

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

Autumn Issue (September, October, November) copy deadline 1st August 2023

Key Dates

Sat, Sun 10th/11th Jun, Ballantrae Festival of Food and Drink

Sat 1st Jul, Gala afternoon
Sun 2nd Jul, Gala Bowls afternoon

Sat 29th Jul, Church Annual Summer Fair

Sat 26th Aug, Ballantrae Flower Show

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

Ballantrae News is funded by Ballantrae Community Fund.

It's VOLUNTEER Week!

Volunteers Week (1-7 June) gives us a moment to recognise the vital role that volunteering plays in communities across Scotland. Every day, thousands of unsung heroes share their time and skills to support organisations to make a difference to the lives of other people. People volunteer to help BRICC, the Church, the Ballantrae Trust, the Community Council, the Community Association, the King's Arms Community Pub and Hub, the Scout Group and the many other groups and societies in Ballantrae. This has never been more needed, and we really can't thank our volunteers in Ballantrae enough.

As you can see from the articles here in the Ballantrae News, and from all the activities and events organised in the village in the What's On Calendar, we are very fortunate to have so many willing and passionate people donating their time, skills, and energy to our community.

We also want to inspire those who have never volunteered before to consider making it part of their lives. Volunteers often tell us how much they get from the experience, from developing skills to making new friends. Volunteers are as diverse as the opportunities are - there is no typical type of volunteer, and no standard type of volunteering.



We really hope Volunteers Week 2023 shows how grateful we are to volunteers and inspires the next generation to give it a go. Through volunteering, you can play a practical role in maintaining a vibrant and caring community in Ballantrae and the surrounding area.

*Just for fun...see how many **volunteers** you can spot in this issue? We have highlighted as many as we could identify (sorry if we have missed anyone!) But of course, these are just a handful of the volunteers in Ballantrae!*

Did you know?
In July 1818, the poet John Keats and his friend - and later biographer - Charles Armitage Brown visited Ballantrae while touring Scotland.

Coronation Celebrations

A big thank you to all the **volunteers** who contributed to the celebrations for the Coronation! A fabulous afternoon was had by all! You can find more photos from the coronation celebrations on the back page.



The Ballantrae Trust

We had a successful evening in the community hall with local artist Wal Smith entertaining the crowd, with all types of music. Keep an eye on the adverts for the next instalment.

Our flagship festival is just around the corner with the Ballantrae Festival of Food and Drink taking place on the weekend of the 10th and 11th of June and as always, the eagerly anticipated event is gathering pace.

Our weekly popular cosy spaces afternoon has finished at the end of April, and it is hoped to get it up and running again in the autumn, a huge thanks to all our volunteers and helpers but especially to **Jessie Brown** and **Sue Macdougall** for their endeavours each week.

Volunteers on the board of directors at time of going to print are, **Garry Thomson**, **Martin McCourt**, **Jessie Brown**, **Sharon Robertson**, **Stacey Stewart**, **Keith Donachie** and **Mhairi McKenna**, supported by our development officer Fiona Conlan. In our **subgroups** we have many volunteers of which we are thankful.

Garry Thomson, Chair



We are making good progress with repairs and redecoration in the Kings Arms thanks to our **small band of volunteers** who have been working hard to get things ready for reopening. There is still quite a bit to do including a deep clean once all the painting is finished. We are very grateful to everyone who has helped so far and for the support we have received from people we have spoken to either in person or by email.

The next objective is to get staff in place, and we have been holding interviews. Because of the work still to be done and because we are all volunteers working as and when we are able it is still not possible to give an exact opening date, but we are optimistic that it will be in Early Summer.

Meanwhile, the new lease between the Trust which owns the building and the Ballantrae Community Pub Ltd which runs the Community Pub and Hub has been signed and is in place, and the Business Plan and Marketing Plan have been updated. Our recent grant applications are progressing well, and we have to wait now to see if they are successful.

There has been a huge amount of work going on behind the scenes to research further funding opportunities so we can keep moving forward with our plans to repair and improve The Kings Arms. We hope to be able to give a further update and an opening date shortly.

The Kings Arms Management Committee:

Jessie Brown (Chair), **Martin McCourt**, **Robin Crosthwaite**, **Ross Edwards**, **Steven Curtis**, **Dave Langton**.

Advised by: **Andy McAlpine**, **Sue Macdougall**, **Stuart Green**, **Keith Donachie**.



Cost of Living Support Fund

The Ballantrae Trust are pleased to announce that we have secured funding totalling £5,000 for a "Cost of Living Support Fund".

The funders have imposed a couple of conditions but nothing too demanding, no application forms to fill in, no bank statements required. It is for people living in the Ballantrae Community Council Area and are in need of additional money owing to the cost of living crisis, i.e. food, electricity, heating, clothing, nappies etc.

All you have to do is contact by post at:

The Ballantrae Trust
c/o The Kings Arms
40 Main Street
Ballantrae
Girvan
KA26 0NB

or email: ballantraetrust@gmail.com

and state what the money is needed for. All information will be handled in the strictest confidence and needs to be with us by 9th June 2023.

Ballantrae Community Council

The AGM was held on Tues 25th April, with the following committee members being elected:

Dr. Mhairi McKenna (Chair), **Claire Erskine**, **Sharon Adams**, **Kim Mawer**, **Calum Macdonald**, **Debbie Cassels**, **Sean McIlwraith**, **John Hainey**, **Colin McNally**, **Martin McCourt**. The committee is also supported by Councillor Peter Henderson and SAC link officer Ryan Ward.

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.

Did you know?
On 13th April 1826, Rev Thomas Burns, nephew of the poet Robert Burns was ordained as minister of Ballantrae Parish.

Ballantrae Primary School and Early Years Centre

Did you know?
In 1835, the passenger steam ship "Northern Yacht" began regular sailings, calling at Ballantrae every Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday.

Forest Kindergarten

Forest Kindergarten for our Early Years pupils continues on a Tuesday at the greenspace area across from the school. Our P1/2 class join the Early Years in the afternoons. Recently they learned about fire safety; danger zones were set up in the fire area allowing everyone to move safely around the area. Mrs Brough used a flint for lighting a fire then everyone enjoyed hot chocolate that was made using the ghillie kettle.



- How to use a public access defibrillator.
- How to help someone suffering a heart attack.
- How to help someone choking.

Thank you to Heartstart for providing essential life-saving skills to our pupils.



Junior Road Safety Officers (JRSOs)

During term 3, our JRSO leaders, Katie and Connor, arranged road safety competitions for each class. Alexis was the winner in our P1/2 class and Erin in our P6/7 class. There was a high standard within our P3-5 class and the winners were Scott, Kody, Eric, Hannah and Collin.



Heartstart

Heartstart came into school to give our P6 and P7 pupils a free, one hour, Emergency Life Support training session. Training included:

- How to help an unconscious casualty who is breathing - recovery position.
- How to help unconscious casualty who is not breathing - CPR.

World of Work

Before Easter our children had visits from different people from the "World of Work". These activities are used to relate the World of Work to learning opportunities in school.

We would like to thank all of our speakers for giving up their time to share their experiences with our children. **Bob Agnew** brought in machinery and shared his role at McCulloch Rail; **PC Johnston** (Campus Cop at Girvan Academy) shared his role as a Community Police Officer; **Chloe White** shared her role as Dental Nurse/RNLI Volunteer; **Gemma Lavery** spoke to the children about her role as a Community Nurse and **Marion McMillan** delivered a presentation on her life as a vet.

In addition to our visitors our children were fortunate enough to visit a local working dairy farm. During their visit to the farm the children had hands on experience of some of the jobs involved in farming, such as feeding the calves. They also learned about the production of milk and its journey to get to our homes. Thank you to **Alan** and **Claire McKinley**!



Scots Language

Part of our school's language programme is to develop Scot's Language. During term 3, our children learned a range of Scots words and phrases and listened to stories in Scots. They learned about the culture and history of Scotland, reciting a variety of poems. These were judged by Mr Allan Brown and his wife Linda from Carrick Burns Club.

As well as class winners the overall winner in school was Katie, who gave an outstanding performance of Willie Wastle! Allan and Linda presented Certificates of Excellence and a pen to all our children.



Swimming

Living by the sea and river, swimming is an important skill set that should be learned by everyone. All of our primary pupils at Ballantrae have been fortunate enough to have the opportunity to take part in a 5 week block of swimming lessons, in Girvan's Quay Zone. Primary 1-5 completed their blocks before the Easter break and P6/7 are making good progress.

Ballantrae Scout Group

We had a Beaver Camp at Laggan Farm courtesy of the **McKinley family**. The Beavers had an amazing time helping to feed the lambs and calves, and enjoyed a twilight torch walk before camping in the shed overnight. The next morning, we hiked along to the play park at Laggan Caravan Site before heading home!



Beavers, Cubs and Scouts enjoyed a woodland walk into Glenapp woods for firelighting and cooking marshmallows for our last meeting before Easter.

Scouts and some **brave leaders** and **parents** joined in with a sponsored tough mudder to raise funds for our big summer camp - it was great fun! Please do get in touch if your child would like to join in with the fun!



Ballantrae Scouts meet each Tuesday evening during term time, either in the Community Hall or an alternate location within Ballantrae village. Boys and girls from Ballantrae and the surrounding villages are most welcome to join us!

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



BOWLING CLUB

Ballantrae Opened the bowling green on Saturday 15th April and were delighted that we had 38 people playing. President's wife **Andrea Porter** opened the green by throwing the first jack of the season. Vice-President **Robert McIlwraith** welcomed all and gave the opening speech. Winners of the sweep were Josh Mitchell, Mark Hirst, Martin McCourt, Carol Wilson.

For further details please contact **Anne** on 07949734136.





Farming Focus

For anyone walking around the village during February, you will have heard the bleating of new-born lambs calling out to their mothers from Kings Arms Farm. These lambs then gradually appeared in the fields surrounding the houses, once they were strong enough and the weather was favourable. The lambs grow on a daily basis and becoming quite large. They are a delight to watch with their 'playground antics', running around and having fun. For farmers who don't lamb so early, they started lambing outside from April. This depends more on drier weather conditions as the lambs have little protection against cold, wet weather - you would have seen them tucking up into their mothers' wool.

This spring has been wet and cold, which results in later grass growth, so many animals outside need to be fed extra by the farmers. It also meant that the local dairy herd at Laggan Farm wasn't out in the fields until the end of March. Unfortunately, you won't be seeing them in their usual field beside the river (just across the bridge) as this field had to be resown with grass seed and barley. Once grown, the barley will be chopped up and lifted for animal feed, leaving the young grass shoots underneath to continue growing and allowing the cows to come back into the area to feed.

From mid-April, the weather warmed up slightly and we had a dry spell. This enabled the beef farmers to start getting some of their cows and calves out of the sheds and onto grass fields. You can imagine the amount of dirt there is to clean up in the sheds after a long winter!

Hopefully the grass will grow and then we will start to forage it and bring it in as silage to the farmyard. As this magazine goes out, silage time will be underway with tractors busy carrying loads of freshly chopped up grass. This goes into large silage pits and covered with plastic to make it ferment - this will be the sum of the next winter feed.

"Local farmers"



Ballantrae History Group

We had a good turnout of 19 at April's meeting. After **Janette McCulloch**'s talk and a chance to see examples of Ballantrae lace, **Chris Barnes** showed us the work he has been doing on producing a printed version of the Ballantrae Historical Timeline and we discussed 3 forthcoming events in the group calendar (the village trail (outdoor event) in July; "The Best of Ballantrae" (a joint event with the Church) in September; and "The Great War Project and Ballantrae" in October) where we set out some initial ideas, sought more, and asked for volunteers to help plan and deliver those events.

If you would like to help with any of these events please get in touch with Andy at andy.mcalpine@icloud.com as soon as possible.

The next meeting is on Sunday 28 May when the speaker will be **Judie McCourt** whose topic will be "Ballantrae in the 1850s". The one after that is on 25 June when John McIlwraith will be speaking about "Fishing and the BA Registration".

Colin McNally and Andy McAlpine



BRICC Thrift Shop and BRICC House

The last Whist evening was held in April and is expected to start up again after summer. The Lunch Club and BRICC Club are on alternate Thursdays; new faces are always welcome, as are volunteers to help with driving and entertainment. Many thanks to all our **existing volunteers**.

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

Rosemary Stevenson

Ballantrae Gala

Come join us for a fun day in the park on Saturday 1st July on The Field. There will be games for the kids, Paul's ice cream for everyone, bespoke jewellery, home baking, knitted baby clothes, **Rosemary**'s famous pancakes and lots more. See you all there, bring the sunshine. A few stalls still available, give me a call if you would like one. **Liz** 07582745114



Ballantrae FESTIVAL OF FOOD & DRINK

Sat 10 & Sun 11 June
The Harbour

A Celebration of Great Taste

Demonstrations including:

Guided foraging walks and then demos on how to use what you have found from Szymon Szyszczakiewicz

How to make the most of fish and shellfish from David Alexander

Rachel Munro (from Gordon Ramseys Future Food Stars), Thyme Cafe,

Joe Gould, executive chef at Glenapp Castle

Margo Shead—head of the Cook School at Penningham Estate

Free Entertainment:

Barrstools

Shannon Sockell Bryden for the youngsters
Jimmy Mac

Food and drinks from street stalls and stalls within the marquee.

Did you know?

On 2nd April 1846, a new two horse mail coach between Ayr and Portpatrick calling at Ballantrae daily began.

Blooming Marvellous Ballantrae Flower & Produce Show including Baking & Crafts

Saturday 26th August 2023 at 2.30pm
Ballantrae Community Centre

The Ballantrae Flower Show is returning this year under a new name to show it's not all about flowers.

We have added some new classes along with the old favourites, so there is something for everyone. The show has the following sections: vegetables, flowers, flower arranging, baking, preserves and handicrafts along with a children and young people's section from pre-school to age 16.

To encourage more people to enter this year we have made all classes free to enter. We would love to keep the show running into the future, but we can't hold a show with no entries. We always look forward each year to see what the folk of Ballantrae and the surrounding area have been growing in their gardens, baking and crafting. It is also a delight to see the entries our local children have produced.

Don't think that what you have made or grown is not good enough to enter into a show, please support our show by just having a go. You may even find you win a prize! I can assure you that seeing a prize ticket on one of your entries is a wonderful feeling indeed!

There will of course be a cream tea (baked by our team of **lovely local ladies**) to enjoy when you have had a look around the exhibits. After the presentation of prizes, we will draw the raffle. Any donations of raffle prizes from local businesses or individuals would be very gratefully received.

Schedules will be available soon online via Information Ballantrae Facebook Group and www.ballantrae.org.uk We look forward to seeing you at this year's show.

Many thanks to our show committee: **Jessie Brown, Dorothy Duffy, Linda Wild, Cathy Thorburn, Amelia Stevenson.**

We also have the following helpers, who are just as important to the show: **Bernadette Hainey, Maureen Capper, and Gwen Campbell.**



Ballantrae Parish Church

Easter is the most important event in the Christian calendar and a time to reflect on the week between Palm Sunday when Jesus rode into Jerusalem on a donkey, through Good Friday when he was crucified on a cross, and onto the celebrations of Easter Sunday. For those of you who were up and about early on Easter Sunday

morning, you would have seen 25 people gathered at Ballantrae harbour for a brief service and to remember that Jesus has risen from the dead. It was a lovely, dry morning but a bit chilly, so the group were pleased to be heated up by warm bacon rolls at the BRICC house, cooked by **Janette**. Thanks, Janette! On Maunday Thursday of Holy Week we had a service in the church which included Communion as we recalled the last meal which Jesus had with his disciples, when they broke bread and drank wine together. Thank you to **Margaret** for supplying refreshments after this service.

Did you know?
In 1848, Mr Andrew Miller the postman between Ballantrae and Daljarrock, was recorded as having walked 19 miles per day (Sunday excepted) for 14 years, calculated at 83,258 miles.

Did you know?
In 1849, an advert was placed for a Medical Practitioner for Ballantrae, offering a salary for 3 years of £36 per annum supplemented by employment with the Poor Law Board of at least £14 per annum.

Tuesday Coffee Time is hugely popular in the BRICC house every week from 10.30am. Come along and taste the variety of goodies on offer, usually supplied by **Jessie A** and **Jessie B**. Thanks also to **Maureen** for making scones from time to time and to **Jill**, for American style cookies! This social time is open to everyone. Our Annual Summer Fair will be held on Saturday 29th July - please put this date in your diary and come along to support our fundraiser.



STUDIO SEVENTY FOUR

Our Spring re-opening happened on Saturday 1st April marking the start of our 3rd season in the Studio and Gallery. Debbie is exhibiting a number of new pieces, and these are complemented by the work of the first of our regular guest contributors, Robbie Roper. Next up is Ballantrae's own Paula Sandford-Marsh, PSM Artwork and Gifts.

Thank you for your support in the early part of this new season. If you haven't already visited, you may like to know that as well as all the original work we have a new range of fine art greetings cards now on display.

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

GLENAPP
CASTLE



Lights, Camera, Action at Glenapp Castle



Renowned for its beautiful gardens, its colourful history, a high level of service, world-class food, 70+ activities and experiences and for being the home of the most opulent penthouse castle apartment in Scotland, The Endeavour - there is always something exciting happening over at Glenapp Castle! The luxury hotel was recently visited by Gok Wan on Burn's Night, who sang the hotel's praises while appearing on ITV's This Morning. Flanked by dancers and bagpipers in the production he's already made a promise to return. He's not the only high-profile television star to visit the hotel. So impressed with the property and the surrounding area, Gordon Ramsay also filmed the premier of his newest season of Future Food Stars while at the Castle. He even gave his support to the Ballantrae Food Festival. However, life at Glenapp Castle doesn't stop just because the cameras have. The Castle has also recently unveiled The Azalea, located in the Victorian glasshouse built in the late 1800s. The newly opened restaurant offers the finest dining along with a fantastic afternoon tea offering (including champagne!). The Azalea offers both history and luxury with views from the restaurant of their meticulous gardens and Azalea Pond. Perfect for a Sunday lunch or an evening of fine dining, The Azalea is the jewel in the crown that is Glenapp Castle.

WALK & TALK TEA, CAKES, & COFFEE

THURSDAYS 11:00-12:15PM



Every Thursday
11-12:15

Craigmains
Garden Centre

All welcome!



* Join us on Thursdays at 11am from Craigmains Garden Centre for our new Walk & Talk group.

* We will begin with a leisurely walk around the surrounding area.

* We will then have an opportunity to relax and have a chat with refreshments **WITH 10% OFF FOOD BILLS!**

* There is **no requirement** to sign up so feel free to spread the word and pop along on the day!

For any questions or additional info contact **Dean McKirdy** on 07833391706 or Email dean.mckirdy@south-ayrshire.gov.uk



**Trae Bakes at Craigmains
Garden Centre**

1h · 📍

☀️ Spring has sprung here in the 'Trae 🌸



Did you know?
In 1884, Mr James Watson pressed for a larger harbour to be built. About four hundred boats were engaged in the Ballantrae fishing at this time.

USEFUL INFORMATION

Mobile Branch Times

Location: Kings Arms Hotel Car Park

Time: 12:05 – 12:30

Every second Thursday

1st June

15th June

29th June

13th July

27th July

10th August

24th August



Library Opening Times

Monday 4pm – 7pm

Tuesday 3pm – 5pm

Wednesday Closed

Thursday 10am – 12 noon

Friday 10am – 12 noon

Did you know?

In 1894, the Ballantrae golf subscription was 5 shillings for gentlemen and half that price for ladies. The golf club had 123 gentlemen members and twenty five ladies.



Shellknawe Garage

01465831365

ROADSIDE RECOVERY

07368811114

MOT's

SERVICING AND REPAIRS

24 HOUR FUEL

CALOR GAS SALES

Bin Calendar

2023 June						
M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa	Su
			F	2	3	4
5	6	7	GBF	9	10	11
12	13	14	PF	Br	17	18
19	20	21	GrF	23	24	25
26	27	28	GF	30		

Collection Key

- Blue bin & Food caddy
- Food caddy
- Brown bin
- Green & Grey bins, Food caddy
- Purple-lidded bin & Food caddy
- Green bin & Food caddy
- Grey bin & Food caddy
- Green & Blue bins, Food caddy
- Check Local press, or see our

2023 July						
M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa	Su
					1	2
3	4	5	BF	7	8	9
10	11	12	F	Br	15	16
17	18	19	GGF	21	22	23
24	25	26	PF	28	29	30
31						

2023 August						
M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa	Su
	1	2	BF	4	5	6
7	8	9	GF	Br	12	13
14	15	16	GrF	18	19	20
21	22	23	F	25	26	27
28	29	30	GBF			



Did you count the number of Ballantrae Volunteers mentioned? We counted 72!