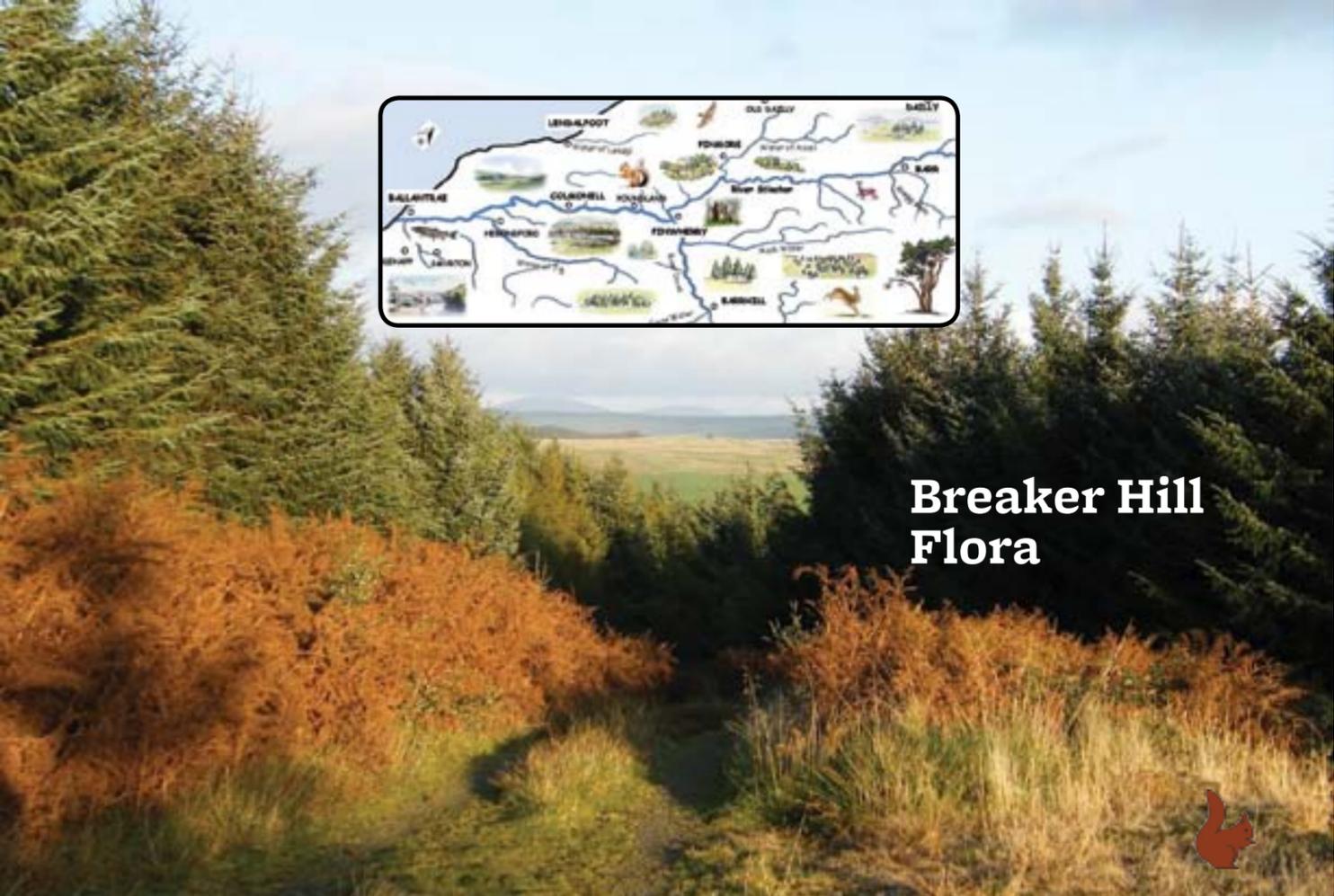
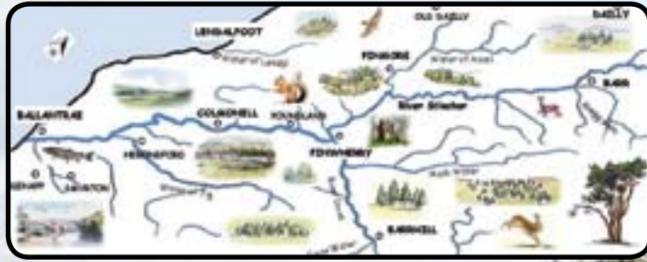


# SUMMER 2013

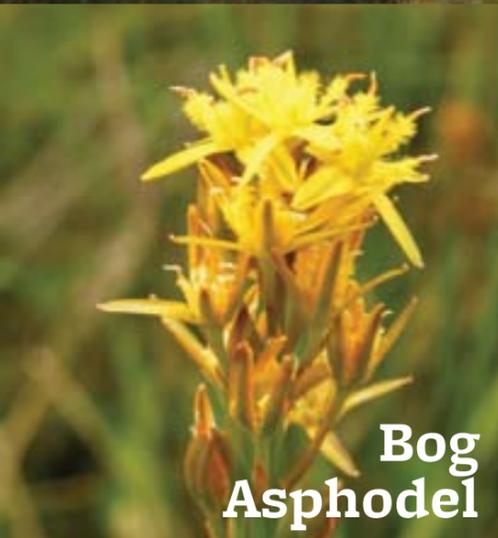
# THE STINCHAR VALLEY MAGAZINE

Content from the communities of  
Ballantrae, Barr, Barrhill, Colmonell,  
Lendalfoot, Pinwherry & Pinmore

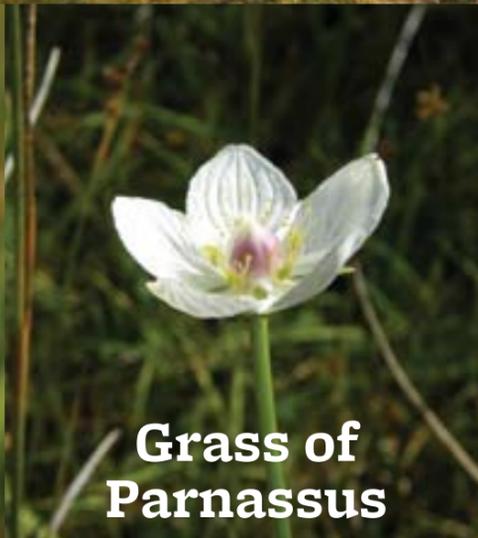




## Breaker Hill Flora



**Bog Asphodel**



**Grass of Parnassus**



**Heath-spotted Orchid**



**Primrose**



**Harebell & Bell Heather**

For the very best in Indian Food visit Shimla Cuisine at Kildonan Country House open Tuesday to Sunday 5pm until 11pm

Free Delivery to Pinwherry, Pinmore and surrounding district

**SHIMLA**  
cuisine  
01465 821519

**Craigiemains Home & Garden Centre**

Craigiemains is an independent family run garden centre with lots to offer everyone

- Coffee shop
- Homeware and Gift Shop
- Plant Area
- Bird Care
- Childrens play area
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- Miniature Train
- Access to Ayrshire Coastal Path

Opening Times: Monday to Friday 9-5 Saturday and Sunday 10-5  
www.craigiemainshomeandgardencentre.com Follow us on Facebook and Twitter  
Main Street, Ballantrae KA26 0NB Tel: 01465 831052

For all your catering needs.

- Weddings,
- Functions,
- Dinner parties,
- Christenings

You can also now enjoy re-heatable, home cooked meals made to order with locally sourced ingredients.

Call Sue  
07765644221

Delicious Sur-tations

## Carrick Tourism Project

### Heritage Hubs / Carrick Characters

Carrick Community Council Forum is leading the Carrick Tourism Project to promote tourism in 17 towns and villages in Carrick. Details can be found at [www.carrickayrshire.com](http://www.carrickayrshire.com).

#### This part of the Tourism Development project will:

1. Work with people and groups in all 17 Carrick communities to identify local icons that could be promoted. These could be cultural, historical or natural "icons" that are significant to each of the communities and could be people, place, animal etc.
2. Communities will work with the project team to design a suitable installation within the village area. A budget of up to £3,000 is available to spend in each community
3. The community will also help to identify local sites
4. The project will then help to secure planning approvals, etc and oversee installation of artworks and interpretation in public spaces in the 17 communities creating focal points for local people and for visitors.
5. The project will also want to develop trails and other activities such as geo caching at some or all of these sites to enable visitors (and locals) to move between them and create vibrancy and economic benefit throughout Carrick
6. Explore the potential to augment local icons with a large scale Carrick Icon
7. Market these icons and use them as part of the draw to Carrick for visitors and people touring Scotland

**Pinwherry and Pinmore have a stronghold of red squirrels around Breaker and Glesel Hills and have chosen the red squirrel as our icon. Look out for information squirrels popping up on fence posts and banners of information on the lay by notice boards.**



**How many little Squirrels can you find in these pages? Let us know!**

**CARRICK COMMUNITY HERITAGE TRAIL PINMORE & PINWHERRY**

This area is home to a large colony of endangered red squirrels. Only 120,000 red squirrels remain in Scotland plus about 3,000 in Wales and 10,000 in England. Great Britain has 2.5 million grey squirrels.

Several places like the one pictured here are treated as priority areas for red squirrels and you can help to keep a look out for red squirrels and giving you a few facts about them.

Red squirrels can tell great tales from their own lives and you can help to tell theirs. If you see a red squirrel, please do not touch or disturb it, and do not feed it. If you see a red squirrel, please do not touch or disturb it, and do not feed it.

Red squirrels are not just cute and cuddly, they are also very intelligent and can learn to use tools. They are also very good at climbing trees and can jump from tree to tree. They are also very good at digging and can find their way through the ground.

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**Keep a look out for Red Squirrels**

**CARRICK**

## Mail to the Editor

Welcome to the Summer issue of the Stinchar Valley Magazine. This publication is your chance to read and make the community news in the Stinchar Valley and surrounding region. If you have any news you would like to send us or comments upon articles you have read in these pages please get in touch. The same goes for any additions to these pages you would like to see in the future and if you have events, clubs or anything that local people would like to attend or hear of. Would you or someone you know like to appear here in the future?

Are you from Ballantrae, Barr, Barrhill, Colmonell, Glen App, Lendalfoot or Pinwherry & Pinmore areas?

For all this and anything else that crosses your mind about our communities contact the editorial team. Your input is vital. Be heard, make a difference. Items may be edited for spelling, grammar, clarity or length.

Please contact your area representatives:

### PINWHERRY / PINMORE REPRESENTATIVE:

**John McAlley** [ Editor ]

Mail: Stinchar Valley Magazine,  
Liglartrie Farm, Pinwherry, KA26 0SL  
Tel: 01465 841 198

Email: [stinchar-valley-magazine@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:stinchar-valley-magazine@hotmail.co.uk)

### BALLANTRAE REPRESENTATIVES:

**Andy McAlpine:**

Email: [andy.mcalpine@btinternet.com](mailto:andy.mcalpine@btinternet.com)

**Peter Newland:**

Email: [peternewlands1@btconnect.com](mailto:peternewlands1@btconnect.com)

### BARR REPRESENTATIVE:

**Alastair Smith:**

Email: [alastair\\_smith@btinternet.com](mailto:alastair_smith@btinternet.com)

### BARRHILL REPRESENTATIVE:

Vacant VOLUNTEERS NEEDED TO FILL THIS POST!

### COLMONELL REPRESENTATIVES:

**Evelyn McCubbin / Margaret Robertson**

Email: [colmonell292@hotmail.com](mailto:colmonell292@hotmail.com)

### LENDALFOOT REPRESENTATIVE:

**Jim Fleming**

Email: [margaretjimfleming@googlemail.com](mailto:margaretjimfleming@googlemail.com)

## Editorial Panel

The Stinchar Valley Magazine is published by the voluntary editorial group with the valued support of the contributors, with the aim of supporting the community interest and local businesses. The magazine is funded by Hadyard Hill and Carrick Futures grants schemes. Images are used with all needed permissions from, open source, Flickr.com under open copyright standard licence. Images also courtesy of Clker.com and Public contributions. All material copied from newspapers, websites and other sources are accredited and referenced wherever possible. All contents and views in this publication are those of the contributors.

## Community Council News

Community Councils are the most local tier of statutory representation in Scotland. They are non-party political. They bridge the gap between local authorities and communities, and help to make public bodies aware of the opinions and needs of the communities they represent. Their primary purpose is to ascertain and express the views of the community to the local authority and other public bodies. Many Community Councils also involve themselves in a wide range of other activities including fundraising, organising community events, undertaking environmental and educational projects and much more. There are currently around 1200 Community Councils in Scotland, all of which are composed of elected volunteers from the community. For more information go to the Scottish Government website [www.scotland.gov.uk](http://www.scotland.gov.uk) or the South Ayrshire Council website [www.south-ayrshire.gov.uk](http://www.south-ayrshire.gov.uk).

## Pinwherry & Pinmore Community Council

Following elections in March here are the **new community councillors:**

**Roger Pirrie**

Chairperson

[rdpirrie@gmail.com](mailto:rdpirrie@gmail.com) | 01465 841 644

**Marie McNulty**

Secretary

[mariemcnultyg@gmail.com](mailto:mariemcnultyg@gmail.com) | 01465 841 168.

**Chris Saunders**

Vice Chairperson

**Mike Chamberlain**

Treasurer

**Joy Chamberlain, John McAlley, David Logan & Peter Walker.**

The Community Council meets at 7.30pm on the third Thursday of each month (except July and December) in Pinwherry Community Hall.

We thank Claire Pirrie who stands down as Secretary, after long service and extended service as 'Temporary Secretary' (full time) after retiring many months ago.

Minutes of Community Council meetings can be seen on the website:

[www.zpins.org.uk](http://www.zpins.org.uk)

## Ballantrae Community Council

Ballantrae's new Community Council elected in 2013, which will sit for the next 3 years, is as below:

**McILWRAITH John**  
**STEVENSON Rosemary**  
**McKENNA Mary (Mhairi) Louise**

**DUNLOP Christine**  
**DAVIDSON Thomas Kelly**  
**CROSTHWAITE Susan Mary**

**MAGUIRE Frank**  
**CAMPBELL John**  
**OGSTON Stephen**

Ballantrae Community Council sits on the last Tuesday of the month in the Public Hall. Members of the public are welcome.

**We would like to extend our sincere thanks to the retiring members, Bill Gilmour and Jean Dunlop for their work on behalf of the Ballantrae community over many years.**

The following people were elected: **Mhairi McKenna (Chair)**, and **John McIlwraith (Treasurer)**.

The role of **Secretary is still vacant**. The following specialist co-optees were appointed: **Finance - Colin McNally; Harbour Committee - Robert Milligan & Eric McIlwraith.**

## Benefits Changes Booklet

The South Ayrshire Council has produced a very good booklet explaining the benefits changes in clear and understandable language. It is called "Benefits Changes Directory" and can be downloaded from their website at: <http://www.south-ayrshire.gov.uk/benefitchanges/benefits%20changes%20directory.pdf>

The introduction says: "The Department for Work and Pensions (DWP) is making big changes to benefits from April this year that will affect South Ayrshire residents, mainly those who are 'working age' - born after 5 October 1951 - and are on benefits, or claim benefits from time to time."

Printed copies of the booklet are in limited supply but may be available from the Girvan Customer Services Centre at 17-19 Knockcushan Street (open 8.45am - 4.45pm Monday to Thursday, 8.45am - 4.00pm on Friday). A copy is available to read in the BCC folder at Ballantrae Surgery, who also has limited copies for distribution.

## South Ayrshire Council Contact Centre



Don't wait for others to report issues, it may not be done! E.g. road damage 01292 612302, dead animals on the road, water leaks - pick up the phone. Telephone the Customer Services Team on: 0300 123 0900 or send a Text message to 0797 1120 498.

### PROPOSED LOCAL DEVELOPMENT PLAN GOES AHEAD UNCHANGED

The following letter has been circulated by Ms. Cheryl Downie, Communications Officer of South Ayrshire Council:

"Proposed local development plan: Councillors have taken a decision to submit their South Ayrshire Proposed Local Development Plan to Scottish Ministers. The plan will be significant in driving economic growth and once approved by Scottish Ministers the plan will provide for a range of development opportunities throughout South Ayrshire.

Councillor Bill Grant, Tourism, Leisure and Economic Development Portfolio Holder said: The Plan was built on significant engagement with local communities and approved last year by Council. During the autumn of 2012, representations were invited from the community and interested persons and 881 responses were received.

There then followed a significant amount of work comparing the responses against the evidence for the Plan to ensure that there was no reason to modify it. I am very pleased to say that the Proposed South Ayrshire Local Plan is one of the first such Plans in Scotland to reach this key milestone.

The Plan will now be submitted to Scottish Ministers and the Plan will be examined by a Government appointed Reporter. Any person or community that has ongoing objection to the Plan will have full opportunity to have their object considered by the Reporter.

After the examination is carried out we will have to include any changes to the Plan required by the Reporter. And then seek approval at a future Council meeting to adopt the Plan.

It is anticipated that any new Plan would be adopted early in 2014." Proposed local development plan can be found at: <http://www.south-ayrshire.gov.uk/planning/planlpdocuments.aspx>



## Colmonell Bowling Club

President Margaret Robertson welcomed 33 members and friends to the first game of the year on a glorious sunny day. Hopefully this is a good sign for the coming season as last year was a bit damp to say the least. To open the green for play the first jack and bowl was thrown by Duncan Cloy the 2012 Junior Champion.

Green fees are very reasonable at £28 for adults, £18 for seniors, £7 for juniors and £56 for a family. Visitors are always welcome, it cost £2 for a game and bowls are available to borrow. Games are held on Monday, Wednesday and Saturday evenings at 7pm.

For more information call Evelyn McCubbin on 881293 or Margaret Robertson on 881352.

## St John's Episcopal Church Girvan



Serving the Anglican and Episcopalian community (& anyone else interested) in the Girvan area, including Pinwherry, Pinmore, Ballantrae, Barrhill, Colmonell, Lendalfoot and Barr

We meet in the Methodist Church, Dalrymple Street, Girvan on Sundays and Tuesdays and visitors are warmly welcomed to all these services.

### Sunday

9.30 am: Holy Communion. On the first Sunday of each month, we have a joint service at 10.30 am with the Methodist congregation.

### Tuesday Fellowship Group

11.00: Informal Worship; 11.30: Coffee; 11.45: Bible Study; 12.30: Lunch  
These services will recommence on Tuesday, 19 February with a six-week study for Lent.

**To find out more about St John's,**  
Contact the Pastoral Assistant, Mrs Anne Morris, (01292 267859)



## Colmonell Curling Club

The Curling Club season runs from October to the end of February. All our club games are held at the ice rink within the North West Castle Hotel, Stranraer

We are hoping to have a practice night early in the season for new members. The club is open to people in any area. If interested contact Mrs Margaret Logan on 01465 713291, by mid- August



## Alec Clark

AN INDEPENDENT VIEW

“Ne`er Cast a Clout Till May`s Oot” so the old saying goes. This year it certainly rings true with weeks of bitterly cold east winds and whilst we have had sunny days, high temperatures have been few and far between. Talking of high temperatures, we have had a few in the wake of the Tralorg Windfarm Planning Application. Should Community Councils engage with developers or not, should it be Planning Regulation Pan 47 or Pan 3/2010, hopefully all will become clear and the process can get back to normal because it is the process which has been shown to be flawed and not the outcome. Whether you support or object to planning developments, clarity is always essential.

It was good to see A Special Roads Meeting with Key Stakeholders being hosted in Pinwherry by Pinmore and Pinwherry CC. This gave a chance for concerns to be raised not only about the condition of the A714 but also to try and mitigate the risk of future types of use of this route making road conditions even worse for those who live in the area and hampering the development of tourism which is so important. That is why it was encouraging to see potential heavy road users such as Forestry and Windfarm Developers sharing a platform for discussion along with other agencies such as the Police Scotland and Local authorities as well as Community Councils, Saylsa and Local Development and Enterprise Company, Ailsa Horizons. As a local Councillor I will monitor this closely and work in tandem with Community Councils.

At the Full South Ayrshire Council meeting in late April the Local Development Plan was passed by majority but not without a turbulent passage. The LDP is a set of documents that sets out the way ahead for the next ten years for housing, leisure, windfarm development, and many other planning issues. One of the developments in the plan was BAL1 at Ballantrae which is for housing and was overwhelmingly rejected by a majority of Ballantrae residents through petition, individual objections and at a public meeting, with Ballantrae CC withdrawing support for the development. As the local Councillor who attended Ballantrae meetings in this period, I put forward an amendment to the motion asking that the Ballantrae development be excluded. The original motion was passed and with it, the inclusion of the Ballantrae Development. The plan will now go to Scottish Ministers and the only recourse will be through the reporter who may or may not take up communication with those who objected. We will monitor this as it goes along and seek clarity from SAC Planners.

It is nice to finish in the knowledge that the light nights are with us and summer is on its way. Fingers crossed that we have some of the warmth that has eluded us so far and instead of cold easterlies and snow flurries we have balmy temperatures and barbeques. Just the type of conditions to suit the farmers among us and the tourists who wish to be among us.

Councillor Alec Clark (Independent)  
South Ayrshire Council, Ward 8, Girvan and South Carrick.



## Age Concern Girvan

Welcome !

My name is Tricia Watts and I am chairman of Age Concern Girvan. I lead a team of friendly volunteers to supply affordable meals.

A three course meal is only £3.50 and all our meals made here on the premises.

If you are visiting Girvan why not come along and try them for yourself, or indeed, why not become a member? Only £5 per annum. ALL ages welcomed.

2 Duff Street,  
Girvan,  
(at the corner  
with Dalrymple St)  
Ayrshire KA26 9AP  
Tel: 07584 932022

We are open on  
Wednesday, Thursday  
and Friday from 9:30 till  
1pm for morning coffees  
and home-made lunches.  
We would love to see you.

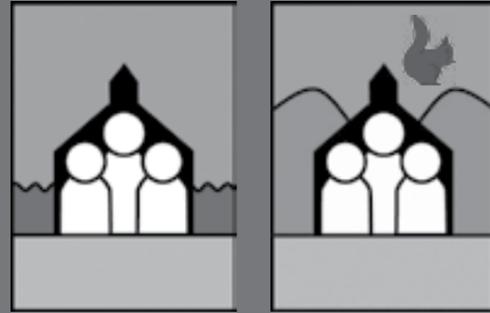
Contact number Tricia  
01465 712032

mail@ageconcerngirvan.  
org.uk

Web site:  
www.ageconcerngirvan.  
org.uk

## Ballantrae Church Linked With St Colmon Church

The summer is full of Fun Days, Galas, Church Fairs (see below), and this year Ballantrae are having their first Smugglers Festival. On a website about smuggling in this area it states that "Ballantrae was at one time the centre for a vast smuggling ring, and the local fishermen helped land and conceal the cargoes of brandy, tea and tobacco."



We often connect smuggling with alcohol and drugs, and occasionally we hear in the news of people being arrested for trying to conceal drugs as they enter this or another country. However in some parts of the world, people do all they can to smuggle Bibles into their country. To us, who can buy a Bible from our local book shop, this may seem strange, but in some countries the Bible is a banned book which Christians risk being arrested, just to get their hands on a Bible.

Smuggling of Bibles is not just something that happens in other countries, because in the 1500s, Bibles in English had to be smuggled into this country wrapped in bales of cloth. This was because the church authorities had decreed that Bibles needed to remain in Latin, which only the priests could read. People were so keen to get a Bible in English that translators such as William Tyndale, translated it, had it printed in Germany and then smuggled it back into this country.

Christians believe that the Bible is valuable because it contains God's words to his people. Words that bring us hope, words that help us with every difficulty we face and words that give us guidance throughout our lives. Throughout the world where people read and believe the words, they continue to transform the lives of people. That is why Bibles are treasured and why still they are smuggled into countries, especially the closed areas of our world.

I hope you have a good summer, and know God's blessing, Stephen.

### Forthcoming Events

#### Ballantrae Church Fair

Saturday 27th July at 2pm in Ballantrae Community Centre.  
Crafts, books, baking, hamper, tombola, bric-a-brac, plants & produce, games, car wash, and teas.

#### St Colmon Church Fair

Saturday 3rd August at 2pm next to and in our newly extended Church Hall.  
Jewellery, bric-a-brac, books, baking, tombola, plants & produce, games, and teas.

#### Church Information

We are friendly churches where everyone is welcome. Please come and join us as we celebrate God's love for us all.

#### St Colmon Parish Church

10am every Sunday in Colmonell, with Sunday Club for all children and young people from 3 years old.  
3pm on the third Sunday of the month in Barrhill Memorial Hall

#### Ballantrae Parish Church

11:30am every Sunday in Ballantrae with our Sunshine Club for all children 0 to 12 years old.

Minister: Rev Stephen Ogston,  
The Manse, 1 The Vennel, Ballantrae, KA26 0NH  
Telephone: 01465 831252  
Email: ogston@macfish.com

For more info visit: [www.ballantraeparishchurch.org.uk](http://www.ballantraeparishchurch.org.uk) or [www.stcolmonparishchurch.org.uk](http://www.stcolmonparishchurch.org.uk) or our Facebook pages 'Ballantrae Church' & 'StColmon Church'.

## St Colmon Kirk Hall

Building work began on 26th March and many thanks go to those who turned up every day of the previous week and worked so hard trundling barrow loads and furniture from the hall to the Church. Hence the black draped heaps in the Church!

Numerous meetings have been held to discuss every detail of the building from its layout, materials, doors and windows to colour schemes, kitchen appliances, toilet fittings, heating and lighting. Nothing is being wasted as scrap metal and old fittings have been sold, people have benefited from fire wood and some items have gone to BRICC. Work is expected to finish at the end of May with a re-opening to be arranged.

## St Colmon Church Windows

Anyone who visits the Church in Colmonell can't fail to admire the beautiful stained glass windows, but recently we had some distinguished visitors who had heard that "the windows by Louis Davis at Colmonell Church are renowned as some of the finest of their era". These are the three windows over the pulpit, the Nativity window and the two small windows in the porch which were installed in 1910 -1920.

Peter Cormack MBE FSA is a stained glass historian, currently researching and writing a book about British stained glass in the early 20th century. Peter travelled from London with the Chairman of the British Society of Master Glass-Painters and the Editor of The Journal of Stained Glass, all of whom were very impressed with the windows.

Peter took many photographs and when he finishes his book we will have much more information about the windows and how they came to be installed in St Colmon Church. (See photographs on back page)

## Wanted

Someone with experience of repairing an old model tea clipper with a full set of sails.

For more information please contact:  
Contact Claire on 841 644.

## St Colmon Kirk Fair

The annual Kirk Fair will be held on Saturday 4th August with the opening ceremony at 2pm. Visitors will be able to enjoy their tea in the refurbished Kirk Hall with views across the glebe. Please contact David McCutcheon if you have any suggestions for games / attractions / stalls etc. Donations of jewellery, baking, plants, books, bric a brac, etc are always much appreciated and any help setting up etc will be very welcome.

## Colmonell Circle

At the last meeting of the Circle Lorna Greenhill gave a skilled and entertaining demonstration of floral art and the usual delicious refreshments and good chat were enjoyed by all. We look forward to seeing everyone on 23rd Sept in the refurbished Kirk Hall in Colmonell, when new members and visitors will be very welcome. St Colmon Church thanks everyone in the Circle for raising their generous donation of £320.

## Lost Property

One earring or a pair of gloves have been found in St Colmon Church so please contact Claire on 841 644 if you think they are yours.

## Lendalfoot

Lendalfoot Car Boot Sale: Sunday 28th July 2013. Opening 2pm. £10.00 per table. Please contact; Ann Marshall: 01465 891288.

The Lendalfoot Community would like to take this opportunity to welcome the new residents of the Garth and to wish them all the best in the future.

Anyone who did not receive a copy of the Spring magazine please contact Jim Fleming; 01465 891267. 10 Carlton Crescent.

## Colmonell WRI



Our meetings are held on the second Wednesday of the month from September to May. If you wish to join us you would be most welcome. For information, contact: Margaret Robertson. Tel: 881 352.

## BRICC

**Ballantrae Rural Initiative Care in the Community Ltd (B.R.I.C.C.) Care Agency was established in 1999 as a company limited by guarantee and a charity with the aim of providing a Care at Home service to frail and vulnerable people living in the South Carrick area and/or the Stinchar Valley to enable them to maintain their independence and remain in their own homes for as long as possible.** We are regulated and inspected by the Care Inspectorate and our reports and grading are open for scrutiny on the Care Inspectorate website.

We accept referrals from South Ayrshire Council Social Work Departments, Doctors, hospitals and also self-referrals from individuals themselves or with the help of a family member. We offer services from committed, fully trained and motivated carers who will support you in your home with:

- Personal Care including: bathing, dressing, assistance with medication and assistance with continence care.
- Practical Support including: meal preparation, housework, companionship, support with banking and shopping.
- Specialist Care including: assisting people with dementia, learning disabilities, hearing and visual impairment, palliative care, respite/domiciliary care

We can provide support ranging from 15 minutes to 24 hours per day and have an established out-of-hours on call system to ensure that both carers and clients can access support.

Everyone employed by B.R.I.C.C. must possess a clear enhanced PVG which is reviewed in line with recommendations to ensure the protection of clients. All carers must complete a series of mandatory and organisational training, and complete an induction and shadow period to ensure that they have all the necessary skills and temperament to work in this profession.

We are an accredited SVQ Centre and therefore expect all our carers to be trained to a minimum of SVQ2. We can also offer external training courses in Food Hygiene, Moving and Handling, First Aid, Health and Hygiene at very competitive prices.

### What else we can offer:

\* **BRICC Club and Drop In** - The BRICC Club meets every Tuesday to provide a social opportunity with a cup of tea. We enjoy the opportunity to meet with like-minded people and enjoy a variety of entertainment throughout the year. The Drop-In Club meets on a Friday afternoon providing a social opportunity and everyone is welcome.

\* **Monthly Whist** - During the winter months a monthly Whist Drive is held in the BRICC house on the third Wednesday of the month that is well attended and enjoyed. Whist Drives are advertised locally - so come along.

\* **Lunch Club** - The lunch club meet alternate Thursdays in the BRICC house for an affordable, two-course meal where folk can meet for some "nosh and a natter". Places are limited but if anyone would like to attend contact the BRICC office for further details.

\* **Assistance with Transport** - BRICC offers a low-cost, person-centred volunteer driver service that can be arranged to suit your needs to ensure planned attendance at hospital and other appointments. Please give us as much notice as possible if you would like to use this service.

For information on any of the services we can provide please do not hesitate to contact us:

Tel: 01465 831 380 Email: lynne.mcilwraith@btconnect.com or bricc@btconnect.com  
Post: Ballantrae Rural Initiative Care in the Community Ltd, 12 Main St, Ballantrae, KA26 0NA.

### The Thrift Shop

The Thrift Shop is open every day from 2.00pm - 4.00pm and during the week it is also open from 10.00am - 12.00noon. The Thrift shop is manned by a stoic team of volunteers who gather, sort and price the items that are donated.

If you are looking for anything from a thimble to a three-piece suite you can practically guarantee that we have just what you are looking for. We will also have things on display and for sale that you didn't know you needed (until you are persuaded to buy them).

The funds from the Thrift Shop are used to subsidise the cost of some of the support that Ballantrae Rural Initiative Care in the Community can offer.

Our motto is: - "Don't Bin it BRICC it" and continue to support the ongoing work that we do.

## Recommended Tradesmen

Would you recommend good work?

Plumber	Eric Gibson	Tel: 01465 714791 Mob: 07522672767
Carpet Fitter	Mark Foster	Tel: 01465 713884 Mob: 07722892263

## South Carrick Club Diamonds

### SCHEDULE FOR 2013

**Barrhill Memorial Hall**  
Monday 7.00pm - 8.00pm  
**Daily Community Centre**  
Tuesday 10.00am - 11.00am  
**Girvan - South Parish Church Hall**  
Tuesday 11.30am - 12.30  
**Girvan - Boyle Court Sheltered Housing**  
Tuesday 12.45pm - 1.15pm (Chair-based)  
**Girvan - Kirk Care Residential Home**  
Tuesday 1.30pm - 2.00pm (Chair-based)  
**Girvan - South Parish Church Hall**  
Tuesday 2.30pm - 3.30pm (Chair-based )  
**Colmonell Community Centre**  
Monday 2.30pm - 3.30pm

Come and join us at one of our classes for:  
**FUN, FITNESS AND FRIENDSHIP**

### FOR FURTHER INFO CONTACT:

Girvan :	Ruth Wallace	Tel. 710 796
Colmonell :	Margaret Robertson	Tel. 881352
Barrhill:	Celia Strain	Tel. 821 333

## Glenapp Castle, Ballantrae

Glenapp Castle, the five star Relais & Châteaux hotel in Ayrshire, Scotland, Head Chef, Matt Worswick, Ayrshire, KA26 0NZ.  
Tel: +44(0)1465 831 212. Fax: +44(0)1465 831 000.  
Email: info@glenappcastle.com  
Web: www.glenappcastle.com



### King's Arms Hotel

Main Street, Ballantrae  
Tel: 01465 831202  
Email: info@kingsarmsballantrae.com  
www.kingsarmsballantrae.com

## Events at the King's Arms Hotel Ballantrae

The King's Arms Hotel, Ballantrae, has a very full programme of events throughout the year.

Following a very successful Karaoke competition with prizes on Saturday 13th April, we have held a second one on 18th May.

We also hosted a pool competition on Saturday 4th May, with prizes, and a raffle with proceeds going to a local girl, Lily Woodhouse, who is raising money so that she can go to Uganda and teach. There will be other events in aid of her cause throughout the coming months.

We would like to say a massive thank you to DJ Garry Thomson, who has helped make the Karaoke such a success, and to Allan McCurdy for helping to organise the pool competition.

There is always a warm welcome and plenty happening at the King's Arms Hotel, Ballantrae.

We look forward to seeing you!

Vicky Stirling - Bar Manager  
Suzanne and Brian Stirling - Owners

## The 2 Pins Community Centre

The 2 Pins Centre project is progressing with negotiations underway to purchase the site in the centre of Pinwherry. Surveyors are currently carrying out a topographical survey and soil testing to make certain that the site is suitable for the proposed building.

The 2 Pins directors and members have been carrying out visits to other community facilities to learn what problems could arise, what worked and what did not work. From the public consultations a wish list was developed and residents met with the appointed architect and discussed the possible centre layout.

The architects are now working with the board on the final draft plans. These will be submitted to South Ayrshire Council planning department for outline planning approval allowing us to complete the purchase of the site later this year. Applications have been made to funders for the site purchase.

We propose that The 2 Pins Centre will incorporate a central hub for displaying local history, arts and crafts, a sports/meeting hall, changing facilities, café, shop, community meeting rooms, offices, children's play area, all with full disabled access and ample car parking. Outside we hope to have a MUGA (multi use games area) with an all-weather surface.

The 2 Pins Community Company is a Company Limited by Guarantee and a Registered Charity. We currently have 42 members from both Pinwherry and Pinmore and from these we have a board of 7 directors. It is important that we prove to potential funders that the whole community is behind the project, so we are still looking to increase company members.

The board and members meet every 2nd Thursday at 7.30pm in Pinwherry hall, please come along and support us and find out the progress of the project.

It's important the community starts fund raising. A discussion about this will be led by the Pinwherry Community Association on May 23rd at 7.30pm in Pinwherry Hall. Come along and help any way you can.

## Pinwherry Bridge CCTV

Residents in Pinwherry can help reduce costs for South Ayrshire Council and council tax payers by reporting any damage to Pinwherry Bridge. If damage is reported as soon as it happens, South Ayrshire Council can retrieve the CCTV footage and claim from the insurance of the driver who has done the damage.

Contacts for the Council's Bridges Section are:-

**Douglas Hemmings**  
(Team Leader - Bridges & Lighting).

E mail. [Douglas.hemmings@south-ayrshire.gov.uk](mailto:Douglas.hemmings@south-ayrshire.gov.uk).

Tel. No. 01292 616377

**Scott Greig (Supervisory Engineer - Bridges).**

E mail. [Scott.greig@south-ayrshire.gov.uk](mailto:Scott.greig@south-ayrshire.gov.uk)

Tel. No. 01292 616659

**Local contact: John McAlley**

Email: [j.mcalley@btinternet.com](mailto:j.mcalley@btinternet.com)

Tel. No. 01465 841198

## Pinwherry School Project

Pinwherry and Pinmore Community Council have proposed that the Pinwherry Primary School be converted into a Hostel and Bunkhouse. Community Council engaged an external tourism expert who produced a report on the potential use and need for this type of facility in Carrick. The study has indicated that there is a demand for this type of accommodation in South Carrick which will assist in encouraging walkers/cyclists/visitors to stay longer in the area.

From this P & P Community Council approached South Ayrshire Council with the idea of passing the School buildings over to the community for the Hostel/bunkhouse, in principle the Council have agreed subject to a detailed business plan.

Funding has been approved to engage external Architects, Surveys, Accountants, and Marketing experts to draw up a detailed costing's, and Business and marketing plan.



## Local Hills

Craig Hill and Breaker Hill lie between two areas which have been designated Special Areas of Conservation under the EU Directive on the Conservation of Natural Habitats and of Wild Fauna and Flora (Knockdaw Hill and Aldons Hill - part of the Lendalfoot Hills Complex).

Craig Hill lies on part of the Knockdaw Hill and Knockormal Hill Provisional Wildlife Site and shares many of the upland habitats of the adjoining SSSI's - Calcium-rich springwater-fed fens, dry heath, species rich grassland, very wet mires, and wet heathland with cross-leaved heath.

On the SSSI's and surrounding hills can be found Bog Asphodel, Grass of Parnassus, Heath-spotted Orchids, Wild Thyme, Common Milkwort, Harebells and Lady's Bedstraw. (See page two)

Breaker Hill consists mainly of spruce and larch plantation (including a small loch) which supports good numbers of red squirrels, badgers, and both red and roe deer. The red squirrel has UK Biodiversity Action Plan Priority Species status, and is a protected species under the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981.

## Alec Oattes

"As a local Councillor I receive invitations to all sorts of events, briefings and launches of projects, many of which, time permitting, I am happy to attend.

Amongst recent briefings has been one concerned with Child Safety and Development this is called GIRFEC "Getting it right for every child" this is a method of looking after children at each stage of their life from birth until they reach the age of 18. This in practice means that every child has a named person, from health or education, who looks after the welfare of every child, in addition to the parents or guardians and is one of the many unheralded services provided by taxation, but which most people are unaware of. This service encourages all children to be Safe, Healthy, Achieving, Nourished, Active, Respected, Responsible and Included, otherwise known as SHANARRI! I understand the perception that councils only lift the bins and a few other things, but there are a whole range of statutory services provided by Local Authorities which serve the community from the cradle to the grave and is also the level of public service nearest to the people.

A recent launch was the "DisabledGo" service which provides information and help for people with disabilities, which South Ayrshire Council has just recently signed up to. This web site can be accessed at [[www.disabledgo.com](http://www.disabledgo.com)] and provides online access guides to over 100,000. venues across the U.K. it is free to use and you do not need to register, this provides information for all kinds of places, cinemas, hotels, restaurants, parks and tourist attractions. There are many other user friendly locations and services which are being added to continually and I would urge anyone with a disability to log on and find out what is on offer.

Another launch occurred on the 18th. of April at Marr College in Troon, this was "National Stalking Awareness Day" which was launched by Ann Moulds who was a victim of Stalking for 3 years. The Campaign has been developed by the Glasgow Violence Against Women Partnership, to help highlight and inform the general public of what stalking is, what to do about it and how to access help and support. Stalking has been a criminal offence since 2010 and there is a helpline number on 0808 802 0300 or by going on line at [[www.stalkinghelpline.org](http://www.stalkinghelpline.org)]

Lastly I was able to attend a Seminar in Edinburgh at no cost to the Council Tax Payer (using my elderly travel concession card!) The Mayors for Peace Nuclear Free Local Authorities event, this seminar was addressed among others by Matt Robson Former New Zealand Minister for Disarmament & Arms Control, Mr Tadatoshi Akiba the former Mayor of Hiroshima. There was an interesting discussion on how New Zealand became a Nuclear Free Country, there was also a debate on how small communities, local authorities and even Nations can declare themselves Nuclear Free, which in the longer term could lead to a reduction in the Number of Nuclear weapons in the world. I imagine this all sounds a bit idealistic to some, but the cost of replacing a second generation of Trident Submarines in a debt ridden country, will according to Greenpeace, amount to £100 Billion over 30 years, it all seems pretty stupid to me. Further information can be obtained at [[www.nuclearpolicy.info](http://www.nuclearpolicy.info)] I trust this column shows that there is more going on within a Councillors role than simply attending Council Meetings.

Yours sincerely,

Councillor Alec Oattes,

Girvan & South Carrick Ward, South Ayrshire Council. Tel. Office 01292 612 382 | Home 05600 711 074



## Lost, Found, Wanted & For Sale

Why not use this magazine to let your neighbours know what you need help with or what you would like to buy or sell? You could save yourself some money, time and a longer journey.

**4 or 6 panel doors circa 1910:** Taken out of the Kirk Hall in Colmonell. If you wish to view them contact Claire on 841644.

**1970 MG Midget 1500:** Heritage vehicle (Tax exempt) Contact Editor.

### Balkissock Lodge for sale

Howard and Cordelia Galley have informed us that their splendid Georgian house is for sale. It has five bedrooms and outbuildings, is set in about an acre of garden and woodland and is located in rolling hills three miles from Ballantrae. Full details and photographs can be seen at: <http://scottishcountryhouse.wordpress.com/scottish-country-house-for-sale/>

Or <http://www.rightmove.co.uk/property-for-sale/property-33650686.html?sessionid=6593E8ACB33A404CB74FC0718CD136AD>



# Local Spotlight:

From front page

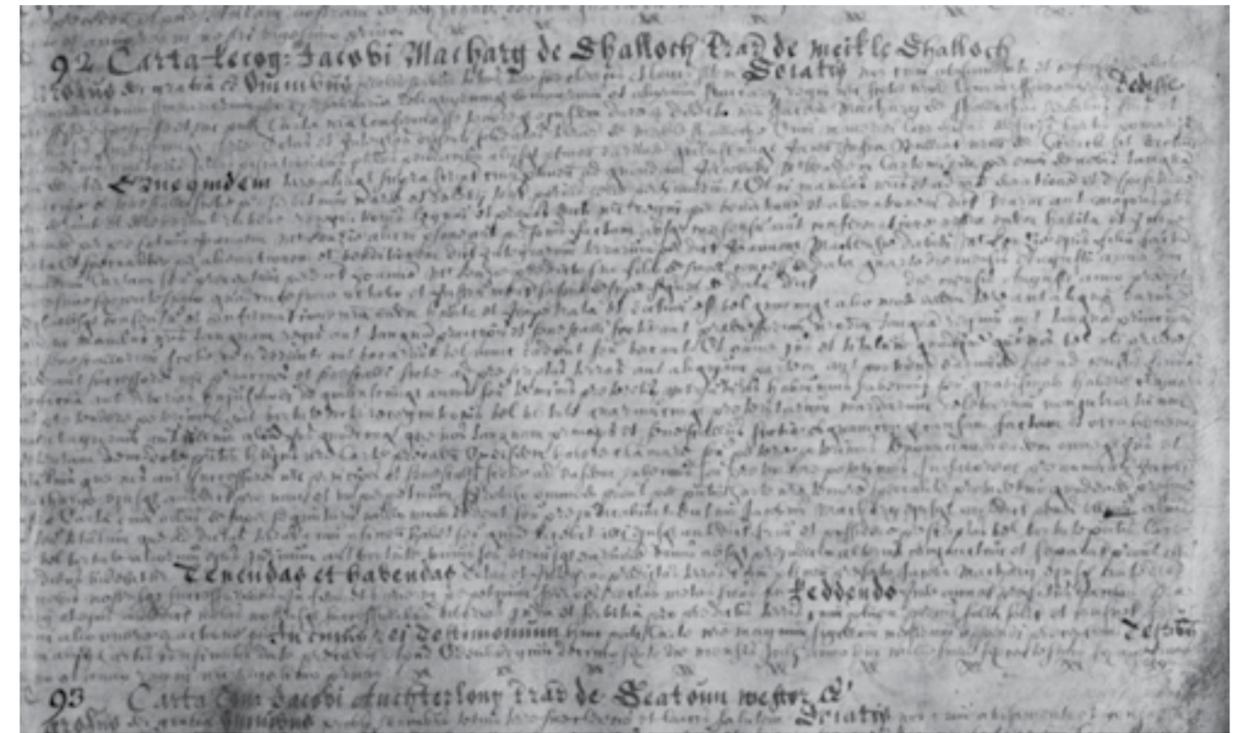
By; Emeritus Prof Thomas W Maver

# Meikle Shalloch or Shallochwell

Shallochwell is located in the Parish of Barr and previous occupants and their children had to walk to Barr to attend the Kirk and School. It sits at the top of the Muck Water glen at the watershed between the rivers Stinchar and the Cree and commands wonderful views of the Merricks and large tracts of Galloway.

Avril Maver acquired Shallochwell in 1980 and lived there until her death in 2009. Initially, she bought it as a 6 acre island surrounded by the Forestry Commission (FC) in order to have grazing for her two ponies Lulu and Muffin. She persuaded the FC to sell 5 acres and then a further 7 acres to secure the water supply, the septic tank and the wonderful sheep pens that she transformed into an amazing garden for wildlife. Avril willed Shallochwell to her two daughters - Justine and Esme. Esme is well known as the Farrier in the 50 mile radius of Shallochwell and currently looks after her Clydesdale Amber, two half-Highland ponies and Neddy the donkey.

1. The disposition, in 1669 by Charles II, of Meikle Shalloch (the former name of Shallochwell) in favour of one James McHarg in return for McHarg killing one of the King's (many) enemies.
2. A section of the 1664 map of Johan Blau, based on the surveys of the Rev Timothy Pont. I have this and a number of maps of the area from a variety of later dates. (Front page)
3. I have tried to piece together the chronology of the ownership/tenancy of Shallochwell. Maybe your readership could provide additional information?
4. Sometime between 1800 and 1850, the name changed from Meikle Shalloch to Shallochwell; this seems to be to reflect the importance of the Chalybeate 3/4 of a mile South-East of the house. One of the images is an extract from the 1790 Statistical Account of Scotland of the mineral and healing properties of the Well.
5. The last image is of Shallochwell as it currently is. (Front page)



DATES	OCCUPIER	OWNER	NOTES
- 1669	McIlwraith	McIlwraith	Scottish Records Office, Testament : CC9/7/8 McIlwraith, 1692
1669-94	James McHarg	McHarg	Registry of Great Seal of Scotland, Vol62, Fol35, Nr92
1694-	Adam Mc Fadzean	McFadzean	Scottish Records 'Office, Testament CC9/7/49 Adam McFadzean, 1694
1842			Register of Sasines : Lands belonging to Alin Albany mention MS, WC and "Little Shalloch of Muck" and Taylill-"part of the lands of MS"
1903			James Wilson died on Hagnanay on Pindonan Craig walking from Carrwhin (on Barr Road) toDarnacrosser to visit his wife and son
1912/14	John Hughet	Hughes-Onslow	
1934			Geoff Henry Hughes-Onslow sell land to Forestry Commission
1977-35	Gregg		Jimmy Donald in White Claighrie; Cunningham in Wee Shalloch; McGilvery in Mark; McGrady inBellamore
1936-53	McCracken		
1954-	Richmond ?		Refs : Improvement Grant to H.O for Shallochwell - provided annual rent does not exceed £35
1960-	Anderson		Father in Forter; Swan in White Claighrie
1971		Ferguson	Refs : H-O sells land including Shallochwell and WC to Alex Ferguson
1972			Refs : Ferguson sells (with the consent of Capt Cunningham) 150 acres around Sh'well and WC
1972-75	George McClarty		
1975-	Paxton		
1977			Refs : Ferguson sells lands, part of Sh'well and WC to Forestry Commission and sells WC to Collan
1978			Refs : Ferguson sells Sh'well to Gavin Pilkington for £6000
1980			Pilkington sells Sh'well with 6.02 acres (2.436 hectares) to Avril Maver for £16,000
1980-98	Avril Maver	Avril Maver	
1982			FC sells 2 hectares (4.94 acres) to Avril Maver for £1,700 (lower field)
1988			FC sells 2.9 hectares (7.166 acres) to Avril Maver (upper field)
1998-2009	Avril + Esme Maver	Esme+Justine Maver	1998 Avril Maver disposes Shallochwell to Esme and Justine Maver
2009-	Esme Maver	Esme+Justine Maver	

## Antiquities

Extract from 'Statistical Account of Scotland - Vol VI, Ayrshire 1790s:

This parish, being hilly, abounds with springs of fine water - many of them mineral. Shalloch Well deservedly has pre-eminence. It is a pretty strong chalybeate and partakes of sulpher also to no inconsiderable degree. About 30 years ago (i.e. 1760s) people of rank and fashion in Carrick and neighbourhood attended this well, but this is not the case at present. The waters have been rarely known to fail in giving relief to persons afflicted with stomachic or scorbutic disorders. The reason why this water is in a great measure deserted, is the want of proper accomodation at the well.

# Carrick Invasive Species Project



The Carrick Invasive Species Project is a community lead project which aims to raise awareness of the issues associated with invasive non-native species and to bring them under control along the watercourses of the Girvan and Stinchar catchments.

Japanese knotweed



Himalayan balsam



Giant Hogweed



American mink



## GET INVOLVED!

FREE training courses and equipment are available to volunteers who wish to help control these invasive species in the Girvan and Stinchar catchments:

- Safe handling and use of pesticides near water PA1, PA6 and PA6AW. 3 day course. 1 day assessment.
- Safe use and handling of brushcutters and strimmers. 2 day LANTRA course.

If you think you could benefit from these courses and help tackle these invasive species get in touch with the project officer now for more information.

Spaces fill up fast so get in touch now!

## CONTACT

Meryl Norris

E: [meryl@ayrshirerivertrust.org](mailto:meryl@ayrshirerivertrust.org)

T: 07956426218

W: [www.ayrshirerivertrust.org/cisp](http://www.ayrshirerivertrust.org/cisp)



# Keep Ballantrae Safe Initiative

## Wood Pellet Warning

SAFETY chiefs have issued warnings over boiler fuel which has caused nine deaths by carbon monoxide poisoning.

The Health and Safety Executive (HSE) has issued a warning over wood pellets, which are often used to fire boilers in homes or schools as an alternative to gas. Scottish councils now say they are taking precautions with the storage of wood pellets, and the Scottish Government has said.

A pregnant 28-year-old Swiss woman is among the people to have died as a result of carbon monoxide poisoning from the pellets, which release the toxic gas if not stored properly.

### Monoxide

With prices for gas and oil soaring, using wood pellets made from compressed sawdust and off-cuttings as fuel have been growing.

But when stored in hot, enclosed spaces, the HSE says some pellets can produce potentially lethal amounts of carbon monoxide due to chemical reactions in the wood. The HSE said: "Since 2002 there have been at least nine fatalities in Europe caused by carbon monoxide poisoning following entry into wood pellet storage areas."

"Although there have not been any incidents so far in the UK the use of wood pellets is increasing and awareness of this danger is required."

"Wood pellet boilers are used in homes and businesses as an alternative to oil or gas fired boilers."

"They are also being installed to replace coal-fired boilers, particularly in schools."

### Hospital

In 2011, the wife of a Swiss caretaker entered a room containing the pellets for 60 households on his behalf, and later died from carbon monoxide poisoning.

In November 2010 a 38-year-old Irish man died after entering the seven tonne wood pellet storage room for his boiler. His wife and another man were taken to hospital after trying to pull him to safety.

The HSE recommends keeping the pellets in well-ventilated areas with signs warning people of the danger of entering them. Amid a raft of other safety measures, they say no one should enter storage tanks for the pellets unless fully trained.

Four deaths were as a result of entering wood pellet storage rooms on ships.

### Risk

Scottish Government spokesperson said: "There have not been any incidents in the UK. However the use of wood pellets is increasing and we would urge all those who use, install, maintain or distribute wood pellet boilers and/or manufacture / store / distribute wood pellets to heed the advice of the Health and Safety Executive when storing wood pellets."

## GOING ON HOLIDAY?

You've packed your suitcase, remembered the Factor 30, cancelled the newspapers. You're all prepared. Or are you?

What about protecting your home from fire when you're away?

Here are some handy tips to think about before you leave



- Switch off and unplug unnecessary equipment.
- Turn the water off at the mains. Water from a leaking pipe could short out electrical wiring and cause a fire.
- Close down the gas supply at the mains unless you have appliances which need to be left on.
- Let a neighbour know you are going away and leave a key with them.
- Close all doors and windows, so that if fire breaks out its spread will be slowed down.
- Check your smoke alarm is working order before you go.



Home Fire Safety Visits are available from the Fire & Rescue Service, FREE of charge. Phone freefone 0800 0731 999 or text "check" to 61611

## A Summer Poem!

In the Winter edition Elma Kirkwood of Ballantrae told us she had been clearing out old recipes when she found a poem she had written 30 years ago. We printed that poem. This one was on the other side of the piece of paper.....

## A Summer Poem!

By Elma Kirkwood

*Is British Summer Time a joke?  
Has the sun gone up in smoke?  
I sit here in the pouring rain  
Arthritis causing me great pain.*

*Each day I see a big black cloud  
And mutter to myself out loud  
Why here - and not in Spain  
Do we get all the bloody rain?*

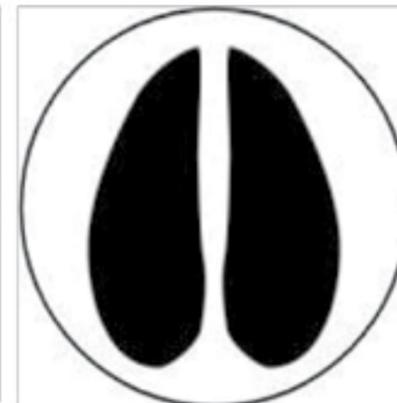
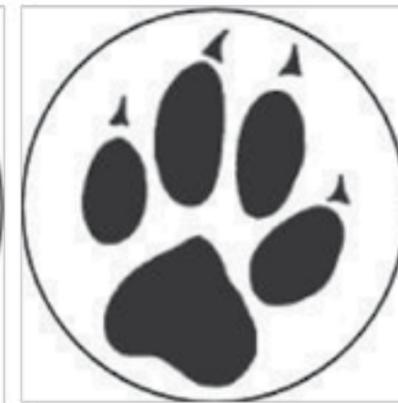
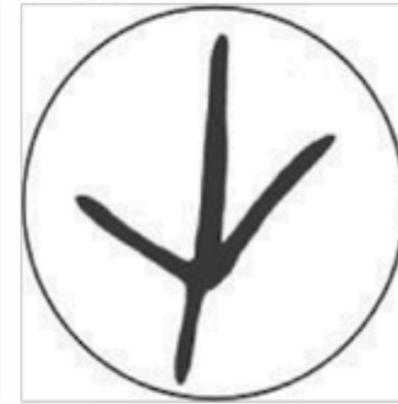
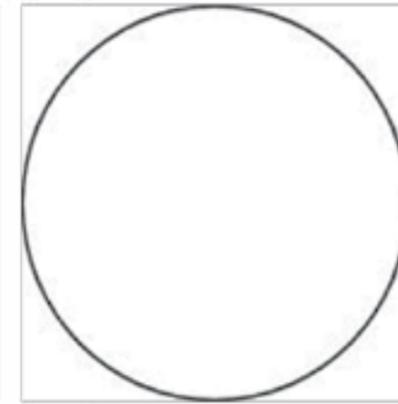
*My grass is long and needing cut  
But my mower in a rut is stuck  
To cut it would be very risky  
So I've taken to drinking water and whisky*

*My attitude has changed since drinking  
It's dulled my pessimistic thinking  
Instead of feeling any pain  
I say to God - bring on the rain!*

# Leaves



# Tracks hunt sheet

		
<input type="checkbox"/> badger	<input type="checkbox"/> deer	<input type="checkbox"/> dog
		
<input type="checkbox"/> duck	<input type="checkbox"/> fox	<input type="checkbox"/> heron
		
<input type="checkbox"/> otter	<input type="checkbox"/> squirrel	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> _____



# Girvan Coastal Rowing

Rhona Anderson

“Weel may the keel row....”



On an impulse, and since the tide times are right, we drive out to Maidens to see if the Carrick Maid is being launched today. Bingo! We spy two 4x4 vehicles parked alongside the sea-wall at the harbour, one of them towing a pretty white and blue boat behind. It's the Carrick Maid, a St Ayles skiff: a lightweight wooden boat, kitted out with 4 single oars (two per side), especially designed to be fast in the water.

Girvan is the latest community to be caught up in the coastal rowing craze which is sweeping round the coastline of Scotland like a supernatural cyclone, enticing all in its path to take up their paddles and row. Beginning in Anstruther, Fife, in 2010, communities and schools throughout the country have been buying the plans and the ready-made kits to create their very own St Ayles 'skiffies' so that they too can compete against their rowing rivals. More than 40 boats have been built since 2010, with fierce competition between neighbouring teams, such as Pittenweem versus Anstruther; Troon versus Cumbrae and soon, with the launch of Girvan's newly-built skiff on Friday June 21st 2013, it will be Girvan versus Carrick (Maybole). All teams are encouraged to enter this year's St Ayles Skiff World Championships from 8th-14th July 2013 at Ullapool.

Back at Maidens Harbour, where the sea is splashing up and over the breakwater, I am invited by the organisers to 'have a go' at rowing with the three others in the team. On the coxswain's command "One!" we dip the oars in and pull back. I am operating one oar at the 'stroke' side of the boat. Incidentally, 'stroke' is not, as I first thought, a reference to the health risk of rowing without proper training! 'Stroke' is a command to rowers on one side: the opposite side respond to the command, "bow".

Our skiff speeds lightly over the gentle waves in the harbour. The cox steers a course past the buoys using his wooden rudder at the stern. "Stroke lift! Bow paddle!" This command turns us out of the quiet harbour into the open sea. And we're lifted high on a huge wave, front paddles failing to connect with the water until the bow rides over the crest of the wave. A few minutes of rowing over the heads of white horses is enough exhilaration for me, so it's with relief we change direction and head for the safe haven behind Maidens breakwater. My unexpected Thursday adventure really fires my interest.

Coastal rowing is great team fun enjoyed by all: from young adults to veterans both women and men participate in the rowing teams. Strength is not as important as effective team-work, so the seniors' team might easily beat the young crew who have yet to learn the value of co-operation. Girvan Coastal Rowing Club is on the lookout for members, so if you're interested, then contact Allan Rattray at Girvan Academy on 01465 716816 or email [Girvan.Mail@south-ayrshire.gov.uk](mailto:Girvan.Mail@south-ayrshire.gov.uk).

# Breast Way Round



On Friday 24th May around 150 bikers, primarily women all wearing bright pink hi-viz vests and mo-hawks on their helmet, joined by a few men, will have set off on their 3 day 450 mile run round the West Coast of Scotland to raise money for MacMillan Cancer Support. Okay so it's not a marathon or a coffee morning, but the end achieves the same goal, to raise money for breast cancer. All of us at some point in our lives will have known someone with breast or one of the other cancers, many survive but sadly far too many don't. My personal experience is with my cousin Lee, who fortunately won the battle and is still here to be my cousin. Breast Way Round's first was in 2008 and at the end of this years' run will have clocked up a staggering 270,000 miles. The current fund raising total is £212,000 with a target of £250,000 to reach.

The run set off at Kilmarnock Rugby Park at 10.30am, through Gourock, Dunoon, Inverary, Oban, Fort William, Drumnadrochit, Fort Augustus, Inverness, Aviemore, finally arriving at Loch Lomond at 12.30pm on Sunday 26th May.

Each rider is placed in a small group which matches their riding ability, with a leader and a back marker. Lunchtime stops are long enough to strengthen budding friendships, share experiences and pleasures of the run and the team makes sure that everyone is okay and enjoying the run. Oban is the first nights stop and from there on the pace quickens as each member settles. The last part of the run is down the side of Loch Lomond and we are honoured by a Police escort. There we release memory balloons over the loch.

It's hard to describe how rewarding and satisfying it is to be taking part in BWR. All accommodation, food and fuel cost is funded by myself and every donation and sponsor money collected goes directly to BWR.

We could not do this run without the huge support from family, friends, sponsors and the general public. If anyone would like to donate to Breast Way Round they can follow the link on my Just Giving page: [www.justgiving.com/lyndorrington](http://www.justgiving.com/lyndorrington) or [www.justgiving.com/BWR2013](http://www.justgiving.com/BWR2013) **Lyn Dorrington Thank you.**

# FROM THE ARCHIVES

SNIPPETS OF LOCAL HISTORY GATHERED FROM NEWSPAPERS, THE BRITISH LIBRARY ARCHIVES AND MANY LOCAL SOURCES BY KEITH & CHRISTINE BROWN OF BALLANTRAE



Barr, King Street



Barr 1906, Main Street



Barrhill Bridge



Barrhill looking East



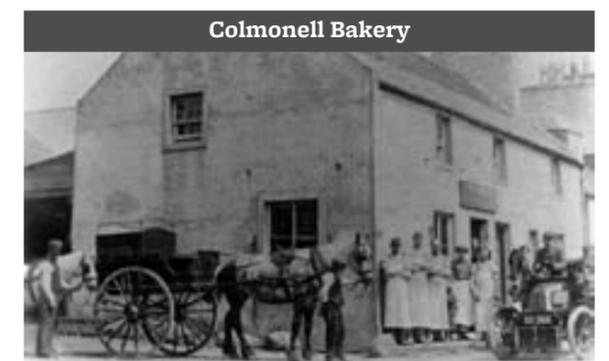
Garleffin



Ballantrae, house beside Kirk



Colmonell, Main Street



Colmonell Bakery

Feedback on these articles would be appreciated either via the magazine editor or by email to Keith & Christine at [kaycee.history@gmail.com](mailto:kaycee.history@gmail.com) There is very little in the archives about Barr. Any historical information would be welcomed.



## Kildonan House

Kildonan House is situated amidst glorious countryside just half a mile from Barrhill off the A714 to Pinwherry: Kildonan House, Barrhill, South Ayrshire, Scotland, UK, KA26 0PS

Tearoom:  
01465-821458

Restaurant & Takeaway:  
01465-821519

Website:  
[www.kildonancountryhouse.co.uk](http://www.kildonancountryhouse.co.uk)

**REAL ALE  
FESTIVAL  
COMING TO  
KILDONAN  
HOUSE**  
FURTHER DETAILS TO  
BE ANNOUNCED IN  
THE LOCAL PRESS

Find us on:  
**facebook**

## Our Roads

Representatives from Ballantrae, Barrhill, Colmonell, Girvan, Pinwherry and Pinmore were invited to attend a meeting held on 17th April 2013 to discuss measures to improve road safety primarily on the A714. The meeting was also attended by South Ayrshire Council, Forestry Commission, Ailsa Horizons, SAYLSA, the Police and Scottish Power Renewables.

### Matters discussed included:

- How to improve driver behaviour
- The condition of our roads
- Roads maintenance and pot holes
- Routing of wind farm related traffic e.g. Kilgallioch
- Water on roads
- Dead, overhanging trees
- Timber transport logistics
- The feasibility of using the railway for transporting heavy goods

The meeting was very constructive and we will update on developments in forthcoming issues of the Stinchar Valley Magazine.

## New Websites

### Carrick

The new Carrick website is now live and fully accessible. This is the first time all of Carrick's tourism product information has been collated and presented in one place, easy to view for anyone in the world. We would encourage you to explore the website, use the tab to like it on Facebook and sign up to the free newsletter. These actions will generate traffic on the website, helping it rise up the ranks on Google and other search engines and make it more visible online to possible visitors.

[www.carrickayrshire.com](http://www.carrickayrshire.com)

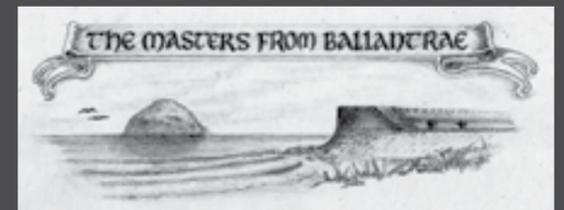
### Pinwherry/Pinmore

This community website will keep you up to date with all the news about the 2 Pins Centre developments, local information from all community groups, what's on, tourist information, photograph gallery etc. To do this we need your help to give us the information. We are also looking for more photos and history of Pinmore and Pinwherry so please get in touch.

[www.zpins.org.uk](http://www.zpins.org.uk)

### Porter & Macdonald

Noel Porter and Jamie MacDonald, the "Masters from Ballantrae" who create unique hand-painted furniture in their Ballantrae workshop, now have a website to bring their products to a wider audience. To see examples of their work visit the website or, better still, visit the showroom at 76 Main Street, Ballantrae, KA26 0NB. Telephone Noel on 01465 891126 or Jamie on 01465 841251 to check opening times, or e-mail : [info@hand-painted-furniture.com](mailto:info@hand-painted-furniture.com). [www.hand-painted-furniture.com](http://www.hand-painted-furniture.com)



## How Will We Remember Them?

As probably everyone knows, it will be the centenary of the beginning of WW1 next year.

A couple of us have had an idea of how to remember those who took part in this war and we would like to know if anyone else would be interested in getting involved.

The idea is that we would research as much as we could about those who died in the war from our villages - where they lived, what they did, what their war was like, how they died, etc., as well as finding out about those who lived through the war and those who played their part at home. We could also find out what our communities would have been like 100 years ago, and what life was like then. We would then put together small exhibitions in our village halls and have some afternoons open to the public - possibly serving refreshments? Inviting local schools to join in, getting them involved in the research and in putting it on.

This is only the germ of an idea at present. If anyone is interested in pursuing it, contact Judy on 01465 881236 or at [judybrzezinka@hotmail.com](mailto:judybrzezinka@hotmail.com), and we'll try and get a group together.

### Related web sites:

<http://ww1centenary.oucs.ox.ac.uk/space-into-place/commonwealth-cemeteries-of-world-war-one/>

<http://maps.google.com/maps/ms?ie=UTF8&oe=UTF8&msa=o&msid=216304426690794410097.0004be0584ca9ba068014>



GARDENING LEAVE

Growing History...  
**THE VICTORIA CROSS  
POPPY**



The Victoria Cross poppy was named in 1890 and has been grown ever since as a reminder of outstanding courage.



**137 Main St, Ayr, KA8 8BX  
SCo42899 | 01292 286815**

The number of members and friends has been consistently high throughout the year. We enjoyed a variety of speakers from Heather Budge-Reid on Gardening leave to Moira McAlpine on creating a garden in Lendalfoot. At our AGM in April the following appointments were proposed and approved.

- Chairperson** **Pat Spence**  
01465 821 377  
patspence@piperpublications.co.uk
- Vice chair** **John McAlley**  
01465 841 198  
j.mcalley@btinternet.com
- Treasurer** **Jill McAlley**  
as above
- Secretary** **Moira McAlpine**  
01465 831 122  
moira.mcalpine@btopenworld.com
- Member** **Roger Pirrie**  
01465 841 644  
rdpirrie@gmail.com
- Member** **Margaret Bean**  
01465 841 635  
margaret.bean1@btinternet.com

A number of members and friends enjoyed a meal together at Shimla to end the session. Several visits have been planned for the summer and as always we would welcome anyone who would like to join us. Some of the venues are new, others are old favourites.

- 15th May** **Conducted tour of Ardwell Garden** followed by lunch at Logan Gardens and a tour there.
- 14th June** **Gardening Leave, Auchencruive**
- 17th July** **Cally Palace**
- Week beginning:
- 12th August** **Botanic Gardens Edinburgh.**  
The club hope to apply for a grant to enable us to hire a bus, depending on numbers. If you are interested and would like to join us, and help fill a bus please contact committee member.
- Early Sept** **Enid's Garden.**  
This is an old favourite. It is a private garden which has been developed by the owner over a number of years. We normally lunch at the Gem Rock museum, before visiting the garden which is situated a few miles outside Creetown and is well worth a visit

If you're interested in taking part please contact any committee member. We welcome members and friends, old and new when we resume in September.

**Margaret Bean**

The first of 5 Information Road Shows was held in Girvan at the North Parish Church Montgomerie Street on Thursday April 4th by South Ayrshire Seniors Forum a registered charity (SCo42899).

The Road Show was designed to provide older people with information that could be useful for them in respect of the various services that are provided by the different agencies - e.g. - housing; benefits; access to information for those with various disabilities; universal benefits; and much more.

The programme included: - Tea & Coffee, reminiscent music and singing; alternative therapies; food and drink; and much more.

Entrance was free and a total of 25 different organisations were represented. Over 70 people visited the show, many staying over two hours enjoying the information, food and entertainment.

Unfortunately, despite contacting local cafes & tea rooms and Community Councils seeking their support since September last year, requests for posters to be displayed and contacts with older people to be made who may require transport did not happen. There would no doubt have been older people in attendance if this support had been forthcoming.

On the Tuesday & Wednesday of this week and on the day of the event, young people from the Girvan Youth Forum "And Beyond" carried out a local survey on our behalf which will eventually be analysed and the results brought back to Girvan through a public meeting with the expectation of local politicians in attendance.

The second Road Show was at the end of May in Maybole. (After this publication went to press). Les Anderson (Chair at SASF)

E mail: Chair@sasf.co.uk  
Letter: SASF 137 Main Street Ayr KA8 8BX  
Phone: 0792581335 - Les Anderson (Chair at SASF)

## Woodland Bay Hotel

For details, menus and booking go to [www.woodlandfarm.co.uk](http://www.woodlandfarm.co.uk),  
e-mail [stay@woodlandfarm.co.uk](mailto:stay@woodlandfarm.co.uk)  
or call the booking hotline 01465 710700

## Ballantrae Gala Week

The Gala Queen this year is Lucy Cosslett, Gala King Malcolm Boag. Attendants are Erin Stevenson and Lauren Bradshaw and Page boys are Euan Shearer and Ryan McIlwraith. (Pics from last year: inside rear page)

The crowning will take place in Ballantrae Hall on Friday 14th June at 7pm. There will be Entertainment, refreshments and raffle

Ballantrae Gala Week will start on Saturday 29th June with the John Boyd Memorial Fishing Competition at Ballantrae beach. This will be organised by Robert McIlwraith, Tel 01465 831431 for more details or keep an eye in local press.

On Mon 1st July the Car Treasure Hunt will start at Kings Arms Hotel. Staggered starts from 6pm to 6.45pm.

From Tuesday 2nd July to Friday 5th July, is the Football Competition sponsored by McCulloch Rail, with the final taking place on Friday 5th July immediately after the parade of floats. For more details contact Gordon McIlwraith on 01465 831506.

Fancy dress and Parade of floats will start at 6pm in recreational field. We had a fabulous turnout for this last year with 10 floats and lots of fancy dress and look forward to the same support this year.

Gala Day will be on Saturday 6th July from 1pm to 4pm in recreational field. There will be stalls, beer tent, tea tent, bungee trampolines, bouncy castles/slides, car boot, pet parade, sports, and a demonstration which has still to be confirmed. There will be trophy tug o war, raffle, clown and much more is planned. Keep an eye in the local press for more details of new events. For more details or to book a stall/car boot, please contact Sharon Robertson on 07798710481.

In the evening the Annual Family Barn Dance at Kings Arms Farm starts at 7pm. Music this year is from a Stranraer Band, MPH. They have come highly recommended. Please remember that this is a family event and anyone thought to be too drunk will be refused entry. As was the case last year there will be doormen at entrance. This is a hugely popular event now enjoyed by all ages and we appreciate the respect shown to Andrew and Fiona MacLean over the past few years, who work hard to prepare the barn and who, along with Robert Dalrymple, allow us to use this property.

On Sunday the Bowler/Non Bowler Louise Knox Memorial Cup, sponsored by Gordon McIlwraith, Fishmonger starts at 1pm at Ballantrae Bowling Green. Another great day popular with people of all ages. Bar, refreshments and raffle available.

On Sunday evening the Rev Stephen Ogston brings the Gala Week to a close with a Concert of Praise at Ballantrae Church at 7pm.

Ballantrae Gala would like to thank everyone for all their support over the years. Our Gala gets bigger and better every year thanks to the help from our community and all the people who turn out to support the gala, from the community to much further afield. Fingers crossed for dry weather and we hope to see you all at some point over the Gala week. We can also be found on Facebook under Ballantrae Village Gala Week.

## Credit Union

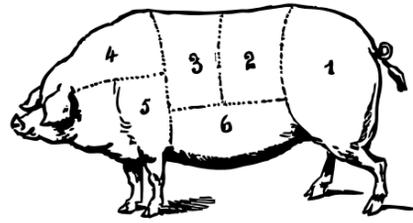
The 1st Alliance Credit Union will begin a Credit Union service in Girvan on Thursday 25th April 2013 from 1.30pm to 3.30pm at the Community Centre, Dalrymple Street. Support will be available for people who need help with budgeting. The partnership includes South Ayrshire Council, The Learning Shop and is supported by Girvan Town Team.

## ACE

Adventure Centre for Education is an Ayrshire based charity formed in 2005 as a small local project. We provide outdoor activity days and training courses to suit individuals and groups of all levels of ability and aspiration, so if you have a passion for outdoor adventures we will be privileged to guide you on your journey.

[www.adventurecentreforeducation.com](http://www.adventurecentreforeducation.com)





## Ballantrae Farmers' Market

More Farmers' Markets in Ballantrae in 2013: Following the success of the first Ballantrae Farmers' Market in Autumn 2012, the Ballantrae Development Group, in conjunction with Craigmains Garden Centre, will be hosting a further two Farmers' Markets in 2013.

The dates for your diary are Sunday 18th August and Sunday 6th October.

You will be able to purchase a wide range of local produce, meats, bakery, preserves and crafts, as well as trying the offerings of the coffee shop and garden centre, the children's play area and the ride-on miniature railway at Craigmains.



## Ballantrae Flower Show 2013

Saturday 17th. August

The Ballantrae & District Horticultural Society Open Flower Show 2013 takes place on Saturday 17th August in Ballantrae Village Hall. The show is open from 2.00pm until 4.00pm.

The schedules, listing the entry categories and an entry form, will be available from Craigmains Garden Centre, the BRICC Thrift Shop or by telephoning Linden Hunt on 01465 831 207.

Categories include flowers, vegetables, baking and handicrafts. There are twenty categories for junior entrants.

All entries must be submitted on entry forms from this year's schedule only and completed entry forms may be delivered to Mrs. Linden Hunt at 1 Ailsa Drive, Ballantrae from Monday 12th August to Friday 16th August, or to the Village Hall on Friday 16th August from 6.30pm to 8.30pm.

Exhibits may be staged on Friday 16th., 6.30pm to 8.30pm, or on Saturday 17th. From 8.00am until 9.45am. Judging will commence at 10.00am.



## Ballantrae Patchwork Group

The Ballantrae Patchwork Group meets on Wednesday afternoon in the Ballantrae Community Centre from 1.30 - 4.00pm.

We would welcome any new members, you do not need to have done Patchwork before - we have some good teachers!! We also have a machine and all the basic equipment for you to use.

Our group is now over twenty five years old and we presently have members from Ayr, Maybole, Barr, Girvan, Ballantrae and of course Pinwherry and Pinmore.

Do come along and meet us or just pop in some Wednesday and have a look at what we do. If you would like to contact us please do so through the Stinchar Valley Magazine editorial team.

## Adam Ingram MSP



### Windfarms & New Planning Guidance

I'm sure it won't have escaped the attention of the growing number of local people looking for improvements in the planning system, that the Scottish Government have made some significant announcements in the last few months. These come on the back of the launch of a consultation on a new National Planning Framework and a Draft Scottish Planning Policy which aims to improve the performance of the planning system to secure jobs and economic benefits whilst enhancing environmental protection for the 31% of Scotland classified as the wildest and most scenic land. Additionally the Scottish Government has proposed increasing the separation distance between windfarms and towns and villages.

I was struck by the response to this breaking news from Cameron McNeish a well-known writer, broadcaster and mountain walker "as far as I'm aware no European Government has put an outright ban on wind turbines on particular areas of their country that are seen as nationally important in terms of landscape quality, the much criticised Scottish Government could well be the

first to do so. I personally believe these proposals represent a huge step forward in safeguarding our finest natural assets, a bold statement in this year of natural Scotland."

I hope that interested readers will take the opportunity to participate in the consultation process. Copies of the consultation and associated supporting documentation can be found at: <http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Topics/Built-Environment/planning/NPF3-SPP-Review>

A series of public events will be held around the country in coming months, giving people the chance to have their say on the proposed changes. It is expected that following consultation, the SPP will be finalised by the end of 2013, with NPF3 being adopted by 2014.

Many thanks

Adam

**Adam Ingram MSP:** Carrick, Cumnock & Doon Valley  
Scottish Parliament | Rm M5.17 | Edinburgh | EH99 1SP  
t: 0131 348 5720 e: adam.ingram.msp@scottish.parliament.uk

## How To Send In Your Magazine Articles And Pictures

Email the Editor John McAlley at: [stinchar-valley-magazine@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:stinchar-valley-magazine@hotmail.co.uk) or to your local representative.

- Send in text as a WORD or OPEN OFFICE Document.
- Photographs should be full size images straight from the camera and scanned images should be **high resolution** 300dpi wherever possible and sent as **separate attachments** from your text please.
- Tell us any special instructions about the layout/content of your article. What are the images about that you want included? Include any Website names and web links that are relevant.
- If you have a **logo or badge** - please send a **high resolution** image of this.
- If you do not have access to a computer or Email you can post or drop off material to our Editor John McAlley at: Ligartrie Farm Pinwherry KA26 0SL.
- We will return any material to you.
- People in the communities of the Stinchar Valley and beyond are interested in you, your club, your business and your local area: The Stinchar Valley Magazine needs you!!

\* Please note - The Editorial Team will consider all submissions and make the final selection of material for each issue.

\* Small grammatical errors in articles will be corrected. Larger issues will be discussed with the author prior to publication if possible.

# The Stinchar Valley Magazine



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## Girvan Camera Club

There was a good turnout of members, family and friends at the Girvan Camera Club Prizegiving and Exhibition at the South Church Hall in Girvan at the beginning of April.

Lyn Cuthbertson, the Club President presented trophies to the winners of the various competitions over the season and there was an opportunity to see again all of the prizewinning images. (Pictures of the prizewinners can be found on the inside rear page.)



(Left to right): Bill Arnott, Neil Campbell, Jack Shaw, Roddy Robertson (the new Club Champion), Lyn Cuthbertson (Club President), Yvonne Morrison, Rory McAdam, Robert Wright and Donald Love. Missing from the picture are Elizabeth Hutton and John Dunn (recently deceased). In the other picture, Roddy receives his trophy from Lyn Cuthbertson.

Girvan Camera Club draws its members from across Carrick. Although the Club season is now over, members are still involved in a variety of day outings and evening events over the summer. If you are interested in photography – no matter whether you are a novice or experienced, and you would like to join the club, either contact the Secretary, Stewart McLaren on mm1ece-gcc@yahoo.co.uk or come along to the first club night of the new session in the South Parish Church Hall, Girvan, at 7.30pm on Tuesday 17 September.

## Local & Interesting Web Sites

Age Concern Girvan	<a href="http://www.ageconcerngirvan.org.uk">www.ageconcerngirvan.org.uk</a>
St Colmon Church	<a href="http://www.stcolmonparishchurch.org.uk">www.stcolmonparishchurch.org.uk</a>
Ballantrae Church	<a href="http://www.ballantraeparishchurch.org.uk">www.ballantraeparishchurch.org.uk</a>
Ballantrae Medical Practice	<a href="http://www.ballantraemedicalpractice.co.uk">www.ballantraemedicalpractice.co.uk</a>
Ballantrae Village	<a href="http://www.ballantrae.org.uk">www.ballantrae.org.uk</a>
The Ancient Tree Hunt	<a href="http://www.ancient-tree-hunt.org.uk/project/hunt">www.ancient-tree-hunt.org.uk/project/hunt</a>
Pinwherry/Pinmore	<a href="http://www.2pins.org.uk">http://www.2pins.org.uk</a>
The Stinchar Valley	<a href="http://www.stincharvalley.co.uk">www.stincharvalley.co.uk</a>
The Carrick website	<a href="http://www.carrickayrshire.com">http://www.carrickayrshire.com</a>
Kildonan Country House	<a href="http://www.kildonancountryhouse.co.uk">www.kildonancountryhouse.co.uk</a>
Galloway & Ayrshire Biosphere	<a href="http://www.gallowayandsouthernayrshirebiosphere.org.uk/">http://www.gallowayandsouthernayrshirebiosphere.org.uk/</a>
Red Nose Day	<a href="http://www.rednoseday.com/">http://www.rednoseday.com/</a>
The Southern Uplands Partnership	<a href="http://www.sup.org.uk/">http://www.sup.org.uk/</a>
Scottish National Heritage	<a href="http://www.snh.org.uk/">http://www.snh.org.uk/</a>
The Woodland Trust	<a href="http://www.woodlandtrust.org.uk">http://www.woodlandtrust.org.uk</a>
Sign the Petition Now	<a href="http://www.38degrees.org.uk/save-our-forests">http://www.38degrees.org.uk/save-our-forests</a>
Forestry Commission	<a href="http://www.forestry.gov.uk/">http://www.forestry.gov.uk/</a>
Scottish Environmental Protection	<a href="http://www.sepa.org.uk/">http://www.sepa.org.uk/</a>
Girvan Camera Club	<a href="http://www.girvancameraclub.org.uk">http://www.girvancameraclub.org.uk</a>
Girvan Attractions	<a href="http://girvanattractions.synthasite.com/">http://girvanattractions.synthasite.com/</a>
Red Squirrels in South Scotland	<a href="http://www.redsquirrels.org.uk">http://www.redsquirrels.org.uk</a>
Ayrshire Rivers Trust	<a href="http://www.ayrshireriverstrust.org/cisp">www.ayrshireriverstrust.org/cisp</a>
Ayrshire Red Squirrel Group	<a href="http://www.ayrshirered squirrels.org.uk/">www.ayrshirered squirrels.org.uk/</a>
ASDA Online shopping	<a href="http://groceries.asda.com/asda-estore/index.jsp">http://groceries.asda.com/asda-estore/index.jsp</a>
The Commonwealth Orchard	<a href="http://www.commonwealthorchard.com/">http://www.commonwealthorchard.com/</a>
The Flavours of Home	<a href="http://www.flavoursofhome.co.uk/">http://www.flavoursofhome.co.uk/</a>
BBC Web Wise	<a href="http://www.bbc.co.uk/webwise/courses">http://www.bbc.co.uk/webwise/courses</a>
Going Wild	<a href="http://www.goingwild.net">http://www.goingwild.net</a>
The Big Wildlife Garden	<a href="http://www.bwg.naturalengland.org.uk/">http://www.bwg.naturalengland.org.uk/</a>
The Peinn Mor Pottery	<a href="http://www.peinnmor.co.uk/">http://www.peinnmor.co.uk/</a>
M.J.A Photography	<a href="http://www.mjaphotography.co.uk/">http://www.mjaphotography.co.uk/</a>
Public services all in one place	<a href="http://www.direct.gov.uk">www.direct.gov.uk</a>
For timetables, fares and bookings	<a href="http://www.citylinkonlinesales.co.uk">www.citylinkonlinesales.co.uk</a>
Library Catalogue	<a href="https://library.south-ayrshire.gov.uk">https://library.south-ayrshire.gov.uk</a>
South Ayrshire Libraries Blog	<a href="http://sayrshirelib.wordpress.com/">http://sayrshirelib.wordpress.com/</a>
Scottish Water	<a href="http://www.scottishwater.co.uk/">http://www.scottishwater.co.uk/</a>
Barr Village	<a href="http://www.barrvillage.co.uk/">http://www.barrvillage.co.uk/</a>
Stagecoach	<a href="http://www.stagecoachbus.com/timetables">http://www.stagecoachbus.com/timetables</a>
Community Police Team	<a href="http://www.strathclyde.police.uk/your-community/ayrshire/girvan_and_south_carrick/">http://www.strathclyde.police.uk/your-community/ayrshire/girvan_and_south_carrick/</a>

## Keep Your Eyes Peeled For The Smugglers!

Scarecrows, Vikings, wicker men, lanterns, beer, theatre and music – there are many themes on which to base a festival, but the Ballantrae Development Group (BDG) intends to draw on the village's notorious past with a "Smugglers Festival" in 2013.

Planning is currently underway for a series of events on the history and stories of smugglers in Ballantrae and South Carrick. A "Smugglers Festival" to be held during the period 21-24 August (avoiding any clash with July's Gala Week), will be built on the idea of "Scarecrow Festivals" run in this country and abroad. But this one will have "The Smugglers" as its theme.

Over the 4 day period, there will be a mix of events to appeal to children; adults and children together; and adults on their own. The events will attract Ballantrae folk, people from surrounding villages and tourists. Some events will be held during the day and some will be held in the evening. A story will unfold during the week encouraging people to become involved in more than one event.

During the week of the event, scarecrows dressed as "Smugglers" will start to appear around the village – in windows, behind wheelie bins – in all sorts of places, and a character in costume will help the children – sworn in as members of the local Militia – to spot as many of them as possible. Wanted posters will be produced. Following an interactive "Court of Justice", smugglers who have been captured (re-enactors in costume) will be tried and punished for their crimes during a "Fun Day" with lots of activities, competitions and refreshments – all with a smuggling theme. The four day event will be brought to a climax with "Folk at the Smugglers Arms" – an evening of folk music.

Watch local press and local noticeboards for details in the run up to the event and keep your eyes peeled for the smugglers in Ballantrae during 21-24 August!

## Useful Contacts

Barrhill Community Bus	Self hire or arranged trips	01465 714665
Stagecoach	Ayr Depot	01292 613500
MyBus Rural	Door to door transport for Carrick. Mon - Sat 7am to 7pm	0845 123 5656
Accident & Emergency	Ayr Hospital	01292 610555
Minor Injuries Unit	Girvan Community Hospital	01465 712571
NHS 24		08454 242424
Samaritans		0345 9 09090
Girvan Community Policing Team		01465 710995
Citizens Advice	Stranraer 10am-4pm   Monday to Friday	01776 706355
SEPA Emergencies		0800 807060
Gas Emergencies		0800 111 999
Scottish Power	Power Cut/Emergencies	0845 27 27 999
Emergency Services		999

For suspicious articles found on any beach contact (999) and ask for the Coast Guard, because it might have come from Beaufort's Dyke; which is the sea trench between Northern Ireland and Scotland within the North Channel. The dyke is 50 km long, 3.5 km wide and 200-300 metres deep.

## Scout About

with  
Ballantrae  
Scouts



Unfortunately the weather was not brilliant for flying Kites at our Kite fest but we did manage to get some kites flying which created a lot of interest so we intend to get the Kites out soon and see if we can get them all flying at one time. The Cubs and Beavers have been very busy since Christmas; the Cubs have again won the Margaret McCluskie Shield. This year the competition was held at Girvan Scout Hall and the Cubs had to make a bridge using newspaper and sticky tape. The winning group's bridge (Ballantrae) was tested by supporting a weight and by being the best design. Both Cubs and Beavers have received their Scientist and Fitness badges.

Unfortunately we have had to introduce a waiting list for new beavers as we can only have six Beavers to each leader. So please can someone volunteer????

Scouts have been active; we made an igloo and had two nights sledging. We have been canoeing and mountain biking and are looking forward to camping with the Cubs on 18th May week end. The Beavers will visit on the Saturday. (Pictures on inside rear page)

Have you ever been a Scout or a Guide? If so, Ballantrae Scouts would like to hear from you. The Group Executive Committee, comprising parents and members of the local community is establishing a support group called "Friends of Ballantrae Scouts". It will cost you nothing to join but occasionally we may ask you to help us with fundraising or share your skills with us for the Beaver, Cub or Scout programme. For example we already have someone who takes pictures of events, someone who bakes, someone who was a Secretary who takes notes of meetings, and someone who makes kites! Come and join us and help us give today's youngsters a taste of the fun and adventure you had when you were young! People wanting to join do not need to have been in Scouts before. If you are interested please contact:

John Allsop, Group Scout Leader  
01465 831391: email allsop\_je@talktalk.net

Andy McAlpine, Group Chairman  
01465 831122: email andy.mcalpine@btinternet.com

## Stinchar Valley Pipers

Stinchar Valley Pipers was started in 2010 by Billy McCubbin from Colmonell, with the intention of forming a group to play at local galas and events. Starting from scratch with no pipers or equipment, a lot of hard work has gone into teaching, learning and raising funds to buy chanters, bagpipes and uniforms. Apart from the groups own fundraising efforts, they have been fortunate to receive Community Grants from wind farm funds.

This year so far the group has been asked to play at Kirkhill Gardens open day, Colmonell Fun Day and Barrhill Gala.

Chanter classes are on Monday nights in Colmonell Village Hall from 6pm to 8pm, and for those who have progressed to the bagpipes Thursday nights 6pm to 8pm. Adults are also welcome to join the classes, if you would like to learn, contact Billy McCubbin on 01465 881293. (Picture on inside rear page)



## Ballantrae Public Garden Redevelopment

Over the past year, members of the Ballantrae Development Group led by Colin McNally have been working to redevelop the upper level of the Public Garden in Main Street, Ballantrae. By removing the overgrown phormium bushes and clearing the site, the group have given back to the locals and visitors alike a place to stop, rest and enjoy the views across the sea to Corsewall Lighthouse and beyond to Northern Ireland.

The group have transformed the terrace to include accessibility for wheelchairs, construction of two large dry stone planters, a refurbished seat, a new fence and a hand painted sign by local signwriter Jamie Macdonald. The effort is the result of a range of sponsors, local tradesmen and, especially, volunteers who have made the project happen. Key sponsors of the project have been Travis Perkins of Stranraer who donated the slabs; Barr Ltd., Carrick Futures and Ballantrae Community Council who provided funding, Alex Mills for constructing the fence, CSV for funding the plants, Girvan Community Garden for facilitating and managing the construction of the dry stone dyke planters and South Ayrshire Council for a range of support including ground clearance. A thank you also to local tradesmen Billy Lyle and Dougie Brown who laid the slabs. (Pictures on inside rear page). The refurbished garden was officially opened by Councillor Helen Moonie, Provost of South Ayrshire, on May 6th.



## Scout About



The Stinchar Valley Pipers



Girvan Camera Club



Ballantrae Gala 2012



**St Colmon Church**

