the Green Room before we left the Studios. This Morning organised for us to visit the Investigative Centre within the Natural History Museum. We had the Centre to ourselves and were allowed to touch and explore all of the items on display. We were collected from the NHM and taken back to the airport for our return flight home.

It was an amazing experience for all of us! For the majority of our children and some of their parents this was their first time on a plane. There was lots of excitement and a few tears at take-off from Glasgow. Archie said "it was scary but then I loved how fast the plane went". All the children enjoyed their flight home, especially when the easyJet Flight Deck asked them to sing a few of their songs to the other passengers on the plane.

Thank you to ITVs This Morning programme for giving us this wonderful opportunity!



Day of Dance 2018

Primary 5/6/7 from Ballantrae Primary travelled to Troon again this year to participate in the Day of Dance. The children worked hard on consolidating and refining their skills to improve their performance of a number of different Scottish Dances in preparation for the day. Even the adults got involved in the dancing! Thank you again to Mrs Brown from Troon who travelled down to assist us in our preparations.



Panto 2018

This year Ballantrae Primary visited the Gaiety to watch Aladdin. The children were enthralled by the staging, lighting and acting on display. Widow Twanky and her son Wishee Washee had everyone laughing especially when Tiddles said hello!

Democracy Matters

The Ballantrae Community Council and The Ballantrae Trust jointly hosted a public consultation at the end of November so that villagers could have their say about how decisions which affect communities could be made differently by devolving powers, budgets and responsibilities from local authorities and other public bodies to local communities. This Scottish Government inspired consultation attracted thirteen Community Councillors, Trust members and members of the public.

The hour-long event started with a short explanation of the purpose of the consultation. Those attending were then shown 2 short video clips - the official explanatory Scottish Government video, and the Development Trust Association (Scotland) video where Trust representatives from across Scotland shared their experiences and ideas on the topic.

Participants were then asked 5 questions. They wrote their thoughts on post-its which were then posted on 5 posters and grouped where appropriate.

The ideas submitted included the following:

- The things villagers thought communities should have more control over
- How new ways of making local decisions could work and the changes and support needed by communities
- What "local" means
- If more decisions were made locally, which local organisations would be best placed to lead on this
- Other ideas on local decision making

The views expressed were fed back direct to the Scottish Government. If you would like a copy of what was submitted from Ballantrae, please email ballantraetrust@gmail.com with "Democracy Matters" in the subject line.



Ballantrae the award-winning festival returns on
FESTIVAL OF FOOD & DRINK 2019 8th & 9th JUNE



Ballantrae's award-winning festival returns to celebrate local and regional quality food and drink. There will be something for all the family and this year the two day event will incorporate a mini gin festival on Saturday 8th June to help celebrate World Gin Day.



Ballantrae Toddlers

by Cheryl Agnew

2018 was a busy year for Ballantrae Toddlers. We were able to boost our funds through two successful fundraising events. This has allowed us to buy new toys and to provide fun art and crafts activities for the children. Thank you to the local businesses who donated items for us to use in hampers and raffles.

In December, along with the children from Ballantrae Nursery, we had a lovely Christmas party. The children were so excited when Santa paid them a visit and they were all delighted with their gifts.

We would love to welcome any new members who are thinking about coming along (baby to pre-school age). Toddlers take place on Mondays, 1:15pm-2:45pm, Ballantrae Community Hall, 50p per child.



Ballantrae Scout Group

by Wendy McKeachan



Our swimming sessions at the Quay Zone in the Autumn culminated in the presentation of a great haul of badges for our Beavers, Cubs and Scouts. Everyone received a badge to celebrate their achievements. We had Swimmer Stage badges from 1-5 with 3 Scouts earning the top staged badge by swimming 40 lengths in 35 minutes. Congratulations to everyone for such a great achievement.



Three of our Cubs were also presented with the Chief Scout's Silver Awards by our District Commissioner. This is the highest accolade a Cub can receive.

We held our Burns Supper on Tuesday 29 January with a traditional Scottish meal - a choice of soups, followed by haggis neeps and tatties, cranachan or trifle with coffee and tablet to finish. The entertainment was provided by our Beavers, Cubs and Scouts.



Looking ahead, our Beavers are looking forward to a fun packed sleepover in February. Our Annual Auction is being held a little earlier this year - on 9 March at 1pm for 2pm in the Community Hall. This is an ideal opportunity for you to donate unwanted Christmas presents! Please lay them aside, along with other donations, or give them to a leader on a Tuesday evening.

Burns and a' that

by Andy McAlpine



I've attended lots of Burns Suppers over the years. Some quite outstanding and some (quite frankly) pretty awful. So what would a Burns Supper run by the local Beavers, Cubs and Scouts be like? To be honest it exceeded my expectations. It was a great night and outstanding value for money. The event was a sell-out with youngsters, mums, dads, grannies and granddads and members of the Ballantrae public packing the Community Hall. The Scouts were the waiters for the evening. Cameron, one of the Scouts, did a quite outstanding address to the haggis. Johnny did the toast to the lassies with Alisha and Kirsten replying. Iona, Johnny and Zoe did the piping, Cameron and Reuben drummed and Kayla demonstrated her sword dancing skills. The Beavers and the Cubs sang songs with great gusto and a modern twist, and the raffle had the most prizes I have ever seen.

Thank you to everyone involved in what proved to be a great night. Thank you for helping to keep the Burns traditions alive in Ballantrae. Let's hope you agree to build on this year's success and run one again next year!



Scout Auction

Saturday 9 March
Community Hall, Main Street, Ballantrae
Auctioneer Dr Tom Smith

1pm Doors open for viewing
2pm Auction begins
Entry £1

Children accompanied by an adult FREE
Watch local press and Facebook for information
on unusual lots!

Refreshments Available

All items sold as seen

To donate items please call
Andy McAlpine on 07920 517700
(or speak to one of the Leaders)





BALLANTRAE CHURCH LINKED WITH St COLMON CHURCH



Our churches are seeking a minister, but all services and activities continue as God is ever present and working in our lives. Your support is vital, and we look forward to welcoming you to any service or event.

Our interim moderator, Dr. James Anderson, ensures a minister or worship team leads Sunday services and will arrange a minister to conduct any baptism, wedding or funeral. Contact details are:

Interim Moderator:

Dr James Anderson - 01465 710059
Email – jc.anderson2@talktalk.net

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'.

SERVICES

Ballantrae Parish Church

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

St Colmon Parish Church

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

Ballantrae & St Colmon (Arnshean Barrhill & Colmonell) Churches Moving Forward.

We are actively seeking a minister and would appreciate your help so please let us know of any minister you think we could invite for an informal visit.

During the vacancy our churches continue to do God's work and can arrange visits for anyone at home or in hospital. The Data Protection Act prevents hospitals and GPs contacting ministers, so we need your help to let us know who would appreciate a visit. Please contact us and don't assume someone else will do so.

This year The Church of Scotland faces radical changes in the way we work due to the shortage of ministers. In the Presbytery of Ayr there are likely to be vacancies in 18 of 48 congregations. In 2015 76.5% of ministers were over 50 years old and less are in training. In future one minister may oversee several churches assisted by elders and members who have been trained to lead worship. Please support your church in staying active to fulfil our calling to spread God's Word to everyone.

Rt Rev Susan Brown, Moderator of General Assembly of Church of Scotland, wrote "As a new year begins, we are all being invited once more, to put our hand in the outstretched hand of our Lord. We are challenged to trust that in everything, God is. And will always be. We are not on our own. This message however, is not for us alone. It is designed to give us the courage to let God's presence make a world of difference to the life of the whole world. We need to think how, in 2019, we are going to do that – because it is a message the world very much needs to hear."

Ballantrae Church Building's 200th Birthday

Built in 1819 Ballantrae Church would like to commemorate this special event – more details to follow in the next issue!

Date for your diary – Ballantrae Church Summer Fair – Saturday 27th July 2019.

Ballantrae Church of Scotland Guild is open to all and meets in Ballantrae Community Centre at 7.15pm. Refreshments are served.



Monday 18th February	Open evening with Isabelle Montgomery and "The Rural Revellers"
Monday 18th March	Talk on "Seema Project" and AGM
Saturday 24th March	12.30 Lenten Lunch in Ballantrae Manse
Saturday 4th May	Coffee Morning 10am to 12noon

The Church of Scotland Guild invites women and men to commit their lives to Jesus Christ and express their faith in worship, prayer and action through fundraising for specific projects. Ballantrae Church Guild is currently supporting The Boys Brigade, Seema's Project and the Sailors' Society. All are welcome to any evening.

MONTHLY EVENTS IN ST COLMON KIRK HALL, COLMONELL

All are welcome to these free events. Donations towards expenses are welcomed.



1st Thursday: Bible Study

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



2nd Thursday: Food & Friendship – join us for a pot luck supper. Just let Claire Pirrie know for catering numbers.



3rd Friday: Filling Station – 7 for 7.30pm Woodland Bay Hotel, Girvan. An evening of contemporary worship music and inspiring speakers.



4th Saturday at 10am Prayer & Praise

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

COLMONELL CIRCLE

All are welcome to any Circle meetings which are held in St Colmon Kirk Hall at 7.30pm with refreshments served.

Monday 25th February.	Safety & Security – Police Ayrshire
Monday 25th March.	Girvan Valley Photographs – Mary Hogg

COFFEE @ KIRK

Every Wednesday St Colmon Kirk Hall is open between 10am and 12noon for coffee, tea, biscuits for the price of a donation. Books are available to borrow or buy. Every 7 weeks a podiatry clinic is held. Contact Claire Pirrie to book an appointment.

Ballantrae Crafty Bees

by Liz Jenkins



Evenings are starting to get lighter which makes it easier to get out and about. Come and join us for some crafts, tea and cake. We have a few fun crafts planned for the coming months. Keep an eye on our Facebook page "Ballantrae Crafty Bees". We meet in BRICC House on the 2nd and 4th Monday of each month at 7.30pm. See you there. No crafting experience necessary! If you want to get in touch please call me on 07582745114.



Ballantrae Bowlers

by Anne McCulloch

Ballantrae Bowling Club opens on Saturday 20 April at 2pm. All are welcome - members, non members, bowlers and non-bowlers. If you want to play or just watch you will be made welcome. Membership fees are only £35 per year for adults. The Junior member's fee is normally £12 but we are waiving this charge for Juniors for 2019. If you are under 18 and want to join or try bowling please come along or get in touch for further details. Contact me, the Club Secretary, on 07917843135

Ballantrae Community Association

by Laura Cunningham

Our Fireworks Display on 5 November and the Craft Fair on 24 November were both very well attended and they raised a combined total of £546. The Children's Christmas Party on 15 December was a great success, with all Santa's Elves working hard to ensure that the children had a great evening. Despite the awful weather on the day and his extremely busy schedule, Santa still managed to squeeze in a visit. Thank you Santa! I would like to extend my thanks to everyone who helped with these events and also to those who helped erect and dismantle the Christmas decorations.

We are currently working on new "Affiliation Guidance" and a draft will be available to BCA member groups shortly.



PINWHERRY & PINMORE

Auld Lang Syne

Mairi Campbell - Pinwherry Village Hall

It was a very special evening at Pinwherry Hall when we were entertained by musician and singer Mairi Campbell. Mairi truly lived up to her reputation as a pioneering figure in Scottish music with her new one-woman theatre show Auld Lang Syne. During the performance Mairi told the story of her personal relationship with the world-renowned Scottish Song. We got insight into her journey from childhood to teenage years, to meeting her husband David and performing Auld Lang Syne in America for Sean Connery in front of an array of Hollywood stars. Years later Mairi was asked if the rendition of Auld Lang Syne she sang in America could be featured on the Sex and the City film soundtrack. A great evening and thanks to all those who came along.



PINWHERRY & PINMORE COMMUNITY COUNCIL

SUPPORT COSTS FOR 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

Pinwherry Community Association
& 2 Pins Company

Craft and Local PRODUCE FAIR

Saturday 29th June 2019
From 10am - 3pm

Handmade goods, local produce, cards and
gifts from local crafts people

Pinwherry Village Field
(Main Street, 9 miles south of Girvan
KA26 0RN)

BBQ on the day

FREE ENTRANCE

For more information
or if you would like to book a stall
contact Morag Campbell on 01465 841641



Pinwherry and Pinmore Community Development (SCIO) Update

Pinwherry School Project

The PPCDA are currently working with South Ayrshire Council on a Community Asset Transfer of the redundant Pinwherry Primary School Buildings after a public meeting with the community residents expressed a wish to transform the building into a fit for purpose community hub facility.

The current Pinwherry Village Hall was built in 1924 by local farmers to replace the village meeting place in the old creamery. Currently the hall is non-compliant with current Disability Discrimination Act requirements with no disabled access, disabled toilets and is no longer fit for purpose. The lack of parking and its constrained design restricts its use for our local organisations to meet the current and future community's needs.

The plan is to turn the main classroom into a community hall, with a kitchen and disabled toilets with baby changing facilities. In the already converted schoolmasters house we are looking to have an office, computer room, and a craft/meeting room. The aim for the external school classroom is to convert this into a space for heritage and local history, visitor information and local crafts. Externally we are looking to create a new entrance and car parking. The Schools memorial stone will be relocated in the grounds along with the World War One memorial being re-instated in the hall.

The new facility will give the community a new fit for purpose community hub where new initiatives and programmes can be run. This will bring a much locally loved building back into community use.

The PPCDA would welcome local residents to become involved not so much in the physical work but to help with ideas and planning to help us support what the future community's needs are.

The PPCDA meet every second Thursday in the month at 7.30 in the current community hall. We would welcome people to come along and get involved.

A look back to the past Pinwherry Primary School Old Log Book entries from 1900's

ENTRIES FROM THE SCHOOL LOG BOOK

Monday 4th Dec. 1893

Finished up in the old school on Friday 1st December. The furniture was removed to the new school on Saturday and work was begun in it today.

The Rev. Mr. Davie, Chairman of the School Board of Colmonell opened the school in the morning with prayer and briefly addressed the children of whom there were 42 present.

INSPECTOR'S REPORT

1894

The pupils were examined for the first time in the new premises, which are most pleasantly situated and tastefully finished. The furniture is suitable and good and the supply of apparatus liberal, a house for the teacher has also been provided. The tone discipline and instruction of the school are superior. Indeed it is not often that such a small school is found in such a high state of general efficiency. The lower section shows decided improvement and now earns for the elementary subjects the highest grant, which has again been secured by the upper division. The style of the written exercises deserves commendation. The general intelligence has been well cultivated and the answering in the class subjects is ready and well distributed. The songs are well rendered and the modulator exercises correctly performed, but time and ear tests require increased attention. Sewing is well attended to.

School Staff

*Alexander Beattie
Mrs Beattie*

The 2 Pins Community Company

The 2 Pins Community Company is currently looking at new initiatives and ideas for the field. One aim is to open the site up to visitors to enable them to park, find out more about the area like local walks, history, heritage and wild life, and maybe stay a little to enjoy the area. Again what do local residents think is needed? If you have any thoughts or ideas please come along to our meetings on the second Thursday in the month at 7 30PM in the Pinwherry Hall.



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SWIM OR GYM?

If you are under twenty years of age or are aged over 60 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

Pinwherry SWI

We meet in the Pinwherry village hall at 7.30pm on the second Monday of each month from September to May and already are half way through the syllabus. We have enjoyed a great talk on the slow food movement with Howard Wilkinson. A wonderful cookery demonstration by Lindsay Guidi. A great talk with the Ayrshire Hospice. A brilliant butchery talk and meat demonstration by John and Liam of Hendries the butchers and a wonderful Christmas dinner at Souters Inn. We are looking forward to hearing from Lord Lieutenant John Dalrymple Hamilton in March and having our pot luck supper in April. In May we will be visiting Newton Stewart Museum which we are very much looking forward to. So, if you are looking for an enjoyable evening of listening to some interesting people or learning new things come along and join us. You will be made most welcome.

If you would like to know more about the rural contact:

Lana Rafferty (secretary) on 841272.

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BIOSPHERE

PLACE: People Land Art Culture and Environment

PLACE Project Update

Happy New Year to all our PLACE Project Communities.

As Spring approaches we look forward to getting another event organised within your community. Some communities already have great ideas for projects or events.

For example, Pinwherry and Pinmore want to establish a proper, mapped, river walk; Borgue on 28th February hosted "Place Names and The Heritage of Borgue and Its Folk"; Kirkcowan are setting up a historical society; New Luce would like to create a nature trail to their old curling pond.

This will be a great achievement for the PLACE Project and help shape the aims of the project as we enter stage 2.

In stage 2 we are looking to get more involvement from our communities, whether that is an informal meeting, event or a guided walk, or a little bit of fun like submitting a short film to us representing your area or an audio recording of a local folklore or story.

We will then extract & edit these recordings together, to create a valuable spoken archive, for your community to keep for future posterity.

Any questions welcome, or just drop us an email to tell us how things are going and what is new in your community for 2019! We would love to visit again and need some dates for our diaries.

Contact: lynsay@gsabiosphere.org.uk
and jono@gsabiosphere.org.uk

Show us your **PLACE!**

As part of the PLACE Project we are inviting you to send in a 1 minute film showcasing what is special about your place! What does it look like, why is it special, who lives and works there, why would you visit?! - Get creative!

Films can be recorded on phones, cameras or drones. They must be emailed to us with permissions to use and edit for the PLACE Project. No need to add sound or professional edits, we can do all that for you!

For more info or to submit a film please contact Lynsay
lynsay@gsabiosphere.org.uk



STINCHAR VALLEY GARDENING CLUB



by Dr Tom Smith

November's meeting of the Gardening Club was entitled "Edible Gardening" and had us salivating at all the suggestions our speakers had for growing our own food. Some were straightforward, others more exotic, and a few downright odd, but entertaining. We will try to follow their examples!

In December, we enjoyed a festive meal at a restaurant in Girvan. A very convivial way to spend an afternoon on a bleak day just before Christmas.

In January we learned all about bees. Our speaker, Phil McAnespie of Ayr, was a hive of information. The talk ranged from the life cycle of bees - poor things - they end the year in mass slaughter of the drones (males whose only function is to try to mate) and a mass community death. And if you are unlucky enough to become an adult worker bee in the spring you have only 6 weeks to live, and then die of old age. Those born (are bees born - is that the right word?) in the autumn live till the next spring, lucky things. As for the queen bees, once their



egg laying rates start to fall off, the workers have no compunction in stinging them to death. Ah well.

Phil was a very informative speaker, although strangely he doesn't like honey - he never eats it. I suppose he is like a fisherman who never eats fish.

In February we have Angus Hogg of Crosshill. I'm writing this in January and by the time you read this he will have delivered his talk.

He has been a backyard birder for over 30 years, and his theme is how to attract birds and other creatures into our gardens. By that time many of us will have completed the nationwide RSPB hour-long annual birdwatch: it will be interesting to compare the range of birdlife in our different valley villages and their surroundings.

Denis Reid of Girvan is our final speaker on 20 March. Denis has been keeping Bonsai for a good number of years and has developed an expertise in the art of keeping these wonderful plants. Knowing Denis, he will keep the standards of our speakers as high as ever, and add his particular brand of humour in doing so. It will be fun, as well as highly informative.

Our summer visits are still in the planning stages, but the quality of last year's choices bodes well for our days out. We are hoping to provide a full summer programme after our AGM on 17 April. If you have suggestions for visits we would love to hear them. Please come along and if you are not already a member of the club, sign up. The talks and outings are always entertaining, and the company is good, too.

For more information contact Moira McAlpine (Chair)

Tel: 01465 831122

Email: moira.mcalpine@btpenworld.com.



Stinchar Valley Photo Group

by Karen Stewart

We had an informal DIY Christmas Buffet on 29 November with food contributed by members and a great opportunity for informal chat about photography and other topics including our first ever exhibition in 2019 when each of our members will be encouraged to display their favourite pictures.

Robert K. Wilson, a professional photographer living in Lendalfoot, was our guest speaker in January.

As well as showing us some of his very impressive work which started in the pre-digital age including the tricks and techniques involved in staging photoshoots in this country and abroad, and a whole range of different subjects from more recent times, he also talked about creating black and white pictures from colour images.

A very inspiring evening which gave an insight into the art of creative photography.



We meet on the last Thursday of the month in BRICC House. During the winter and spring we have speakers and discussions and in the better weather we go "out and about".

Come and join us whether you take pictures with a phone, compact camera or digital SLR. You'll be very welcome.

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Village Events



Date	Event	Location
04/03/19	SWI 89th Birthday party	Ballantrae
09/03/19	Annual Scouts' Auction	Ballantrae Village Hall
16/03/19	Folk Concert	Colmonell
18/03/19	Church Guild AGM	Ballantrae
20/03/19	Colmonell Community Association AGM	Colmonell
24/03/19	Lenten Lunch in the Manse	Ballantrae
08/04/19	Ballantrae in Bloom meeting	Ballantrae
17/04/19	Stinchar Valley Gardening Club AGM	To be arranged
20/04/19	Murder Mystery "Who killed the Easter Bunny"	Barr Village Hall
20/04/19	BRICC coffee morning	Ballantrae, BRICC house
27/04/19	Bowling Club Opening Event	Colmonell Bowling Club
27/04/19	Girvan Traditional Folk Festival Concert	Ballantrae
18/05/19	Race Night	Colmonell Community Centre
19/05/19	Barr Village Open Trails Day	Barr and surrounding Trails
01/06/19	Barr Village Gala	Barr
03/06/19	Fun Week 3rd - 8th June	Colmonell
08/06/19	Fun Day	Colmonell
08/06/19	Ballantrae Festival of Food & Drink	Ballantrae
09/06/19	Ballantrae Festival of Food & Drink	Ballantrae
18/06/19	"549 Scots of the Spanish Civil War"	Ballantrae
29/06/19	Craft and Local Produce Fair and BBQ	Pinwherry
	Community Garden Open Day (July)	Colmonell
06/07/19	Gala Day	Ballantrae
03/08/19	Kirk Fair	Colmonell
10/08/19	Colmonell Agricultural Show	Colmonell
17/08/19	Ballantrae Open Flower Show	Ballantrae
24/08/19	Cream Tea on the Green (SWI)	Pinmore Green
07/09/19	Barrhill Flower Show	Barrhill
07/12/19	Barrhill Christmas Craft Show	Barrhill

Wanted: Photographs for the Stinchar Valley Magazine

Are you a budding photographer? The Stinchar Valley Magazine wants to share with everyone what a beautiful place we live in and the great things happening. We are looking to create a bank of images that we can use for our front cover and back cover and in the magazine. If you have any photographs that you are happy for us to use that you have taken (we will give you full credit when we publish the image of course) then please share them with us.



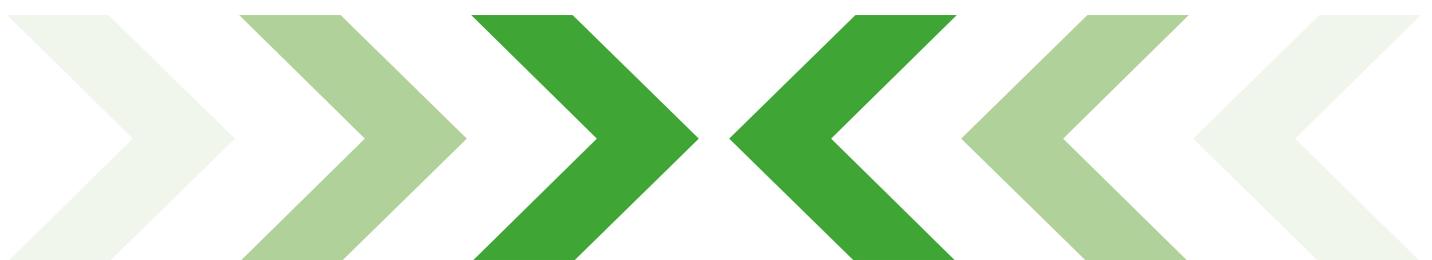
A couple of things to bear in mind: the higher the resolution of the image the better for printing so for example if you have a portrait mode image you think may be suitable for the front cover we recommend at least 2000 pixels wide X 2300 high.

Also Stinchar Valley Magazine will be written across the top if it's a front cover image so that has to be considered if you think you have the perfect front cover!

You can email images to: stinchar-valley-magazine@hotmail.co.uk

Regular meetings and clubs

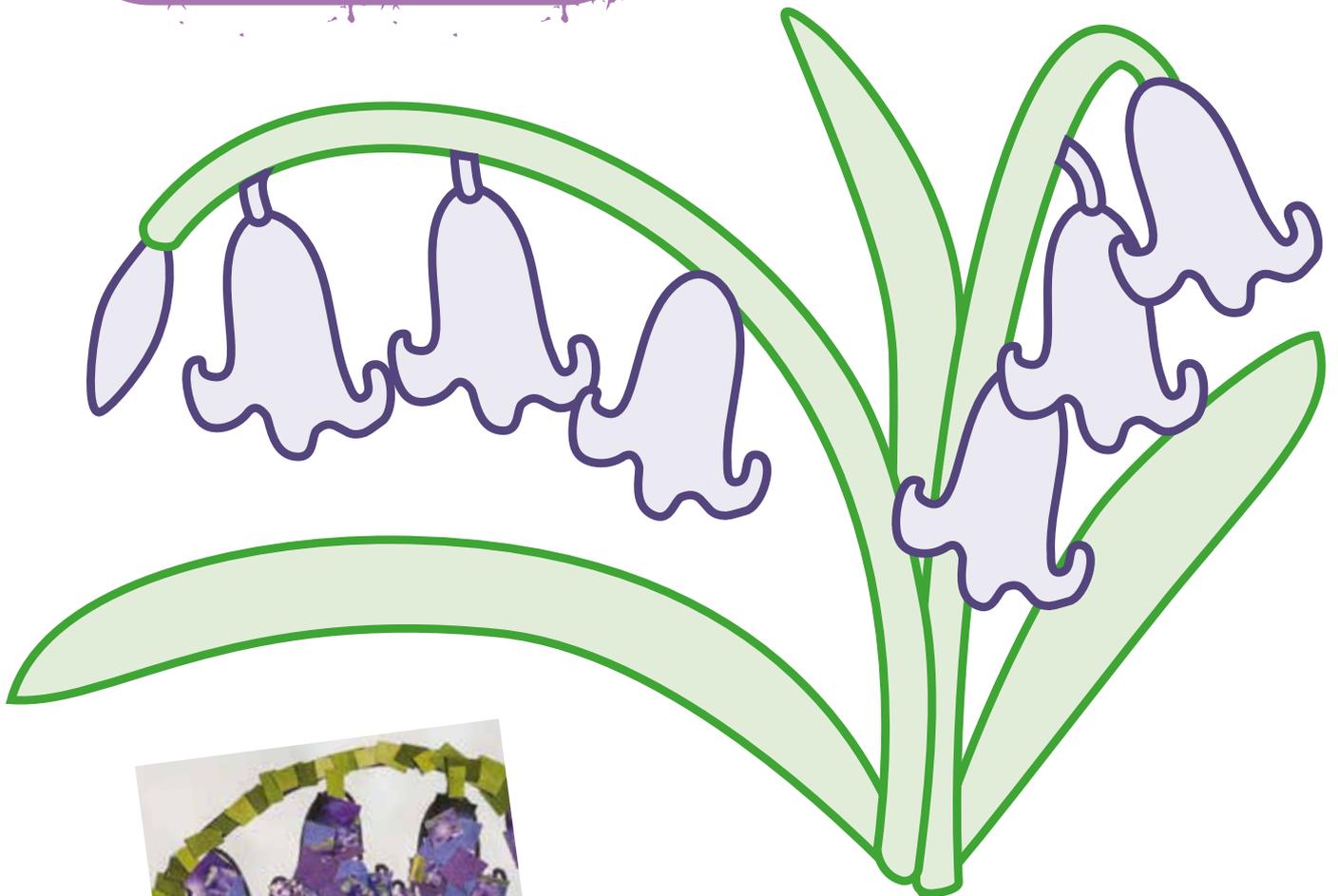
Meeting/club	Day	Frequency	Time	Location
Badminton	Tuesday	Weekly (September to July)	6pm-8pm	Barrhill Memorial Hall
Barrhill Craft Group	First Thursday of month	Monthly	7pm-9pm	Barrhill Memorial Hall
Club Diamonds Keep Fit	Monday	Weekly	7pm-8pm	Barrhill Memorial Hall
Pilates Style Class	Wednesday	Weekly	7:15pm-8pm	Barrhill Memorial Hall
Barrhill Film Night	Fourth Saturday of each month	Monthly	7pm	Barrhill Memorial Hall
Barrhill Playgroup	Thursday	Weekly (term time only)	12-2pm	Barrhill Memorial Hall
Wee Whist	Tuesday	Fortnightly	7pm-10pm	Barrhill Memorial Hall
Barrhill Community Council	Last Wednesday of month	Monthly (except Jul, Sept & Dec)	7pm	Barrhill Memorial Hall
Stinchar Valley Quilters	Mon and Weds	Weekly	6.30 - 9pm	Barr Village Hall
Barr Walking Football	2nd Weds	Monthly	7 - 8.30pm	Barr Village Hall
Upper Stinchar SWI	3rd Thursday of the month	till May	7pm	Barr Village Hall
Wee Whist	every other Tues	till April	7pm	Barr Village Hall
Barr Wee Gallery	every weekend	From Easter till Sept	11am-4pm	Barr Wee Gallery
Stinchar Valley Photo Group	last Thursday of the month	Monthly	7.30pm	Ballantrae, BRICC house
Ballantrae Community Council	last Tuesday of the month	Monthly (except December)	7pm	Ballantrae Community Hall
Ballantrae Bowlers	Sun, Wed & Thurs	Sun & Wed Thurs	7pm 1.30pm	Ballantrae Bowling Club
Country Dancers	Thursday	Weekly (Sept - Mar)	3pm-4.30pm	Ballantrae Community Hall
Toddler Group	Monday	Weekly	1.15pm-2.45pm	Ballantrae Community Hall
Church Guild	Monday	3rd Mon	7.15pm	Ballantrae Community Hall
Ballantrae Scout Group	Tuesday	Weekly	6pm-8.30pm	Ballantrae Community Hall
Scottish Womens Institute	Mondays	1st Mon	7.15pm	Ballantrae Community Hall
Youth Club	Wednesdays		7pm	Ballantrae Community Hall
Ballantrae Crafty Bees	Mondays	2nd & 4th Mons	7.30pm	Ballantrae, BRICC House
Community Lunch Club	Thursday	Weekly	12.30pm	Ballantrae, BRICC House
Community Tuesday Club	Tuesday	Weekly	2pm-4pm	Ballantrae, BRICC House
Club Diamonds Keep Fit	Monday		2.30pm-3.30pm	Colmonell Community Centre
Graceful Years	Wednesday		2pm-5pm	Colmonell Community Centre
Brownies	Wednesday		6.30pm-8pm	Colmonell Community Centre
Scottish Womens Institute	2nd Wednesday of the month			Colmonell Community Centre
Peep for babies and toddlers	Thursday		10.30-11.30am	Colmonell Community Centre
Pilates style Keep Fit Class Intremediate	Thursday	6 week blocks	6pm-6.45pm	Colmonell Community Centre
Pilates style Keep Fit Class Beginners	Thursday	6 week blocks	6.45pm-7.30pm	Colmonell Community Centre
The Valley Choir	Thursday		7.30pm	Colmonell Community Centre
Whist Drive	1st Friday of the month		7.30pm	Colmonell Community Centre
Scottish Womens Institute	2nd Monday of the month		7.30pm	Pinwherry Village Hall



Make a marvellous mosaic!
 Create a dazzling bluebell display.

Spring brings a spectacular sight to our woods – vibrant carpets of bluebells! Make your own bluebell mosaic by cutting out squares of blue, purple and green paper, and sticking them on this outline.

Bluebell mosaic



Mosaic art was very popular in Roman times when it was used to show off a person's wealth and importance!

Feel free to copy and share this for personal and educational use – and don't forget there are loads more brilliant activities to download on our website!

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