

BALLANTRAE PRIMARY SCHOOL TO GET £1M UPGRADE



South Ayrshire Council officials have been holding meetings with Parent Council, Community Council and Community Association representatives, to explain what is proposed for the £1M refurbishment of Ballantrae Primary School. There are 3 main elements to the upgrade: refurbishing the existing school, creating a new school hall and building a new extension for the nursery school children. There will also be a “full service upgrade” including replacing the existing heating system with a bio-mass boiler and possibly solar heating panels and a rain water harvester.

Work will commence in February 2018 and run for 10 months. The plan is to build the new nursery first with the children still attending school. After the summer holiday the intention is that the nursery children will move into the new nursery block with the Primary School children being decanted into the Community Hall. School equipment and materials not in use will be stored in containers within the school grounds. The site office will be located there too.

The challenge will be how to deliver these improvements. A number of options had been considered. Portacabins would cost hundreds of thousands of pounds and eat into the cost of the refurbishment considerably. Re-scheduling the order of the works had been considered but this had proved impossible. Bussing the children to Girvan was another option that has been rejected. The best option is to decant the children to the nearby Community Hall. This would involve inconvenience for existing hall users because there would be a need to take over the main hall completely for the 4 month period August to December 2018. It is expected that the buffet room and the kitchen will remain available to the community but the main hall would need to be converted to a “teaching space” and furniture, equipment and materials could not be packed away to allow even- ing use by others.

While the consultation is at an early stage and there will need to be further discussions with the Council over coming months, the Community Association (which is responsible for the hall) is currently working with the groups most affected to explore other alternatives for their meetings during the period in 2018 when the main hall will not be available.

Ballantrae Events Diary

October

- 27 Deadline for Stinchar Valley Magazine
- 28 “South Ayrshire Decides” at Girvan Academy
- 31 Community Council Meeting 7pm

November

- 5 Fireworks Display 6pm Ballantrae beach
- 8 Horticultural Society AGM 2pm
- 11 Charity Darts Competition
- 18 Craft Fair 11am—4pm
- 28 Community Council Meeting 7pm

December

- w/c 4th Stinchar Valley Magazine issues
- tbc Children’s Christmas Party

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 or drop the information in to 42 Foreland, Ballantrae

Next Deadline Dates

Stinchar Valley Magazine
27 October for distribution w/c 4 December.

Ballantrae News
8 January for distribution end of January 2018

CELEBRATING BALLANTRAE'S HISTORY

Ballantrae Parish Church was the host on 30th September for an amazing event celebrating Ballantrae's rich history. Over 150 people took the opportunity to experience "The Best of Ballantrae" over the years. Historical items and local memorabilia including press cuttings and photographs, paintings, samples of Ballantrae lace, a collection of Scout campfire blankets and badges collected by the Ballantrae Scouts over the years, a local cobbler's tools, "Ballantrae's Smuggling History", and patchwork quilts were some of the items on display. Local historians and local groups displayed their collections and villagers brought along their own memorabilia from cupboards and attics and willingly shared it with others. Members of the local Stinchar Valley Photo Group scanned documents and photographs people brought along so they could be added to the Ballantrae Archive. Local ladies demonstrated their modern day talents by decorating the church with floral arrangements and there was an opportunity to tour Ballantrae Manse where refreshments were available along with home baking.

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

"We were delighted with the interest the event generated. Our local historians shared their collections, villagers brought along some of their prized possessions, and local



part of the display in the Church



Ballantrae Scouts' collection of badges



home baking in the Manse

businesses such as Glenapp Castle were happy to lend us items for the day. What was remarkable were the number of conversations generated during the afternoon as people gathered together in small groups to look at pictures and newspaper cuttings to share memories and information. Many of us have old photographs which show village life and village characters from the past. It's really important to ensure these memories are preserved for future generations. A great afternoon. We must do this again!"



BALLANTRAE SCOUT GROUP

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

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

This term, the Scouts have been map reading, designing their own "treasure maps" with hidden prizes in Glenapp forest. They also recently visited Ballantrae, Colmonell and Barrhill primary schools to promote the Group with a slideshow to demonstrate the fun our Beavers, Cubs and Scouts have.

The younger sections didn't miss out on adventure either as Beavers and Cubs headed to Culzean Castle for a medieval themed camp and they even found time for a walk to the adventure play park. Since the summer holidays the Beavers have been working towards their Pet Care and Collector badges and took part in a pioneering challenge involving spaghetti and marshmallows! Cubs are also having a busy term working on their Artist and Science badges with some very messy experimenting going on!



COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION EVENTS 2017-18

At a recent Ballantrae Community Association meeting it was agreed there will be five BCA events during 2017-18:

- a Fireworks Display on 5 November;
- a Craft Fair on 18 November (to raise funds for the BCA);
- a Children's Christmas Party in December (date tbc);
- a Craft Fair in the Spring (to raise funds for the BCA);
- and a Gala Day on Saturday 7 July (to raise funds for the BCA and for village groups to raise funds).

Work will start on planning the Gala Day soon and more information will be included in the Stinchar Valley Magazine and the January edition of Ballantrae News.

BALLANTRAE COMMUNITY FUND

The Community Council is recruiting local residents to join a panel to distribute Glenapp Windfarm funds to support local projects.

For more information see the enclosed flyer.

BALLANTRAE GYMNASTS

It's great to hear that the Ballantrae Gymnasts now have two classes running (Thursday and Friday evenings) due to high demand. Around 50 children take part in this "Active Schools Club" which has been running for over three years. They are now busy preparing for future competitions and performances. Best of luck to the gymnasts and well done Claire and Stacey for a great initiative!



BALLANTRAE PLAYPARK DEVELOPMENT GROUP

The Next Steps

There have been frustrations involved in moving this large and exciting community project forward. But there is goodwill from officials, councillors, the school and the community to ensure the development of the play park complements the upgrade of the Primary School during 2018 "The Year of Young People". Prioritising the phases of the project and exploring potential external funding sources continues, along with local fund-raising. On Saturday 18 November the group is raffling a Christmas hamper at the Craft Fair. If you are able to contribute - maybe sweets, Christmas cards or a bottle of wine - then please pass them to either Fiona or Cheryl. The aim of the project is to improve the facilities and encourage outdoor activity for our children, our young people, and visitors. The sub group knew it would take time, determination and lots of support from the community. They continue to champion the project working in partnership with representatives from SAC and they are grateful to everyone who continues to support the project. If you are able to help in any way, the group would be pleased to hear from you.

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

BALLANTRAE PARISH CHURCH

We are currently going through the procedures required by the Presbytery of Ayr to put together a Nominating Committee before the end of October. This group will consist of both Ballantrae and St Colmon congregations and will take the lead when advertising for a minister, listening to and visiting ministers, and putting forward nominations for potential ministers. It is a time to reflect on what we are looking for in a minister. The minister who comes to live in Ballantrae will be a parish minister - that is one for the whole community, not just for a Sunday morning service. In the meantime, the church in Ballantrae is here to support you in any way we can. Please do not hesitate to contact me or any member for guidance, support or advice, and we will help you in any way we can.

Claire Strain clairestrain@live.co.uk

SHELLKNOWE GARAGE

WELCOME to Robert Adams who has taken over Shellknowe Garage from Robert Dunlop. Robert has 18 years experience in the motor trade, most recently in Old Street Garage in Girvan.

Robert says "I want to build on the work that Robert Dunlop has done over the years providing excellent service to the folk of Ballantrae and surrounding communities and providing 24 hour fuel for locals and passing trade."

Robert's team comprises his son Martin, Michael, and Jay (who lives in Ballantrae).

We wish Robert Adams every success in his new venture, and we wish Robert Dunlop a long, happy, well-deserved retirement.



Robert Adams and Robert Dunlop

BALLANTRAE GROUP CONTACTS

ALVN (Ayrshire Litter Volunteer Network)

Linden Hunt 831207 or Lynn Nield 831769

Ballantrae in Bloom

Janette Sloan 831306

Ballantrae Bowling Club

Anne McCulloch 07917 843135

Ballantrae Community Association

Chair, Laura Cunningham, 831785 or 07702 375120

Ballantrae Community Council

Chair, Dr Mhairi McKenna 831459 or 07901 506691 or
mlm@doctors.org.uk

Ballantrae Country Dancers

Meg Peacock 831284

Ballantrae Gymnasts

Claire Erskine 07742 246827 or
Stacey Stewart 07809 266526

Ballantrae Development Group

Secretary, Andy McAlpine 831122
andy.mcalpine@btinternet.com

Ballantrae Playpark Development Group

Fiona Stevenson 07917 133220
fiona@auchenflower-cottages.co.uk
Cheryl Agnew 07767081602 cherylagnew84@gmail.com

Ballantrae & District Horticultural Society

Linden Hunt 831207

Ballantrae Indoor Bowlers

Robert Dunlop 831365 or David McIlwraith 07919 940838

Ballantrae News

Andy McAlpine 831122

Ballantrae Parent and Toddler Group

Chair - Hazel Cowieson
tel:07533 997402 hazyhaze88@hotmail.co.uk

Ballantrae Parish Church

Session Clerk, Claire Strain 831246

Ballantrae Church Guild

Jessie Brown 831544

Malawi Link Group

Meg Peacock 831284

Ballantrae Primary School (and its after school groups)

Head Teacher, Yvonne Templeton 831369

Parent Council

Laura Cunningham, 831785 or 07702 375120

Ballantrae RVS

Chairman Jean Dunlop 831351 jeanbdunlop@gmail.com

Ballantrae Scout Group

Beavers

Kate Thomson 821479 or 07765 490649

Cubs

Stacey Stewart 07809 266526

Scouts (and Group Scout Leader)

Wendy McKeachan 714889 or 07831 370514

Ballantrae SWRI

Jessie Brown 831544

Ballantrae Walking Group

George McCardle 831505

Ballantrae Youth Club

Cathy Lopez 831405

BRICC Ltd (including its volunteers)

Manager, Lynne McIlwraith 831380

Crafty Bees

Cornelia Galley 831537 or balkissocklodge@icloud.com

HM Coastguard Ballantrae

Jimmy King 831457

Quilting & Patchwork Group

Stinchar Valley Gardening Club

Secretary, Harriet Ellis 881221 or
harriet@riverstinchar.co.uk

Stinchar Valley Magazine Ballantrae Representatives

Andy McAlpine 831122 or andy.mcalpine@btinternet.com
and Peter Newland peternewlands1@btconnect.com

Stinchar Valley Photo Group

David Littlechild david.littlechild@sky.com
07718 240569 or 831584

If any group has been omitted or to make any changes, please contact
Andy McAlpine andy.mcalpine@btinternet.com or 831122

Ballantrae Community Association

Fireworks Display.

By Pyro efx
@Ballantrae beach



Sunday 5th
of November
at 6pm



Hot soup also
available!

Congratulations

to Robert Dalrymple on being
awarded the hosting of
Scotsheep 2018 in Ballantrae
on 30th May 2018

to Janette Sloan on being presented
with the Church of Scotland
Long Service Certificate



to all of the winners of the
Ballantrae in Bloom and
Flower Show competitions

Christmas
Craft Fair

Saturday 18th November
11am - 4pm

Ballantrae Village Hall

Come along and get some
unusual handmade
Christmas gifts.



Entry with tea and cakes £2.00 Adult £1.00 child.
Anyone wanting a table please contact Gemma on 01465 831450