

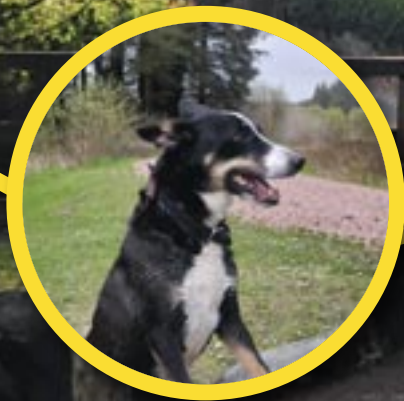
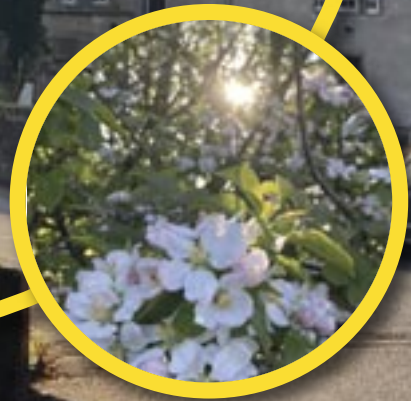
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North Carrick

Spring issue 2023
www.nccbc.org.uk

Community News

Crosshill . Dunure . Fisherton . Kirkmichael . Kirkoswald . Maidens . Maybole . Minishant . Straiton . Turnberry



Step into Spring around North Carrick

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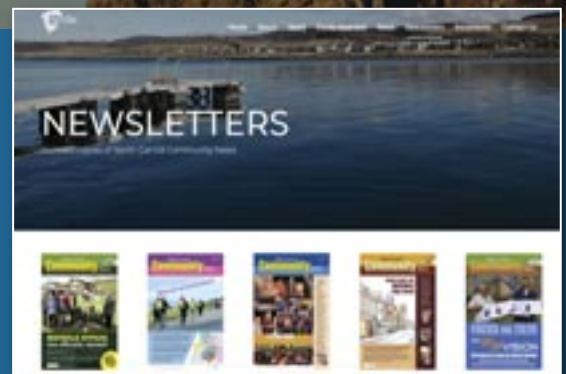
NCCBC

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The 'Documents' section is where you will find copies of all of the North Carrick Community Newsletters (past and present). This will be useful for people who prefer to read online or for those who want to send electronic copies to friends.

www.nccbc.org.uk



Your voice matters...

We would like all communities in North Carrick and individuals to get involved with the production of this publication. This is **YOUR** newsletter, so please use it to your benefit.



The North Carrick Community Newsletter is produced with funding provided from **ScottishPower Renewables**

We want to encourage everyone to contribute. We also welcome your comments and thoughts on the newsletter as well as any ideas on what you would like to see more of (or less). This is our nineteenth issue and we want to ensure the newsletter grows from strength to strength but we cannot achieve this without the participation of our readers and advertisers.

Please email all articles, stories, photos and comments to newsletter@nccbc.org.uk

Design and advertising: **Shona McMahon @ Evolution Designs Ltd.** Email: evolutiondesigns@sky.com

Project development and funding: **Stuart Lindsay** at: stuart@nccbc.org.uk Tel: 07977 115974

North Carrick Community Benefit Company

Funding is available for a wide range of projects. To find out more or to apply to this fund please contact Claire Bryan at admin@nccbc.org.uk or call **07730 748 896** or contact your community council representatives.

Copies of the newsletter are delivered to every house in Maybole and the North Carrick villages. If, for any reason, you don't receive a copy please let your community councillors know. Extra copies will be left in various outlets in each community.

Next board meeting:
Wednesday 10th May 2023
Any funding applications should be in by Wednesday 19th April.

An open meeting was held on Wednesday 11th January in the function room at Goudie's. It was a very well attended meeting with 105 attendees.

The chairperson of Carrick Community Leisure Group SCIO – the charity which owns the building – gave an in-depth presentation about the building's history, including the complete renovation of the facility and the associated funding awards which made this possible.

The extremely difficult decision to close in November was explained fully; with the many factors contributing to this action explained with figures and examples. Guests at the meeting had the opportunity to present questions at the end of the presentation and the Chair was able to provide clarification to the room. Everyone left hopeful that a new solution for the fantastic facility would be found.

Since then, The Carrick Centre has approached CCLG and further discussions took place with them, ultimately working towards an exciting next chapter for this brilliant community asset. The Carrick Centre has now formally expressed interest in taking on the asset and we are pleased to make the following statement jointly:

“The Carrick Centre Board of Directors has expressed an interest in Goudie's to Carrick Community Leisure Group regarding the future of the premises. The Directors have commissioned a business plan to look at establishing a Community Hub at Goudie's. In particular, we are exploring providing designated youth space and opportunities for a range of community groups. We are excited to be taking the first steps on what we hope will be a successful journey for the residents of North Carrick.”

Marguerite Hunter Blair, Chair of the Carrick Centre

Good Food School Project – Straiton

This year, we were delighted to receive a grant from Education Scotland's 'Food for Thought Fund' for our Good Food School Project, where the children learn to grow and cook their own food. The children have started the cooking element recently and enjoyed making Scottish savoury dishes as well as some sweet treats.

We are excitedly awaiting the delivery and construction of our polytunnel funded by Straiton's NCCBC Community Projects fund. The children are planning which fruit and vegetables they will grow to use in their cooking and will shortly be planting seeds. A local resident, and retired Head Gardener of Culzean, has organised the purchase and construction of our polytunnel and gives us fantastic advice on growing food. We are so lucky. By next academic year the pupils will be cooking their own produce.

We are also looking forward to testing a nature discovery map toolkit being piloted by Nature Scotland for the Scottish Government in response to COP26.



Braving the elements on a stormy day to make potions



Making potions



Last year's harvest in August, hoping for more this year



All ages making cleats for a topic on St Kilda



Last year's harvest



Setting up the wormery



Making a teddy zip slide and creating a video of the process



Foraging for brambles and sharing a healthy snack outdoors



Maybole Pipe Band ITV Appearance

We had the pleasure of playing at the wonderful Glenapp Castle on Wednesday 25th January as part of ITV's This Morning and Loose Women's Burns celebrations.

It was an early start with the band arriving at Glenapp at 8.30am. After tuning our instruments, we were ready for the first rehearsal. We met the team from ITV and were introduced to Gok Wan, who was presenting the segments. Gok took the time to speak to everyone, was genuinely interested to learn more about the band and was keen to have a go on the pipes and the big drum.

We spent the morning appearing alongside Gok on short segments where ITV showcased Robert Burns, Scotland, Glenapp Castle and Ayrshire. We were delighted to share the experience with Liam Rogers (a local piper and regular at Glenapp), Aileen Robertson School of Highland Dancing, and Borland Ceilidh Band.

It was a fantastic experience especially for our younger members. ITV's crew were superb and put everyone at ease; ensuring there were no nerves for the live TV performances. The staff at Glenapp also deserve a special mention as they looked after us brilliantly making sure we had plenty of tea, coffee and sandwiches.



Definitely a gig to remember!!

Could you help us support children and young people living in South Ayrshire?

We are looking for foster carers to help make a big difference to the lives of young people arriving in the UK from a variety of backgrounds. Unaccompanied and Asylum-Seeking Young People are aged between 14 and 17 years old.



A commitment has been made to provide care and promote positive opportunities for our young people in South Ayrshire. We are supporting a number of young people through Fostering and Supported Care. Our Foster Carers tell us that this has been some of the most rewarding roles they have experienced:

A full wrap around package of support will be available to those who become foster carers, with a competitive, comprehensive financial package to ensure needs are met and everyone is cared and catered for.

Training, personalised support, supportive staff linked to both the young person and carers from a range of services from across South Ayrshire and beyond would also be available to help you make the most of this opportunity.

My experience of fostering has been fantastic, the support provided has been exceptional and I feel like I am really making a difference.

For more information contact Family Placement Team today:

 fostering@south-ayrshire.gov.uk



south ayrshire
health & social care
partnership

MAKE A DIFFERENCE

Be a Friend. Be a Befriender.



South Ayrshire Befriending Project is looking for volunteers to make a difference to the lives of young people across South Ayrshire. The project supports young people aged 8 – 18 who may be socially isolated or who have social or emotional difficulties. Our befrienders are matched with a young person and meet with them for a few hours each fortnight to help them take part in local activities and opportunities in their community that they might have found it difficult to access otherwise. We recruit volunteers all year round and are currently looking for anyone aged 18+ who has an interest in becoming a befriender to get in touch.

Being a befriender has many benefits including, comprehensive training, volunteer social nights, paid expenses and support from a project coordinator as well as the knowledge that you will be helping a young person.

Rachel has been volunteering at South Ayrshire Befriending Project for a year and wants to share her story about her time as a befriender.



She had previously heard about SABP during her NC Higher course at college, where they were encouraging voluntary work. Rachel then decided to volunteer because of issues she experienced in her younger years with friendships and isolation.

What have you enjoyed most about your time volunteering?

It's really amazing to see the process and how well the project co-ordinators match young people and volunteers together to ensure the best possible friendship. I have also enjoyed how rewarding being a volunteer with SABP is, to see a difference in a young person's life and know that you played a role in that is a type of rewarding I couldn't even begin to describe.

What benefits have you experienced?

I feel very lucky to see the difference in my young person's life and this makes my heart so truly warm. Not only have I helped my young person to get out more, they too have helped to get me out and try new things which is amazing as I am usually very much a house person due to confidence levels which my young person and my project co-ordinators have helped with tremendously. It absolutely pushes me out of my comfort zone, which is exactly what I needed.

Would you recommend volunteering with South Ayrshire Befriending Project to others? If so, can you sell it in a sentence?

Yes, absolutely! If you are looking for a heart-warming, rewarding, and caring role within young people's lives then SABP is for you. Any worries you may have when you first apply for SABP are soon dispersed courtesy of the amazing SABP staff who provide so much support for you and the young people you will befriend. I had so many worries when I first applied but now, I feel truly confident in making that difference. If you have a listening ear, a passion for putting some light into young people's lives and a real want to make a change, SABP is absolutely for you!

Be a Friend. Be a Befriender.

VOLUNTEER WITH US

I was going through a hard time I didn't talk to anyone...
Since I've had a befriender everything has changed! It's so happy!
I definitely smile much more!
Young Person, 11 years.

SOUTH AYRSHIRE BEFRIENDING PROJECT

Are you ready to make a difference?
Use the QR Code to fill in an application or contact us via our Website
www.bfriend.org.uk or phone 01292 264000

If you would like to volunteer and make a difference in a young person's life or would like to support the project, email info@bfriend.org.uk, visit <https://www.bfriend.org.uk/be-involved> or call 01292 264000.



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Callum Deboys - Next Level Chef

Callum Deboys, local Paralympian, was recently a contestant on Gordon Ramsay's new cooking competition, Next Level Chef. Callum is a former professional chef but after the loss of his leg in a motorcycle accident in 2017 has turned his life around. He represented Great Britain at the Paralympics in Beijing in March 2022.

After his sporting achievements, Callum wanted to retest his cooking abilities and see if he still had it. Not afraid of a challenge, he decided to sign up for a cooking programme - but not just any cooking programme. Next Level Chef is the latest TV competition with Gordon Ramsay, Nyasha Arrington and Paul Ainsworth.

The competition takes place over three stories, and each floor contains a stunningly different kitchen; from the glistening top floor with all the state-of-the-art cooking equipment, to the challenging 'basement' level, where the cooks must cope with only the basics. The ingredients available to the chefs match the environment, because Gordon believes the true test of great chefs is not only what they can do in the best of



circumstances, but what kind of magic they can create in the worst!

The first episode of the show aired on STV on Wednesday 11th January where we saw Callum end the episode victorious with a very special pork chop. He excelled throughout the series with lots of showstopping dishes, reaching the final of the competition which aired on 2nd March.



The three finalists had to create a 'next level' three course meal in only 90 minutes, across the three levels of the kitchen. Starting in the basement, Callum produced a beautiful mackerel starter, then moved up to produce a hazelnut-coated venison loin, and finally a beautiful tonka bean tart for his dessert on the top level. In the end the winner was Callum's fellow competitor Jade, but all three finalists cooked outstanding meals. Everyone who knows Callum is bursting with pride on yet another amazing achievement under his belt.

Next Level Chef is an eight week-long series and you can catch up online on <http://www.stv.tv/player>

Bingo and Banter Event in Maybole

In November, South Ayrshire Council Thriving Communities Team submitted a bid to use some remaining Covid Recovery Funding for Maybole and surrounding rural villages. Following the impact of Covid-19, the project aim was to increase community involvement and interaction, address loneliness and isolation, provide a cosy space with plentiful food, as well as creating a fun and energising afternoon. The idea of "Bingo and Banter" was formed.

This free event took place in February and included transport to and from the event, an afternoon tea (soup, sandwiches, scones, and tray bake treats), followed up by several games of competitive bingo, a local quiz, and several rounds of the card game "higher, lower". There were a variety of prizes including chocolates, games, toiletries, and a toaster, to name a few.

This was a fantastic event which was enjoyed by 45 local residents.



Some comments included:

"I've not been out of the house in three years - thank you so much"

"Thoroughly enjoyed my afternoon with delicious food, great company and such a laugh"

"I was really anxious at coming out the house and can't tell you how grateful I am that I did"

Thriving Communities staff attended and provided information on employability support, community learning, local drop-in hubs, and regular groups (such as the Maybole cooking group). Valued third sector partner Voluntary Action South Ayrshire (VASA) were also in attendance, offering information on local volunteering opportunities.



It is safe to say "Bingo and Banter" was a successful community day enjoyed by all who came along. For further information please contact **01292 612301** or email ThrivingCommunitiesInfo@south-ayrshire.gov.uk

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Local girl Luci Davidson, age 12, donated her 'Reborn Baby' to Fairknowe House for their residents. She saved up her money herself to buy the doll when she was younger, making and selling her wax melts. Now Luci's doll has now brought many smiles to the residents, and he even has a new name – Sunny. Well done, Luci!

Kirkmichael Primary Scottish Poetry Competition

All the boys and girls from our EYC to P7, learned Scottish poems and songs in January, showing off some amazing skills. Everyone took part in a competition and the top three for each poem recited in front of a panel of judges, and lots of their families. The poems included were; 'A Dug, A Dug,' 'Feart', 'Fed Up' and 'Scottish Rain'. We were blown away by their delivery, enthusiasm and exceptional acting skills. We even had a flat cap involved!

The EYC were fantastic at their 'The Wee Rid Motor' and sang loudly to 'There Came a Man Fae Oor Toon'. The P1-7 children then beautifully sang 'O Flower of Scotland' to end our amazing afternoon.

We were treated to a wonderful surprise performance and retelling of 'Tam o' Shanter' by one of our judges George Bryden. All were captivated by the performance which showed us all how it should be done.

Miss Hope Cousins



Life is Never a Straight Line

I scrolled though my phone
One day
And I saw this quote
Imprinted on my brain
Life is never a straight line
What does that even mean?
The more I heard the quote
Circle around my mind
The more it made sense.
If life was a straight line
Or meant to be
That means it must be
Simple, painless
But life is a roller coaster
That is the complete opposite
It will go fast and slow
And make as many loops
And sharp turns,
Around corners
It can be painful, hurtful
You aren't in control
You can't be in control,
Of the ride.
You have to sit there
And watch it happen
You have to deal, with the whiplash
You may receive after the rollercoaster
After the adventure, after the emotions
You may feel, maybe not one emotion
But a handful
Sad, happy, alone, scared, worried
I could name so many more
But what's the point
Everyone has their own rollercoaster.
Different amounts of sharp turns
And loops, and it may go by quickly or slowly
And it will seem like the rollercoaster
Is going to last forever
It will seem like you won't have enough time
To experience any other rides
Because that rollercoaster lasted so long
Because life...
Life is never a straight line
But that doesn't mean
You can't have a rollercoaster
That is painless and simple
But also, painful and hurtful
I want a rollercoaster that is all of that
It may drain me
And ruin some of my days
But I'll be able to experience the rest of my
rollercoaster
When I wake up the next morning
And let's hope
I don't have whiplash.

Malysa - S2

Join us!

Girlguiding Carrick District are looking for volunteers to support existing units and to open new units. If you can help out with anything from running a unit to helping shop for resources, we would love to hear from you.

Email: growthcoordinator@girlguidingayrshiresouth.org.uk



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For girls aged 7 to 10

Rainbows learn by doing - they get their hands dirty, do sports, arts and crafts, and play games.
For girls aged 5 to 7
(4 to 7 in Northern Ireland)

Guides
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For girls aged 10 to 16

RANGERS
In Rangers you'll have exciting opportunities to travel the world, get your voice heard, support your community, and build skills for the future.
For young women aged 14 to 18

Join us today
girlguiding.org.uk/joinus
or call 0800 169 5901
Registered charity number 268194

GOLF CLUB NOTICE

Sadly, Maybole Golf Club has now folded !!

If anyone wishes to reclaim a trophy that a family member has donated over the years, can they please get in touch with Lyn so that it can be returned to the family. Lyn can be contacted on Facebook, Lyn Mansell, or via email lynrodge@aol.com

Allan Dorans MP

Ayr, Carrick and Cumnock



Allan Dorans MP



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Carrick Community Food Garden

– Activities for Everyone in 2023

We had our first group meeting of 2023 in early February to discuss our plans for the year and to set our priorities for the Spring planting season ahead in the garden. We will, once again, be working with South Ayrshire Council and local youth groups as part of the Thriving Communities programme as well as with groups of pupils from Carrick Academy.

Among the exciting projects we have planned for 2023 are:

- Landscaping and planting of the Quiet Garden and pond area (see photograph) to create an area of the garden for all to sit, relax and enjoy the view.
- Planting a hedgerow of native tree species (donated by The Woodland Trust) along the rear boundary as part of our efforts to provide wildlife habitat and increase biodiversity in the garden.
- Developing facilities for more on-site cooking, using the fruit and vegetables we grow to prepare meals together with the groups we support.
- Building a variety of structures around the garden including another garden shed, raised beds, greenhouse staging, walls, paths, and a plant nursery area.
- Constructing and planting a new, larger, herb garden and salad area to provide a regular supply of fresh greens throughout the seasons.
- Organising a variety of small-scale community events to take place in the garden throughout the year.

We are always looking for new ideas for future projects or to make contact with groups who may benefit from working with us in the garden. We welcome any suggestions or enquiries from you and encourage you to read on to learn more about the garden and its benefits.

Why contribute?

Being part of a community garden is a great activity to do by yourself or with friends and family and is a good opportunity to get outdoors, learn new skills, meet new and like-minded people, keep active and improve mental health. For young and old alike, it is a great addition to your CV as well as being a positive contribution towards your community and the environment.



Quiet Garden and pond area which will be one of our major projects this Spring and Summer.

What's involved in helping at the garden?

There are no specific requirements for anyone wanting to help. Our contributors have a diverse range of skills and abilities and contribute everything from the occasional hour or two of labour to regular weekly sessions working with the groups we support. Even if you don't think you can contribute on a regular basis, there may be individual projects that you might want to help with or can offer advice on. All contributions are welcome. Our group is very flexible, and you can drop in to learn more and see what it's like before you decide to contribute your time and energy.

Where does the harvest go?

Everything that is harvested from the garden is shared with our local community food pantry, our contributors, the groups we support and, when possible, we cook and share meals on-site. Nothing is wasted.

Who can contribute?

We encourage people of all ages and levels of fitness to contribute where they can; from complete beginners to experienced growers there is a way for you to contribute to your Community Garden. Regardless of whether you can contribute regularly or just the occasional hour, your contribution is welcome. Even if gardening is not your thing, there are always construction, general maintenance, fundraising and landscaping activities ongoing at the garden that need assistance.

To find out more follow us on Facebook:

<https://www.facebook.com/CarrickCommunityFoodGarden>

Or come along to the garden on Wednesdays and Thursdays between 11am and 2pm at 28 Allan's Hill Maybole, KA19 7AU (behind the car park of Our Lady and St Cuthbert's).



Group members meeting for our Spring planning session and walkabout at the garden.



It's Spring again and the garden is ready to go, with lots of fun projects to get involved in!

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April

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Wednesday 5th

Wednesday 12th **Crafts**

Friday 14th

For Primary 4-7

10:30am - 12:30pm

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CARRICK CENTRE

FREE LUNCH & ACTIVITIES

P1 - P3 EASTER

HOLIDAY PROGRAMME 2023

MONDAY 3RD APRIL
WEDNESDAY 5TH APRIL
WEDNESDAY 12TH APRIL
FRIDAY 14TH APRIL

P1 - P3 TO ARRIVE FOR LUNCH AT 12:30PM TO 1:00PM
ACTIVITIES WILL RUN FROM 1:00PM TO 2:00PM.

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FOR MORE INFORMATION CALL 01655 883222
CARRICK CENTRE, CULZEAN ROAD, MAYBOLE, KA19 7QE

Colouring Communities



This lovely, vibrant group have had a wonderful Winter - creating splashes of colour and positivity throughout the community. The group, for adults with additional support needs, made a beautiful new sign for the entrance to the Carrick Community Food Garden. The groups joined up and celebrated with a mince pie or two!

The group had lots of Christmas crafts including making handmade individual Christmas cards for all the residents of Fairknowe House Care Home.



Food Garden Entry

Showing off Christmas Cards for Elderly



The Maybole Arms was the place to be for a delicious three course Christmas Lunch for the group. We really appreciated the hospitality shown to us by Callum and John.

A warm meal will be on the menu for group members as they were very lucky to receive funding through South Ayrshire Locality Planning Partnership. The group are now housed in the cosy hall of St Oswald's



Making Gonks



Maybole Arms Christmas Lunch

Church and are very happy in their new home. The group would love to thank their friends at St Oswald's, and Sam and Monica at the Dairy Corner for all their help and support.

For more information about Colouring Communities please contact Coral via email on coral.mcmillan@outlook.com

Maybole Charity Shop Update

After a very long and slow start to the refurbishment of the charity shop on Maybole High Street, we are pleased to say that good progress is now being made. From the pictures it's hard to see how, but - as with all projects of this nature - it's crucial to get the building to a shell and assess and address all the issues of rot etc. before you can begin to put it back together.



All the roofs are being replaced and repaired and, as pictured, you can see the entire roof structure to the rear shop extensions have been removed, ready to be replaced with all new timber works and guttering. The flat above the shop now has floors in the extension, something it hasn't had for many years. With a fair wind we hope to have the shop ready to be back into use by late Spring/early Summer.

The former committee, now operating the shop in School Vennel have had the offer to return to the shop and have decided to stay where they are, so NCCBC will establish a separate group to operate this shop in a complementary way. The hope is that the two ventures will enable groups to have easier access to one or the other, possibly more than once a year. This will certainly create much-needed fundraising opportunities for community groups.

We are keen to hear from community-based organisations in North Carrick that would like to have access to the shop when it reopens so we can begin to populate a user list.



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www.carrickcrs.co.uk



Walking Football - A slower version of the beautiful game

Walking football is exactly what it sounds like, a standard game of football where players walk instead of run, it is fun, friendly and can help you feel fitter and healthier. Joining in a physical activity with a group of people in a similar age bracket can be a breath of fresh air, make you laugh and have a good time. It's a great way to get out more, meet new people and feel better. Walking Football Scotland is a charity set up to improve, maintain and promote the physical, mental, and social wellbeing of older adults. Sessions are held on Monday nights on the astroturf at Carrick Academy – 5.45pm for a 6pm kick off. Changing rooms and showers are available and hopefully soon we will also be able to have tea or coffee after our session. The game has basic rules - as played at Maybole - three touches, non-contact, no heading, and you must be 50 years old or over. Why not come along and watch and decide if it is for you? Make new friends and maybe renew some old acquaintances. Your first session is free, then £3.00 thereafter.

For more information about Carrick Walking Football please email Jim Paterson on jimjpaterson@aol.com or Chris Fleming fleming.c@hotmail.com



Local champions

Ayr United Walking Football Over 70s had a successful year in 2022 reaching the semi-finals of the Glasgow Trophy in April and then defeating Hearts in the final to win the Glasgow Cup in August. Two of the team are from North Carrick; player-manager Tom Dowman from Straiton, and Iain Calder from Maidens. In October, they completed their fixtures in the Walking Football Scotland Over 70s National League, ending with 36 points from their 16 matches to win the competition. To recognise their achievements Ayr United FC presented the team with a Community Award.

Ayr United's Walking Football provision is open to all men over 50 and women over 40, although there are also several other walking football groups in South Ayrshire, including Carrick Walking Football. Why not give it a try?



St Oswald's, Maybole Plans Year of Environmental Action

Don't be surprised when you see St Oswald's garden in bloom this year—we are working to encourage Scottish wildflowers and grasses to improve the biodiversity of the space around us. If you wish to try it yourself, we have plenty of wildflower seeds to share.



We are doing this as a member church of Eco-Congregation Scotland, as well as under the guidance of the Scottish Episcopal Church, which is engaged in a 10-year programme of encouraging positive environmental action.

And sowing seeds is only part of what we are doing. Thanks to a generous £1,000 post-covid recovery grant from NCCBC, over the past few months, we were able to improve our hall with energy-efficient lighting, new storage and more. Our goal is that it continues to serve the wider community of the town while also inspiring us to consider ways we can all engage in environmental justice.

Our efforts are organised by a small eco-group that plans regular monthly activities. You are invited to take part. We are meeting at St Oswald's church hall on Saturday 18th March, to make bug hotels or bird feeders, and have a blether about what our eco-group is planning. Our April activity will involve a potato-growing competition, as well as flower and vegetable seeds and seedlings exchange. If you are curious to learn more, check the eco-notice boards at the back of the church (open daily, 9am-4pm) and in the hall, chat with members of the congregation, or email secretary@stoswaldsmaybole.org.uk

NORTH CARRICK COMMUNITY NEWSLETTERS ARE AVAILABLE IN:

- Crosshill:** Village Shop
- Kirkmichael:** Village Shop
- Straiton:** Village Shop
- Minishant:** Minishant Stores
- Maidens:** Little K's Kitchen and Ropes Bistro
- Maybole:** The Carrick Centre, Library, Co-op, Spar
- Kirkoswald:** Souters, Saks & Hart, Kirklands Garden Centre
- Turnberry:** Balkenna Tearoom and Dowhill Farm Shop
- Dunure/Fisherton:** Coffee Shop and Aruna Arts & Gifts

Bogus Callers, Rogue Traders and Scams – Be Safe



You have probably heard or read about people being targeted by cold callers on their doorstep, over the phone or by mail, maybe it's already happened to you!

Most people who call will be genuine but some could try to trick you into parting with money.

What are the dangers?

Cold callers might want access to your financial information to con you out of money.

Some may try to trick their way into your home claiming to be from the Council, Police or a utility company and then try to steal your valuables.

They might try to convince you that repair and maintenance work needs carried out to your home. This could result in sub-standard work at an inflated cost or work that's not needed at all.

Be Safe

- 1 Know who you're dealing with - if in doubt seek advice before dealing with cold callers.
- 2 Never make a decision on your doorstep no matter how good the deal sounds – reputable traders should allow you time to think.
- 3 Don't be afraid to say 'NO'.
- 4 If you feel threatened contact the Police.

Need a Trusted Trader?

South Ayrshire Council runs a Trusted Trader scheme to help give you peace of mind.

It's a directory of local businesses that have been vetted by Trading Standards who have made a commitment to treat their customers fairly.

If you're looking for a trader you can have confidence in, or if you're a trader looking to join the Trusted Trader Scheme please contact us.

south-ayrshire.gov.uk/trusted-trader
trusted.trader@south-ayrshire.gov.uk
 0300 123 0900



Competitive Sport Events

Pupils from Kirkmichael and Straiton have been enjoying taking part in the competitive sport events organised by Active Schools. They have represented the schools at a netball festival, a boys' football festival and sports hall athletics. Finally, girls from Kirkmichael, Straiton and Maidens joined forces and formed a team to play at the girls' football festival at Carrick Academy. Our pupils have been demonstrating great leadership skills and have shown initiative in planning and running sessions in preparation for the events. Murray, one of our Primary 7s at Kirkmichael, plans weekly football sessions and delivers training on a Thursday after school and Grace, also in Primary 7, plans and delivers weekly netball sessions at break time.




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Maybole P7 Drama Project 2022

Maybole Regeneration Project commissioned and funded a multi-partner pantomime in which P7 pupils from all three Maybole Primary Schools participated. They set the brief for partners at South Ayrshire Council's Thriving Communities team, The Carrick Centre, Drama Llama Theatre Company and our local young people to design a pantomime which was based on the heritage of Maybole. MP Installations, one of the contractors working on the Regeneration, also provided funding for recording and audio-visual support.



The project brought together the three Maybole Primary 7 classes and 53 young people were involved in a 10-week drama project. The theme of the performance was Maybole – Past, Present and Future, with a Christmas theme also running through it.

Young people worked together each week learning lines, songs, and dance routines. This culminated in three performances for other pupils from their schools and for family members and carers. All young people are being put forward for a Dynamic Youth Award to accredit all the hard work they put into the project.

Comments from Young People

"I have made new friends."

"It helped me because I was not confident before."
 "It has boosted my confidence."
 "I'm amazed I got up on that stage, it was scary at first."



Teacher comment:

"Post Covid, it was a great experience for the children to be able to be out of school and in a different environment and working together with all the other Primary 7s. It allowed them to mix with their peers in this transition year."



Youth Work Staff commented:

"The project allowed for the young people to increase their confidence and see their own journey of Personal Development. It has been rewarding for staff to see the young people change and improve their confidence and self-esteem over the ten weeks."



Kirkmichael Women's Group

In January, we held our annual quiz. Our quiz master was Mr Wallace Milligan assisted by Mrs Ruth Milligan. The event was well attended and supported by the community who raised almost £600 for the chosen charity - The Riverside Project. An excellent fun evening was had by all. Congratulations to the winners, losers and all who contributed in any way.

In February, representatives from The Riverside Project spoke about their work and were presented with the cheque for £600. Thank you to the speakers who were excellent at telling their story and explaining the work of the group.



Upcoming Events

March Meeting – Our speaker is Sooh Horton who will be speaking about genealogy.

April – The group are heading out to visit MYB Textiles, the lace-making factory at Newmilns.

May – First Aid – followed by AGM.

Noreen Lyon



Cairn Primary School

Football Our football team has been very busy over the last few months, playing matches against other schools from across the authority. They have demonstrated amazing team work and sportsmanship and they are looking forward to playing more matches in the coming weeks.



Sports Hall Athletics At the beginning of February some of our Primary 6 and 7 pupils participated in the Carrick Cluster Sports Hall Athletics Competition. The event included indoor track and field events and was a wonderful opportunity to introduce athletics to our young people and make it accessible for all.



Before the event, all our Primary 6s and 7s had coaching from Active Schools.

Gymnastics We recently competed in South Ayrshire Schools' gymnastics competition. Pupils got to take part in activities and use the bars and beam at Dundonald Gymnastics Club. Both our teams performed their routines extremely well and had a great time. Our level two team even managed to win a bronze medal. Well done to all.



Scots Assembly On Thursday 9th February, we were delighted to have our parents and families join us for a whole school 'Scots Assembly'. They were welcomed by one of our parents, who is a talented piper, and were then entertained with Scots songs and the winners of our Burns poetry competition. Our assembly ended with a communal rendition of Auld Lang Syne.

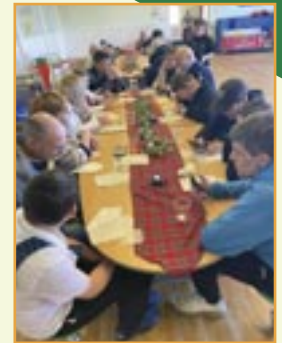
Young Carers A few weeks ago, several of our pupils were involved in developing a resource to raise awareness about Young Carers. This will be a video released by South Ayrshire Young Carers to raise awareness of the role of carers. Some Cairn pupils provided the voiceover and had great fun recording their parts. We are looking forward to seeing the finished clip.

Burns Supper

We were delighted to be able to reinstate our annual Primary 7 Burns Supper this year.



Primary 7 invited their parents to join them for an afternoon of traditional food and entertainment and they were piped to the hall by Liam Roger - one of our parents. All our Primary 7 pupils contributed to the event by chairing, reciting or serving the lunch. A good time was had by all.



Mental Health Week

All of our classes took part in Children's Mental Health Week at the beginning of February. The activities were organised by our



Mental Health Committee who visited each class to talk about this year's theme which was 'Let's Connect'. Each child in the school was encouraged to connect with different children and everyone completed a jigsaw puzzle piece for our whole school display.



Culzean Primary Uniform Competition

The pupils in both Cairn and Gardenrose Primaries have been thinking about what the uniform for our new school will look like. All children and their families took part in a competition to design a badge, tie and jumper. After this, the pupils all had the chance to vote for their favourite designs and they look forward to being able to share the final result with the wider community in the coming weeks.



Open Day Along with the other schools in Maybole, we will be having an Open Day on Saturday 25th March between 10am and 2pm. It would be great if old pupils, staff and friends of the school were able to join us for a final look around the school before we close at the end of the session.

We are also looking for any old photos or memorabilia of Cairn Primary as we would love to include them in displays for the Open Day. If you have anything you would like to share please contact the school on 01655 885802 or pop in to the office.

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PRICED EXAMPLE £2,740
PREMIUM • 5.1M • BLACK

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Minishant Primary

Class 1 celebrated Shrove Tuesday on the 21st February by making their own delicious pancakes. They worked together to measure the ingredients, mix the batter and carefully flip the pancakes. Once the pancakes were ready, they each picked their own toppings. Everyone said their pancakes were amazing and thoroughly enjoyed them.



We all had great fun making the pancakes and learning about Shrove Tuesday.



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www.sarahsbeautybox.uk

You can always contact me on:

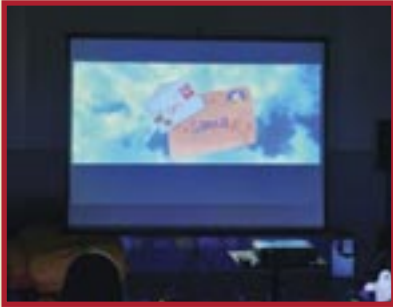
Sarah Tweedie
07429 179179

sarahsbeautybox@gmail.com
Find me on Facebook - Sarah's Beauty box

Thank You

1st Crosshill Guides and Rangers – News and Sensory Team Visit

1st Crosshill Guides have been busy. In November, some of our Guides were a great help at Santa's Grotto during the "Little Stars Light Up Ayr" event.



Carrick District Leaders had a tombola stall at "Carrick Loves Christmas" at Greenside, Maybole. Crosshill Rangers attended and assisted with the crafts. The girls enjoyed a special showing

of "Matilda" at the Odeon in December. Rainbows, Brownies, Guides, Rangers and Leaders descended on the cinema for a special 'Girlguiding only' viewing and, of course, we had a special commemorative badge.

1st Crosshill Rangers had a day out in Edinburgh, visiting the Edinburgh Dungeon, Edinburgh Castle, a break for lunch and back to Glasgow for a spot of Christmas shopping at the St Enoch Centre Christmas Market.

A few Guides took time to decorate one of the window sills at Crosshill Church for Christmas. Our traditional Christmas film night at the hall was great fun. This year's film was 'Get Santa' which we watched on the 'big screen' with our 'pick'n'mix' before receiving our Christmas gifts.

Our new term is well under way and we are happy to welcome some new Guides and Rangers to the group. We are working on the Guide programme to achieve theme awards and interest badges. World Thinking Day was 22nd February, this year's theme is 'Our World, Our Peaceful Future' and Girlguiding Ayrshire South held a special event at the Walker Hall in Troon. Carrick District Brownies, Guides and Rangers had a great day with over 300 girls from across Ayrshire South County.

SENSORY TEAM VISIT

1st Crosshill had a visit from the lovely Karen and Elaine from the South Ayrshire Sensory Impairment Team - the girls learned lots about things that can be done to help people with sight or hearing loss. The girls got to try different glasses which replicate different sight impairments and had to try to butter bread with a high and low contrast chopping board.

They got to try out liquid level indicators and learned about other devices and services available to support those with sensory loss. They also learned how to be a responsible sighted Guide and found out about support that is available in our area for anyone with vision or hearing loss. Thank you to Karen and Elaine for piloting this brilliant session with us.

The Sensory Team supports anyone who is deaf or affected by hearing and/or sight loss throughout South Ayrshire.

Team members can provide information and advice in relation to hearing and/or sight loss; why not contact them as follows:

Maybole Library Drop-In

second Monday of the month 1.30-2.30pm

Email: Sensory@south-ayrshire.gov.uk

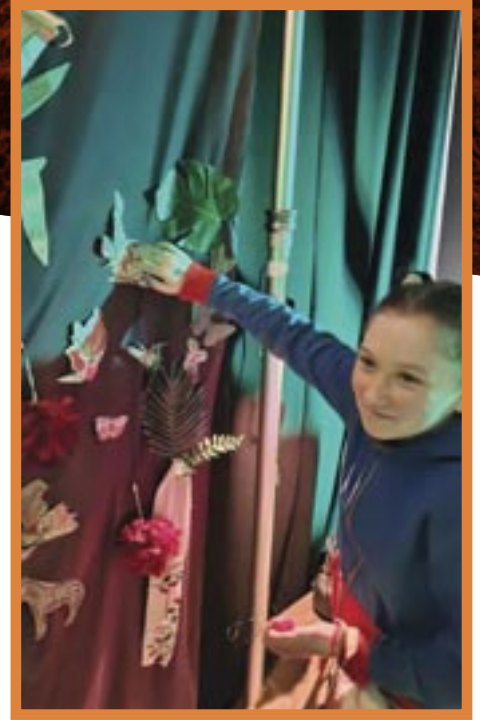
Text: 07977 540721

Telephone: 01292 616637

Monday - Thursday -

8.45am - 4.45pm

Friday - 8.45am - 4pm.



Acting up at the Academy

Carrick Academy's Drama club meets weekly. We started with mime, communicating without words. We acted out our journey to school and had to retell each other's story from what we saw. We then moved onto mimicking each other's actions, taking it in turns to copy each other. That was great fun once we lost our nerves.



Our first scripted piece was about the Romans who were Caesar's party. We enjoyed using a script as it gave us more guidance on how we should behave as well as the words to say.

In the lead up to Christmas we acted out the pantomime of Aladdin. Each week we worked on different scenes and switched our parts around to develop our skills. We enjoy Drama club because we use our bodies as well as our voices and we work in a team to create entertainment. **Drama Club** takes place on a Tuesday lunchtime and it energises us for our afternoon lessons.

By Carrick Academy Drama Club

Superpower Poem

I can read minds and thoughts
 I can scoop in personal treasures
 Ideas supposed to have been kept secret,
 Under lock and key!
 Memories play in my mind, images of others flow
 to my mind's eye.
 I don't have to worry about what people think of
 me I already know!

I can read minds and thoughts
 I can find malicious intent
 Stop **ANYTHING** before an idea is put into practice.
 I can steal ideas and claim **COINCIDENCE!**
 Steal answers in tests, copy works of art.
 The list goes on.

I can read minds and thoughts
 I can't switch it off!
 I can **NEVER** be at peace in my own head.
 Isolation in mentality is impossible
 Never just thoughts of my own!
 If people dislike me, I hear it
 If I've done bad, I hear the insults coming my way.

I can read minds and thoughts.

- By Amara, S1



Whole Person Health Clinic *with Dr Victoria Scobie*

TUESDAYS at Ayrshire Healing Centre, Maybole

Are you feeling frustrated or stuck with
 long term health issues, anxiety or depression?

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 root causes of symptoms?

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Maybole Arms Christmas dinner

How well do you know the Carrick Centre?



Sounds like one of those questions you get on Facebook, doesn't it?

I am sure that most of you will know where we are and have a rough idea of what we do; but let me ask you to take a fresh look at us.

The Carrick Centre is a purpose-built community centre opened in January 2012 as a focal point for community regeneration.

As a social enterprise and a charity, we re-invest our income in sustaining and developing the centre as a community asset. Our purpose is to improve community life and leisure in North Carrick by providing facilities, services and a programme of activities to meet the needs of local people, neighbouring communities and visitors to our beautiful community.

On any given day folks come in to keep fit; maybe at the 'Supple and Sleek' class or yoga classes. There are quilters, crafters, and beekeepers coming together to support each other and just have a blether. We also offer conference facilities, and you might see your child's teacher in here learning about the newest thing in the classroom. Maybe you signed

up for the 'Food Pantry' where you can get £20 worth of groceries for £2.50 - not many bargains like that around anymore.

Of course, my favourite place is the café - still the best bargain in town whether you are looking for a frothy coffee and a scone or a full breakfast - with beans - we have a tasty treat to satisfy.

The Carrick Centre, as I said earlier, is a charity, we cannot function without your support. We are here for the community, but we need you to keep the doors open, the heat on and the tea in the pot. If you are a regular visitor, please bring a new friend with you; if you have never been, or it's been a while, pop in and see us.

There is always a warm welcome for you here.




WHAT'S ON

MONDAY	WEDNESDAY
Yoga - 9.30am - 11.00am Food Bank - 10.00am - 12noon Eat & Heat - 4.00pm - 6.00pm Drama Clubs 3.45pm - 6.45pm Men's Cafe - 4.00pm - 6.00pm Pilates - 6.30pm - 7.30pm Harmonize Yoga - 7.45pm - 8.45pm	Breakfast Network - 12.45pm - 12noon (1st & 3rd Wednesday of the Month) Eat & Heat - 4.00pm - 6.00pm UK Taskforce - 7.00pm - 8.00pm
TUESDAY	THURSDAY
Food Pantry - 10.00am - 12.30pm Carrick Tots - 10.00am - 11.30am Invergs - 1.00pm - 3.00pm Brenda's Supple and Sleek - 3.30pm - 4.30pm Youth Club P4-P6 - 4.30pm - 6.00pm	Maybole Patchwork & Quilting - 10.00pm - 1.00pm (2nd and 4th Thursday of the Month) Food Pantry - 13noon - 4.00pm
FRIDAY	SATURDAY
Carrick Seniors - 2.30pm - 4.00pm (1st Sunday of the Month) Carrick Cinema Club (see website for more information)	Senior Citizens' Lunch Club - 12noon - 1.30pm (1st Friday of the Month)
SUNDAY	FRIDAY
Maybole Parish Church Service Every Sunday at 12.30pm Carrick Seniors - 2.30pm - 4.00pm (1st Sunday of the Month)	Food Bank - 10.00am - 12noon
Carrick Seniors - 2.30pm - 4.00pm (1st Sunday of the Month)	Senior Citizens' Lunch Club - 12noon - 1.30pm (1st Friday of the Month)

Carrick Centre, Colleen Road, Maybole, KA19 7DE, Telephone 01455 86322
www.carrickcentre.co.uk

CHRISTMAS 2022 AT THE CARRICK CENTRE

Our Christmas Fayre, Breakfast with Santa, Sensory Santa and the team that organise the Carrick Seniors Lunch were just a few of the events which returned to the centre, now we are in full swing. It was a joy to see the participation, smiles and engagement of everyone involved. The team members - both new and old - excelled and pulled out all the stops to ensure a good time was had by all.





Carrick Café

Food from the Heart

CAFÉ HOURS		MONDAY TO FRIDAY	10AM - 2PM																				
Full Scottish Breakfast (10.00 am - 12 Noon)		<table border="0"> <tr><td>Salses</td><td></td></tr> <tr><td>Cheese (v)</td><td>£4.70</td></tr> <tr><td>Chicken or Ham</td><td>£4.90</td></tr> <tr><td>Tuna</td><td>£4.90</td></tr> </table>		Salses		Cheese (v)	£4.70	Chicken or Ham	£4.90	Tuna	£4.90												
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Cheese (v)	£4.70																						
Chicken or Ham	£4.90																						
Tuna	£4.90																						
Includes sliced sausage, bacon, black pudding, potato scone, fried egg and baked beans served with a pot of tea or a mug of filter coffee and toast		£6.30																					
Hot Rolls choose either		<table border="0"> <tr><td>Home Baking</td><td></td></tr> <tr><td>Scone, Butter & Jam</td><td>£1.50</td></tr> <tr><td>Biscuits</td><td>£1.40</td></tr> <tr><td>Traybakes</td><td>£1.70</td></tr> <tr><td>Cake</td><td>£2.40</td></tr> </table>		Home Baking		Scone, Butter & Jam	£1.50	Biscuits	£1.40	Traybakes	£1.70	Cake	£2.40										
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Biscuits	£1.40																						
Traybakes	£1.70																						
Cake	£2.40																						
Egg, Bacon, Sliced Sausage, Black Pudding, Potato Scone		£2.50																					
EXTRA FILLING		£0.80																					
Breakfast roll with filter coffee or tea		£2.90																					
Soup of the day		£2.70																					
served with crusty bread																							
Baked Potatoes		<table border="0"> <tr><td>Hot Drinks</td><td></td></tr> <tr><td>Tea</td><td>£1.60</td></tr> <tr><td>Speciality Teas</td><td>£2.00</td></tr> <tr><td>Fairtrade Filter Coffee</td><td>£2.00</td></tr> <tr><td>Espresso (one shot)</td><td>£2.10</td></tr> <tr><td>Cappuccino</td><td>£2.90</td></tr> <tr><td>Americano</td><td>£2.40</td></tr> <tr><td>Latte</td><td>£2.60</td></tr> <tr><td>Hot Chocolate</td><td>£2.60</td></tr> <tr><td>Supreme Hot Chocolate</td><td>£2.90</td></tr> </table>		Hot Drinks		Tea	£1.60	Speciality Teas	£2.00	Fairtrade Filter Coffee	£2.00	Espresso (one shot)	£2.10	Cappuccino	£2.90	Americano	£2.40	Latte	£2.60	Hot Chocolate	£2.60	Supreme Hot Chocolate	£2.90
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Latte	£2.60																						
Hot Chocolate	£2.60																						
Supreme Hot Chocolate	£2.90																						
Served with a garnish of side salad and coleslaw																							
Either Cheese (v), Beans (v),		£4.80																					
Chicken, Chili or Macaroni, Tuna		£5.20																					
EXTRA FILLING		£0.80																					
Mains		<table border="0"> <tr><td>Cold Drinks</td><td></td></tr> <tr><td>Squash</td><td>£0.50</td></tr> <tr><td>Fruit Shoots</td><td>£1.20</td></tr> <tr><td>Cans</td><td>£1.40</td></tr> <tr><td>Sugar Free Cans</td><td>£1.20</td></tr> <tr><td>Mineral Water</td><td>£1.20</td></tr> </table>		Cold Drinks		Squash	£0.50	Fruit Shoots	£1.20	Cans	£1.40	Sugar Free Cans	£1.20	Mineral Water	£1.20								
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Mineral Water	£1.20																						
Burgers		£4.00																					
With Cheese		£4.20																					
Hot Dogs		£2.75																					
Macaroni Cheese		£5.40																					
Fries		£1.50																					
Crisps		£0.80																					
Wide variety of Sandwiches and Toasties		<p>PRIVATE CATERING FOR CONFERENCING, FUNERAL TEAS AND SPECIAL EVENTS</p>  <p>SCAN QR CODE FOR MORE INFORMATION AND FOLLOW US ON SOCIAL MEDIA</p> <p>Carrick Centre Outman Road Maybole KA19 7DE Telephone 01655 883222 www.carrickcentre.co.uk</p>  																					
Served with a garnish of side salad and coleslaw																							
From £3.90																							

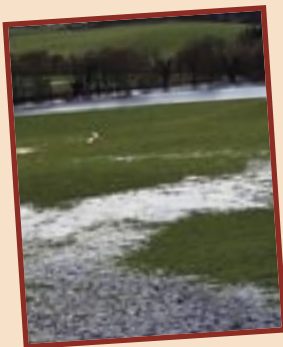
Straiton News

Spring is in the air: the snowdrops are in full bloom; the crocuses are beginning to add a touch of colour; the wee birds are singing away and the days are getting longer.



Weather-wise we have had a real mixed bag over the past three months with November giving, not heavy, but constant rain. Only three dry days were recorded, but that was to change in December. For the first half of the month we enjoyed clear, frosty, sunny days but then the rain returned and, on the 30th there fell 40.5mm resulting in the River Girvan overflowing into the fields, reminiscent of the Boxing Day floods of 2016.

January had just above average rainfall but then there was hail, sleet, snow, thunder and lightning along with some sunny days too.



The McCandlish Hall has been a busy place with badminton, lego and carpet bowls being a regular feature. Cosy Corners which started in November and is on every Monday afternoon has proved a popular place to be for a cup of tea, cake and a blether. There are games too, such as cards and scrabble for those who wish to learn or those who want to hone their skills. In December there was a class in wreath making and this was very much appreciated, with members being taught how to assemble a wreath and then having the finished product to take away.



The hall committee hosted the Christmas Lunch with, as always, the famous Straiton raffle. The lunch was a sell out and participants thoroughly enjoyed the home made soups and sandwiches, followed by shortbread and mince pies – a real feast for a very modest cost. This was followed by a Hoolie in the Hall on Hogmanay, giving members of the community an opportunity to come together to celebrate the beginning of another year. In January there was a quiz night and in February there was a whist night. Both of these events were really well attended by members of the community as well as by friends from further afield. In February, too, the Ayr, Renfrew and Bute district blackface sheep breeders held their annual bowling tournament in the hall and Straiton father and son duo, Drew and Andrew McMillan scooped the trophy.

The School Show made a most welcome return in December when pupils took us on a world-wide tour looking for the real St Nicholas. The audience was amazed at the wealth of talent shown by the youngsters and the evening was rounded off by, of course, a raffle, followed by tea and delicious cakes. It was a busy week for the staff and pupils as they went on to host an afternoon of carol singing with tea and cake to finish. Again this was a welcome return to normality and the bond between the school and the community.

During December Santa made a visit to the village and the children had a fine time afterwards with games and hot chocolate in the hall.



At the Christmas Family Service children and older members of the congregation donated toys and games. Our minister later took them to Whiteley's Retreat where they were most warmly received. Rev. Jones continues to post a short service on the church website on Sunday mornings and the latest one was for Ash Wednesday.

At the end of the year, we were saddened to hear of the death of Harry Gamper who had lived in Straiton for some years before going to reside at Malin Court. Harry was an accomplished artist and produced lovely cards of Straiton views. At 102 he was the oldest member of our congregation. Our sympathies go to his family. A memorial service will be held in the church in April.

The Guild held its AGM in December when office bearers and the committee agreed to stay on for another year. After the business was concluded, members enjoyed afternoon tea provided by Mary's Marvellous Munchables, always a real treat.



In January, members were taken on a flying visit to Westray, one of the Orkney Islands and we were given an informative and amusing insight into island life there. Then in February we were whisked off to the USA and a lesson in how the ministry has changed over the past three, almost four, decades.



Early Years Centre In Health and Well-being, we have been learning about personal hygiene. As a result, the children have a much better understanding of dental hygiene, toileting routines and how to keep their hands clean and germ free.

We made our own germ monsters and the children enjoyed exploring in the water tray where they found ice gloves covered with germs. The challenge was to wash away all the germs from the surface of the gloves.



In Numeracy and Mathematics, we have been learning how to recognise numerals 0-10, touch and count items, use fingers and objects to make given quantities and recognise 'how many', without having to count. We received some new real tools from our Parent Council and the children are having fun learning to safely use the tools as well as their purpose. With a little help from an adult, they used the tools to build a tent.

Primary 1/2/3 News So far this session, the children have experienced many outdoor activities including learning about outdoor habitats, how to make dams, and they have even created hedgehog models. Scots poetry competition finalists from the P1/2/3 class. Well done, Jacob, Rae, Emily and Lottie S.

Primary 6/7 News Pupils worked hard on their Burns/Scots poems ('Scots Wha Hae' and 'A dug, a dug') and all performed them to the class. Three finalists were chosen for each poem to go through to the final which was judged by two members of Carrick Burns Club. The judges were very complimentary about all the performances and said it was extremely tough to choose the winners as the scoring was so tight. Pictured below are the finalists for each poem.



Primary 3/4/5 News We are continuing to work hard at promoting a 'Reading for Pleasure' culture in our school. We now have three Word Millionaires in our class: Elsa, Jennifer and Hayley (pictured right) and six other pupils in excess of half a million! Many of us are now getting an opportunity to recommend books and read books aloud for the school at assembly, which we are really enjoying. Graphic novels are



currently being devoured by our class with some of the most popular being Dog Man, Bunny vs Monkey, Bad Guys and the Smile/Sisters/Guts series, which we would really recommend. We are making big plans to raise money on World Book Day to allow us to buy more of these, as well as many other favourites on the list.

Primary 3/4/5 have been enjoying their new topic on Scottish Wildlife and have begun researching facts to learn all about the habitats, diets, and behaviours of some of the most well-known species in our country such as red squirrels, otters, and basking sharks. The pupils have created and illustrated their own acrostic poems on an animal of their choice and have been keen to present these to their classmates. They also wrote letters of persuasion to aid conservation efforts. We have looked at the dolphins and whales found in our waters and examined maps to discuss where they are most likely to be spotted in Scotland. As part of 'World Whale Day', we held a debate on whether whales should continue to be kept in marine parks or if a move to sanctuaries was a kinder alternative. The class joined others around the world to share posters and messages linked to this thought. We will continue to look at various other species (such as bees and golden eagles) and to investigate the vital roles they play in shaping our environment, before exploring the ways we can all help to protect nature.



Finally, we recently took part in a BBC workshop focusing on special places in



our local area. We all chose a special place, explained our reasons and then got the opportunity to star in our very own chat shows. We had a fabulous time and really enjoyed using all the specialist equipment. Some of us have been chosen to take part in a further session in March and we are extremely excited to be involved.



MAYBOLE REGENERATION PROJECT NEWS

Small Grants and Shop Front Scheme Update

The Maybole Regeneration Team are delighted that we received tenders from several contractors for four projects which are currently being assessed. With a lead time of around four to six weeks for these projects, we are looking forward to work commencing this Spring. There are an additional two schemes currently being prepared for tendering with the hope that they will start in April. Other projects are currently being assessed and we are confident that more grants will be approved in the coming months. We expect some of the 'Ambition Grant' shop front work to start shortly and the high street will soon be buzzing with activity!

Maybole Town Hall

While the conservation and repair scheme at the town hall is progressing, issues in the construction sector have resulted in the finishing date moving



from February 2023 to April 2023. There are major works occurring at the higher levels with significant new roofing works, leadworks, and new stonework to replace the ageing and failing parts. The front and sides of the building are exposed to the most weathering and this is where much of the work and investment is targeted; to protect the building for current and future generations of Minnibolers and visitors to the town. While you will not be able to see



most of the work being done on the upper part of the building, the pictures do tell some of the story. A fascinating carving of the town hall can be found near a stone parapet – you may see this when the scaffolding comes down. It demonstrates the skills and expertise of those stonemasons who originally

built Maybole Town Hall. Our current stonemasons are equal experts and, again when the scaffolding is removed, you may notice the new stone indenting and new lime mortar. An open day is planned for the community on completion, so that you may see your newly renovated and protected grand Victorian Town Hall. We are grateful for the additional support provided by the Scottish Government through their Regeneration Capital Grants Scheme and further assistance from Historic Environment Scotland and The Heritage Lottery. Without this additional support and the continued work of our Lead Consultants, Peter Drummond Associates, the scheme would not have proceeded.

Maybole Castle Construction Contract Signed

Despite significantly rising construction costs placing this scheme in jeopardy, the partners, The Maybole Regeneration Project, South Ayrshire Council, The Cassillis Estate, The Scottish Government, Heritage Lottery and Historic Environment Scotland working closely with the design team led by Collective Architecture have secured a conservation and regeneration scheme for the 15th century Maybole Castle. With contracts now signed, work will begin over the next two months and last up to an expected 14 months. This is a major scheme which will protect and preserve the building for future generations. The castle and the grounds will be brought back into use as a centre to help generate new jobs in Maybole and as a new attraction helping draw in new visitors to visit and enjoy this historic building.

Maybole Active Travel and Public Realm (High Street) Phase I Scheme

The Regeneration Team have been working with partners to enhance the scheme for all users. Working with our major funders, Sustrans, South Ayrshire Council and Ayrshire Roads Alliance, we are re-examining some parts of the scheme to bring improvements and to offer the town the best scheme possible, given the changing nature of the traffic in the town with the bypass opening and the new community campus and the Co-op relocating. This will result in a delay in implementation. We now expect to submit the full scheme for funding approval to Sustrans in early summer 2023 subject to other consents. With all partners fully committed to the scheme, the plan sees the works completed towards the end of 2023. For updates and the latest news please follow us on social media, details at the bottom of the page opposite.



Maybole Active Travel Phase II Scheme

We are delighted to advise that Sustrans have approved development phase funding for a second Active Travel Scheme in Maybole. Building on the Town Centre Active Travel scheme, the aim of this second phase is to connect more places within Maybole with new and enhanced safe, accessible routes for everyone.

Provisional concept plans see a safe active travel route connecting the new community campus with the high street and train station, and provisional plans to connect a second route from the town centre to the proposed new skate park and up to the new campus. We are seeking your ideas on how we might better connect the town with its key 'trip generators'. More information will be forthcoming and consultations will be held soon. The proposed Maybole Active Travel Strategy, outlining what could be possible in Maybole, is on our website or you can contact us for a digital copy. To find out more please get in touch with the Regeneration Team and follow us on social media - www.facebook.com/MayboleRegen

Activities and Training Project

The project continues to gather momentum with an exciting time ahead as several new and vibrant multigenerational projects begin - all of which are linked by themes of local heritage, built environment and citizenship. We also had a busy lead up to Christmas,

with activities including our 'Youth Drama and Media Panto', 'MRP Christmas Scavenger Hunt', multi-generational AiR Christmas crafts in

Fairknowe House Care Home, 'Christmas Card Street Scape Competition', and work with Carrick Academy in making Traditional Christmas Crafts.



We Had a Panto - Oh yes, we did!

Maybole Regeneration Project commissioned and funded a multi-partner pantomime in which P7 pupils from all three Maybole Primary Schools participated. Pupils worked with a drama tutor over the course of



ten weeks to perform 'Making A Maybole Christmas' which was loosely based on Dickens' 'A Christmas Carol'. The panto was a big hit with the pupils and the huge audiences that attended The Carrick Centre for the three performances. Each young person

earned a Dynamic Youth Award. Thank you to our colleagues at CLD, Thriving Communities.

New Projects

Over the past few weeks, commissioned by Maybole Regeneration Project, Icecream Architecture have undertaken a series of workshops with local primary schools which were a huge hit. The kids had a blast sharing their creative ideas for improving the community. They came up with fantastic suggestions for new visions for the town; such as spaces for play and recreation, community gardens, and other amenities. They celebrated and explored their connections with local heritage within Maybole's High Street. Their enthusiasm and innovative ideas will definitely be a valuable contribution to the project. It was wonderful to see the kids so invested in creating a vision for their future. We can't wait to see what's in store for Maybole.

The four exciting projects have begun with a splash of colour.

Heritage Trail - Building on the existing Maybole trail; a QR Code at each site will link to a short film clip telling a story that ties in with Youth Drama Project. We also hope that our Artist in Residence will be able to create a piece of art to enjoy along the way.

Mapping and Recording Project - Looking at how the town has shaped and evolved, this will link into the heritage trail and will also be displayed in the 'Book of Memories'.



Book of Memories –

A lovely multigenerational project where younger people will be working with older generations to share memories and photographs of Maybole in years gone by.

School Shop Fronts Project - Working with all nine North Carrick Schools to look at the changing High Street and shop front designs, and bringing ideas to life on one of the shops on Maybole High Street.



Contact us via email:
mayboleregeneration@south-ayrshire.gov.uk

Maybole Community Council in partnership with South Ayrshire Council

Maybole Community Council (MCC) has been supporting an exciting outdoor initiative born from youth consultation over the past two years.

Local young people had an aspiration to redevelop the local skate park and MCC wanted the project to be driven by the aspirations of the young people. With the help of Yvonne Kiltie from Thriving Communities, a successful consultation with the current users of the skate park was conducted; giving us a strong idea of the requirements - ensuring the young people would get the new skate park that they wanted.

This all led to a project requiring somewhere between £100,000 and up to £350,000+ of funding to complete. The local elected members were supportive with a bid to a Scottish Government fund – the Place Based Investment Fund - which is administered by local councils.

Soon we were off to a flying start with £165,000 awarded. The community council then applied to North Carrick Community Benefit Company and were awarded a further £50,000 in match-funding. NCCBC's funding is made possible by Scottish Power Renewables. Now that a pot of £215,000 is secured; we are pleased to report that the concept picture attached will be delivered during this Summer. The old park served the community well, and this new one will take skateboarding and BMX biking to another level in Maybole with the hopes that the new site could also host exciting events and competitions.

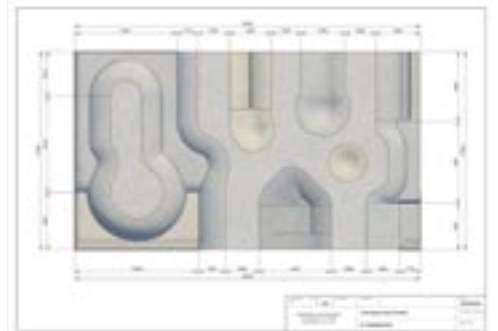
If we combine this with the previous success and delivery of Miller Park, Maybole has seen around £0.5 million invested in outdoor parks and leisure facilities for the youth of the area in the last few years. Well done to all the young people who engaged in the process, we look forward to working with you in the future to improve our area and build on this great project.

Town Hall

Maybole Community Council is also working with the Maybole Regeneration Team to raise enough funds to ensure that, on reopening, Maybole Town Hall has everything possible to make it user-friendly for all. This includes the purchase of new chairs as well as sound and audio-visual equipment in the main hall.



Photos above and opposite are of the skate park now, and the plans for the new development. The skatepark's name is 'The Boag'.



Stepping Stones Bereavement Support Group

every 2nd and 4th Wednesday
each month in Maidens Hall,
beside Little K's Kitchen.



Feel free to pop in for a chat and a cuppa. It's very informal and everyone is welcome.

For more information contact
Karen on 07798706476
or **Susan on 07511551314**

Gardenrose Primary School had a busy start to Term 3

Each class has been focusing on Scots Language and the life of Robert Burns. We enjoyed a Scots Celebration afternoon with our pupils and parents to showcase our poem winners as well as performing our songs.



P3 pupils from Gardenrose PS and Cairn PS held a ceilidh afternoon, filled with Scottish dancing and some shortbread as a Scottish treat.



P7 hosted their very own Burns Supper for parents. They entertained their audience with a variety of poetry and songs, including 'Address tae the Haggis'.



This term, we had a visit from History Alive for P4 and P6 pupils to link with their current topics. Our pupils enjoyed a day of learning as well as dressing up.



Our P6 and 7 pupils participated in the Sports Hall Athletics at Carrick Academy and won their cluster heat. They then went on to compete in the South Ayrshire heats at the Citadel. A great day, with great sportsmanship shown by all.

Our pupils enjoy visiting people within the community. We made Valentine's Day cards for the residents of Fairknowe. Gardenrose can definitely share the LOVE within the community.

Finally, Robyn White from Ayr and Prestwick Lions Club donated environmental Climate Change story books for the pupils at Gardenrose. These have been given to each class to enjoy as part of their story time.



Maybole Over 50's

Maybole Over 50's Wednesday Walkers Group celebrated the New Year at the River Ayr with ginger wine and shortbread on its first walk in 2023, a tradition the group has started since its onset almost seven years ago.

On Rabbie's birthday, 25th January, another toast is always made to the Bard on the Brig o' Doon at Alloway. John Harris recites a piece of poetry and this year we had 'Holy Willie's Prayer'.

There is also another walking group on a Wednesday morning which walks between two to three miles. They meet at the Greenside at 10am. Both groups are always happy to see new members. More information on all our activities and contact details can be found at www.mayboleover50s.org

For anyone who follows the group on Facebook, each week our posts get over 2,000 views, both at home and abroad. While the walk is important to the group, it brings our beautiful countryside closer to those who can no longer get out and about and brings home closer to those who live further away.

Every Tuesday there is a yoga class in St Oswald's Hall at 10am which is followed by chair yoga at 11.30am. This group is open to all ages and you do not need to be a member of Maybole Over 50's to attend. The weekly cost is £5. Yoga is good for everyone and members who have been attending the yoga and chair yoga have found that their flexibility is much better.

If this is something you would like to try please come along and join us.



Crosshill Primary School and EYC

The children and Early Years Practitioners at Crosshill Early Years have started to increase the use of technology and digital learning throughout their early years learning journey. The use of digital learning and technology within the EYC provides the children with new opportunities and sets them up with lifelong skills and knowledge they will need for their future.



The children have daily access to the iPads, the interactive white board and virtual reality headsets. We have introduced the children to QR (Quick Response) codes through a listening library display and, following the children's interest and love of this display, we decided to introduce a listening library at home, allowing the children to make choices about what they want to explore and learn on the iPads at home, too.



In addition to this, we have also incorporated some QR codes into our local community. If you are out and about in the village of Crosshill, you will see QR codes dotted around different areas in village for children and families to utilise and enjoy. The virtual reality headsets (hired from SAC Digital Learning Team) have allowed the children to immerse themselves in other worlds. We have recently visited some sea creatures on an underwater adventure and visited the three bears cottage.

'Thinglink' allows us to create unique interactive learning screens for children to explore within the EYC environment and at home. The children and EYPs collaborated to create a mascot to support us on our digital learning journey. This resulted in our

newest member of the team "Rusty the Crosshill Early Years Robot". Follow us on Twitter @crosshill_ps or search the hashtag #CrosshillEYC to see more of our digital learning journey and visit some of our "ThingLink" learning screens.



Class 2 have been developing their science and technology skills by exploring the earth's layers, examining natural rocks, and finding out why natural disasters occur.



Maybole Twinning

Maybole's French twin town of Crosne has had a long period of twinning with European cities. As well as Maybole, the town has twinned with Beloeil in Belgium, Schotten in Germany, Rymarov in the Czech Republic and Vila de Rei in Portugal. Maybole twinned with Beloeil in 1998 and Schotten in 2000. Both towns have also signed a friendship pact with Arco in Italy.

The people of Crosne hosted visitors from Maybole in their homes and in return the folk of Maybole welcomed the French visitors to their homes and many long-term friendships were made.

During the visits to Crosne which were usually at the Pentecost Carnival in Crosne, the weekend visits

included a candle-light procession, a day trip to Paris, a dinner dance and a parade through the town on Sunday culminating in a magnificent firework display.

In our last edition, we covered a party of Town Twinners, Maybole Pipe Band and local Councillors travelling to Crosne to celebrate the 40th anniversary of the twinning.

Sadly, after 40 years many people both here and in France have passed away and others have become unable to travel due to disabilities and age. The Association would like to encourage younger people to pick up the banner for twinning and re-unite with our European partners.

If you are interested, please contact Margaret Davidson on 07502405788 or email her at margaret4295@sky.com

Update from NCCBC

Foundations for Recovery – This £0.5m project was completed successfully, with costed proposals for 13 individual capital projects spread across North Carrick. These will create new and improved buildings, infrastructure and tourist attractions. With a total cost of around £15m, this regeneration programme can give North Carrick a better future. The main theme running throughout this work is Robert the Bruce and North Carrick's part in his story. He is a world-famous figure and 11th July 2024 is the 750th anniversary of his birth at Turnberry. This produces a massive opportunity to raise the profile of our area. We can put North Carrick on the radar of Scottish, UK, and international tourists.

Village-specific presentations on the opportunities created by FfR have been held in Straiton, Kirkoswald, Dunure and Maybole. Presentations will be arranged in other villages in the coming months. Maximum benefit from Foundations for Recovery will come when each of these communities commit to playing their parts and agree to work with the others.

NCCBC is grateful to South Ayrshire Council for its support in putting the Foundations for Recovery project forward for funding and to the UK Government's Community Renewal Fund for providing the funds. Their investment in our area can, and should, be transformative. But that first-phase investment must be followed up by further investments. The Community Renewal Fund was meant to get communities ready to apply for "levelling up" funds. North Carrick is ready. NCCBC and individual communities must be enabled to access UK Government, Scottish Government, National Lottery, and other funds. With proper support, the potential created by Foundations for Recovery can be delivered. NCCBC will work with local communities and businesses to make that happen.

Maybole High Street – NCCBC is supporting four projects to complement the work being done by the Maybole Regeneration Project. The first is to get the old Charity Shop opened with a new approach and purpose. The work to repair the shop and get it ready for reopening is finally getting up to speed. That should be completed by mid-May. NCCBC has a business plan for the shop and is now updating it. Local groups and communities are being asked for their ideas on how the shop can be used to get the maximum value for them.

Work is underway to conserve Maybole Castle and

make it ready for new uses. That work is expected to be completed in spring 2024. The plan for the Castle is that it must provide new facilities for community, business and visitor use. With that in mind, our second project involves NCCBC becoming the tenant in the Castle and offering spaces for new businesses and tourism initiatives. This idea has been explored further in the Foundations for Recovery project and readers can see the report at:

<https://nccbc.org.uk/maybole-castle-report/>.

NCCBC's third project for Maybole High Street is to support Maybole Community Council's plan to install a new Mercat Cross close to the site of the original one. This will go into the seating area which will be renovated and improved under the Regeneration Project. NCCBC helped to secure the funding from Scotland Loves Local Fund II, Maybole Community Council, May-Tag Ltd and Maybole Regeneration Project. The new Mercat Cross is a 3m tall triangular pillar capped by a 600mm tall Lion of Carrick statue. It is in construction now and will be installed as soon as the revamped seating area is ready.

The fourth project is at an early stage and more details will come in future editions of this Newsletter. If successful, it will create several new retail units and flats. NCCBC will manage the retail units and give them a theme. The plan is not to compete with existing businesses but to be a magnet drawing more people into the rejuvenated High Street.

Community-led Projects Funding (CPF) – all nine North Carrick communities were awarded a double round of this funding last year with March this year as the deadline for spending the money. That is £20,000 for Maybole and £10,000 for each of the villages. Maybole and several villages have either spent their funds or have plans to do so. Others are still working on plans and NCCBC is working with them to try to make sure that funds do not have to go back into its own accounts.

Stuart Lindsay, Development Manager,
stuart@nccbc.org.uk



Operation Christmas Goodie Bag Kirkoswald, Maidens and Turnberry

The bags included a Christmas card, shortbread, mince pies, party poppers, Christmas crackers, LED battery operated light switches with batteries, disposable hand warmers and a selection box.

KMT Volunteers were overwhelmed to receive a large number of emails, letters and social media posts from the local community following the bag drop. Several saying how great the LED light switches were, in light of the current climate with fuel bills increasing and the possibility of power cuts. Others just grateful to see someone at their door for a wee chat, at what can be a particularly difficult time of year for many.

Once again, thanks to everyone who helped make Operation Christmas Goodie Bag bigger and better than ever, allowing the volunteers to support even more people in the community.

Pupils from Maidens Primary School took part in a competition to design a Christmas Card and the winning three cards were reproduced and delivered along with the goodie bags. The volunteers were pleased to be able to provide every pupil with an Advent calendar for taking part.

Many individuals, groups, businesses, and organisations supported this year's project. KMT Volunteers were astounded by the generosity from each and every one. Some asked to remain anonymous but please, offer your support where you can to the following, without whom this project would not have reached so many households.

- Booker Wholesale
- Caldwell Wright Ironmongery
- Carrick Round Table
- Cassillis & Culzean Estates
- Compassion in the Community Fund
- Home Bargains Ayr
- John Marshall & Sons
- Kirkoswald Lunch Club
- KMT Development Fund
- Land Energy Girvan
- McMaster Trust
- Merkland Farm Feeds Kirkoswald
- North Carrick Community Benefit Company
- Redgates Holiday Park
- William Grant & Sons



Santa's elves were extremely busy in December, sourcing a range of helpful and surprising goodies to be delivered around the communities of Kirkoswald, Maidens and Turnberry for Christmas.



Special thanks must go to Chris and the team from Home Bargains, Ayr and Robbie from Caldwell Wright Ironmongers, who went out of their way to

source well-priced items and store such a large quantity of goods until they were required. Also, to the Marshall family (John Marshall & Sons) from Maidens who supplied hundreds of selection boxes for the goodie bags and helped out on bag packing day.

Huge thanks also to all the volunteers (over 30 people this year) who gave of their time freely to support this year's project - you know who you are.

KMT Volunteers work quietly throughout the year, raising funds to support people living in and around the communities of Kirkoswald, Maidens and Turnberry.

For more information, including how to volunteer and how to offer support, please contact KMTvolunteers@gmail.com.



Home Bargains Team

St Cuthbert's PS

The pupils and staff of St Cuthbert's Primary School have been very busy over the last couple of months.

In October, we took over the Maybole Charity Shop and were overwhelmed by the support and generosity of the local community - thank you.

Christmas 2022 was, as usual, full of lots of fun. We were delighted to be able to entertain the local community at a variety of events, including the fabulous Community event - Carrick Loves Christmas. We also sang to visitors at our Christmas Tea Fundraiser and performed for the residents at Crosne Street and Fairknowe. A special VIP, Santa, visited us at our School Christmas Party, which was a lovely surprise.

Congratulations to our children that have made their Sacrament of Reconciliation and best wishes to those going forward to make their Sacraments of Confirmation and The Holy Eucharist.

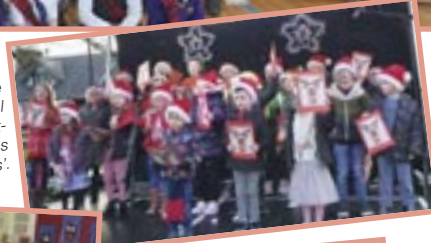
Thanks to Mr Kelly and Fr Benjamin for helping to judge the Burns Poetry Recital Competition. A huge well done to all those that participated and congratulations to our winners. Everyone that attended got to have a taste of haggis and Irn Bru, some for the first time.

P1/2/3 had a wonderful Shrove Tuesday - Pancake Day. They not only enjoyed making the pancakes but loved getting to eat them.



Well done to all that participated in our Annual Burns Competition.

We were delighted to attend the wonderful community event - 'Carrick Loves Christmas'.



Thanks to all those that attended our Christmas Tea Fundraiser event.



Entertaining the residents at Crosne Street - Thanks for our selection boxes.

Congratulations to our P3 pupils, who made their Sacrament of Reconciliation.



P1/2/3 making and eating their pancakes on Shrove Tuesday.



We had a great Christmas Party and enjoyed a visit from a VIP - SANTA.

Kirkoswald Parish Church What's On Spring 2023

Sunday 26th March - Stated Annual Meeting after the service.

Sunday 30th April - Communion Service
Teas in the hall after the service on the first Sunday.

Lunch Club on first Wednesday from noon in Kirkoswald Hall.

Guild Daffodil Tea on Wednesday 12th April at 7.30pm in Kirkoswald Hall, entertainment by Maybole Concert Party, Ticket £5, proceeds to Guild Projects.

Coronation Afternoon Tea - To celebrate the King's Coronation we are having an afternoon tea on the afternoon of Sunday 7th May from 12.30 to 2.30pm in Kirkoswald Church Hall. There will be tours of the church and old graveyard too.



There is no charge, but any donations will be given to charity. All welcome.

Crossraguel Choir Concert -
Wednesday 31st May at 7.30pm
in Kirkoswald hall. Donations on the night to charity.

Sunday services at 11.15am.

Kirkoswald Parish Church Session Clerk - Elizabeth Veitch



Maidens Christmas Lights Switch On



Maidens Community Association and Maidens Wild Adventurers organised a wonderful event in the church hall on Sunday 11th December. There were arts and crafts, face painting, a Santa's story corner, Christmas Carol sing-along and a raffle. Santa even came and switched on the lights for us and toured round the village on his sleigh. It was a wonderful community event for all ages.

Big thanks go to Carrick Round Table, Cassillis Estates and Culzean for the Christmas tree, and to our lovely Maidens Primary School Choir. We would also like to thank NCCBC who provided some funding through the Community Projects Fund. The team raised a brilliant £392.55 on the night.



Kirkmichael Carol Singers

The Kirkmichael Carol Singers raised over £600 for River Garden at their carol concert on 18th December in Kirkmichael Church. Mulled wine and mince pies were served afterwards and a very enjoyable evening was had by all.



Members of the choir then visited River Garden at Auchincruive and presented the cheque to this really worthwhile organisation that helps recovering addicts. Visit www.rivergarden.scot for more information.

RIVER GARDEN
AUCHINCUIVE



Carrick Tots' Christmas Party

Carrick Tots' Christmas Party was a great success. The children had great fun with a visit from Bunny Luv - they loved the animals.



They also got some Christmas tattoos, party food and a special visit from the big man himself – Santa Claus.



We would like to thank Gina from Bunny Luv, Maggs and Dinky for the tattoos and Santa for making time for us.

Also, we had two birthdays; Caoimhe who turned one, and Thomas who turned two.



Special thanks to Fiona, Jodie and Amber for all their help, and also to Roman's Daddy and Papa - Kevin and Brian Connolly - for supplying the chocolate buttons for all the children, and continuing to support the tots throughout the year.

Christmas Fayre at Kirkoswald

A varied selection of stalls and a very good turnout of people ensured the Christmas Fayre was a huge success.

Donated items from local businesses, members and friends were gathered for two large hampers and many other prizes. There were teas and coffees with home baking and a good time was had by all, raising £1,007 for church funds.



ADVERTISING OPPORTUNITY

Should you wish to advertise within the next edition of the **North Carrick Community Newsletter** please contact Shona McMahon at Evolution Designs Ltd: evolutiondesigns@sky.com or call **07753 111 038**.

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Carrick Loves Christmas

Photos by Hibbins Photography



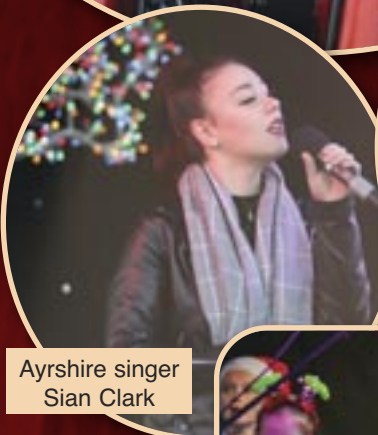
Young members from Maybole Pipe Band



Crosshill singer songwriter Becca Cameron entertains



Local children enjoyed a free ride of the jet planes!



Ayrshire singer Sian Clark



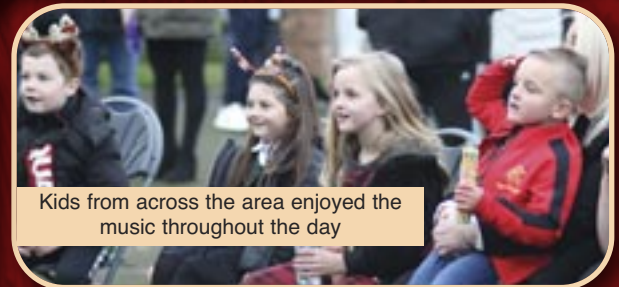
Local children enjoyed a free ride of the jet planes!



Dalrymple Ukulele Orchestra



Visitors enjoyed performances from all three Maybole Primary Schools



Kids from across the area enjoyed the music throughout the day



On Saturday 3rd December, Maybole's Greenside hosted a day of festive fun for the families of the area.

'Carrick Loves Christmas' was the first event of its kind and was organised by Maybole Community Council in partnership with North Carrick Community Benefit Company with funding from Scotland's Towns Partnership and Thriving Communities – Carrick Team.

Children enjoyed a free shot on the jet ride, as well as face-painting, balloon models, and lots of crafts to try in the marquee! Local groups had stalls with activities including Community Wellbeing Hub, Girlguiding Carrick District, Maybole Regeneration, Community

Learning Development, The Carrick Centre and St Cuthbert's Parents Committee.

Everyone enjoyed hearing the three primary school choirs perform as well as local singers Becca Cameron and Sian Clark. The wonderful sound of Maybole Pipe Band rang out around the square, and later entertainment was provided by the Dalrymple Ukulele Orchestra. The Burns Bachelors Performers also had everyone laughing with their funny festive poems.

The event organiser would like to thank everyone who supported the event and said there is a survey live on social media now to get feedback for putting on future events. Check out [@northcarricknow](#) on Facebook and Instagram.



JOIN TODAY - Carrick History Society

Carrick History Society is open for membership applications. The starting annual fee is **£12** and **£6** for students with a valid university/college e-mail address. The Society is a Carrick-wide, research-led organisation so are seeking people actively researching any aspect of Carrick's tangible, intangible or natural history. It will be working in collaboration with more localised groups such as now exist in Kirkmichael and Ballantrae.

Contact James Brown, on seumas1584@gmail.com for further information.



Events in North Carrick

NCCBC has secured a small amount of funding to employ some short-term contractors to help with developing existing and new events in the area. This is all part of a plan to launch a series of major events in 2024 to celebrate the 750th anniversary of the birth of Robert the Bruce. Existing events in North Carrick this year will be encouraged to have at least some reference to the famous King, and there will be a Bruce Festival in Maybole in July, subject to further funding. Funding for this short project has come from NCCBC, Maybole Regeneration Project and South Ayrshire Council's Social Enterprise Growth & Resilience (SEGAR) Fund. An application has been submitted to the Council's Coastal Communities Fund to support the proposed Bruce Festival 2023.



North Carrick Arts Trail

This is the first project to be implemented in North Carrick as a direct result of the Foundations for Recovery project. It will create artworks in all eight villages, link them to augmented reality experiences, and join them all up into an Arts Trail. Maybole's new Mercat Cross will provide the ninth point on the trail. Visitors and locals will be encouraged to visit all nine sites and, if they complete the whole Trail, they will receive a memento of their tour.

The North Carrick Art and Augmented Reality Trail project should get underway in March and will be completed over a short timescale. An overarching theme for the Trail is connections to Robert the Bruce. Artists will be employed to work with local communities to explore connections and come up with quirky stories and representations of those connections. If you have ideas for this trail or would like to get involved in the project – maybe even deciding what the trail should be called – you can contact Claire Bryan at claire@nccbc.org.uk.

Thanks are due to South Ayrshire Council who included this project in their investment plan for the UK Government's Shared Prosperity Fund and to North Carrick Community Benefit Company who developed the project and are providing match funding.

Volunteer with us

Patient Transport Drivers

About the opportunity:

St John Scotland Ayrshire and Arran is starting a patient transport service for renal patients at University Hospital Ayr. We hope to launch this new initiative very soon.

We are currently recruiting volunteer drivers to take dialysis patients to and from University Hospital, Ayr.

If you:

- live in the local area
- are aged between 25-80
- are friendly, and have a sense of responsibility and commitment
- have access to your own car and are happy to use it for patient transport

We'd love to hear from you!

Volunteer expenses and mileage are covered.

If you can spare a few hours on a regular basis to help us get our new initiative off the ground, please do get in touch with Colin McCormick, Patient Transport Lead, St John Scotland Ayrshire and Arran.

Email: colin135@btinternet.com



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