

Ballantrae NEWS

Contact Details

If you have an activity or event, you would like publicised in the Ballantrae News or the monthly 'What's On Calendar', please email debbiecassels@icloud.com

Next Deadline Date

Summer Issue (June, July, August) copy deadline will be May 1st, 2023

Key Dates

Sun 26th March, 2pm,
Ballantrae History Group meeting

Fri 31st March, music event

Sun 9th April, Easter harbour service

Sun 7th May, special service of celebration for the Coronation of King Charles

Medical Practice closed Good Friday and Easter Monday, 7th and 10th April

Library closed Good Friday and Easter Monday, 7th and 10th April

Also, check out the monthly 'What's On Calendar' around the village!

Ballantrae News is funded by Ballantrae Community Fund.

SAFETY FIRST on Ballantrae Roads



Ballantrae Community Council continue to be pro-active with regards to traffic and safety in our community. In the latter half of 2022 we pushed hard for the completion of Carlock Wall and highlighted many local roads issues to Ayrshire Roads Alliance and Amey. In May we initiated the first of two meetings on the A77 trunk road with representatives from Police Scotland, Locality Policing, Transport Scotland, Amey, and our local MSP office.

The objective of these meetings was to discuss pedestrian safety through the village, with the main issues being the speed at which traffic approaches the village, and the difficulties and dangers crossing the main road especially during ferry times. The meetings were chaired by Elena Whitham MSP.

Various proposals have been put forward to help address these issues, including traffic police patrols, extensions to the 30mph speed limit zones, installation of variable speed limit signs and provision of safe crossing points. Members of the community council are in continued discussions with all interested parties to try to reach a workable solution for all and we look forward to reporting a positive outcome in the future. However, given the A77 is a designated trunk road, there are constraints and procedures which must be followed, and inevitably take time.

Locality Police have also performed several deployments carrying out speed checks and these checks will continue in line with officer availability. The group was invited to a speed gun demo, which proved a good deterrent as drivers see the hi-vis jackets. To this end, funding and volunteers are being sought to ascertain the feasibility of a Ballantrae Community Speed Watch team which would be able to assist the police in this regard.

In addition, Ayrshire Roads Alliance have promised to investigate the possibility of re-surfacing Vennel Car Park and installing 30mph limit signs through Garleffin.

If anyone has any additional issues or indeed would like to volunteer for the Speed Watch team, please email BCC on ballantraecommunitycouncil@gmail.com



The Ballantrae Trust

A fun packed day to end the Ballantrae Community Association (BCA) Festival of Light and The Ballantrae Trust's offering for the village's Christmas party came together in December - a huge thanks to all the helpers that put on a great day for all.

Into the new year and we had our 1st event in the shape of the Gaiety Theatre's own take on a murder mystery which was well received by nearly 50 guests who tucked into some Burns fare while asking questions of the suspects.

We have a new subgroup within the Trust who are planning a whole catalogue of events for the year ahead with at least one per month. Exciting times ahead.

There are other projects in the pipeline and those will be brought out later.

Garry Thomson, Chair



Did you spot the three non-Christmas items?



A Special General Meeting was held on Monday January 16th between shareholders and the Management Committee in order for the MC to give an update on the current position and for the shareholders to ask questions and bring forward ideas for the future.

The meeting was open and constructive with some good ideas expressed with the main priorities being funding for repairs to the building and a new business plan.

The Plunkett Foundation has put together a report looking at various management options and this is currently being considered by the MC.

Community Enterprise is still working on solutions for funding and by the time of the AGM in March some conclusions should have been reached.

Nominations to join the MC closed on Monday 23rd January and the AGM will be held on Monday 13th March at 7.30 in the Community Hall.

The Kings Arms Management Committee



Ballantrae Community Council

After the successful renewal of the armoured rock to the rear of the harbour last year, we are currently obtaining quotations for further remedial works to the structure. We believe it is important that we continue to maintain the fabric of the harbour, not only for residents and visitors, but as part of our village's strong fishing heritage. The harbour has long been an outstanding visitor attraction for our village and continues to provide invaluable service, to our current, if small, fishing fleet.

Another high priority is the safety of pedestrians and cyclists, and to this end we have been working with various stakeholders and partners. (See front page.)

We continue to distribute small grant funds (up to £500) on behalf of Carrick Futures and would encourage any village group requiring support with a project, to apply to this fund.

Council meetings are held on the final Tuesday of each month (excluding December and July) at 7pm in the community hall. Meetings are open to all members of the community.

Ballantrae Primary School and Early Years Centre

Panto and Hot Chocolate Afternoon

Before Christmas the School watched an on-line "Jack and the Beanstalk" pantomime, starring Su Pollard and the Chase's Mark Labbett. During the show, Mrs Holden served some delicious homemade hot chocolate for all the children. All the pupils and staff had a lovely afternoon.



Christmas Parties

During the last week of school prior to the Christmas holidays our children enjoyed their festive parties. Each class danced, played games, and enjoyed snacks. We also had a very special visitor – Father Christmas, who very kindly gave everyone a Christmas present. Thank you, Santa!



Cozy Space

On the afternoon of Wednesday 1st February, we hosted our first Cozy Space. It was wonderful to see friends of our school attend for a blether with others and join in activities with some of our pupils.

The Cozy Space will be held every Wednesday in our Lunch Hall from 2pm to 3pm. School will provide a hot drink, a biscuit, and some company.

Each week a small number of children from the Primary School and EYC will attend the Cozy Space with a selection of board games and puzzles which you are welcome to join in with. Alternatively, you can sit and have a chat with others. We hope to see you soon.



Ballantrae Baby & Toddler Group

The baby and toddler group meets on Mondays in the community hall from 10am - 12am. Our group can be found on Facebook; *Ballantrae Toddlers*.

Ballantrae Festival of Light

The Little Ballantrae Festival of Light ran from 11th -18th December. Thank you to everyone who decorated windows, giving pleasure to those who ventured out in the cold weather using clues to find them. During the week the hall was open for people to pop in for a hot drink and some snacks and there was quite a buzz when they were joined by some of the groups using the hall.

Congratulations to Laura Cunningham and Bob and Cheryl Agnew and family who received prizes for finding all the windows and hidden items.

As for Best Window display lights, when votes were counted, it was a three-way tie between 42, The Foreland, Studio 74 and BRICC. Each winner will receive a prize in recognition of this.

A cross section of the community attended the Sunday event that rounded off the week. Thank you to the Ballantrae Trust for organising the Children's entertainer, Shannon, who provided games, music and face painting for the young people, as well as the food and selection boxes. Everyone was able to participate in the Christmas crafts and quiz and most importantly a visit from Santa.

This was a small event organised at short notice and due to positive feedback, it is our intention to hold another Ballantrae Little Festival of Lights in 2023.

Thank you to the following funders, individuals and groups:

~ Funders – Kilgallioch Community Fund, Carrick Futures, Asda Foundation

~ Santa for visiting on Sunday

~ Christmas Elves – The wonderful Baking elves from BRICC and The Church. Everyone enjoyed the home baking (mince pies and shortbread).

~ The Craft Elves and Crafty Bees for manning the craft tables.

~ Volunteers and committee members from The Ballantrae Trust, Ballantrae Community Council and Ballantrae Community Association.

Finally, a big thank you to Robert Adams (Shellknowe Garage) for allowing his staff the time to put up the Christmas lights on the Main Street.



Ballantrae Scout Group



Ballantrae Scouts meet each Tuesday evening during term time, either in the Community Hall or an alternate location within Ballantrae village.

Beavers (age 6-8) meet from 5.45-6.45pm
Cubs (age 8-10) meet from 6-7.30pm
Scouts (age 10-14) meet from 6.45-8.15pm

Boys and girls from Ballantrae and the surrounding villages are most welcome to join us!

For more details, please contact Wendy McKechnan (07831 370514) or Kate Thomson (07765490649) for Beavers and Scouts, and Hazel Cowieson (07533997402) or Alison Mackay (07710 973015) for Cubs.

Scottish Country Dancing Class

We meet in the hall at 2:30 – 4:00 pm on a Tuesday, cost £1 per class.

We are a small, informal group and we welcome new members, previous experience not required, and beginners are very welcome.

Come along and give it a try!

Crafty Bees

If you fancy getting out of the house, doing some crafts, and having some cake, pop along and join us on the 2nd and 4th Monday of every month (excluding school holidays), from 7-9.30pm in Ballantrae Village Hall. £3 each session.

No crafting experience needed. Bring ideas of any crafts you fancy doing. All welcome.

BRICC Thrift Shop and BRICC House

We continue to raise vital funds for the development at Orchard Lea. Strong volunteers are always very welcome to help in the shop and with deliveries. We run a monthly Whist evening, fortnightly Lunch Club on Thursdays, and recently the Tuesday Club has restarted.

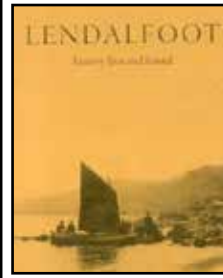
The Tuesday Club has been running for 29 years, and at its peak was attended by over 25 residents from in and around Ballantrae. Now, after an enforced break during the pandemic, the club enjoys meeting at BRICC House from 2-4pm, starting with tea/coffee/sandwiches/pancakes followed by games and/or entertainment. New faces are always welcome, as are volunteers to help with driving and entertainment.

We at BRICC, support Care in the Community. When you need help, please ask – it is easy!

Rosemary Stevenson

Ballantrae History Group

Ballantrae History Group met on Sunday 29th January in the Community Hall, and heard from Patrick, Maureen and Robert about an amazing book about Lendalfoot. Their talk took us through how they developed the book, gathered the information, and published. Followed by refreshments the twenty or so attendees



really enjoyed the presentation. If you are interested in local history why not join us at 2-4pm on the Sunday 26th March in the community centre.



BOWLING CLUB

Ballantrae Bowling Club will open on Saturday 15th April at 2pm, this is open to bowlers, non-bowlers, so why not come along and join in or spectate. For further details please contact Anne on 07949734136.

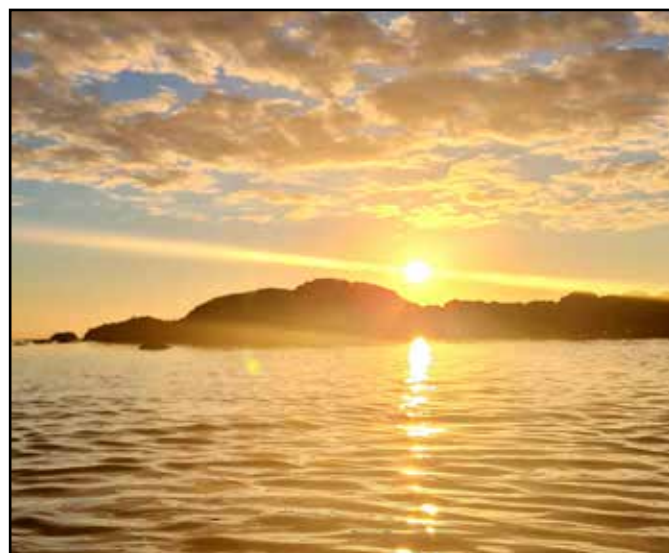


Daft Dippers

Our boxing day dip was re-scheduled due to the high winds (and waves!) but we did manage a quick dip on New Year's Day. Thanks to all who joined including those who dressed up!

If you have ever fancied having a wee dip in the sea but maybe don't want to go alone, feel free to join us at any time. We have a Facebook page called Debbie's Daft Dippers. All ages are welcome. Male and Female. We are more dippers and talkers than serious swimmers but have a great time. It really is therapy! You get to have a chat with friends and enjoy the swim/playing in the waves - plus sunsets look even more beautiful from in the sea. Join the Facebook page or contact any of us if you are interested. We usually just post when free and then plan from there.

You won't regret trying!



Ballantrae Parish Church

Ballantrae Church was pleased to have their Christmas trees on display in time for the village Festival of Lights. Thank you to Glenapp Estate who kindly donate the trees every year, to our army of helpers who got the trees up with new lights, and who made arrangements for the church windows. The Watchnight service on Christmas Eve was well attended, as usual, by a mixture of local people and visitors to the area. It is always a special occasion to spend time together and welcome in Christmas Day at midnight.

A carol service was held at Glenapp church, 'The Wee Kirk down the Glen' in the middle of December. This service incorporated bible readings and carols, leading us through the story of Advent to the birth of Jesus and to the visitors of shepherds and wise men. We were

delighted to welcome one of our local Ukrainian families who sang a beautiful and lively carol from their homeland. Thank you to Maria, Andree, Pavlov, and Anastasia.

Remember that our Tuesday Coffee Time is always open to everyone who wants some social time and lovely home baking. Thank you to Jessie Brown and Jessie Anderson for making such a variety of delicious goodies each week!

Watch out for our Easter Sunday 9th April harbour service followed by breakfast rolls and a hot drink.

There will be a special service of celebration for the Coronation of King Charles on Sunday 7th May.

Claire Strain

Ballantrae Session Clerk



A World Free of MND

In January 2022 three of my walking friends Mike, Bryan and Anna approached me about doing a walk in aid of the Doddie Weir Foundation in memory of my dad Gary Voce who died in November 2021 from MND. The plan was to do a relay the entire 106 miles of the Ayrshire Coastal Path, over two days, from Skelmorlie to Glenapp and then to climb Knockdolian (my dad climbed it over 200 times).

On May 13th, day 1, there were walkers on the path at every stage, and from Troon to Ballantrae the runners did a relay using my dad's walking pole to pass on at each stage. The day was a great success.

On day 2, dozens of people turned up to walk from Glenapp to Ballantrae. Ann Robertson from Barrhill kindly came with her minibus to ferry walkers to the start point and again to the foot of Knockdolian.

The sun was shining, and we made good time back to Ballantrae in time for a cold

refreshment in the beer garden at the Kings Arms.

Most of the walkers and quite a few others joined in for the climb up Knockdolian and it was a pleasant surprise at the top to find that Gordon and Laura Hyslop had managed to get their 4x4 to the summit and set up an excellent bar and snacks. Over 40 people enjoyed a cold refreshing drink on the summit in the sunshine. A plaque made by Stuart McCreadie of my dad on top of his first Munro aged 78 was placed on the trig by Eddie McCulloch. We could have stayed up there all afternoon in the sun, but the weekend was not finished yet!

In the evening, Mark at the Kings Arms and the staff all made us welcome with food and good hospitality. Davie Anderson entertained us all with his music which was fantastic, and Garry Thomson ended the night with a karaoke and disco.

The whole weekend was a huge success, and we raised an incredible £5000 in aid of the Doddie Weir Foundation!

I would like to thank every single person who made the relay possible. From Mike, Bryan and Anna, Ann Robertson, Mark and the staff at the Kings Arms, Gordon and Laura Hyslop, Stuart McCreadie, Eddie McCulloch, Fiona Roper and Davie Anderson who played free of charge as did Garry Thomson and every single person who walked, ran and donated.

Other friends from around the world took part at the same time we were walking. My friend John Torbet walked up Table Mountain in South Africa, Marie and Lisa McCulloch walked Central Park in New York, and Sandra and Ronnie O'Hare walked in Portugal. *Same time this year?*

Sharon Robertson



Very best wishes and a Happy New Year from Studio74. With our Spring re-opening just 2 months away Debbie is busy working on loads of new work for you to view from Saturday 1st April. This new work will be complemented by regular guest contributions from local crafters/ makers.

First up is Ballantrae's own Robbie Roper with his amazing rope work and followed by Paula Sandford-Marsh, PSM Artwork and Gifts.

Spring/Summer Opening Times:
April to September, Thursday - Sunday
11am - 5pm

Please note that if you wish to visit outwith these times, we will do our best to accommodate you. Debbie currently has availability on her weekly art class which is suitable for those wishing to get back into painting or just wishing to try new techniques. Please get in touch if you fancy giving it a try.

Contact details: 74 Main Street, Ballantrae, KA26 0NB; 07862 063559; Facebook Studio Seventy Four; email studio74ballantrae@gmail.com

SHELLKNOWE GARAGE
MOT's, repairs, servicing, tyres and exhaust

Call 01465 831365

Monday:	08:00 - 17:00
Tuesday:	08:00 - 17:00
Wednesday:	08:00 - 13:00
Thursday:	08:00 - 17:00
Friday:	08:00 - 17:00

USEFUL INFORMATION

Mobile Branch Times

Location: Kings Arms Hotel Car Park

Time: 12:05 – 12:30

Every second Thursday

9th March

23rd March

6th April

20th April

4th May

18th May



Library Opening Times

Monday 4pm – 7pm

Tuesday 3pm – 5pm

Wednesday Closed

Thursday 10am – 12 noon

Friday 10am – 12 noon

Bin Calendar

2023 March						
M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa	Su
			1 GF	3	4	5
6	7	8	F	10	11	12
13	14	15	GF	17	18	19
20	21	22	PF	Br	25	26
27	28	29	GF	31		

2023 April						
M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa	Su
					1	2
3	4	5	GF	7	8	9
10	11	12	Br	14	15	16
17	18	19	F	Br	22	23
24	25	26	GF	28	29	30

2023 May						
M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa	Su
1	2	3	PF	5	6	7
8	9	10	Br	12	13	14
15	16	17	GF	Br	20	21
22	23	24	GF	26	27	28
29	30	31				

Collection Key

- Blue bin & Food caddy
- F Food caddy
- Br Brown bin
- GF Green & Grey bins, Food caddy
- PF Purple-lidded bin & Food caddy
- GF Green bin & Food caddy
- GF Grey bin & Food caddy
- Green & Blue bins, Food caddy

BALLANTRAE BABY AND TODDLER GROUP

Mondays 10am - 12noon

Ballantrae Village Hall

£1 entry

All welcome!



Request to join our page on Facebook; Ballantrae Toddlers 2022

RACE NIGHT



Ballantrae scout group are hosting a night of virtual horse racing at

Ballantrae village hall

On Saturday 25th March

First race at 7.30 pm

Tickets £5 (includes nibbles)

Tickets available from Wendy Mckechn tel 07831370514, Kate Thomson 07765 490649 , Lynne Hyslop 07823440483 or via Facebook/messenger

Raising funds for this years big scout camp



Make friends

Have fun

Build your confidence

This could be you!

WE ARE LOOKING FOR...

RAINBOWS

BROWNIES

LEADERS

GUIDES

RANGERS

EMAIL: <GROWTHCOORDINATOR@GIRLGUIDINGAYRSHIRESOUTH.ORG.UK FOR MORE INFORMATION

WWW.GIRLGUIDINGSCOTLAND.ORG.UK

Scottish charity number: SC025146

Partner MADE