

Visitors head to Maybole for summer walking and cycling tour

MAYBOLE is the place to get into the saddle or pull on your walking boots this summer as the Town Twinning organisation gets set for a Walking and Cycling Tour in July.

More than 70 visitors from all over Europe will join locals for the "Tour de Jumelage" annual cycling and walking tour between July 5 and 9 organised by Maybole Town Twinning.

Visitors will come from the towns of Crosne, France: Beloeil, Belgium: Schotten and Bogen, Germany: Arco, Italy and Rymarov, Czech Republic.

The group would welcome any individuals or groups of cyclists who would like to participate or assist in this event.

Cycling days will be Thursday, July 6 and Friday July 7. Refreshments will be provided and an invitation to a barbecue at Auchencruive on the Friday night will be extended to all people taking part and assisting.

Organisation of the event is well under way and the programme will be prepared by the end of January 2006.

Any interested parties please contact either William Grant, President on 01655 883312 or Hugh Anderson, Vice President on 01655 883150.

At the recent AGM of Maybole Community Council Town Twinning Association, chairman William Grant welcomed those present and gave his report for the year 2005.

Special thanks were given to the office bearers for their work and commitment throughout the year. It was disappointing that Crosne were not able to fulfil their visit to Maybole that had been planned for the end of October.

The office bearers and committee were elected and are as follows, Chairman – William Grant, Vice Chairman – Hugh Anderson, Secretary – Lesley Grant, Treasurer – Maureen Craig, Publicity – David Kiltie and Committee – Sally Anderson, John Campbell, Alex Davidson and Ian Hewitt.

The chairman then gave a report on the annual joint twinning meeting that was this year organised by Rymarov and was held in the town of Kyjov in the Czech Republic.

The joint twinning meeting will be organised by Maybole in 2008.

Maybole organised the South Ayrshire joint twinning quiz in the Memorial Park Bowling Club where 12 teams who represented the towns of Ayr, Girvan, Prestwick, Troon and Maybole had a very enjoyable evening under the capable control of quizmaster David Kiltie.

The competition was hard fought, but in total friendship, and at the end of the evening was won by Ayr Town Twinning. Maybole chairman William Grant thanked everyone for taking part, the club for their premises, the quizmaster, and the committee and last but not least the catering carried out superbly by Ian Hewitt.

Unfortunately, the Mayor of Crosne Alain Girard has announced that due to major roadworks within the town of Crosne that the Carnival planned for Pentecost in 2006 will be cancelled until 2007.

Meetings are held at 7.30pm in Maybole Town Hall on the second Tuesday of the month. The committee welcome old and new members to these meetings.

www.maybole.org



MARY Watson passed away tragically young but left a "family treasure" to be cherished for generations to come.



THE treasured cup and saucer that travelled from Maybole to Canada.

Carol's 'family treasure' story helps light up web

ONE descendant of Maybole emigrants took inspiration from the website, a writing course and the words of Robert Louis Stevenson to create a delightful tale of "family treasure".

Carol McLellan's great Auntie emigrated with her family from Maybole to Canada in 1907.

Now Carol loves to log on to www.maybole.org to read about the town from her home at Salmon Arm in British Columbia.

Carol had written a story about her relatives and her friends and fellow genealogists encouraged her to put it on the website as there may be folk in Maybole who would like to read it.

However, it was the words of Robert Louis Stevenson that eventually convinced her to share her story.

Stevenson said: "The mark of a Scot of all classes is that he remembers and cherishes the memory of his forebears, good or bad; and there burns alive in him a sense of identity with the dead even to the twentieth generation."

"When I read Mr. Stevenson's words, their truth really came home to me," said Carol. "With regard to the manner in which my grandparents and parents had passed down the stories of our forebears from Maybole.

"Perhaps someone may be interested in the little story and if so I would be happy for it to be passed on.

"The wee girl in the story loved to sing

and I feel that each time her story is passed along she 'sings through time'.

SUNLIGHT flickering on the little cup and saucer had caught my eye.

At three and a half, I was tall enough to see the top of the cabinet, but not quite tall enough to reach.

I clambered up on the chair that stood alongside. As my fingers ventured towards the cup, Nana's voice rang out, "Come away, come away. Keep your wee mitts off of that."

My lower lip began to quiver, as I beedled down from the chair.

A gentle arm soothed round my shoulder and I snuggled in for a cuddle.

"I didn't mean to give you a fright, lassie; I was afraid you'd break Mary's cup. That wee cup and saucer are a family treasure."

Treasure - family treasure - I had no idea our family had treasure!

"Who's Mary?" I puzzled aloud.

"Mary was my sister."

It had never occurred to me that my Nana might have a sister.

She stood very still for a moment, then flashed me a wink, "Let's make a pot of tea and I'll tell you about Mary and the wee cup and saucer."

To read the rest of Carol's story or to find out more about Maybole's past, present and future, log on to www.maybole.org

Commendation for Maybole website

LOCAL website www.maybole.org continues to attract visitors from all over the globe was recently commended in a national community award ceremony.

The website received a commendation in the Community Enhancement through the Internet category of the Calor Scottish Community of the Year Awards 2005.

Developed as a community based project, the

objectives of the site, which contains over a thousand pages, are to promote the town and its facilities to a wider audience, encourage communication and provide a source of community information.

"The Internet has had a profound effect on how we locate information and a remarkable number of Scottish communities have capitalised on these opportunities to promote inter-

activity and community spirit.

This has been successfully demonstrated by Maybole who has enjoyed an impressive 800,000 hits a month," said Dr Douglas Cruickshank, Community Enhancement through the Internet judge and course leader for MSc in e-Business at The Robert Gordon University, Aberdeen.

THE local website www.maybole.org continues to be a unique source of information, bringing people together from all over the world, helping people trace their family trees, introducing people to the internet and letting people know about a fascinating and much loved part of Scotland.

I AM contacting you on behalf of my newspaper "La Stampa" an Italian national newspaper to ask the permission to reproduce some photographs found on the website of Ailsa Craig island. We would like to publish them in a supplement dedicated to the winter Olympics which will take place in Torino 2006. Please let me know as soon as possible how we could proceed to obtain your authorisation. Thank you in advance,
Luisa Fava, Editrice, La Stampa.
(The article was on granite curling stones)

I HAVE just had a browse on the Maybole website, it is fantastic and a credit to you. I left Maybole in 1985 to join the Royal navy. I was on Polaris submarines for several years and had a great time discovering the far flung corners of the world. Since leaving I have settled in Glasgow and I am now married with three daughters. I love looking up the Maybole website and catching up with all the latest news in the town. Keep up the good work.

Andrew Robertson.

I JUST wanted to thank you for your website! I'm an American but as it turns out a descendant of a Maybole resident I found on the 1841 census through your FreeCen engine. My name is James F. McIlmail, CDR, USN(ret) and my ancestor was Felix McIlmale born in 1835 in Ayrshire. I came to the Maybole site through an old family book given to Felix when he was young. What a delight to have found this link to your town! Thanks again and I would think you will be seeing me sometime in the future.
James F. McIlmail, CDR, USN(ret), Waldorf, Maryland, USA

THANK you and all involved for this wonderful web page. My father was born in Maybole in 1901. He came to the US in his yearly twenties. I have never met any of my relatives in Scotland, but hope to do so soon. Ewan Steed of "Roots" has done the family tree for me. I have bought my ticket and am Scotland bound next May. I check the page regularly as there is always something new.

Thanks again,
Sandra Miller Converse

HI, my name is Louise (Wilson) Huff, you are to be congratulated on this brilliant site. I was born in Maybole 1954. Have lived in Australia 38 years. Was home in 1999, stayed with my cousin Maryann Lawrie, she came over in Sep this year had great three weeks touring. I live between Rockhampton and Yeppoon Qld, on 25 acres so she had the bush experience, although had hard time with our mosquitoes. My Auntie Minnie Gallagher and daughter Marion, granddaughter Stephanie and cousin Catherine, arrive in Rockhampton on the 13th Dec. so hope the heat's not too bad for them. Related so much to your Personal Statement Maybole will always be in my thoughts.

Thanks again for your hard work on this site, regards
Louise.

JAMES HARPER

ELECTRICAL Ltd

3A CASTLE STREET, MAYBOLE

DOMESTIC & INDUSTRIAL

REPAIRS AND INSTALLATIONS

ESTIMATES FREE

Telephone:

Workshop 883385

Fax 883385

Home 883230

Delicatessen

Jane's

Fine Food & Drinks

Freshly Baked Bread, cheeses and meats

accompanied by a range of fine food and wines

Open Monday - Saturday

25 & 32 High Street, Maybole, Ayrshire, KA19 7AB

Telephone: 01655 883444

email: jane.martin2@virgin.net

COCKBURN GALLERY

Fine Art and Restoration

OIL AND WATERCOLOUR PAINTINGS

by our resident artist GORDON COCKBURN

who is always on hand to give advice on all aspects of art appreciation

We have a continuous selection of paintings by Artists such as:

J. D. Fergusson, G. Leslie Hunter, E. A. Taylor, Jessie M. King, Willie Johnstone, Annie French, Peter Howson, Frank McFadden, John Bellamy and many others

We also have a small display of select Handcrafted Glassware, Ceramics and Wood

41 High Street, Maybole, Ayrshire, KA19 7AB - Tel: 01655 884067

email: elinor.venters@cockburngallery.co.uk

www.cockburngallery.co.uk

Open daily 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Sunday 12 noon-5 p.m. Closed Wednesday

MY name is Andrew Hay. I am a minister in regional Australia. I just thought I'd drop you a line to thank you for a most wonderful website. I originally went to the Maybole Home page searching for a history of Drumellan House (my Grandfather's birthplace 1882 – My great-grandfather was one of the gamekeepers there). I soon became engrossed in your extraordinary work and spent hours trawling through the superb pictures and information. The astonishing detail gives the visitor a real sense of presence and atmosphere. I look forward to visiting the area in the future.

Yours truly,

Andrew George Hay