

## FULL HOUSE AT THE BALLANTRAE SURGERY !

The Ballantrae surgery was packed on the evening of Monday 28th November. No, it wasn't a flu epidemic – it was grateful patients, and colleagues past and present, showing their appreciation and good wishes to Dr. Hal Maxwell on his retirement. Sharon Robertson reported: *“Ballantrae and district Doctors past and present attended Dr. Hal Maxwell’s retirement presentation... A lovely informal evening in the Surgery with plenty faces from over the years. Lorna Greenhill who has worked in the surgery with the*



*first Dr. Maxwell presented a beautiful gold pocket watch and travel vouchers from all the communities that the surgery covers and also a beautiful handcrafted desk tidy with his brass nameplate set into the wood. There was plenty catching up to do and a great evening was had by all.”*

## Help Ballantrae claim a share of £38,000!

Come along to Girvan Academy on Saturday 18 February (time yet to be confirmed) to support Ballantrae projects secure grant funding. There are 2 pots of money available - one specifically for projects involving children and young people (up to £2,000 per project) and another for more general community projects (up to £1,000 per project). The event is called **"South Carrick Decides"**, a way for local people to choose which projects they want funded in the South Carrick area. Groups bidding for a share each make a 3 minute pitch to the audience of local people who vote. After the votes are counted the money is given to those with the highest number of votes. As we go to press, Ballantrae groups are currently deciding which projects to put forward but we'll be there pitching! Please look out for more details and come and support them.

## Diary

### January

29 Bowling Club AGM 2pm  
31 Community Council mtg.  
7pm in the hall

### February

1 Ball. & District Hort. Society  
AGM 2pm  
28 Comm. Council meeting  
7pm in the hall

## Contact Details

If you have an activity or event you would like publicised on the Ballantrae website, on the Community Centre noticeboard, in this Newsletter, or in the Stinchar Valley Magazine please e-mail [andy.mcalpine@btinternet.com](mailto:andy.mcalpine@btinternet.com) or drop the information in to 42 Foreland, Ballantrae.

The back page of the last edition of the Ballantrae News listed the contact person for each of the groups in the village and a copy is displayed on the noticeboard outside the Community Hall. If any amendments need to be made, new group added or change of contact details, please contact Andy McAlpine as above.

## Next Deadline Dates

Stinchar Valley Magazine  
27 January 2017

Ballantrae News  
10 April 2017



**Christmas Tree  
Lights Switch On**

There was a great turn out at the switch on. Ballantrae Beavers, Cubs, and Scouts were in great voice. The lights were switched on by John Allsop who was retiring from active Scouting after 40 years service to the Scout Association. Thanks to Shirley Risdon for the donation of the tree and McCulloch Rail for collecting, erecting and decorating it. The mulled wine helped warm everyone up after the wild weather!



**Ballantrae Scout Group**

At the beginning of December, kitted out in their new uniforms, courtesy of the Ballantrae Community Council and Carrick Futures Community Benefit Small Grants Scheme, the Beavers, Cubs, Scouts and Leaders said "thank you" to John Allsop for his 40 years service to Scouting (23 years of which were in Ballantrae). John was presented with a Barometer, a photobook and a DVD of John's pictorial Scouting memories. Congratulations too to all of the youngsters who received badges and certificates on the night. The "moving up" ceremonies were quite memorable including Harry "swimming up river" from Beavers to Cubs and changing his uniform on the way! Thanks too to the Beavers, Cubs and Scouts for your carol singing in the rain for the Christmas tree lights switch-on



**Ballantrae & District  
Horticultural Society's**

**AGM** will be held in the Community Hall on Wednesday 1st February at 2 pm. All welcome. New members are always welcome – we could do with new blood if this is to continue so come along and join us.

**NOTICEBOARD**



Glenapp Castle has been named the friendliest hotel in the region at Scottish tourism's equivalent of the Oscars. Glenapp took home the Fishers Most Hospitable Hotel accolade at the West Regional Final of the Scottish Thistle Awards held at Grand Central Hotel in Glasgow in November hosted by TV presenter and former Miss Scotland, Jennifer Reoch. Glenapp will now go on to represent the region at the Scottish Thistle Awards National Final to be held at the Edinburgh International Conference Centre in March 2017.

Annique Armstrong, Regional Director at VisitScotland, said:

*"I am absolutely delighted that Glenapp Castle has been recognised for its outstanding contribution to tourism in Ayrshire."*



**Stinchar Valley  
Photo Group**

On Thursday 26 January Karen Stewart will run a "back to basics" session at 7.30pm in BRICC House on transferring pictures

from your camera to your computer - organising them in files etc. We'll also see some of the pictures members have taken over the festive season. We are particularly keen to see pictures from members who have not brought any to show so far! The group meets on the last Thursday of every month (except December) and is for anyone with an interest in taking pictures - on their phone, using a compact or a digital camera. Come and join us - you'll be very welcome! No membership fee - just £2 per night and your first night is free!



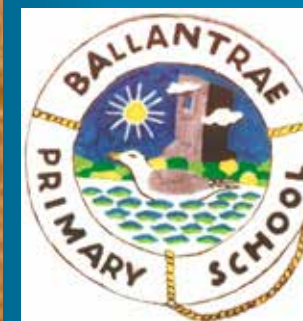
**Farmers' Markets and BFFD**

The Ballantrae Development Group (BDG) has now handed over the running of the Ballantrae Farmers' Markets to Craigmains Home and Garden Centre and Rhone Cottage (who also run the markets at Culzean Castle and Dumfries House).

In 2017 markets will be held on the second Sunday of every month from April to October with the exception of June when Ballantrae will, once again, be holding a Festival of Food & Drink.

**BALLANTRAE FARMERS' MARKET**

Last year Ballantrae Primary School was one of 260



schools across the UK to take part in the 'Polli:Nation' programme, which aims to transform outdoor spaces to become pollinator-friendly habitats, with the support of the national school grounds charity, "Learning through Landscapes."



**FUN FIT**

• BEST REASONS TO EXERCISE  
FLEXIBILITY • STRENGTH  
ENERGY  
TO LOOK YOUNGER  
MOVE IT!  
POSTURE • MEMORY MOOD  
Body FIT

Fun Fit classes  
**MONDAY 6pm**  
in Ballantrae  
Community Hall.

open to everyone  
over the age of 18

£3 per session

Please bring water  
and a towel

**Come & enjoy the fun!**



## ***The Future of Ballantrae Development Group***

### **IN A NUTSHELL :**

***Ballantrae Development Group is the sub-group of the Ballantrae Community Council that has initiated such events as the Smugglers' Festival and the Food & Drink Festival. It has come to light that, due to the informal nature of the sub-group, the BCC members would be personally liable for any financial loss from activities, which is clearly not acceptable. It is therefore ESSENTIAL that this situation is corrected before the 2017 festival season starts. Furthermore, being a Trust would help us access the grant funding for such large projects as the Play Park improvements.***

*AND NOW, IN MORE DETAIL (as submitted to the BCC meeting in November 2016):*

## **The Future of Ballantrae Development Group**

The BDG has existed for almost 6 years as a sub group of the Ballantrae Community Council (BCC). Grant funders tell us that the BDG's activities have "approached a scale that is no longer appropriate for a Community Council to be responsible for". Community Councils are statutory bodies, meaning that in the event of dissolution, their assets revert to the local authority. Community Councils are unincorporated, which means that individual office bearers hold personal and unlimited liability for activities. Grant funders therefore advise that the BDG needs to move to become a separately constituted, incorporated organisation, e.g. a Trust.

This will be particularly important as the village starts to tackle some of the larger investment and challenging projects in the Village Development Plan including the re-vamping of the play park and the Recreation Ground, continuing to develop the Smugglers' Festival and the Festival of Food and Drink - all within an environment of continuing local authority and national budget cuts.

This is not breaking new ground. Other communities across Scotland have established similar organisations and we shall be learning from their experiences. For example, while the BCC and a Trust will be separate bodies with their own responsibilities, it's really important that the Community Council and the Trust complement each other and have a shared vision of the future of the village. It will also be important to ensure broad representation on the Trust's governing body of BCC members, local

groups, and individuals, to manage the Trust's affairs on behalf of all of Ballantrae. Advice will be sought from the Development Trust Association Scotland on how best to achieve this.

Initial research shows that Development Trusts are community organisations which typically:

- are owned and managed by the local community
- aim to ensure the sustainable regeneration of a community or address a range of issues within that community
- are independent but seek to work in partnership with others in the private, public and third sectors
- aim to reduce dependency on grant support by generating income through enterprise and the ownership of assets. All trading surpluses are reinvested in the organisation or the community.

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Therefore it is proposed to start detailed discussions with the Development Trust Association Scotland about setting up a Ballantrae Trust.

The Community Council will continue and the village will be informed of progress at BCC meetings and through the Ballantrae News (the next edition is due out in January).

Stephen Ogston  
Chair, Ballantrae Development Group  
November 2016

**To find out more, come along to the Community Council meeting on 31st January at 7pm in the Community Hall.**