

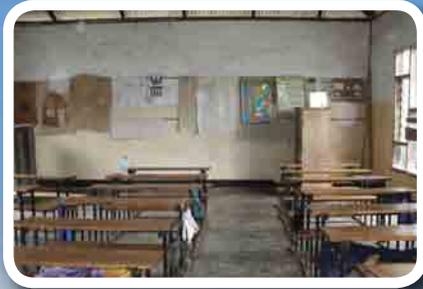
THE STINCHAR VALLEY MAGAZINE

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



WINTER 2012

Corrie Fyfe [Pinmore] - Moshi, Tanzania, Africa



Ballantrae Farmers' Market

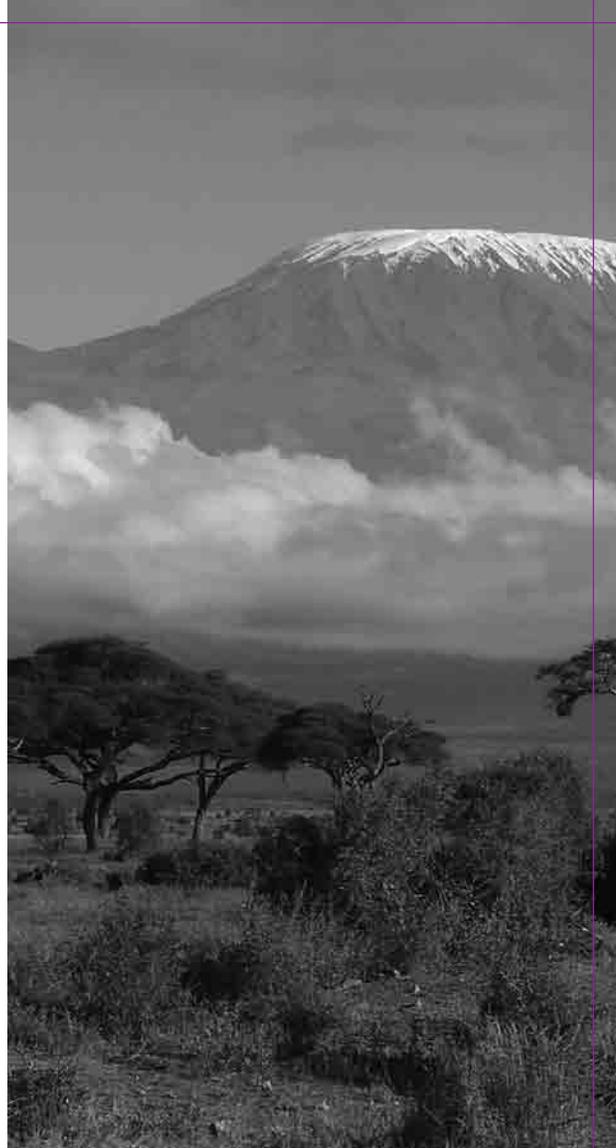


Corrie Fyfe from Pinmore in Moshi, Tanzania, Africa. [See pic's on page 2]

I would like to say a huge thank you to everyone who donated their time & money to help send me to Africa. Through several fundraising events such as: a sponsored Abseil kindly arranged by Adrian Henderson, a triathlon around Loch Ness by my brother Ben Fyfe and the Community Council Small Grants Fund (put forward by Joy & Mike Chamberlain), and many more, I managed to raise an amazing £3500 for the charity T.E.A.CH (Time to Educate Africa's CHildren).

I travelled to Moshi in June this year, where I was met with a very warm welcome from the local people of Tanzania. Myself and 10 others spent 2 tough weeks transforming a dangerous, dirty school filled with broken glass & dust into a clean, colourful & safe place for the children and teachers to work.

The whole experience was the toughest yet most inspirational thing I've ever done and I hope to share it with as many people as I can. I have already been to Colmonell primary & Ballantrae Nursery School and delivered a presentation to the children, where I shared pictures & stories, giving them a deeper insight into the African way of life, and I hope to continue to do this throughout my career as a teacher in years to come. Once again thank you so much for all your hard work and generosity.



Ballantrae Farmers' Market 21 Oct 2012 [See pic on page 2]

Craigiemains Garden Centre and the Ballantrae Development Group (a sub-committee of the Community Council) joined forces with the Ayrshire Farmers' Market, Savour the Flavours, & The Galloway and Southern Ayrshire UNESCO Biosphere project on Sunday 21 October to run a Farmers' Market in the grounds of Craigiemains Garden Centre, Main Street Ballantrae. The event ran from 11am to 3pm.

The intention was to showcase local produce from Ayrshire and Dumfries & Galloway including award winning cheeses, rare breeds of pork, beef and lamb, terrines, pates, fresh vegetables, jams, preserves, vegetarian and gluten free food, non homogenised milk, free range eggs, and honey plus other local specialist products.

To host this kind of event was a new departure for Craigiemains, attracting both locals and visitors not just to the market, but also the Craigiemains coffee shop, gift shop and childrens' play area.

The Ayrshire Farmers' Market and Food Network wanted to introduce some of the Ayrshire and Dumfries and Galloway's most interesting artisan food to a wider audience - an objective shared by the Ballantrae Development Group who wanted to bring that produce to Ballantrae in the shape of the first Farmers' Market and also to raise the profile of the village.

The Galloway and Southern Ayrshire UNESCO Biosphere saw this as an opportunity to help develop new collaborative projects between communities and local business in southwest Scotland as a key part of what the LEADER funded 'Building Opportunity in the Biosphere' is about.

On the day, the weather was perfect and from the time the market opened, the stalls were busy serving locals and visitors. Such was the enthusiasm for the produce that some stalls sold out within the first hour and a half.

The Ballantrae Development Group is currently considering feedback from customers, producers and the event organising group to establish the lessons learned from this pilot to see how a similar event might be organised in the future and when.

Mail to the Editor

Welcome to the Winter issue of the Stinchar Valley Magazine, a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year, to all from everyone here. 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:

John McAlley [Editor]

Tel: 01465 841198

Mail: Stinchar Valley Magazine, Liglartrie Farm, Pinwherry, KA26 0SL

Email: stinchar-valley-magazine@hotmail.co.uk

Ballantrae representatives:

Andy McAlpine:

Email: andy.mcalpine@btinternet.com

Peter Newland:

Email: peternewlands1@btconnect.com

Barr representatives:

Alastair Smith:

Email: alastair_smith@btinternet.com

Barrhill representatives:

Vacancy.

Colmonell/Lendalfoot representatives:

Evelyn McCubbin

Email: colmonell293@hotmail.com

Margaret Robertson

Email: margaretjimfleming@googlemail.com

Jim Fleming

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.

Cover photographs by; Harriet Ellis [Autumn Trees - Asselfoot] & Evelyn McCubbin [Snowy Colmonell]

Galloway & Southern Ayrshire Biosphere

Hosting an amazing combination of landscape, wildlife and culture with communities that care about and for their environment. **Putting a global spotlight** on south-west Scotland as a special place and one of only 580 Biosphere Reserves worldwide. **Providing a catalyst** for new economic opportunities, environmentally sustainable development, nature conservation and education. **Offering a unique** marketing opportunity through the global UNESCO brand.

The Biosphere is led by a broad partnership made up of representatives of communities, organisations, businesses, local councils and public agencies which are together committed to delivering the Biosphere Charter. **Scotland's First Biosphere** is an exciting new way to demonstrate good nature conservation and environmentally sustainable development.

The aim now is to build on the award and make Galloway and Southern Ayrshire a "World Class Place for People and Nature". You can see the decision on the UNESCO website at <http://www.unesco.org/new/en/natural-sciences/environment/ecological-sciences/> and can also see our own refreshed website at <http://www.gallowayandsouthernayrshirebiosphere.org.uk/>

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 or the South Ayrshire Council website www.south-ayrshire.gov.uk.

Pinwherry & Pinmore Community Council

Full minutes of all meetings are available upon request from Claire Pirrie, Acting Secretary: Rose Cottage, Poundland, Pinwherry, KA26 0RU. Email: clairepirrie@gmail.com

Road Matters

Pinwherry and Pinmore Community Council have asked South Ayrshire Council, local Police and Amey Highways to improve signage when there are closures on the A77 and / or the A714.

Instead of just saying “road closed” we have asked that signs indicate at what point the road is closed. Recently a closure near Laigh Letterpin meant a resident leaving Girvan took the diversion down the coast, up through Colmonell to Pinwherry and found they were on the wrong side of the obstruction, so they had to retrace their journey back to Girvan and drive up past the closure sign.

At a time when the weather may cause road problems e.g. fallen trees, landslip, flood etc. you may need to call local police, but please note that South Ayrshire Council have a 24 hour call centre and will respond to clear or repair the road on 0300 1230900.

Red Squirrels In South Scotland [RSSS]

Please Help; Report Squirrel Sightings. Control Grey Squirrels. Apply for SRDP Funding

The new Scottish Rural Development Program (SRDP) is a vital tool in the grey squirrel control effort. Land owners can apply for grants to cover the cost of large scale daily control efforts on their property and we will assist and guide their applications. To find out more about SRDP funding you can visit the Scottish Government website <http://www.scotland.gov.uk/srdp> or contact us at <http://www.redsquirrels.org.uk/contact.asp>

‘If the public and private sector can pull together, if enough of us care, together we can save one of Scotland and the UK’s most charismatic mammals – our red squirrel.’

Telephone: 01750 23446
Email: karen@redsquirrels.org.uk

St John’s Episcopal Church, Girvan



Serving the Anglican and Episcopalian community (and 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

Christmas Eve

Monday, 24 December: 8.00 pm

Join us for a beautiful, atmospheric service of...

Carols by Candlelight

Singing much-loved Christmas carols in the candle-lit church

To find out more about St John’s, contact either the Rector, Rev. Dr. Ian Meredith, (01292 261145) or the Pastoral Assistant, Mrs Anne Morris, (01292 267859)





Since the local elections last May it has been my privilege to attend and meet with various Community Councils, Community Groups, Parent Councils, Charitable Groups and Social Enterprise Groups Etc. The folk who make up these bodies are the real Heroes on the ground without which the wheels of Community Life would stop turning. I come from a Community background and know the tremendous amount of work and enthusiasm that is given on a purely voluntary basis with Community Enhancement being the only sought after reward. Community was of course the underlying theme of the Community Planning Conference held in County Buildings in October with the idea of working partnership between Community Organisations and South Ayrshire Council coming very much to the fore. It is more clear than ever that partnership between the local authority and the community is recognised as the way forward to achieve the benefits and goals that we all strive for and this is why the Community Empowerment Legislation is making its way through the Scottish Parliament after years of talk and consultation. This will put communities at the very heart of decisions with a strong say and input in all decisions that have a bearing on their own particular community and the folk who live and work there.

Talking of communities, in September a very worthwhile event was hosted by Ballantrae Development Group called Keeping Ballantrae

Safe which involved agencies such as the Police, Fire Brigade, SAC Community Safety and Crime Prevention all taking part. It was all about giving advice, talking and listening to very well attended event. Local folk left with a far better knowledge of how to stay safe and well in their own community and were able to have an input in to discussions on how the locality could be improved with safer roads for example and ways in how to achieve what was needed. Final reports will be collated by Ballantrae Development Group and fed in to a final report to the Community. This was a pilot project which has been hailed as a success by Sgt Mark Hornby of Strathclyde Police and could now be rolled out to other communities.

It has been a good year for the Carrick Community Councils Forum under the Chairmanship of Peter Mason with the roll out of the Carrick Tourism Project. This excellent example of Communities working together is breaking new ground and will bear fruit for the whole of Carrick in years to come.

It is also good to see the progress in the Harbour Leisure Centre project at Girvan being taken forward by South Carrick Community Leisure in partnership with South Ayrshire Council and I would expect this project to move forward apace in 2013. This will be preceded early in the New Year by the transformation of Girvan Harbour with the Sail West Funded Project.

There is certainly a lot to look forward to and be excited about in 2013 for Carrick Folk and the best bit is that Carrick Community Groups will be the driving force behind it all with myself as an Elected Councillor making sure that they are supported all the way.

A very merry Christmas and a Happy and Healthy 2013 to all.

Councillor Alec Clark,
Ward 8 Girvan and South Carrick.

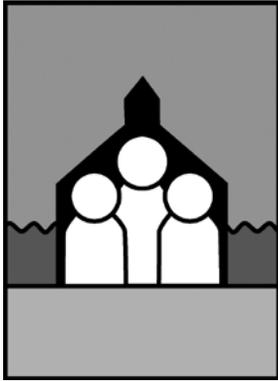
Age Concern Girvan

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?

It's only £5 per annum and ALL ages are welcomed. You can find us at **2, Duff Street, Girvan, (at the corner with Dalrymple St) Ayrshire KA26 9AP** or call us using **07584 932 022**.

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

Contact Tricia | 01465 712 032 | Mail@ageconcerngirvan.org.uk | www.ageconcerngirvan.org.uk



Ballantrae Church Linked With St Colmon Church

Every year in the Manse, there is a discussion as to when the Christmas Tree and decorations are to go up. I love seeing the house decorated for Christmas and would happily put them up as soon as I hear Christmas music being played in the shops. Every year I look for something new, and last year we had a snowman on an umbrella which travelled along a rope in the hall. I like the extra colour the decorations adds to the house and the feeling of joy and fun that it brings. I would not want to suggest that my wife Barbara does not share this joy, but she definitely does not want to see the decorations up as early as I do. And just as we have a discussion about putting them up, we also have a discussion about when we need to take them down, though sadly they often do go down by the 6th January.

Therefore it was great to see that in Malawi, they thought like me, and still had their Christmas decorations up in the middle of May. It could have been that they wanted the church to look decorated and welcoming for us coming from Scotland, but in a number of churches we found a Christmas tree up with decorations on it.

One of the reasons why we decorate the house for Christmas, is to brighten it up at a time when it is darker outside. The days are short and it is good to have something to cheer us up inside. It is also a time when Christians remember the birth of Jesus, who brought light to the world. In Isaiah 9:2 we read, "The people walking in darkness have seen a great light; on those living in the land of deep darkness a light has dawned."

Jesus is the light which shines in the darkness and he is a light which should decorate our lives and our homes every day of the year, not just at Christmas.

God bless and I hope you have a good Christmas,

Stephen

Christmas Services

Sunday 9 December

3pm – Glenapp Church - Candlelit Service

Sunday 16 December

3pm – Barrhill Memorial Hall - Christmas Service

Thursday 20 December

7pm – Lessons and Carols in Lendalfoot Hall

Friday 21 December

7:30pm – St Colmon, Colmonell - Carol Concert

Sunday 23 December

10am – St Colmon, Colmonell - Nativity Service

11:30am – Ballantrae - Christmas Nativity Service

Monday 24 December

11:30pm – Ballantrae - Watchnight Service

11:30pm – St Colmon, Colmonell – Watchnight Service

Tuesday 25 December

10:30am – Ballantrae - Christmas Family Service

Church Information

We are friendly churches where everyone is welcome.

St Colmon Parish Church

- 10am every Sunday in Colmonell, with Sunday Club for all children and young people from 3 years old.

- 3pm, 3rd Sunday of the month in Barrhill Memorial Hall

Ballantrae Parish Church

11:30am every Sunday in Ballantrae with our new 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

Websites:
www.ballantraeparishchurch.org.uk
www.stcolmonparishchurch.org.uk

We are also on Facebook as
'Ballantrae Church' and
'StColmon Church'.

God bless, Stephen



Qigong

What is Qigong?

Qigong is a series of slow but gentle exercises to help promote health and vitality, and to relieve stress. It is suitable for all levels of fitness, including wheelchair users, and for all ages from sixteen and over.

Our Autumn /Winter Qigong classes continue up to and including Monday 3rd December when we break for the festive season.

The 2013 classes are every Monday (excluding Public Holidays) commencing Monday 28th January from 11.00am to 12 noon in the Ballantrae Community Centre at a cost of £2.50 per session.

Make a note in your diary now to come and join us - you are guaranteed a friendly welcome.

If you would like any more information, please contact Janice Ross (Secretary) on 01465 831347.

BRICC

Ballantrae Rural Initiative Care in the Community Ltd

All in the area covered by the surgeries of the Ballantrae Medical Practice and who are pensioner or housebound are welcome at the BRICC Club or Drop In Club social afternoons, to enjoy entertainment and tea, friendship and care. Held in the BRICC House, both Clubs are free to those who partake. Transport is provided if required. They are open 52 weeks of the year.

BRICC CLUB - Tuesdays 2pm to 4pm

DROP IN CLUB - Fridays 2pm to 4pm

BRICC is a non-profit making company limited by guarantee. Company number SC 181899.

Scottish Charity Registration Number SC 027489A

Registered Office: BRICC House, 12 Main Street, Ballantrae, Girvan, Argyshire. KA26 0NB

Tel: 01465 831380

Please get in touch with us at the above phone number if you would like to come and join us.

Ballantrae Crafty Bees

Ballantrae Crafty Bees is a new craft group started by a group of young mums who share a love of all kinds of crafting. We meet on the 2nd and 4th Mondays of each month at 7.30pm in BRICC House in Ballantrae. The group started in August and already we have learned about sugar craft, card making, ceramic painting, yo-yo making and made floral buttonholes.

We try to have someone visit our group to demonstrate their skills once a month, and at the other meetings we work on our own projects or try something new as a group. An important feature of our group is eating cake! We would be delighted for new members from anywhere in the area to come along, and we are also keen to hear from people willing to give their time to share their skills with us.

For more information, please contact Barbara Ogston (tel 01465 831252 or email barbara@macfish.com).

South Carrick Club Diamonds

Winter Class Schedule every **Tuesday** in the following communities:

Daily Community Hall - 10.00 - 11.00am

Girvan, South Parish Church Hall - 11.30 - 12.30pm

Girvan, South Parish SMALL hall - 2.30 - 3.30pm

Girvan, Boyle Court (sheltered housing) 12.45 - 1 - 15pm

Girvan, Kirk Care (residential) - 1.30 - 2.00pm

Monday---Colmonell Community Hall - 2.30 - 3.30pm

Monday---Barrhill Memorial Hall - 7.00 - 8.00pm

Tea/coffee and biscuits is included and is served after classes.





King's Arms Hotel

Main Street, Ballantrae

Tel: 01465 831202

Email: info@kingsarmsballantrae.com

www.kingsarmsballantrae.com

Suzanne and Brian Stirling are pleased to announce their events for the festive season as follows:

Christmas Party Nights

Sat. 15th Dec. & Fri. 21st Dec.

4 course meal & disco afterwards

£19.95 per person

booking and deposit required

Christmas Dinner

25th December 1.00 for 1.30pm

one relaxed sitting only, 5 course meal

£36.00 per adult, £22.50 children under 12yrs

booking and deposit required

FREE Christmas Day Disco

8.00pm onwards - families welcome

Christmas Poker Tournament

Thursday 27th December 2.00pm

FREE Hogmanay Disco

31st December 8.00pm - families welcome

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
- Donkeys
- 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

Future events at Craigiemains Home & Garden Centre

15 December 2012 – Official Opening of Miniature Train. Come along and join in the fun :

Arrival of Santa, Clown, Pony Rides, Face Painting, And much more.

Late Night Opening :

Tuesday 4 December 6pm to 8pm

10% Discount on purchases

Come along and start your Christmas Shopping ,

Enjoy a complimentary glass of wine and shortbread with us.

DECEMBER

Sat 8th 6pm

Christmas lights switch -on by Santa in the Village Hall.

Monday 10th

Nursery Nativity
Play in the Primary School.

Thursday 13th 7.30pm

SWRI - Film Night in the Village Hall.

Sunday 16th 12.15

Family Christmas Service at Barr Parish Church.

Wednesday 19th 7.00pm

Primary School Christmas Show in the Village Hall.

Sunday 23rd 12.15pm

Carol Service at Barr Parish Church.



JANUARY

Tuesday 1st 8.00pm

Live music in the King's Arms featuring the 'Busking Sharks'

Thursday 17th 7.30pm

SWRI; Speaker, Elaine Denham, "Military Life from a woman's perspective".

Barr Bars

Barr Community Stores are now pleased to announce that they can offer a bar service for all types of functions: weddings, anniversaries, dances, birthday celebrations, Christmas parties and more!

For your bar, call Barr Bars on 01465 861221 and ask for Mike or Judy.

(Ewe'll be pleased you did!)



Glenapp Castle
AYRSHIRE & SCOTLAND



AA and Michelin



ENJOY PRE-CHRISTMAS LUNCH AND DINNER

AT SCOTLAND'S HIGHEST RATED COUNTRY HOUSE HOTEL

THREE COURSE GOURMET CHRISTMAS LUNCH ~ £39.50 PER PERSON
to include a glass of Champagne with Canapés on arrival and Petits Fours with Coffee

SIX COURSE GOURMET CHRISTMAS DINNER ~ £65.00 PER PERSON
to include a glass of Champagne with Canapés on arrival and Petits Fours with Coffee

Please telephone 01465 831212 or e-mail info@glenappcastle.com

to check availability and to make your booking.

PLEASE ASK FOR OUR SPECIAL CHRISTMAS DINNER, BED & BREAKFAST RATES.



Glenapp Castle, Ballantrae, Ayrshire, KA26 0NZ SCOTLAND
Tel 01465 831212 Email info@glenappcastle.com Website www.glenappcastle.com

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.

Contact details for the Council's Bridges Section are as follows:-

Douglas Hemmings

Team Leader - Bridges & Lighting

E mail. Douglas.hemmings@south-ayrshire.gov.uk.
Tel. No. 01292 616377

Scott Greig

Supervisory Engineer - Bridges

E mail. Scott.greig@south-ayrshire.gov.uk
Tel. No. 01292 616659

John McAlley

Local Contact

Email: j.mcalley@btinternet.com
Tel. No. 01465 841198

Alec Oattes



It is a long and winding road, to address all of the problems associated with the roads in South Carrick and indeed, all of South Ayrshire. Road issues are amongst many of the complaints I receive in emails and at Community Council meetings. I acknowledge this is a huge issue I have to deal with as a Councillor and I am sure that after the Rural Panel meeting held in Pinwherry on the 6th of September, the message has got through to the new Roads Manager and also Senior Management the scale of concern around this issue in South Carrick. As ever a lack of funding is at the root of the problem and I would hope that in the next Council Budget this will be looked at favourably, although to be fair, the money required to put the roads in decent order is really almost impossible, given the many other responsibilities and statutory functions the Council has to undertake from its constrained budget.

At the October meeting of the Carrick Community Council Forum (C.C.C.F.) I informed the Forum that I had resigned from the Board of the "Carrick Way C.I.C." I was disappointed in having to take this action, but had to consider my position, due to a lack of progress with the completion of this worthwhile project in the Carrick Area which offers so much potential for the leisure and tourism industry. The reasons for this are complex, but I am hopeful another group or body will pick up the challenge to complete this worthwhile, 110 mile walking path network, as it is a fundamental part of taking forward the tourism potential for the whole of Carrick.

On a brighter note, I am delighted the C.C.C.F. tourism project is making tremendous progress, with the publication of the first newsletter and the development of an innovative web site which has now also been completed. This activity is only the beginning of the whole project and work is also near completion to publish 30,000 copies of a Carrick Tourism booklet with a wide range of specially commissioned photo images of Carrick which highlights attractions and events throughout Carrick. The big bonus is all of this bears no costs or charges for those involved in the tourism industry for the initial two years of the programme.

I am pleased to report the continuing progress and success of the Carrick Activity Centre located in the previously under used sports centre in Dailly. The Carrick Activity Centre provides a wide range of keep fit and sporting opportunities for all ages and can be contacted on 01465 811781, it is also available for hire for birthday parties and other sporting activities.

I am also delighted to note the success of the Ballantrae Development Group in holding a Farmer's Market at Craigmains Garden Centre in conjunction with the Local Biosphere and the good progress made with the Community Garden. These and many others are good examples of people in local communities getting together and asking how can they improve the local area for the benefit of the local community and visitors alike. I raise my hat to all involved in taking forward these initiatives.

I understand local concern with the apparent delay in progressing the Girvan Harbour project which of course includes a new swimming pool. I would like to say this project is still on course and everyone concerned is working hard to take the plans forward. I understand a Development Plan has been prepared and a Project Officer should be appointed by the time of publication. This project is part of the overall planned regeneration of South Carrick and I remain fully committed to do everything in my power to see the project completed.

I was happy to meet Clyde, the 2014 Commonwealth Games mascot at the recent active schools get-together in the Citadel, Ayr.

I would like to finish off by wishing everyone a happy, enjoyable and peaceful Christmas and a prosperous New Year.

SNP Councillor Alec Oattes

Office 01292 612382
Home 05600 711074
Email Alec.oattes@
south-ayrshire.gov.uk



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.

Portable PA system: Phonic Road Gear 160 Mobile integrated Mobile Sound System - 160 watts output (80 watts per channel) PLUS Audio - Technica ATW-T51 UniPak Transmitter (with lapel mike) & Audio-Technica ATW-R14 UHF Receiver. All for £250. Ideal for pub, club, school or church. Contact 07920517700.



Train times in Carrick are changing with effect from Sunday 9 December. This change coincides with the largest alteration in train services on the line between Ayr and Glasgow for 25 years. Alterations in Carrick are modest but the first train from Stranraer now runs 10 minutes earlier making an arrival in Glasgow possible before 0930.

The new train times are as follows:

From BARRHILL

Mondays to Saturdays to

Girvan, Maybole, Ayr (change for Glasgow electric services)
0735, 1044, 1330, 1517, 1943, 2148

Kilwinning, Paisley, Glasgow (through trains only)
1330, 1943, 2148

Prestwick Town/Airport, Troon, Kilmarnock (direct trains only)
1044, 1517, 2148 (not Prestwick Airport or Kilmarnock)

Stranraer
0016, 0922, 1124, 1327, 1818, 2023

Sundays to

Girvan, Maybole, Ayr, Kilwinning, Paisley, Glasgow
(change at Ayr for Prestwick Town/Airport, Troon, Irvine)
1114, 1514, 2019

Stranraer
1327, 1659, 1927

To BARRHILL

Mondays to Saturdays from

Ayr, Maybole, Girvan, (Times from Ayr)
0837, 1038, 1242, 1731, 1932, 2331

Glasgow, Paisley, Kilwinning (direct trains, times from Glasgow)
0938, 1150, 2212 (via Kilmarnock, does not run on Saturdays)

Glasgow (electric services, change at Ayr)
0730, 1627, 1830, 2230 (Journey time to Ayr approx 52 mins)

Kilmarnock, Troon, Prestwick Airport/Town (direct trains only)
1704, 1905, 2306 (Times are from Kilmarnock)

Stranraer
0701, 1010, 1250, 1443, 1908, 2113

Sundays from

Ayr, Maybole, Girvan
1242, 1614, 1842 (Times are from Ayr)

Glasgow, Paisley, Kilwinning
1155, 1522, 1754 (Times are from Glasgow)

Irvine, Troon, Prestwick Airport/Town (change at Ayr)
1202, 1532, 1802 (Times are from Irvine)

Stranraer
1040, 1440, 1940

From GIRVAN

Mondays to Saturdays to

Maybole, Ayr (change for Glasgow electric services)
0600, 0707, 0753, 0941, 1106, 1243, 1348, 1433, 1507,
1535, 1733, 1910, 2001, 2206, 2227

Kilwinning, Paisley, Glasgow (through trains only)
1348, 1433 (via Kilmarnock), 1507, 2001, 2206

Prestwick Town/Airport, Troon, Kilmarnock (direct trains only)
0707, 0941, 1106, 1243, 1433, 1535, 1733, 1910, 2206
(not Prestwick Airport or Kilmarnock)

Barrhill, Stranraer
0903, 1104, 1308, 1758, 2003, 2357

Sundays to

Maybole, Ayr, Kilwinning, Paisley, Glasgow

(change at Ayr for Prestwick Town/Airport, Troon, Irvine)
1132, 1532, 2037

Barrhill, Stranraer
1308, 1640, 1908

To GIRVAN

Mondays to Saturdays from

Ayr, Maybole (Times from Ayr)
0528, 0635, 0837, 0905, 1038, 1129, 1242, 1334, 1431, 1631,
1731, 1831, 1932, 2135, 2331

Glasgow, Paisley, Kilwinning (direct trains, times from Glasgow)
0938, 1150, 1512 (via Kilmarnock), 1712 (via Kilmarnock),
2212 (via Kilmarnock, does not run on Saturdays)

Glasgow (electric trains, change at Ayr)
0730, 0800, 1030, 1230, 1330, 1530, 1627, 1728, 1830, 2030,
2230

(Journey time to Ayr approx 51 mins)

Kilmarnock, Troon, Prestwick Airport/Town (direct trains only)
0837, 1104, 1304, 1404, 1603, 1704, 1804, 1905, 2110, 2306

Stranraer, Barrhill
0701, 1010, 1250, 1443, 1908, 2113 (Times from Stranraer)

Sundays from

Ayr, Maybole, Girvan
1242, 1614, 1842 (Times are from Ayr)

Glasgow, Paisley, Kilwinning
1155, 1522, 1754 (Times are from Glasgow)

Irvine, Troon, Prestwick Airport/Town (change at Ayr)
1202, 1532, 1802 (Times are from Irvine)

Stranraer, Barrhill
1040, 1440, 1940



Kildonan House

An exciting new beginning...

Ever wondered what's inside Kildonan House? In the past it's been a war time hospital, a school and a convent. Now, it's taken on an exciting new lease of life and you might be surprised to know it can offer:

- Mouth-watering breakfasts served from 9am and tasty lunches from 12pm.
- Enjoy a walk in the grounds and classic afternoon teas in Kevan's elegant tearoom serving home baking, lunches and afternoon teas 11am - 4pm.
- "Shimla cuisine" served in the comfortable restaurant. Choose from a wide range of expertly prepared Indian and European dishes - open seven days 4 - 11pm.
- A fully licensed bar serves a wide range of ales, lagers and fine wines. Bar meals and snacks Sunday Lunch 12 - 3.30. Open 7 days a week.
- A takeaway and collection service with 10% off orders and free home delivery throughout the Duisk and Stinchar valleys.
- Helpful, friendly staff who can cater for parties and functions.
- Luxury self-catering accommodation.

**Christmas Food and Craft Fair 14th December 4pm-8pm,
Santa will be paying a visit. Tel 01465 821458.**

**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 and takeaway: 01465-821519 www.kildonancountryhouse.co.uk



The River Stinchar District Salmon Fishery Board

By Gordon Hyslop On October 15, 2012

Oct 1st half

The water levels for the first week of Oct could only be described as perfect. Showers throughout the week kept it topped up, and yes some days had it creeping up but even though it can unsettle the fish, one would of thought given these conditions catches would surely improve. Not so, in fact it was a very poor week, with only a handful of fish landed. Fish were hooked but many were lost as if they were only coming half heartedly to the fly.

The second week started with lower water which continued to fall away until heavy rain all day on Thurs had it back up to 6ft through the night and was still 5ft 9in on Fri morning. This was rather high for most of the day but certainly looked good for the Sat. Unfortunately, one of the tenants due to arrive at Ballantrae Bridge became unwell and had to cancel, resulting in the owner fishing the week with friends. Robert Dalrymple was out on Tues evening and connected with a good big coloured cock fish in Sam's Pot which he landed and returned estimated at 15lbs. I was invited to fish on the Sat and also got hold of a big wily cock fish in Sam's Pot. This one would be a good 12lb and very coloured and was quickly returned. These fish are great sport and don't give up easily despite playing them hard. Later in the afternoon I landed a small fish around 5lb and my nephew Kenneth had a nice fairly fresh hen about 12lb. Both fish were from the Low Battery and returned.

Knockdolian had 16 for the first week then as the water fell away only three the following week.

Two Swedish anglers Kent and Yan landed 6 between them, best a fresh 16lb fish from Salloch and a 12lb from Corbie Stairs, David Connor had 4 from Bankweil Inc a 16lb fish. Another Swede, Harald Carlen had 3 from Bankweil and Dalni best 14lb. Andrew Cowan had an 8lb from the Scaur and 5lb from Twins. The 3 fish on the 2nd week were all 5lb grilse caught by Richard Chivers party and Dr Haskin's party.

Kirkhill had three on the 3rd for Paul and Robert from Stoke 8lb 5lb & 5lb this was the first time on Stinchar for the lads. Bruce Hamilton landed his first of the season and one for Gilbert as well both these fish were small grilse and all fish returned.

At Bardrochat, Kenny McGregor had a 12lb & a 20lb out the Dub on Sat 13th

Successful rods at Dalreoch and Almont were Willie Peffer with fish of 5lb 16lb and 19lb, Brian Robb 13lb, Stuart Swindon 11lb, Colin Hyslop 6lb and Paul Good 15lb and 5lb.

I also have heard of a number of fish from the Wee Stinchar but it is difficult to obtain information from a lot of the little farm stretches. Anglers here are very reluctant to broadcast their catches for some reason.

Anglers are reminded of the code of conduct produced by the river board recommending no worm fishing during the month of October. Please keep any fish in the water at all times during unhooking prior to returning it.

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. <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: <http://www.2pins.org.uk>

Girvan & South Carrick Community Policing

Mark Hornby | Sergeant U80z
Strathclyde Police

Girvan & South Carrick Community Policing,
4-6 Montgomerie Street, Girvan., KA26 9HE.
01465 715 314 ISSI 6406461

South ayrshire council contact centre

Don't wait for others to report issues, it may not be done! E.g. road damage, 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.



Winter scavenger hunt



winter

How many of these winter treasures can you find? Whatever is growing on a tree (such as leaves, branches, flowers and seeds), the tree still needs it. Please collect only from the woodland floor.

- Spiky, shiny holly leaves
- Long tickly pine needles
- Tough, smooth leaves of an evergreen plant such as box
- Smooth bark of a cherry tree, with its horizontal stripes
- Bumpy, jigsaw pattern bark of a Scots pine
- Rough oak bark with its deep vertical cracks
- A green cone still to ripen on the tree (please leave it there)
- A ripe cone with open bracts
- A cone shorter than your thumb
- Seed catkins on birch trees
- A leaf skeleton
- A twig with two or three different species of lichen





SOUTH AYRSHIRE SENIORS FORUM

On Monday September 10th 2012 a gathering was held in Girvan at the Age Concern premises in Dalrymple Street.

Representation was from various organisations representing older people and others, such as Ballantrae; Barrhill; Dailly; and Barr, as well as organisations like South Carrick Club Diamonds; Community Councils; B.R.I.C.C; Girvan Bowling Club; Forum on Disability; Girvan Elderly Forum; Rotary Club; British Red Cross as well as the three local South Ayrshire Councillors.

The purpose was to discuss ways of identifying the barriers that impact on the quality of life for older people in Girvan and the surrounding areas. Examples given were of the poor state of pavements; poor transport; isolation from other residents and many others.

People agreed to go away and raise this with their organisations and others so that a further gathering could be held to find ways of tackling these problems through ourselves and the local politicians.

If you have any ideas and/or examples or would like to get involved please email Chair@sasf.co.uk, send a letter to SASF 137 Main Street Ayr KA8 8BX or call Les Anderson (Chair at SASF) on **0792 581 335**.



Hand Painted Furniture from Porter & Macdonald

Two local craftsmen have combined their talents in a joint venture. Noel Porter has many years' experience of furniture restoration. Jamie Macdonald is a sign writer with a definite artistic flair. Together, they are giving a new lease of life to old furniture. Noel restores the items and can create a whole range of finishes and textures - imitating leather, marble and many more. Then Jamie applies the artwork. Their individual skills complement each other superbly and the end results have to be seen to be fully appreciated - photographs cannot do them justice.

They are building up a stock on display in Noel Porter's premises at 76 Main Street, Ballantrae. As well as finished items, others can be seen in various stages of restoration and customers can discuss the choice of finishes, colours and artwork at this stage to obtain a unique item exactly to their wishes.

For further information or to arrange a viewing, call Noel on 079504 53924 or Jamie on 07901 841355

A Ballantrae Craftsman

An old gate in Ballantrae between the village hall and the Scotmid shop was recently replaced with the handsome gate in the photograph. We were so impressed that we tracked down who made it and found that it was a local craftsman - Mr Andrew Mawer, of 56 Foreland, Ballantrae.

Andrew, an experienced and well-established welder, is well known locally for his welding, fabricating on-site, and heavy plant repairs for farming and marine businesses.

The Ballantrae gate is an example of Andrew's fabrication work for domestic customers. Every element of the design is hand-cut and skilfully assembled. If you fancy a unique gate for your property, or any other wrought-iron work, you can contact Andrew on his mobile number - 07760 526 158.

Pinwherry & Pinmore: Old News

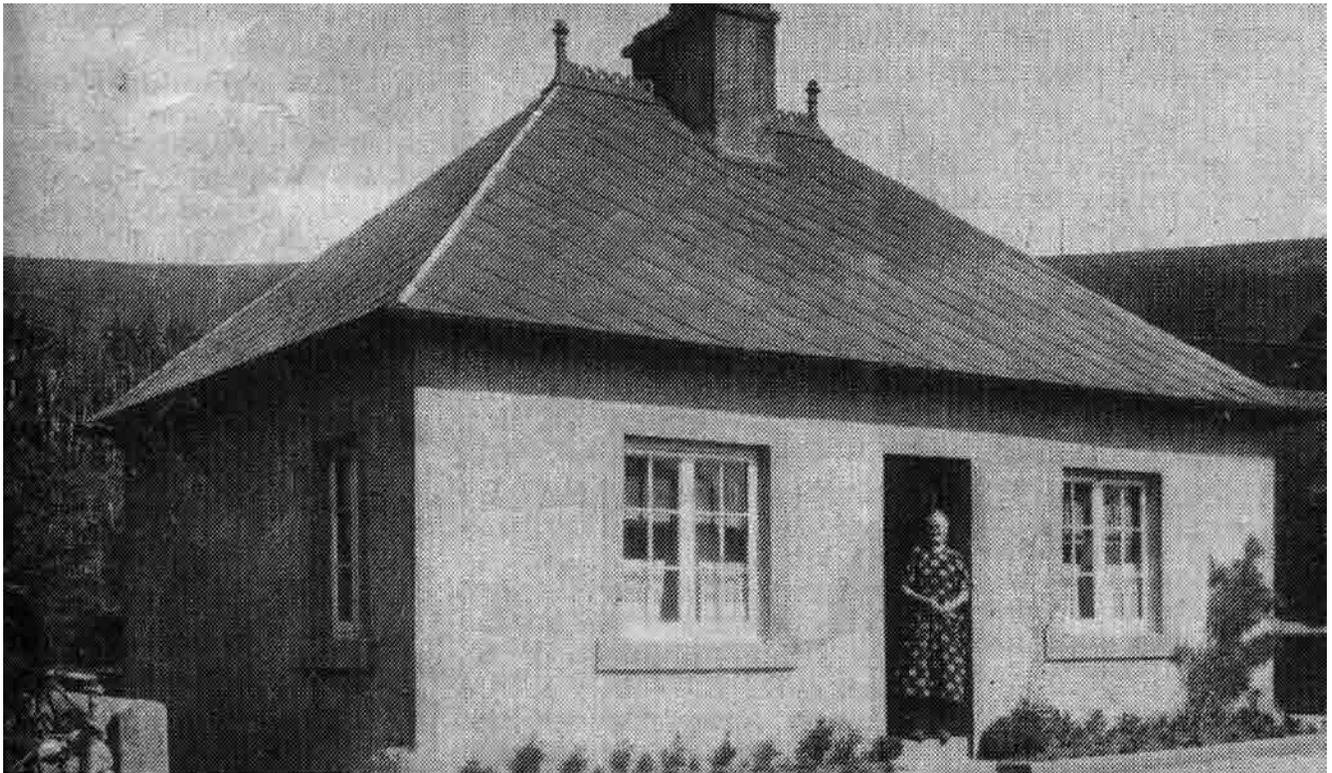
My Village
by Sally Gillespie: 3rd
June 1988 (cont'd)



This was Pinwherry Railway Station in the 1920s. From the left to right: The station master, Mr Anderson; station clerk Mr John Watson who was a rabbit trapper. He was sending rabbits away on the train on the day this photo was taken. At the back is a signalman – not part of the usual railway crew. To the right of him is the plate layer Mr John Anderson and next to the rails is Mr Bobby Campbell. David Campbell was a signalman and in this photograph, a porter.



Pinwherry Tollhouse in 1893 was thatched. There was a fire sometime between 1893 and around 1933 when the second photograph of Pinwherry Tollhouse was taken. The house was re-roofed and pictured in the doorway of the tiled roof Pinwherry Tollhouse is Mr Bobby Campbell's grandmother, Mrs Margaret Campbell.



This cottage is no longer in existence. It was positioned on the A714, as you go through Pinwherry from Girvan and just on the sharp corner before you cross the bridge was where this cottage sat.



Here is Assel Primary School between 1918 and 1921. Mrs McGilp supervises her class of 37 pupils. Assel Primary School has seven pupils now and the school will close in June.

Mr Allan's shop and post office used to be McCrindle's, the grocer. It was "very busy" said Mr Campbell, Mr McCrindle's van used to go out loaded and be out for the whole day remembered Mr Campbell. It used to travel to Girvan, Maidens and Barr before returning to Pinwherry.

Back at the phone box was the gate into a vital part of Pinwherry's economy - the railway goods station. "The railway made Pinwherry an important place because it was serving the valley" said Mr Campbell. Farmers carted milk to

the station to send to the creameries, J. and H. Linden were the coal agents who kept coal in the station and who used the railway then too.

Mr Campbell remembers beer barrels coming in for the Colmonell and Ballantrae hotels. "It was a Busy station" he said. It closed in the mid-60s and one person lives in the station building now.

Buses served Pinwherry too. Jock Gallacher (and we've met him before in Ballantrae) operated one of the bus businesses.

He lived in Ash Cottage just outside Pinwherry. He was “a character.” Liked a wee dram I seemed to remember – “just a drop in the bottom of a pail” replied Mr Campbell. Mr Gallacher was squeezed off the road when the Caledonian took over said Mr Campbell. And Mr Walker (we also met him in Ballantrae) operated the first Caledonian bus from the King’s Arms in Ballantrae. It went from Stranraer to Girvan via Ballantrae and Colmonell. The Pulman bus did the Newton Stewart Girvan route and they amalgamated to become SMT.

Apart from the larger than life Mr Gallacher, farm workers, estate workers and railwaymen lived in Pinwherry. Children went to school where they go to school now. The school was built at the turn of the century and “in the 1920s when I was at school there were about 70 children,” remembered Mr Campbell.

True to form in Pinwherry, the school was once in what is now a cottage owned by the Rev Jim Guthrie. It is at the end of the row of cottages on Barrhill Road where Mr Campbell lives.

Spiritual needs were – and still are taken care of by hiking the three or so miles to Colmonell Parish Church. But Pinwherry came up trumps when it came to football – there were two football teams, Pinwherry and the Duisk Rovers. Mr Campbell remembers one of the Pinwherry team. They used to play in summer leagues. The evenings’ entertainments required as much energy as games of football. Dances were held at Ballantrae, Colmonell, Barrhill and further afield, and those members of Pinwherry who were fleet of foot hiked, biked (or caught a pony and trap) to get to them. “In those days there wasn’t as much travelling,” said Mr Campbell. “You had to make your own entertainment.” They truly were energetic about their entertainment. If you are still not convinced, Mr Campbell reliably informed me “There was never a Friday but there was a dance on some place or another – and on Wednesdays too.” And there was none of your eight hours

sleep a night malarkey either. These dances started at about 7.30-8.00 p.m. and went on until 2 a.m. (then you had to hike, bike or pony trap it home again you’ll remember). “And it wasn’t any standing in the middle of the floor shaking, you got round it.” Mr Campbell told me severely. Sometimes whist drives were held before the dances.

Pinwherry keeps up its dancing. Dancing classes are held in the community centre on Tuesday evenings. Mondays are reserved for ‘Keep Fit.’ Badminton is played in the Community Centre on Wednesday evenings, Thursdays are Brownies and Guides. I don’t know if Friday is a day off. Carpet Bowls are also played.

“There wasn’t much football really after the War,” said Mr Campbell. The dances continued, but are now much less frequent. The Brechin family of Pinwherry House used to provide a Christmas party for the schoolchildren every year. The children still have a lovely time. The Community Association throw a Christmas party for them and give each a present. They also organise a summer picnic. And the WRI hold a Children’s Hallowe’en party.

I was almost saying goodbye to the Campbells to wander up to Pinmore pastures new, when Mr Campbell told me about Pinwherry Castle “just out the back window!” It is believed to be one of the Kennedy castles. At the top of each of these Kennedy castles you could see the next one. And the one next to Pinwherry was Poundland. Pinwherry Castle is “a harbour for crows now” said Mrs Mary Campbell. But other big houses have survived despite the odds in the Pinwherry area. McQuaker of Sixpence (which is between the road and the railway in Pinwherry) built Drumspillan House for the Brechin family. A fire around 1927 gutted the house and killed two members of the White family living there. But the house is lived in once again. It is now a bungalow. Other big houses employing many Pinwherry people were High Alticane, Poundland and Pinwherry Houses.



Sandra Osborne

Unfortunately the general economic situation remains difficult across my constituency. I am very concerned about the unemployment levels in the constituency and I also appreciate that many people in the constituency who are still in work are feeling less secure in their jobs.

I am now seeing more and more people at my surgeries who are struggling very hard to make ends meet. Unfortunately price rises in basic food items and increased energy costs are significantly increasing the cost of living.

The vast majority of my work at the present time is about trying to provide the best support and advice I can to people who come to my surgeries or call or e-mail my office. I can also assure my constituents that I am giving the utmost priority to arguing and fighting for policies that will improve the current economic situation in the country. For example for some time I have been fighting for urgent action on youth unemployment through introducing a tax on banker’s bonuses to fund jobs for young people.

I receive regular correspondence from community groups on a range of issues and I am always happy to support the efforts of local organisations in their efforts to improve the quality of life in the areas they represent.

As a local MP I am able to table written and oral questions to Government Ministers and in recent times I have used this facility to raise concerns about important issues in my constituency such as the current state of the economy. Therefore if groups or individuals have any concerns about any particular issues I may be able to assist them by asking a question of the relevant Government Minister.

We are also at a very interesting time in the history of Scotland as a referendum on whether or not Scotland should remain in the UK will be taking place in 2014. The run up period to the Referendum date will be full of lively debate and considerable media coverage. Whilst I am firmly of the view that is in the best interests of Scotland to remain in the UK I hope that everyone will listen to the debate on the various issues which will arise during the campaign.

In the run up to Xmas and New Year period I would also want to give my best wishes to all my constituents.

If any constituent wishes help, support or advice there are a number of ways they can contact me. The e-mail address for my office is osbornes@parliament.uk and the postal address is Sandra Osborne MP, 139 Main Street, Ayr KA8 8 BX. I can also be contacted by phone on 01292 262906.

Woodland Bay HOTEL

Festive Menu

- 2 course £12.95 pp - 3 course £15.95 pp
available from Sunday 2nd December to
Monday 24th December

Christmas Day Dinner

- Adults £39.50 - Children 5-12 yrs. £19.95
- Children 0-4 yrs FREE

3 Night Christmas Hotel Package

- £399 for two adults sharing, including Superior
Room and Christmas Day Menu

2 Night Hogmanay Hotel Package

- £299 for 2 adults sharing, including 5 course
Hogmanay Buffet Dinner and night of dancing!

For details, menus and booking visit our website
www.woodlandfarm.co.uk, e-mail us using
stay@woodlandfarm.co.uk or call the booking hotline
on 01465 710 700.



Glenalty COUNTRY HOUSE

HIGH QUALITY COUNTRY FAYRE

We are just outside of Barrhill on the Knowe Road,
growing and producing natural healthy food for ourselves and for sale.

☆☆☆☆☆

Free Range Eggs (Chicken and ducks)

Free Range Home-reared pork (bacon, sausages and premium cuts)

Home baking made to order (breads, rolls, cakes and more),

Special jams and preserves

Fresh home grown, chemical free, seasonal fruit and vegetables

Cooking and Catering for small events.

Local Delivery

☆☆☆☆☆

We believe that by buying from local producers you get fresher
and cheaper products and support your community. We are
interested in starting a project helping to promote that rich
variety of products, made by us and others in the area, and
connect local residents with the food and drink the area
produces.

Come and see us or call for orders

Phone: 01465 821554

Mobile: 075 02495697

E-mail: nlcourt@hotmail.com

Ballantrae Public Garden Gets Facelift

Work started on the improvements to Ballantrae's Public Garden in late October 2012. The refurbishment has been managed by the Ballantrae Development Group (a sub-committee of Ballantrae Community Council). The re-vamped space will include paving slabs to replace the red chippings, the erection of stone planters, and a timber fence incorporating the Olympic rings - in recognition of Ballantrae's memorable status as the Olympic torch's first "kissing point" in Ayrshire.

The first step was to remove the overgrown phormium bushes that were obscuring the view of the lower garden and the vista beyond. This was achieved by the expertise of the Parks and Open Spaces team from South Ayrshire Council and made an immediate improvement - see the photograph!

By the time you read this, if the weather co-operates, there should be two fine dry stone planters in place, courtesy of the Girvan Community Garden and two

days of on-the-job training for volunteer "dykers". Using local tradesmen, paving slabs will be laid to enable wheelchair users to access the top terrace, where a splendid view of the lower flower garden will be seen. These flower beds have always been immaculately maintained by the South Ayrshire Council but have been obscured from view until now!

The makeover will be finished off with a new custom-painted sign.

We look forward to publishing photographs of the finished garden in the Spring edition of this magazine. Page 31

Our thanks go to Girvan Community Garden, South Ayrshire Council, The Big Lottery Fund, the UNESCO Galloway and Southern Ayrshire Biosphere, Barr Ltd and CSV Action Earth who sponsored the refurbishment, and the many volunteers including Beautiful Ballantrae who made it happen.



The club resumed after the summer break in September. During the summer several planned outings were enjoyed by members/friends.

June`s visit was to Enid`s garden with lunch at the Gemrock Museum.

SEE PIC`S
ON REAR
PAGE

July took us to Wetlands in Leswalt with lunch at Dunskey. In August our outing was to Logan Gardens to coincide with the annual plant sale.

Our first speaker was Andrew Jarrott from Galloway Forest Park. Andrew is responsible for forestry, environment and heritage. Accompanied by slides he delivered a very interesting and informative talk on the history and management of the park. He also spoke about some of the wildlife and Dark Sky status. We also had a plant swap and enjoyed tea and chat.

Our speaker in October was Gaby Reynolds from Dunskey. Gaby spoke about plants of the Levant using slides to illustrate her talk and explained which plants can survive

our climate. Again we enjoyed sharing plants from our gardens.

Our speaker for November will be Margaret Finlay. Her demonstration will have a Christmas theme then an opportunity for everyone to try their own arrangement. December will be Christmas dinner at "Shimla" Barrhill.

Proposed speakers for next year are

January - Heather Budge-Reid

Chief Executive, Gardening Leave (Auchincruive)

February - Andy Mc Garva

Favourite vegetables

March - Moira Mc Alpine (Member)

Creation of a Lendalfoot Garden

April - AGM

Plant swap, quiz, time permitting

We meet the 3rd Wednesday of the month in Pinwherry hall at 7.30pm. We are always delighted to welcome new members or visitors who care to come along for the evening.

Anyone who is interested and would like further information please feel free to contact any of our members or committee-

- Pat Spence** [**Chairperson**]
821 373 | patspence@piperpublications.co.uk
- John McAlley** [**Vice Chair**]
841 198 | j.mcalley@btinternet.com
- Jill McAlley** [**Treasurer**]
- Roger Pirrie**
841 644 | rogerpirrie@gmail.com
- Moira McAlpin**
831 122 | moira.mcalpine@btopenworld.com
- Margaret Bean** [**secretary**]
841 635 | margaret.bean1@btinternet.com



Ban on import & movement of ash confirmed.

OUR TREES NEED HELP

The Government has confirmed a ban on the import and movement of ash trees following the outbreak of Chalara ash dieback. The Government must now set up an emergency summit bringing together representatives from all areas of forestry, plant health and conservation to address the wider issues surrounding threats to our native trees and woods. <http://woodlandtrust.org.uk>

The Carlton Bay Association

The Carlton Bay Association wish to send many thanks to Mr Drummond of Straid Farm, for his prompt attention in the demolition of a dangerous building in Lendalfoot.

Pinwherry S.W.R.I. Update



The 'Rural' programme has been drawn up for another winter's activities and looks as if it will be interesting and informative and fun for all!

We would love to welcome all the women of the district to join with us in the Pinwherry village hall on the second Monday of each month from September to May. If you have been wondering if you should give it a go, then come and find out. You will get a warm welcome from a friendly group of women, perhaps learn some new practical skills, and hear from speakers with interesting stories to tell.

The programme up to Christmas includes a baking demonstration, a talk on patchwork, an evening with Dr Tom Smith, and a Christmas dinner!

We started on September 10th at 7.30pm with Anne Walker to take us through the intricacies of successful baking. This was followed on the 14th Sept with a Progressive Whist.

Please take this as an invitation to join us - We look forward to seeing you.

If anyone is interested in coming along, please call me, Pat Guthrie on 841236 for further details.

Hope to see you, soon.

Ballantrae WRVS Appeal For Members



If you have been a W.R.V.S. member formerly or would like to become a new member, the Ballantrae Branch of W.R.V.S. would be very glad of your help.

The main events in which we are involved are the Senior Citizens' Christmas Party and the annual Earl Haig Poppy Collection.

For more info please contact:

Betty Nelson 831 285
Pat Allsop 831 391
Jean Dunlop 831 351



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.

adventurecentreforeducation.com

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 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.

For more information contact:

Penny Savage, Asselview, Pinmore.

Tel: 01465 841 686
Mob: 07748 973 940

It's In The Wind

For all you need to know about wind power in south west Scotland please keep an eye on: its-in-the-wind.blogspot.com.

The Stinchar Valley Magazine



Funded by: Hadyard Hill Community Benefit Fund Ltd AND Carrick Futures Community Benefit Fund
Compiled & Printed by: printing.com Ayr | 01292 619 009 | 10a New Road | Ayr | KA8 8EX | www.ayrprinting.com

Adam Ingram MSP



Stinchar Valley Autumn/Winter 2012: Broadband

Broadband access and affordability have been contentious issues locally, and if anything have been exacerbated with the rapid advancement in technology. I have been at the forefront of the campaign for accessible and cheaper broadband services for many years and have seen some progress but we still have a long way to go before the requirements of the local communities and businesses are met.

BT's local network business Openreach is making fibre broadband available to around two-thirds of UK homes and businesses on a commercial basis by the end of 2014 using a mix of fibre to the cabinet (FTTC) and fibre to the premises (FTTP) technologies.

We recently had the announcement from BT that more than a million Scottish homes and businesses will have access to BT's fibre broadband network by the end of next year. Girvan is one of 35 communities to benefit, with the upgrade due in 2013.

This is a welcome step but keep in mind that BT are a commercial company and will not fund investment that is not commercially viable. We cannot leave it to the market to realise our digital potential.

The SNP Government recognises the importance of access to superfast broadband. Broadband should not be considered a luxury in rural areas; it is essential to enhance the quality of life and stimulate the growth of the local economy hence the publication of Scotland's Digital Future: Infrastructure Action Plan which outlines the Government's commitment to a world-class, future proofed infrastructure that will deliver digital connectivity across the whole of Scotland by 2020.

Within the Action Plan are two initiatives that are particularly suited to the needs and requirements of the local Carrick area. Firstly, Step Change 2015 will address the current digital divide and put in place infrastructure in those areas that the market will currently not go, to ensure a step change in speeds by 2015. All three Ayrshire local authority areas have been working together on a proposal which will be taken to the respective councils for approval very soon. This proposal if agreed will form the basis of a bid to the Scottish Governments £250 million investment programme which will be procured next year.

Secondly, a smaller but no less important initiative, the Community Broadband Initiative, aims to kickstart projects in rural communities by supporting community groups to deliver innovative solutions either in terms of technology, financing or delivery. Funding will concentrate in the most hard to reach communities which are unlikely to get next generation broadband under the 2015 programme. I'm pleased to see South Ayrshire Council is bidding into this rural seed fund and I will follow progress with interest.

As you would expect I am keen to ensure that there is equality in access throughout the constituency and I will continue to make that case for this with both service providers and the Scottish Government.

Adam Ingram

Colmonell WRI

Our meetings are held on the second Wednesday of the month from September to May.

On September 12th we had Jimmy McGhee who gave us a talk about 'Mauchline ware'.

On October 5th we held our annual whist drive and on October 10th Marion McMoreland demonstrated her skills with cakes, from cup-cakes to wedding cakes.

November 14th saw James Brown talking on The Ayrshire pilgrims trail.

December 12th is 'Party Time' with all senior citizens and members enjoying 'Christmas fair' and the entertainment for this is by a group called 'Music Box'.

Into 2013 we will be having Robert McQuiston talking about Town and Village Names on January 9th.

February 13th is 'Open Night' we invite other Rurals and welcome anyone who cares to join us. The entertainment for this evening will be Mrs F Dunlop and her Gaelic Waulking Songs for Tweed.

March 13th is our Birthday Party with Pot Luck Supper and members entertaining. Spring Flowers Arranging is on April 10th by Margaret Findlay.

May 8th is our A.G.M. This we hold at CraigieMains Garden Centre with supper and a browse round the Garden Centre.

On the last Saturday in May we have our Trip! The destination is to be decided!

This is our Winter Program and if you wish to join us you would be most welcome. For information call **Margaret Robertson** on **881 352**.

Did You Know?

1642 A royal postal service was introduced on several routes, including the route from Edinburgh to Portpatrick via Hamilton, Ayr, Girvan and Ballantrae, supplemented in 1662 by another route to Ireland via Glasgow and Kilmarnock.

1740 Until 1745 no one would rent land in the Parish because of a plague which killed all the cattle causing a famine. When the wet season came a bad weed grew in the crop called the doite which caused the people to be sick and made them look as if they were drunk. At this time the farm of Garfar (Garphar) lay without a tenant for 5 years.

1785 The Mail Coach from Stranraer to Ballantrae was robbed and a considerable sum of money taken out of a letter. The robber turned out to be the Post Boy who was committed to Stranraer Jail.

1829 Isabella Caddell nee Butter died 25 March 1829 and bequeathed £4500 and 15 acres of land to endow a chapel and a school at Glenapp

1854 In this year Colmonell was admitted to the Royal Caledonian Curling Club.

1890 In April of this year the School Board of Colmonell appointed Miss Eliza Boyd of Girvan to be teacher of Corwar School Barrhill

1911 The Colmonell baker Crawford McCreath won the Scottish Champion Cup, quarter sponge loaf Gold Medal and a sponge cake diploma at the Baker's Exhibition in Glasgow .

1911 In August an advert appeared in the Scotsman newspaper for a rabbit killer in Corwar to be paid £1 per week plus bothy and fire (testimonials required).

Balkissock Lodge

If you're looking for a peaceful and relaxing base for your holiday in South West Scotland, Balkissock Lodge will provide you with a comfortable break with a touch of luxury. www.balkissocklodge.co.uk



Some more local snippets about Ballantrae and the surrounding area from the newspaper archives.

Feedback on these articles would be appreciated either through the magazine editor or to kaycee.history@gmail.com

1914 At Christmas a Roman Catholic service was held at Dangart, Colmonell for Belgian war refugees who were staying there.

1915 The death was recorded of Robert Milroy farmer at Ligartrie, Pinwherry . He was the first man to drive and work the first reaping machine ever seen in South Ayrshire in 1859 and he also introduced steam threshing mills into the district. At 83 years of age he skipped a curling rink at Barrhill.

1919 Barrhill War Memorial Committee decides to erect a Public Hall in the village in memory of soldiers and sailors of the district who had fallen in war. The cost of the hall was reported to be £3,500.

1929 In June of this year a new rural automatic telephone exchange was opened at Barrhill this being one of the twenty rural exchanges being opened in Scotland.

1936 The Girvan Education Authority recommends that electricity be installed in Colmonell and Ballantrae schools.

1937 The Penwhapple water scheme is opened at a cost of £34,000 to supply water to the district.

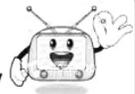
1937 In June James Martin of Drumlamford was awarded a handsome trophy by 2 anonymous donors in recognition of his throwing the discus 79 feet 9 inches at Girvan High School Sports .

We will continue to trawl the newspaper archives for stories about Ballantrae and the surrounding area. So far nothing of national interest in Barr has been found. Barrhill seemed to have excellent curlers, grand livestock markets and Colmonell had agricultural shows and an excellent meteorologist giving endless rainfall reports. Both villages had steamships named after them.

HOWARD GALLEY

New TV? Call me to install and setup
from £25

Freeview, Satellite or Sky problems my speciality



Repairs to: Washers, Driers, Cookers,
Vacuum Cleaners, etc.

All major manufacturers and models dealt with.

Tel: 01465 831537

Mobile: 0789 44 33 084

www.balkissocklodge.co.uk

Appliance & Satellite Engineer

Repairs to washers, vacuum cleaners etc.

Freeview & Freesat installations & Repairs

Portable Appliance Testing

The Triple Bill

Ballantrae Community Association and the Ballantrae Development Group jointly hosted a showing of the 3 village videos of “The Diamond Jubilee”, “The Arrival of the Olympic Flame in Ballantrae” and “Ballantrae Gala Week 2012” in the Community Hall on Wed 22 August. The event was well attended and feedback on all 3 videos and the refreshments during the interval was positive. If you live in Ballantrae and were unable to come along on the night but would like to see any of the videos, copies are held by Sharon Robertson and Fiona Roper of Ballantrae Community Association, and Stephen Ogston, Mhairi McKenna and Andy McAlpine of the Ballantrae Development Group.

Keeping Ballantrae Safe

This evening event was organised by the Ballantrae Development Group (BDG) - a Sub Committee of the Community Council on Thursday 27 September in BRICC House, Ballantrae.

One of the priorities in the Ballantrae Development Plan is to improve road safety and keep the crime rate low in the village. Originally the event started out as a joint police / community event but quickly developed into something bigger to bring together the various agencies involved in community safety in South Ayrshire. The event was arranged to give residents an opportunity to receive advice from a variety of agencies and discuss with them how, if we work together, we can ensure Ballantrae continues to be a safe place in which to live, work and visit.

The event commenced with a short presentation on policing priorities in the area and an overview by Sgt Mark Thornby of crime trends in Girvan and the surrounding villages. After a short question and answer session, residents were then able to have informal conversations with a variety of experts on different aspects of public safety.

Strathclyde Police was represented by Sgt Mark Hornby, Police Liaison Officer for South Ayrshire Council, Constable Kevin Reynolds from Ayr and Constable Graeme Gordon of Farm Watch. Alex Kelly of the **Carrick Crime Prevention Panel** attended with 2 young colleagues and his trailer of Crime Prevention material. **South Ayrshire Council Community Safety** was represented by Bryan Jamieson and David Porte. **Strathclyde Fire and Rescue** was represented by Community Firefighter Liz Brady and Group Commander Albert Bruce. **AMEY** and **Transport Scotland** were both invited but because of other commitments were unable to attend. They sent a message of support and some helpful information. **Road Safety Scotland** sent leaflets and other materials.



The event highlighted a number of issues of concern to residents including:

- Speeding in general but especially heavy lorries, including tailgating on the A77
- What exactly are the priorities for Transport Scotland (TS) / Amey (with regard to the A77)?
- Although some road improvements have been carried out at locations North and South of the village, there is a very difficult part of the A77 just south of Ballantrae at Glenapp. This part of the road is well known locally and throughout South Carrick and D&G and has been the scene of many accidents and some fatalities. Are there any plans for improvements at this part of the A77?
- The need for more signage in the village warning drivers to slow down, a crossing and traffic calming measures
- Lorries parking on village pavements when accessing the local minimarket (SCOTMID)
- Parking problems, especially on the corner by the church and on Shore Road / A77 where residents believe the double yellow lines should be extended because of vehicles negotiating parked cars coming head to head with vehicles turning left into Shore Road from Main Street
- Speeding on Shore Road's 20mph limit
- Theft from farms (eg quad bikes and diesel)
- Possible bogus caller in Ballantrae
- Smoke alarms
- Dog fouling

The BDG and the Community Council will continue to pursue these issues with the relevant agencies. The BDG is indebted to all of the agencies that took part but, in particular, to Sgt Mark Hornby for his support and encouragement in planning and running the event.

I attended this conference organised by South Ayrshire Council (SAC) Community Planning Partnership (CPP) as one of three delegates from the Ballantrae Development Group and Ballantrae Community Council.

Community Planning is based on the simple notion that if we all work more effectively together then public services will improve for those who use them. The starting point is for service providers - for example the Council, NHS and the Police - to meet with local communities and service users, to find out what their needs are, and then together they agree priorities, design local services to meet these priorities, and ensure that they are delivered effectively. Sounds simple? Overseeing that work is the responsibility of the South Ayrshire Community Planning Partnership. Their plan is known as the Single Outcome Agreement (SOA). The whole idea is that the SOA will be able to show SAC's commitment to delivering better results for the people of South Ayrshire and by working together, the various partner organisations plan to improve the quality of life, economically and socially. The current SOA was for the period 2009-2012 - time to develop a new one..... The aim is to have a new 10 year plan in place by April 2013.



Councillor Bill McIntosh, Chair of the CPP opened the conference and introduced us to the members of the CPP. David Anderson, Chief Executive of South Ayrshire Council (SAC) then explained the stage that had been reached in drafting the new Community Plan and SOA. He stressed it was still a draft and the purpose of the conference was to get views on that draft, to move from "planning" to "outcomes" and, as a result, to improve the quality of people's lives, work better together on long term challenges, develop programmes of joint work with partners, to adopt a more "joined up" approach to complex issues and pilot new and innovative services using new technologies. The SAC work on the Plan is against a backdrop of public sector reform at national level e.g. the integration of Health and Social Care, Police, Fire and Welfare Reform and community empowerment and renewal. He then went on to describe the proposed Priorities and Outcomes for South Ayrshire as being:

- Maximising our local economy - ... a sustainable economy where people are skilled, confident and successful in accessing employment
- Supporting our Children and Families - our children and young people ... have the best possible life chances
- Caring for Older People - people are able to maintain their independence throughout their lives
- Strengthening our Communities - communities ... are strong and sustainable
- Strengthening our Communities - communities ... are safe

He then described the SAC approach for the future: get into a situation early, spend upfront to make savings later, and deliver services jointly with communities using the strengths and skills within those communities. This scene setting session was over by 10am and from then until noon we were free to select 2 workshops from a choice of five - all linked to the draft priorities outlined by David Anderson.

I attended the two "Strengthening Communities" sessions. During each session we were asked to consider the Priority and the Outcome and whether we agreed with them, the issues that need to be taken into account, and how our various communities can help deliver the Priority and Outcome. In both cases the Priority and Outcome were endorsed but, for me, the crucial question is whether the various SAC departments will actually embrace the approach to partnership working described in the previous session by the Chief Executive. There was plenty of discussion in both sessions about how communities are currently helping SAC to deliver but the clear messages I took away from both sessions were:

- A plea for more of a "joined up" approach within the Council including a single point of contact for each community to avoid having to deal with different departments on the same topic;
- Improved support and guidance on accessing funding
- Better support when considering taking over community assets and
- A plea to treat each community as unique - one size does not fit all.

Delegates were definitely engaged in the discussions and there were plenty of interesting examples of what is happening in communities and voluntary organisations across South Ayrshire. In passing, it was good to hear that Ballantrae's recent "Keeping Ballantrae Safe" event is being regarded as an example of good practice and the police want to roll it out to other communities.

Following the two workshops, we had an opportunity to discuss topics such as Funding, Community Engagement, Community Transport, Navigating Websites and "Our Communities and Justice". I had really useful conversations with Betty Hill of Voluntary Action South Ayrshire (VASA) about the work of the BDG and our involvement in the VASA Voluntary Sector Theme groups on Economic Development, Sustainability and Community Safety. Colette McGarva and I spent some time talking about Community Engagement issues and opportunities, and I had a very useful conversation with Sarah Baird of the Ayrshire LEADER programme about potential sources of funding. Les Anderson explained about the new Seniors Forum, an organisation for the over 50s, and how it might be able to support Ballantrae's senior citizens.

Over 160 delegates from a variety of backgrounds attended the conference. Was it worth the investment of a few hours? Certainly. It was useful to hear from the Chief Executive about the Priorities and Outcomes and the way SAC intends to work with communities in the future. It was good to have the opportunity to listen to other people's views and to be able to influence some of the thinking going into how services - and more importantly the relationship between Council and communities - could be improved in future to our mutual benefit. And it was good to make connections with SAC officials and representatives from other organisations. For me this was all about listening, and sharing ideas to help the BDG deliver its Development Plan for the next 3-5 years.

There was buzz on the day and I came away with a notebook full of ideas, telephone numbers, email addresses and "things to do". This is only the start of the Community Planning and Single Outcome Agreement drafting process. I would encourage Community Councils and Voluntary Sector organisations to engage in the process of finalising the draft. Each of our communities is unique...

How To Send In Your Magazine Articles And Pictures

Email the Editor John McAlley at: 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.



Invigor8 Works!

A large number of people aged 65 and over experience falls. This isn't always a consequence of ageing and can be prevented. Sustained exercise to improve walking, strength and balance will reduce your risk of falls.

What is Invigor8?

Invigor8 is a programme of exercise classes for the over 65s. It supports participants at risk of falls to exercise at a level suitable to their ability. The classes will be led by highly trained and experienced instructors.

Invigor8 is suitable for people:

- Feeling fearful of falls
- Feeling unstable on their feet
- Who have had a previous fall
- With osteoporosis.

Classes are designed to help build & maintain 8 core components:

- Balance
- Strength
- Tai Chi
- Flexibility
- Endurance
- Floor work
- Confidence
- How to get down on to the floor and back up

How do I become involved in the classes?

You can be referred to Invigor8 through a voucher scheme by a health or social care professional e.g. doctor, practice nurse, physiotherapist, home care provider. Call the contact telephone number on the voucher and you will be invited to come along for an assessment prior to joining a class.

Classes throughout South Ayrshire:

Ayr Girvan Maybole
Prestwick Troon

For more information contact:

South Ayrshire Council:

Tel: 01292 294 716 or 01292 294 704

Email: Janey.Anderson@south-ayrshire.gov.uk

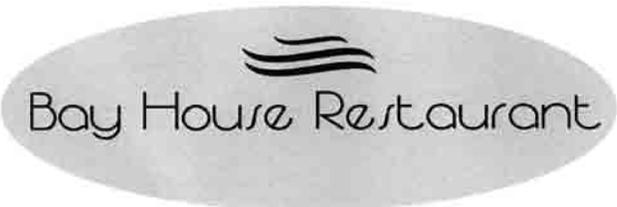
Local & Interesting Web Sites

Age Concern Girvan	www.ageconcerngirvan.org.uk
St Colmon Church	www.stcolmonparishchurch.org.uk
Ballantrae Church	www.ballantraeparishchurch.org.uk
Ballantrae Village	www.ballantrae.org.uk
The Ancient Tree Hunt	www.ancient-tree-hunt.org.uk/project/hunt
Pinwherry/Pinmore	www.2pins.org.uk
Pinwherry/Pinmore	www.pinwherryinmorevillages.net
The Stinchar Valley	www.stincharvalley.co.uk
The Carrick website	www.carrickayrshire.com
Kildonan Country House	www.kildonancountryhouse.co.uk
Galloway & Ayrshire Biosphere	www.sup.org.uk/biosphere/index.htm
Red Nose Day	www.rednoseday.com
The Southern Uplands Partnership	www.sup.org.uk
Scottish National Heritage	www.snh.org.uk
The Woodland Trust	www.woodlandtrust.org.uk
Sign the Petition Now	www.38degrees.org.uk/save-our-forests
Forestry Commission	www.forestry.gov.uk
Scottish Environmental Protection	www.sepa.org.uk
Girvan Camera Club	www.girvancameraclub.org.uk
Girvan Attractions	girvanattractions.synthasite.com
Red Squirrels in South Scotland	www.redsquirrels.org.uk
Ayrshire Rivers Trust	www.ayrshirerivertrust.org/cisp
Ayrshire Red Squirrel Group	www.ayrshirered squirrels.org.uk
ASDA Online shopping	groceries.asda.com/asda-estore/index.jsp
The Commonwealth Orchard	www.commonwealthorchard.com
The Flavours of Galloway	www.flavoursofgalloway.co.uk
BBC Web Wise	www.bbc.co.uk/webwise/courses
Carrick Buildings Learning Centre,	cbic@south-ayrshire.gov.uk
Going Wild	www.goingwild.net
The Big Wildlife Garden	www.bwg.naturalengland.org.uk
The Peinn Mor Pottery	www.peinnmor.co.uk
M.J.A Photography	www.mjaphotography.co.uk
Public services all in one place	www.direct.gov.uk
For timetables, fares and bookings	www.citylinkonlinesales.co.uk
Library Catalogue	library.south-ayrshire.gov.uk
Library Services	www.south-ayrshire.gov.uk/library
South Ayrshire Libraries Blog	sayrshirelib.wordpress.com

Useful Contacts

Accident & Emergency	Ayr Hospital	01292 610555
Minor Injuries Unit	Girvan Community Hospital	01465 712571
NHS 24		08454 242424
Samaritans		0345 909090
Girvan Community	Policing Team	01465 710995
Citizens Advice	Stranraer 10am - 4pm Mon - Fri	01776 706355
SEPA Emergencies		0800 807060
Gas Emergencies		0800 111 999
Scottish Power	Power Cut/Emergencies	0845 2727 999
Emergency Services		999

For suspicious articles found on any beach contact the police on 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. Because of its depth and its proximity to the Cairnryan military port, it became the United Kingdom's largest offshore dump site for conventional and chemical munitions after the Second World War; in July 1945, 14,500 tons of 5-inch artillery rockets filled with phosgene were dumped in Beaufort's Dyke. Munitions have subsequently been washed up on beaches in the area. In particular, in 1995, incendiary devices were discovered on the Scottish and Northern Irish coasts.



Bay House Restaurant

Cairnryan road, Stranraer DG9 8AT
www.bayhouserestaurant.co.uk

Pre Christmas lunch and daily specials available

Phone 01776 707388 to make a reservation.
Only 25 minutes from the Stinchar Valley!

Pre Christmas Menu

Starters

Home Made Soup of the Day, Chicken Liver Pate, Breaded Mushrooms, Scottish Smoked Salmon.

Intermediate

Refreshing Lemon Sorbet

Main Courses

Traditional Roast Turkey, Pan Fried Fillet Steak Rossini, Roast Chicken, Grilled Fillet of Fresh Scottish Salmon

Vegetarian

Pressed Terrine of Roasted Vegetable

Desserts

Traditional Christmas Pudding, Warm Apple Tart Tatin, Eaton Mess, Chocolate Mousse, Cheese and Biscuits, Tea and Coffee

Colmonell Baby Group

This group is for parents and babies from Colmonell and surrounding villages. We meet every Thursday from 1.30pm - 3pm for play and chat. During term time we meet in the nursery at Colmonell Primary School and during school holidays we meet in Colmonell Village Hall. The group has been set up with funding from Colmonell Community Association and Carrick Futures.

If you would like more information about the group, please contact Eileen McCutcheon on 881 191. (See Pic on Rear Page)



GIRVAN Camera Club

Girvan Camera Club draws its members from across South Carrick. They come from Maybole, Crosshill, Maidens, Girvan, Lendalfoot, Ballantrae and Pinwherry. The aim of the club is "to stimulate and further the aims of photography in South Carrick".

We meet on Tuesday evenings at 7.30pm from mid-September to the end of March in the small hall directly behind the South Parish Church, in Henrietta Street in Girvan. Our programme of events during this period includes talks, competitions and practical evenings.

During the months April to August we run a programme of practical evening and days out.

This year, we arranged day outings to the Clyde waterfront in Glasgow, and the Titanic Museum in Belfast. We also ran evening outings to Girvan harbour and weir, Ailsa Wood Products, Turnberry farm, and Turnberry lighthouse and we photographed birds of prey in flight.

By the time you read this we will just have wrapped up our 2012 Photographic Exhibition which was held in the McKechnie Institute from 6 October to 24 November. This gave us a great opportunity to show the variety of photographs our members take to a wider audience. If you missed the exhibition some examples of our work can be found on page 32.

"Blue Sky Morning" by Karen Stewart, "Dusk" by Rory McAdam, "Girl at the Gate" by Yvonne Morrison "Old Church Pinmore" by Bill Arnott, "Robin in Winter" by Liz Robertson, "Ballantrae Clown" by Andy McAlpine

Whatever your level of expertise and interest - whether you are a novice or more experienced - we invite you to join us. You'll be made very welcome.

Scout About with Ballantrae Scouts



Each section has started well after the summer holidays. Numbers have increased, especially in the Beavers to such an extent that we have had to have a waiting list or try to get another leader. The Cubs will also require another leader if the Cubs numbers are increased.

Cubs and Beavers will be working on their First Aid challenge as well as the usual games and looking forward to Halloween parties.

The Scouts have had a Week end Camp at Culzean Scout camp site (see photos). We camped from the Friday night until Sunday. Getting the tents erected in the near dark was quite a challenge. On the Saturday morning we explored the tracks around the park on mountain bikes which was very good fun if a bit muddy. We seemed to have most of the park to ourselves. In the afternoon we walked the coast, found some rocks to climb and as it was such a warm afternoon the scouts took a dip in the sea, quite brave for the end of September. Sunday was a lie in and clear the site. The Scouts did all the cooking on wood fires.

To get out of the Hall we arranged a night hike on Scout night up Beneraird. We must apologise to any mothers who had a long wait, because of the muddy conditions it took us a lot longer to climb the hill than was expected but the scouts had great time.

We will be arranging another camp in November and will be parading on Remembrance Day. Pictures on page 31.

Friends of Ballantrae Scouts

Have you ever been a Scout or a Guide? If so, Ballantrae Scouts would like to hear from you. Our new 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! If you are interested please contact:

Andy McAlpine, Group Chairman

01465 831 122

email andy.mcalpine@btinternet.com

John Allsop, Group Scout Leader

01465 831 391

email allsop_je@talktalk.net

People wanting to join do not need to have been in Scouts before. If you require info ring:

John Allsop

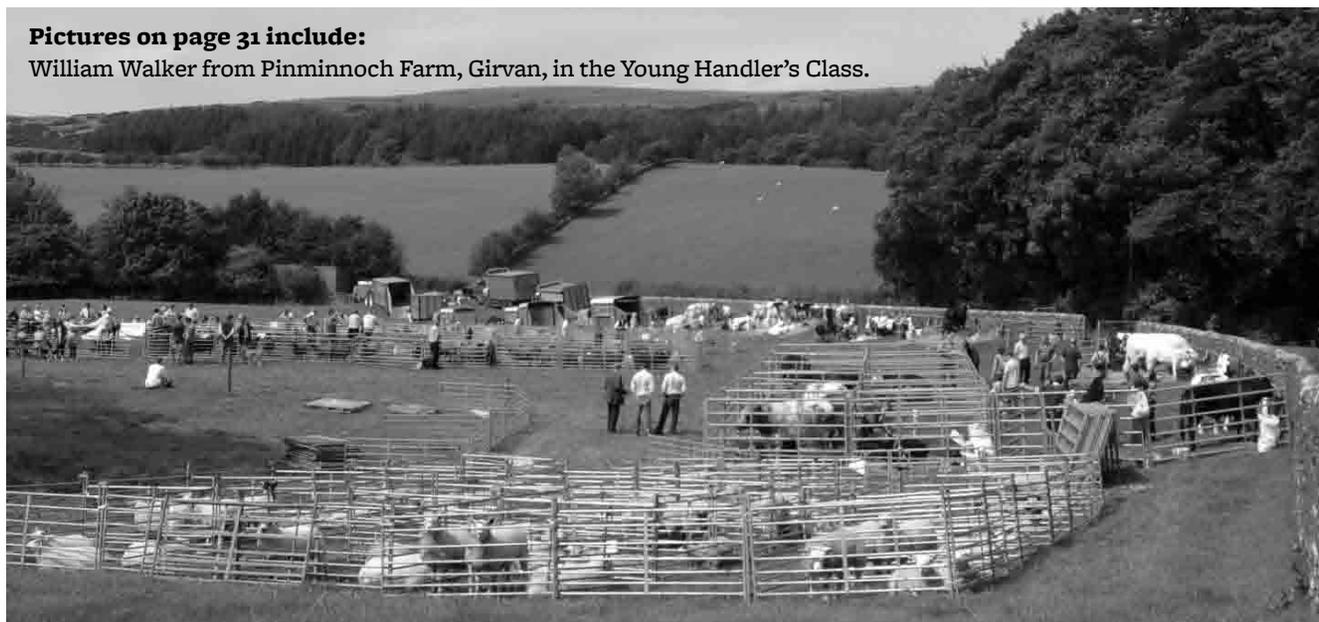
01465 831 391.

Colmonell and Ballantrae Agricultural Show

The sun shone all day on the Colmonell & Ballantrae Agricultural Show, held in August at Boghouse Farm, Colmonell. Exhibitors & spectators enjoyed a great day out. The show committee chair is Jimmy Milroy from Cairnwhin Farm, Barr.

Pictures on page 31 include:

William Walker from Pinminnoch Farm, Girvan, in the Young Handler's Class.



Ballantrae's Public Garden

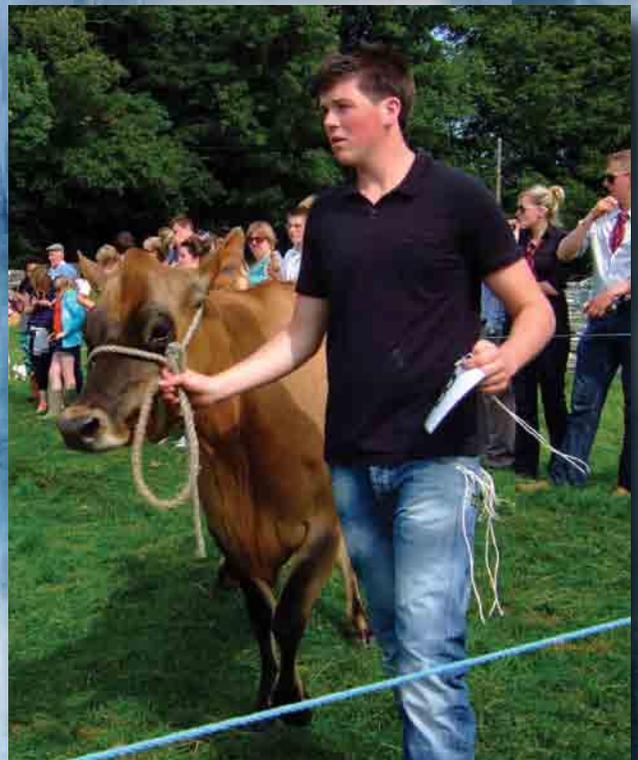
Before & after removing the phormium bushes



Colmonell & Ballantrae Agricultural Show

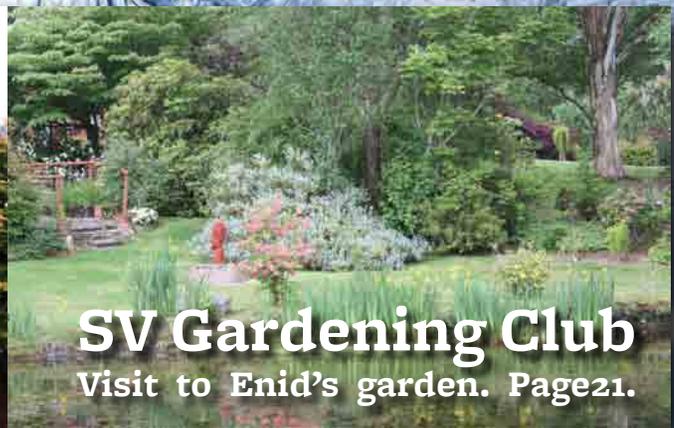


Scout About
with Ballantrae Scouts





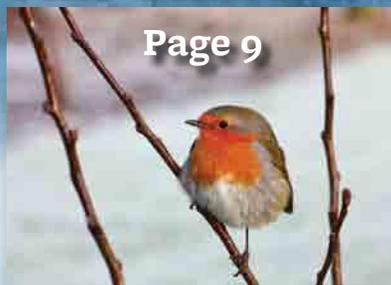
**Colmonell
Baby Group**
Page 14



SV Gardening Club
Visit to Enid's garden. Page 21.



Girvan Camera Club



Page 9

