

July

- 7 Gala Day (1pm-4pm) and Dance (7:30pm)
- 8 Farmers' Market : Craigmains
- 8 Bowler/Non Bowler Open Competition, Bowling Green, 1pm
- 21 Church Fair 2pm

August

- 4 Flower Show 2pm
- 9 Judging of the "Ballantrae in Bloom" garden competition
- 10-12 Ballantrae Smugglers' Festival
- 12 Farmers' Market
- 28 Community Council meeting
- 31 Ballantrae Music "Kilda" in the church 7.30pm

September

- 9 Farmers' Market at Craigmains
- 25 Community Council meeting
- 29 "The Best of Ballantrae" in the church

Contact

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 email andy.mcalpine@btinternet.com or drop the information in to 42 Foreland, Ballantrae.

Next Deadlines

Stinchar Valley Magazine (Autumn)
27 July for distribution w/c 3 September

Ballantrae News

2 October for distribution at the end of October

Ballantrae NEWS

Gala Day 7 July

We are working hard to ensure that this year's Gala Day is memorable for children and adults alike. After the crowning of the Gala Queen at 1pm there will be attractions from Talk of the Town, a tug of war, a pet show, a car boot sale, a Gala Raffle, and lots of activities for children. There will also be the usual beer and tea tents. Village groups are encouraged to take a stall (contact Laura on 831785 to book) AND make a donation to

the Gala Raffle (donations to Laura, Linden or Andy please). For more information follow "Information Ballantrae" and "Ballantrae Village Gala & Events" (both on Facebook) and purchase a Lucky Programme from Laura or Aylie. In the evening the family friendly Gala Dance, starting at 7.30pm, will feature The Spuds. Some tickets are still available from Laura on 831785 and Gemma on 831450.

Ballantrae Year of Young People 2018 Project



The Ballantrae Trust has, once again, teamed up with a number of partners from outwith the village to offer a series of exciting Summer Holiday Activities for our young people to supplement what local groups will be doing. Pick up an "Easter Holidays Activities" leaflet from Craigmains, Scotmid or the Garage at the end of June and watch "Information Ballantrae" (Facebook) for updates.



Markets will be held in Craigmains Home and Garden Centre Ballantrae on 8 July, 12 August and 9 September from 11am to 3pm.

BALLANTRAE THEATRE



We had our best ever audience turnout for an excellent production of "The Price of a Fish Supper" in May. We look forward to two productions as part of this year's Smugglers' Festival (see page 4) and "Kilda" who will be playing in the church on Friday 31 August. We are currently finalising details of productions for September to January. These will also be in the church while the school has sole use of the Community Hall from mid August.

"KILDA": Friday 31 August, Ballantrae Church, Main Street at 7.30pm

The latest band to emerge on to the Scottish Music scene is "Kilda" bringing together some of the finest young musicians. Together they create a lively and energetic sound combining tunes and songs from their Scottish roots.



TICKETS £9; CONCESSIONS £8 (over 60, Disability, Unemployed, Students); £6 Child are available from Craigmains or the Gaiety Box Office www.ayrgaiety.co.uk or 01292 288235

Ballantrae Trust AGM and "What Next?"

The first Trust AGM was held on 1 May. Around 30 people attended and eleven Directors were voted on to the new Trust Board: Alan and Carol Bell, Jessie Brown, Dan Cunningham, Gavin Fairbairn, Siobhan Liddington, Andy McAlpine, Aylie McIlwraith, John McIlwraith, Mhairi McKenna and Claire Mills. Resolutions were submitted and passed removing the one-off membership subscription of £2, increasing the number of Ordinary member Directors to 11 and the minimum to 5. At the first Board meeting held on 3 May Andy McAlpine was elected Trust Board Chair with John McIlwraith as Treasurer.

One of the major items on the agenda of the Board meeting on 18 June will be an update

on the many projects the Trust has inherited from the Ballantrae Development Group which the Trust has replaced. The Board is already considering what it needs to do for the Festival of Food and Drink to return in 2019. Work continues on the planning for the upgrading of the Play Park with funding now standing at around £20,400. A report on the Year of Young People Easter 2018 programme has now been produced and copies are available from Andy McAlpine. Planning has started for a Summer Holiday Activity programme as part of the Year of Young People 2018 project. You can read elsewhere in this newsletter about Ayrshire Rural Touring Network productions, and cinema returning to Ballantrae. All of these initiatives are being progressed by The Trust.

Ballantrae Scout Group

We were successful in our bid to Carrick Futures for funding for ScotJam Cub and Scout camp and a series of water based ACE days for all 3 sections. Leaders recently visited Lochgoilhead Scout Activity Centre in Argyll for a planning weekend for ScotJam 2018 which our Cubs and Scouts will be attending this summer (Cubs 16-20 July and Scouts 21-28 July). The weekend was great with plenty of sunshine in an absolutely breathtaking location and the activity programme sounds amazing. Beavers and Cubs had an amazing "sleepover" in May in the Glasgow Science Centre with over 320 Beavers and Cubs. The event was organised by Kate our Beaver

Leader, and her efforts were recently recognised by the District. Later in May we had a fantastic walk on Ballantrae Beach - our version of the annual "Jamboree On The Trail" which is held around the world on the same day. At the finish we were totally spoiled by the Scouts with an endless supply of delicious burgers & sausages. Many thanks to all who attended our Annual Scout Auction resulting in a grand total of £416.50. Thanks also to all who donated items and helped on the day.



Wendy McKeachan

Stinchar Valley Gardening Club

What fabulous weather we have had recently and as gardeners we are making up for the time lost during the poor Spring and the effects we experienced from the "Beast from the East". All of a sudden our gardens are bursting into life and plants we had forgotten about are re-surfacing as if to say "I'm back!"

The Stinchar Valley Gardening Club summer visits are in full swing. In April we visited Millhall, near Kirkcudbright. This is a wonderful, tiered garden on the banks of the River Cree. We were given a conducted tour by the owner and enjoyed a visit to remember. In May we visited Balker Farmhouse at Castle

Kennedy. We were privileged to be shown round by the lady gardener who assisted Lady Stair with the development and maintenance of what was essentially her very private and personal garden. Sadly, Lady Stair passed away last year but the garden remains as her legacy and testimony to her talent as a garden designer. Our next visit is to Woodfall near Whithorn on Wednesday, 20th June. Our July visit is to Glendoune Gardens in Girvan and the August visit is to Dalswinton House near Dumfries. Final details of both to be confirmed.

The gardening club is a very informal group whose aim is to encourage more people to

enjoy our green spaces. We are lucky, as a club, to visit gardens which are not always open to the public, so please join us if you can.

You'll be very welcome and we can arrange transport if needed. For more details about the club and/or visits, please contact me. My telephone number is: 01465831122

Moiria McAlpine



Ballantrae Parish Church Primary School Fire

by Bob!). It has been recommended to Presbytery that the work be passed, so hopefully we can progress with looking for a new minister.

Forthcoming events which we are involved in are the Ballantrae Gala Day (7 July) and our Annual Summer Fair (21 July). Please make a note in your diary for the 'Best of Ballantrae' event which is happening again on Saturday 29 September. More information to follow!

"May we treasure light this summer, willing to get up and see some dawns, taking time to be with the sunset, allowing these times of changing light to feed our awareness of the light within."

Come, come feel the light, breathe in the energy of summer, let new dawns rise within you, resting, restoring and refreshing your spirits."

God Bless

Claire Strain, Ballantrae Parish Church
Session Clerk
(831246) clairestrain@live.co.uk

It is with great sadness that we report a major fire at Ballantrae Primary School on the evening of Monday 4 June. The blaze was contained to the main building and damaged three of the four classrooms. The new extension was unaffected. The fire started at around 8pm and quickly caught hold. More than 30 firefighters worked through the night. Thankfully no-one was injured in the incident. Alternative arrangements have been made to relocate the children until the end of term.



Dragonfly Photograph by Howard Galley



It was lovely to be involved and invited to join the Agnew Family Reunion. They had perfect weather for their weekend of activities!

Elders have been around their designated districts in the month of May. I hope you know your elder, and if you ever feel you would like a visit from either your elder or another member of the church - please get in touch with me as pastoral care needs must never be forgotten even whilst we don't have a minister.

The contractor has completed the work in the manse, as well as other tidying up done outside in the garden (especially



News Snippets

Scotsheep 2018 at King's Arms Farms, Ballantrae

Congratulations to Robert and Caroline Dalrymple, and Andrew and Fiona McLean for hosting an outstanding Scotsheep 2018 which over 6000 people attended from across the UK.

Ballantrae Community Association

Because one of our new hall tables has gone missing we have introduced a new system for hiring tables and chairs from the Association. For more information pick up a leaflet from Roy or Cathy at the Hall. The hall is having new windows fitted during July and early August prior to the school taking sole use of the hall from August to the beginning of January 2019 so no further bookings will be taken for the hall until the new year. See elsewhere in this newsletter for our plans for Gala Day.

Ballantrae Bowling Club will be holding the following events:

Open Triples – Sunday 24 June (round robin event) (times to be confirmed)

Gala Bowls – Bowler / Non bowler day – Sunday 8 July (1pm start)

Open Pairs – Saturday 14 July (times to be confirmed)

For further information or entry for the Open tournaments please contact Anne on 07917 843135.

Ballantrae Cinema

Cinema will soon be returning to Ballantrae! The Ballantrae Trust is working in partnership with Driftwood Cinema based in Dumfries and Galloway. Grant funding has been secured to allow 6 screenings in Ballantrae to fund the cost of licensing, hire of equipment and the training of locals to manage the screenings and operate the equipment. Screenings will be in the church initially. Watch for more information as plans progress.

Flower Show

Saturday 4 August 2pm-4pm: Schedules (50p) are available now either from Linden Hunt at 1 Ailsa Drive or Craigmains. Linden is also looking for new members (you don't have to know anything about growing) and helpers on the day, supporting the judges etc. If you can help please call her on 01465 831207.

Smugglers Festival 10 - 12 AUGUST

Our annual festival celebrates and keeps alive Ballantrae's colourful smuggling history!

Friday 10 August

"BALLANTRAE SMUGGLER'S MURDER MYSTERY" (family friendly) 7pm for 7.30pm
Ballantrae Community Centre, Main Street, Ballantrae KA26 0NH

Tickets: £9/£8 (Concessions) £6 (child)



Saturday 11 August

"McDOUGALL'S TREASURE HUNT" (Ages 2+)
1.45pm for 2pm
Ballantrae Community Centre, Main Street, Ballantrae KA26 0NH

Tickets: £4 for all

Tickets for both performances are available from Craigmains Home and Garden Centre or the Gaiety Box Office 01292 288235

Saturday 11 August

"THE BALLANTRAE SMUGGLERS' SUPPER" (adults only) 7pm for 7.30pm, King's Arms Hotel, Main Street, Ballantrae KA26 0NH
Tickets: £15 (includes meal and entertainment) from The King's Arms, Ballantrae 01465 831202

Sunday 12 August

"THE CONTRABAND CHALLENGE" (family teams) 11am - 3pm
"BALLANTRAE FARMERS' AND SMUGGLERS' MARKET" 11am-3pm
both at Craigmains Home and Garden Centre, Main Street, Ballantrae KA26 0NH

Look out for...

"BALLANTRAE SMUGGLERS - WHAT'S THE STORY" Ballantrae Smugglers - a video produced by the children of Ballantrae Primary School (classes 5-7) with soundtrack of them singing "Smuggler" which relates to our South Ayrshire coastline.

Pick up a leaflet at the end of June with the full programme. Follow us on Facebook:

@BallantraeSmugglersFestival and www.ballantrae.org.uk/smugglers

Ballantrae and Colmonell Gymnasts

The Ballantrae and Colmonell gymnasts (competition gymnasts pictured) were successful recently in a grant funding bid for much needed equipment and training aids. The group continues to go from strength to strength with around 60 gymnasts from the two communities. Claire Erskine and Stacey Stewart of Ballantrae the group leaders were, for the fourth year running, in the top three finalists in the South Ayrshire Council Active Schools Volunteer Parent of the Year category for their work with the gymnasts. They came second this year for the third time. Claire said "The award is a recognition of our whole team which includes Chloe Hibbins, Alison Mackay and Ellie Hosking who all do a brilliant job working with the youngsters, and the parents, Community Councillors and others in Ballantrae and Colmonell who support us".

