the future is clear for North Carrick

Mark Fletcher and Chris Savage launch Action Plans for every community in North Carrick
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 seventh 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 David Kiltie at: david.kiltie@talktalk.net

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North Carrick Community Benefit Company

Funding is available for a wide range of projects and to find out more or to apply to this fund please contact Marion Young on 01292 612626 or your community council representatives. You can also contact the company directly on ncarrickcb@gmail.com

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.

Board meetings:
- 20th November 2019
- 19th February 2020
- 20th May 2020
- 19th August 2020

Application for funding must be received three weeks prior to these dates.

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Earlier this year, North Carrick Community Benefit Company (NCCBC) received the last of our five-year introductory payments.

When Dersalloch wind farm was proposed, NCCBC negotiated a first of its kind deal with ScottishPower Renewables. The biggest inconvenience of wind farms, in general terms, is considered to be while they are being built. With that in mind, we requested a payment to start during the construction rather than having to wait until the turbines began to turn.

This meant taking the first three years’ community benefit payments and spreading them over five years which included two years during the build when payments are not normally made. The wind farm has a 69mw capacity and the benefit is based on £5,000 per mw i.e. £345,000 per annum indexed linked. The total for the three years was £1,035,000 and when divided by five gave us £207,000 per year. With index linking, the final fifth payment was £228,000 and as of May 2020 we will receive £345,000 per annum plus index linking for a further 22 years.

During 2019, we have been working with consultants in each community to get the views of people and what’s good and bad in communities; now we want to build on that with a vision for 2020 based around the recently launched Action Plans.

These have been delivered and although we will try to ensure they will go through every door sadly someone always gets missed. Spare copies will be available somewhere in your community, probably in village halls and shops or contact your community council who can arrange to get one for you.

Because volunteer capacity is always stretched to its limits, we have also appointed a Development Officer, Stuart Lindsay, to work in the communities to assist with pulling the visions together and then to work alongside the communities to assist in applications for match-funding and in some cases alternative funding. The more we bring in from other sources, the further our funds stretch.

With this in mind we are asking the members of the company to take the lead and to work together with Stuart, community councils and associations, development companies (if communities have them) and individuals to identify from the action plans a list of priorities of small, medium and large scale projects; put rough costings to these and timescales and identify partner funders. This priority list can then be presented to the NCCBC Board and, subject to it fitting relevant criteria, efforts will be made to start things happening that the wider community can all benefit from.

This approach by no means restricts other organisations within North Carrick applying and we would encourage applications for our November and February rounds of funding. Please note that match-funding is usually required and for smaller projects there are lots of ways to raise this. Fun nights, sponsored events, taking the charity shop for a week and even crowd funding.

We have received word that there is a local Participatory Budgeting event coming up. We don’t have the details yet, and would add that NCCBC is not directly involved, but we would encourage people to think about what small projects they could deliver with a small grant from PB which does require support from the community; so good engagements and support is essential.

Tradition Revived

In July, a tradition was revived at the road at the top of Maybole when a short service was held at the monument to the Covenanters Martyrs of Maybole for the first time in decades. Rev Dr Robert Pickles, minister of Maybole Parish Church, was joined by about 10 church members from Maybole and Crosshill to remember and give thanks.

Rev Pickles said, “Those remembered were being sent to America 350 years ago as slaves for standing up to bad government. They died in a shipwreck in 1680 on the way. “A great part of Scottish heritage which should always be remembered; an example of great commitment to the truth.”

The names inscribed on the Memorial are Mungo Eccles, Thomas Home, Robert McGarron, John McHarrie, John McWhirter and William Rodger.
We caught up with Luke Burns from Carrick Academy, one of the FA’s who selected GE Caledonian for their summer placement, he said:

“I think the Foundation Apprenticeship is a good opportunity as I want to go down the engineering route. My teacher told me about it in 4th year, and said it was a really good course to go on.

“The first year was a good year, it went in really quick. I did think it would be a bit more hands on, but I can’t complain. My favourite part was the practical work and aeronautical fundamentals, which were both interesting. Most of the units on the course were good though.

“I chose GE Caledonian for my work placement as they are a great employer. I start at 8am, but I arrive for 7:30am, and finish at 3pm. It’s a great day here.

“I have been in the high pressure compressor (HPC) and the low pressure turbine (LPT) areas, which is where the engines are stripped and assembled. I have learnt so much being here. It’s a lot of hands on activities, rather than just shadowing someone which has been great. The time has flown by during my first week on placement. I am really enjoying it here.

“I am hoping to get a Modern Apprenticeship with GE Caledonian next year. The staff have been great, they have made sure I have their contact details and have given me a real insight into what they are looking for in an apprentice.”

Aidan McIntyre, Apprentice Co-ordinator, from GE Caledonian, commented, “The Foundation Apprentices (FA) have come in with a first class attitude, ready to learn, and put the skills they have learned on the course into practice. The feedback we have received from our staff has been brilliant. Our staff have been working closely with them to build their skills and give them a real insight into what a career at GE Caledonian is like. They are now on our radar for future employment.

“As a company, GE Caledonian believes in being a part of the community and helping to develop the young workforce. Being involved in the Foundation Apprenticeship programme gives us the opportunity to get to know the Foundation Apprentices and be a part of moulding the future engineers in our industry. It also offers a pipeline of talent into our Modern Apprenticeship programme that we know have the skills and knowledge we are looking for.”
Maybole’s long tradition of paying tribute to its war dead took on a more modern perspective last week thanks to three apprentices at SAS International in Maybole.

Ben West, Lauren Gracie and Declan Milne, all 22, had created stunning sculptures which were unveiled at the Greenside in August, attracting a good crowd to witness the event.

In attendance were members of the Maybole Branch of the Royal British Legion Scotland and its chaplain Rev Jim Geen welcomed everyone and spoke of the importance of SAS International to the town and how world-wide its reputation is. Rev Robert Pickles was also present.

Julie Heath, Personnel Manager, told us, “SAS decided to enter the Ayrshire Chamber of Commerce Apprenticeship Community Challenge for the first time this year.

“The three apprentices Ben West, Lauren Gracie and Declan Milne had to deliver an innovative project that is relevant to the local community. After investigating various options and speaking to Mark Fletcher of the community council, the decision was taken to participate in the town re-generation project by manufacturing a war memorial for the town.

“Initially, the intention had been to produce a silhouette of a soldier and some crosses; however, this changed when one of the Planning Engineers, Conner McGill, made the suggestion of including an anamorphic design – a poppy from one perspective and the year 1918 from another. This idea proved popular and the decision was taken to include it in the memorial.

“Design of the project took place over May and June with manufacture taking place during July and the project was delivered to the community on Monday, August 5 and was well received by all.

“David Arnott: General Manager at the Maybole site, Chris Powell, Operations Director for the Group; and Todd Altman, Chief Executive, were all in attendance on the day.

“Mark Fletcher co-ordinated the project and John Jamieson and his team kindly supported the project by installing it in position at the Greenside.”
St Cuthbert’s Primary School in Maybole has started a series of events to mark its 80th anniversary in its present building which opened just as the Second World war was beginning in September, 1939.

The first event was an anniversary dance held in Maybole Town Hall on Friday 31st May and the present head teacher, Mark Ingram, welcomed former pupils and their families, present and former staff including two former head teacher Val Bannerman and Gemma Rooney.

Music was provided by Tequila and they had everyone on their feet for most of the evening. As well as lots of talking about the old days and what had happened since leaving school, there was a special “selfie station”. Mind you, the word selfie was not thought of when most of those at the dance were at St Cuthbert’s!

There was a special 80th anniversary cake and our photo shows it being held by oldest former pupils Margaret Kiltie (née Meek), who started at the school in 1950, and Jim McDermott, who started in 1954.

The organisers were thanked by Mr Ingram for all the hard work they had put in to make the anniversary dance such a success.
The organisers would like to thank the many friends and family members connected to the school and the following for their support:

Despite the weather forecast, it was a really sunny day as Maybole Pipe Band led the town’s annual gala parade from Carrick Academy to Glebe Park.

Invited guests were the Marquess and Marchioness of Ailsa, Provost Helen Moonie and Cllr Brian Connolly and Cllr Ian Campbell. Master of Ceremonies was Gavin Hamilton.

At the Glebe, retiring King and Queen, Alexander Browne and Anna Cochrane, handed over their crowns to the Marquess and Marchioness for the coronation of the new king and queen.

Provost Moonie officially opened the gala and thanked everyone who worked so hard to make the day such a success. Kerr Stevenson and Iona Mackay, who are pupils of Cairn Primary, were then crowned this year’s Gala King and Queen of Carrick by the Marquess and Marchioness.

The royal couple’s attendants were Ben Kilpatrick and Eve Campbell, of Gardenrose Primary, and James McGougan and Heather Cochrane, of St Cuthbert’s Primary.

With no ecumenical service this year, Rev Pickles blessed the new king and queen after their coronation.

Best Dressed Groups:
1 - Gardenrose Primary 2 – Nana Norma’s Nippers 3 - St Cuthbert’s Primary

Best Dressed Shop Windows:
1 – Delish 2 – The Cutting Room 3 – Lloyds Chemist (bottom shop)

There were lots of stalls and entertainment was provided by Aileen Robertson Dance School, Maybole Pipe Band, “Sheriff Woody Pride” and local group Earthbound.
Dementia Awareness Coffee and Chat Morning

To celebrate Dementia Awareness Week, the Maybole and North Carrick Villages Locality Planning Group (LPG) in partnership with Carrick Senior Citizens’ Lunch Club and the Carrick Centre held a Coffee and Chat Morning recently.

The home baking was lovely and everyone enjoyed the morning.

Those living with, or caring for, someone with dementia were invited to go along to discuss how life in Maybole and North Carrick villages can be improved and made easier for everyone and to let the LPG know what matters to them.

There were representatives from the Community Care Social Work Team, VASA, Crossroads, South Ayrshire Dementia Support Association (SADSA), Crosne Street Sheltered Housing, Maybole and North Carrick Villages Locality Planning Group and Tracey Middleton, Community Links Practitioner, on hand to provide any information, advice or guidance required.

Sharron Connolly, Community Engagement Officer, said, “We would like to thank everyone who supported the event and especially those who came along to support us on the day.

“We hope they enjoyed it as much as we did.”

The Locality Planning Group meets on the third Thursday of every month 10am – 12 noon in the Carrick Centre, Maybole and everyone living, working, studying and volunteering in Maybole & North Carrick villages is welcome to go along.

Brian Kelsey, right, from Crossroads which occupies a quite unique space in the care spectrum in that its focus and attention is directed specifically at the person at home who is providing 24/7 care to a loved one who might be suffering physical or mental health problems. The carers in these circumstances can themselves suffer illness, stress, financial hardship, social isolation or simple fatigue. In order to regroup and re-energise to carry on, Crossroads is there to provide the Carer respite and time out through the provision of a trained Care Attendant to fill the gap.
This year, Maybole’s annual gala quiz was won by the “Quizzy Rascals” whose team members were left to right Jonathan Conn, Andrew Davidson, Alison Murray, Dave McGee, Calum MacDonald, Andy Ferguson.

They are pictured with Robyn Young of Maybole Community Association who were delighted with the great turn out of nine teams who took part.

Representatives of North Carrick Community Benefit Company (NCCBC) were pleased to be invited to the official opening of Martin’s Fields, recently.

Mark Fletcher, chair of NCCBC, presented a cheque for £4,214 to enable the group to buy a BBQ hut and shelter for the wild days occasionally experienced locally.

He commented, “The setting of Martin’s Fields is just perfect; in the heart of the countryside with wonderful views out to sea and Ailsa Craig. This type of inclusive project needed support to get off the ground.

“Now that it is, what it can offer our youngsters is just amazing and I’m sure the hut will be very welcome when we’re not blessed with the fabulous weather we had today.”

Martin’s Fields is a small charity that aims to provide outdoor, environmental activities for children and young people who have difficulties engaging in education. Based in the hills a few miles from Kirkoswald, Martin’s Fields started operations in March 2019. The first group of young people from various South Ayrshire schools attended one day a week for six weeks and four pupils and five supporting adults attained a John Muir Award.

Another group is currently enjoying the activities which include - growing a variety of vegetables, making bird boxes, visiting a farm, exploring nature, rock pooling, assisting the Ranger at Culzean and cleaning Maidens beach.

Claire Quinn said, “Martin’s Fields is very grateful for the support of North Carrick Community Benefit Fund which has allowed it to purchase a BBQ hut for its site to provide a warm meeting place and the opportunity to cook some of the produce.”
D-Day plus 20 - William Houston

Seventy-five years ago - on 26th June 1944, D-Day plus 20 - William Houston of Maybole landed at Arromanches in Normandy, France and worked on repairs and maintenance of tanks, lorries and various other equipment.

He had been called up in 1942, aged 18, to the REME (Royal Electrical and Mechanical Engineers) and served until 1946 with a recall for a short period for the time of the Suez Crisis in 1956 when he was stationed near Stirling.

In 1944, before D-Day, he was stationed near Hampden House, a large estate near Eastbourne on the south coast of Hampshire. Unlike D-Day, the channel crossing on 26th June was calm and clear and William was fortunate that he was well behind the front line.

He recalled that as they advanced through the Normandy countryside the hedges were tall and gave good shelter for the soldiers to camp and rest overnight.

Near the Falaise Gap, as the Germans retreated, a couple of enemy machine guns which had been overlooked fired on his party. Although they took cover, he suffered a hand injury due to a ricochet bullet. However, after two weeks it was back to work as usual.

While in the town of Celle near Belsen concentration camp some of his officers and NCOs visited the camp. He told us the reports they brought back were even more horrific than have since been reported. Many of the soldiers involved in the burial of victims had life-changing experiences whilst there.

William, now 95, served right across Europe through France, Belgium, Holland and Germany finishing near Hamburg.

On Sunday 9th June, the local branch of the Royal British Legion Scotland held a service at the Greenside in Maybole to mark the 75th anniversary of D-Day and then visited William and his family.

Colonel John Dalrymple Hamilton, President of the local branch and Vice Lord-Lieutenant of Ayrshire and Arran, presented William with a D-Day 75th anniversary lapel badge and a Thank You coin.

The coin is engraved on one side with the Thank You logo featuring the Scottish Poppy in bold Red and on the other side it features the famous words of Laurence Binyon - “At the going down of the sun and in the morning, we will remember them” - surrounding the proud and distinguished badge of the Royal British Legion Scotland and “We said Thank You.”
Mark Fletcher, chairman of North Carrick Community Benefit Company, presented a cheque to the Crosshill Women’s Institute for £821 towards a £913 project.

The funds will be used to put on four evening courses aimed at attracting new members of all ages to the group.

The activities will include a Floral arts session, skin care, vegan cookery and Christmas crafts; so any ladies of any age wishing to try their hand at these and looking for regular activity should enquire with the WI to see if spaces are still available.

More members will stabilise the group and ensure sustainability for the future.

Mark told us, “Small grants like this can mean just as much and sometimes more than larger projects to groups of this nature. Over the years the Women’s Institutes have helped lots of people by reducing social isolation which is a problem we see more and more of. We wish the Institute every success in this membership drive and look forward to seeing images of what they achieve.”

The WI?  Is that just no’ The Rural?

Aye, but it has moved on a bit to keep up with the changing times. Ye can come tae Crosshill WI (2nd Tuesday evening of the month, at the Community Centre) wi’o wot worrying aboot havin’ tae gaun on tae a committee or havin’ tae sit through a’ yon business. And this year, the WI got a lovely grant frae the North Carrick Community Benefit Fund (the wind farm money, ye ken) tae help pit oan some really guid creative stuff, instead o’ da’en it on the usual shoestring.

So whit’s on the new programme?

They’re stertin’ off wi’ floral art, led by a local professional wha’ll show the weemin some guid ideas wi’ floo’ers then help them have a go themselfs, if they want tae try. A’body will hae something nice tae tak hame. Then there’ll be vegan cooking (tae help save the planet, ye ken an’ I hear it’s awfy tasty). Efter that, it’s eco-friendly skin care products that ye can make yersel’. At Christmas, there’ll be some lovely things tae make and tak hame. It’s whit the weemin asked for, a chance tae try oot some new things and learn hoo tae dae them.

Can onybody gaun tae the WI?

Oh aye, though we dinnae expect mony men tae be interested. It’s for awbody, young and auld alike, that’s interested in crafts and hame skills wi’ a Scottish flavour. Ye can come as a veesitor for an occasional night or ye can jine the organisation for the hale year. That lets ye enter a’ sorts of competitions and gaun tae top-notch handcraft and housecraft clesses. Either way, it’s a guid nicht oot in the village and there’s aye a cuppa tea an’ a blether at the end. **Why no’ gie it a try yersel?**

Aye, I think it might just dae that.
2nd Tuesday nicht, sterting in September, hauf past seevin at the Community Centre?

Aye, an’ there’ll be a poster up in the Post Office tae remind folk. Ye can be sure o’ a guid welcome.
Carrick Tots celebrated their third birthday in June and what a great morning they had. A bouncy castle, face painting, a special visit from Paw Patrol characters Chase & Skye, party games, sandwiches, sausages, jelly, and a delicious birthday cake.

Andrea Hutchison told us, “The birthday party was supported by The Carrick Centre and run by a fantastic team of volunteers - Wilma, Edna, Lilly, Greta, Conner and Lisa, not forgetting David and Lyn, too. “We have had the opportunity of watching these little ones grow, from babies to tots, some now about to start Primary 1 in August it’s been a joy. “Weekly, the volunteers manage the group and organise activities and give the families the support they need.”

The Tots group runs every Tuesday 10am until 11.30am, once again highlighting the value of volunteers in the community.
CARRICK TOTS

[Images of children and parents dressed in various costumes and playing in a play area.]
Nav and Faz invite you to let Priya transport your tastebuds on a journey of discovery

Having worked in local Indian restaurants for over twenty years, Nav and Faz have heard diners lament that they could not get an authentic Indian dining experience in Ayrshire.

Faz had previously worked at Ayr’s Rupee Room for over 18 years and set up the Doonfoot based Priya Indian kitchen over a year ago with his business partner Nav, they are ready to welcome their customers with a celebration of Indian flavour and hospitality.

They named the restaurant after Nav’s wife who first spotted the building as the ideal location for the pair to share their love of traditional Indian food so they opened Priya Authentic Indian Kitchen.

They invite you to immerse yourself in a mouth-watering experience and awaken your tastebuds with their authentic menu which showcases the very best of India’s exotic cuisine.

Set over two floors, the restaurant has space to cater for many customers and has various menus to choose from including Vegan, A la Carte, Takeaway, Kids and a Half Price main course menu so there is something for everyone.

You can view the menus, book a table or place your order online at: www.priyakitchen.com

With a traditional approach to Indian cooking, Priya’s dishes are authentic, not forced Western fusions.

Priya is cooking the Indian way

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Saturday-Sunday 2pm-6pm

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OUR BEER GARDEN IS NOW OPEN!
Just before the school holidays, the Crosshill Primary 1 pupil had ten inches of her hair cut off to be sent to the Little Princess Trust which provides real hair wigs to children and young people with hair loss, and funds vital research into childhood cancer.

Anna said after she had her hair cut that she loves her new look but since there will be more children needing wigs that she'll need to start growing it all over again!

Her brother Jamie (10) was there to support her and donated some of his pocket money.

Laura McVittie, of @ salon 76 in Maybole, who cut Anna’s hair free of charge, had a collection box in the salon and she added her tips to donations from customers; totalling over £80.

This will be added to the total raised so far by Anna and the funds sent to the Shiehallion Ward at Glasgow Children’s Hospital.

If anyone else wants to donate they can link to https://www.justgiving.com/fundraising/allison-patrick1.

Anna’s mum Allison thanked Laura for cutting Anna’s hair free of charge and kindly donating her tips. She added, “Murray and I are very proud of Anna and grateful to everyone who has donated to her fundraiser.”

Bill Grant MP

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ANNA’S HAIR CUT

Five year old Anna Patrick has raised £1,316 for Glasgow Children’s Hospital Charity (formerly Yorkhill Children’s Charity).

This newsletter has been created for the local community and we want our readers to use this as a way of keeping up to date with what is going on in and around your area. Should you wish to advertise within the next edition please contact Shona McMahon at Evolution Designs Ltd: evolutiondesigns@sky.com or call 07753 111 038.

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1/8th page advert .......................... £50
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1/2 page advert .......................... £180
Full Page advert .......................... £340

We print 4,500 magazines and distribute these throughout North Carrick which means your advert will be seen by a vast audience.

Artwork/design charges may be applicable if required.
Carrick Rugby has been awarded a grant by North Carrick Community Benefit Company (NCCBC) of £7,840 towards a project which will cost £18,420.00. In season 2017-18, the club won the West Regional Shield and the BT Shield for a record third year in a row and becoming 2018 West One Champions.

Mark Fletcher, chair of NCCBC, said, “This success incurred more running costs and a need for new kit and equipment and it is the kit and equipment elements that NCCBC is proud to be able to assist with.

“We look forward to seeing the new kit and we know the team will wear their colours with the same pride and passion that they always have.

“Good luck for the new season from all at NCCBC.”

**Fixture List for the coming season**

The fixtures for our Adult Squads are detailed opposite. Kick-off is at 3.00pm from August to October, 2.00pm from November to January and back to 3.00pm February to April. Home (H) matches will usually be played at the Glebe, Maybole. Please check the Carrick Facebook page for any changes to Kick-off times & locations, also for all the latest team news (CarrickRugby). Training nights are Tuesdays and Thursdays 7-9pm at the Glebe or the Academy in Maybole, new members are always welcome, so come along and see what we are doing. This season our fantastic volunteers will be serving match day refreshments, including hot and cold drinks, soups and snacks during the match.

Carrick Youth Teams kicked off the season against Balfron on the 7th September. For full details of school and micro–mini fixtures follow the school, micro-mini & club pages on Facebook.

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**TENNENT’S NATIONAL LEAGUE DIVISION 3**

- A. 07 September 2019  West of Scotland
- H. 14 September 2019  Caithness
- A. 21 September 2019  Ardrossan Academicals
- H. 28 September 2019  Perthshire
- H. 05 October 2019  Howe of Fife
- A. 12 October 2019  Murrayfield Wanderers
- H. 19 October 2019  Strathmore
- A. 02 November 2019  Greenock Wanderers
- H. 09 November 2019  Lasswade
- A. 16 November 2019  Hillhead Jordanhill
- H. 23 November 2019  Berwick
- H. 30 November 2019  West of Scotland
- A. 07 December 2019  Caithness
- H. 14 December 2019  Ardrossan Academicals
- A. 11 January 2020  Perthshire
- A. 18 January 2020  Howe of Fife
- H. 15 February 2020  Murrayfield Wanderers
- A. 29 February 2020  Strathmore
- H. 07 March 2020  Greenock Wanderers
- A. 21 March 2020  Lasswade
- H. 28 March 2020  Hillhead Jordanhill
- A. 04 April 2020  Berwick

**TENNENT’S WEST RESERVE LEAGUE DIVISION 3 SOUTH**

- H. 07 September 2019  Strathaven 2XV
- A. 14 September 2019  Ardrossan Academicals 2XV
- H. 21 September 2019  Uddingston 2XV
- A. 28 September 2019  Clydesdale
- H. 05 October 2019  Annan 2XV
- A. 12 October 2019  Marr 3XV
- A. 19 October 2019  Dalziel 3XV
- H. 26 October 2019  East Kilbride 3/Cambuslang 2
- H. 09 November 2019  Cumnock 2XV
- A. 16 November 2019  Strathaven 2XV
- H. 23 November 2019  Ardrossan Academicals 2XV
- A. 30 November 2019  Uddingston 2XV
- H. 07 December 2019  Clydesdale
- A. 14 December 2019  Annan 2XV
- H. 11 January 2020  Marr 3XV
- H. 18 January 2020  Dalziel 3XV
- A. 15 February 2020  Cumnock 2XV

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1:1 Session • Group Session • Home Boarding & Day

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Maybole Pipe Band are great ambassadors for the town

Members have played all over the world over the years but they always love their day out to Arran each year to take part in Brodick Highland Games.

The Games have been held in the village every year since 1886, excepting the First and Second World Wars.

The Pipe Band take a few followers with them as it is a fabulous day of pipe bands, highland dancing, heavy events, athletics, children’s races and fancy dress, with lots of stalls.

At this year’s annual general meeting, Mark Fletcher, chairman of the company, told members that this was the last year in which three years of ScottishPower Renewables’ funding had been spread over five years so that the communities had been able to receive some funding during the two years prior to the windfarm at Dersalloch becoming operational. He added that from next year annual income would increase to around £350,000.

He also commented on the NCCBC strategy that was being developed to work with South Ayrshire Council and other partners and this would also tie into the action plans being drawn up for each community in North Carrick.

Chris Savage, Vice chair, emphasised the need to get the new Action Plans distributed to each household and then to ensure that some “quick hit” projects would be completed in each community. Hopefully, seeing successes would encourage more people to get involved in implementing the Action Plans and improving their areas.

The general feeling of those attending was that action plans need to be widely available and they have now been printed and delivered to local residents.

In his closing remarks, Mr Fletcher commented on the North Carrick Communities newsletter which not only provided a much-needed channel of communication but also facilitated evaluation of projects and reporting on the NCCBC’s operations. He noted that NCCBC had been recognised as an “exemplary example” of how Community Benefit funds should operate.
GP Practices in Ayrshire and Arran are changing

GP services across Scotland are changing

GP services across Scotland are changing to make sure you get to see the right person, at the right time in the right place. Our aim is to provide safe, effective, person-centred, sustainable health care services at the heart of communities for the people of Ayrshire and Arran.

As part of our programme of change, we are implementing our Primary Care Improvement Plan which reflects the changes introduced from April 2018 within the new contract for GP practices. This describes new ways of working which will help address pressures being experienced in General Practice.

Why are services changing? GP Practices have been under significant and increasing strain for the last few years. Our population is growing, as are the number of people who have long-term conditions and complex health needs.

An overview of what we are doing

Currently, GPs see most people who come into their local practice, even though there are other health professionals who may be more of a specialist in dealing with your symptoms. In the future, where it is safe, appropriate and improves patient care, some of the tasks currently carried out by GPs will be performed by other members of the multi-disciplinary team who will be based in your practice or made available to patients from another site.

The multi-disciplinary teams will consist of:

- **Advanced Nurse Practitioners** who are highly experienced senior nurses who can assess a patient, diagnose, prescribe and treat clinical conditions. They can also refer, admit and discharge where appropriate.

- **GP Pharmacists** who can support prescribing processes, provide medication reviews and run specialised clinics.

- **Advanced Musculoskeletal (MSK) Physiotherapists** who can assess and treat pain that affects muscles, ligaments, tendons and bones.

- **Mental Health Practitioners** who will work with individuals providing assessment of possible mental illness at a practice level.

- **Community Link Workers/Connectors** who will work with patients to help them navigate and engage with wider services.

It is important to emphasise that your GP will still be there and available to you when you really need them. The aim is that GPs, over time, will assume their role as ‘Expert Medical Generalists’ (EMGs) and support those patients with the most complex conditions.

When you call your GP practice, the Practice Receptionist/Administrator may ask you some questions to find out who the right professional is to help you, to ensure that you are seen by the right person, at the right place and the right time. For example, if you have a muscular complaint, you may be offered an appointment with the Advanced (MSK) Physiotherapist.

What’s happening now?

Not everything will change immediately. Our improvement plan covers the work we are doing over the next three years. This will involve planning how the new teams will look, recruiting and training the right staff and placing them in local communities where their skills and knowledge will be best used. We expect GP practices to change over time and when you visit for an appointment you may be seen by another healthcare professional. At all times your health and wellbeing will be at the centre of the service we deliver.

**EyeCare Ayrshire**

Some of these changes have already been implemented and are working extremely well. Right now in Ayrshire, if you have an eye problem, you can go to your local optician. As eye specialists, they are able to use their specialist equipment and knowledge to diagnose and, depending on the problem, are even able to write a prescription which you can take straight to your pharmacy. So no need to visit a GP.

**Pharmacy First** - Healthcare without an appointment.

People can now make their community pharmacist their first port of call with common conditions, including: indigestion, colds, warts/verruca, cold sores, diarrhoea, hay fever. The national Pharmacy First scheme is now available across community pharmacies in Ayrshire. Through this service people receive advice and / or treatment for skin infections, shingles and some urinary tract infections in women aged 16 to 65. Community pharmacists can also help with stopping smoking, emergency contraception, sexual health advice and provide advice on prescribed medicines and how to get the most benefit from them. And people can access the NHS Scotland Minor Ailment Service which allows pharmacists to supply medicine after a consultation, if needed, free of charge. Pharmacists can also advise if you need to contact your General Practice.

**Ayrshire Community Blood Service** We are introducing a community blood service where patients going to hospital for an appointment or being discharged from hospital and who need a blood test will be able to go to a centre convenient to them and have their blood test done by a community phlebotomist. Again, with no need to visit a GP.

If you want to know more about the Primary Care Improvement Plan, visit [www.east-ayrshire.gov.uk](http://www.east-ayrshire.gov.uk) and search for Primary Care.

Or contact us by Freephone: 0800 169 1441 Email: aa-uhb.pctransformation@nhs.net
Two representatives from Maybole Golf Club visited Fairknowe House in July to present a cheque for £800 to staff and residents.

Cindy McEwan and Ruth Donnan explained that Maybole Golf Club is now a mixed club, open to ladies and gents.

The funds had been raised by the club taking the charity shop for a week and it had been agreed to give £800 each to Fairknowe and Crossroads, a South Ayrshire group which provides support for carers.

Mary Caldwell, Activities Coordinator, added that the generous donation would be put towards providing a Summer House for residents.

CROSSROADS IN NORTH CARRICK

by Brian Kelsey

Many of you will remember the name “Crossroads” from the long playing soap that used to be on the television many years ago – remember Bennie, and his woolly hat, and Meg Mortimer?

The Crossroads of today actually has its origins in that TV programme in that it was an incident being dramatised about Carers and how there was really no support for them, which was the genesis for organisation of today.

Crossroads is a charity and exists to provide respite care for Carers, those who are at home providing 24/7 support and care for a loved one. We understand the stress experienced by those Carers and how the system, generally, doesn’t have provision to look after them. We know that Carers in that situation can suffer from social isolation and the loss of social networks, possible financial hardship, develop depression, and can experience physical ailments especially when lifting and handling might be involved and further, perhaps, stress and exhaustion.

Our trained and experienced Care Attendants go to the Carer’s home and allow them to take time out, to go to the cinema, meet up with friends, play golf or bowls, do the shopping, whatever is necessary to allow the Carer to re-energise for the continuing challenges at home. Meanwhile your loved one is being looked after and taken care of. We try too, as best we can, to allocate a Care Attendant well suited to the cared for person.

We exist partially through support from SAC but also from our own fundraising efforts. This means we are able to offer help to those who are either not eligible for help from SAC or can’t afford to purchase it from us ourselves. For example, Crossroads recently participated in North Carrick’s excellent community participatory budgeting process and were very pleased to be granted one thousand pounds to provide additional support to Carers in North Carrick - Maybole and surrounding villages.

So, if you’re a Carer and perhaps starting to or are experiencing any or all of the above issues referred to and simply need some help, please contact us for a chat. We’ll discuss your circumstances and, if we’re in a position to, discuss how we can help.

We cover all of South Ayrshire but, thanks to the specific funds referred to above, are able to target additional help to Carers in North Carrick.

For further information, phone our office on 01292 671 331.
We have been providing services to people in Ayrshire who prefer to manage their own support since 2001 and we are funded by the three Ayrshire councils, to provide free, impartial information and advice about SDS.

The Scottish Government believes everyone should be in control of their own life. In order to achieve this they introduced The Social Care (Self-directed Support) (Scotland) Act 2013. The Act came into force on April 1, 2014 and places a duty on local authority social work departments to offer people who are eligible for social care a range of choices over how they receive their support.

There are 4 different options of SDS:

1. You choose to take your Health & social care budget directly and arrange the support you want. (we can help you with this)
2. Your local council arrange the support that you choose and make the payments.
3. Your local council pick and arrange the support that they think is best for you.
4. A mix of the above options.

To start the process you would speak with your local authority social work team about what you feel is important to you to help you live as independently as possible. You will also chat about which way you’d like to get your care/support.

To find out more information about SDS, call us on 01294 475685 or visit www.ailn.org

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footcAyr

Are you having difficulty cutting your own toenails?

footcAyr offers an affordable toenail cutting service at various clinics throughout South Ayrshire.

We currently deliver the service, on Tuesdays, at:

THE SPEAKERS, MAYBOLE
(Temporarily closing at the end Sept 2019 – please call for alternative clinic)

On your first visit you will be issued with your own nail care kit, which you keep and bring to each appointment. Your first appointment will cost £14 and all appointments thereafter will be £8.

To make your first appointment:
01292 281800 or footcayr@vasa.scot

Note: Missed appointments, without cancellation, will be charged at the full price of £8. Cancellations received within 24hrs will be charged at £4, Cancellations and reschedules received with 24+hrs notice can be done free of charge.

CROSSHILL THISTLE AFC were presented with a new strip by Justin Mairs of The Cassillis Hotel, Maybole recently.

The team wore them for the first time against local rivals Minishant in The Cassidy Cup, which they compete for annually.

The final result was Minishant 2 Crosshill Thistle 7 after a keenly contested first half which ended 2-2; Roger Wyllie and Sam Piper scoring for Minishant and Mark Taylor scoring twice for Crosshill.

The visitors turned it on in the second half with Mark Taylor scoring another two and Ryan Docherty getting a hat-trick.

The Cassidy Cup is named for Jim Cassidy who played for both teams and won the Scottish Cup with Crosshill Thistle.

It’s 60 years since Crosshill won both the Scottish Amateur Cup and the West of Scotland Amateur Cup (season 1958/59).

Minishant won the Scottish Cup a year after Crosshill (season 1959/60) and the West of Scotland Cup in season 1965/66.

Please support our advertisers by using their services.
The Speakers in Maybole will be closing on Sunday 29th September to begin the lead-in to a full refurbishment of the building with the work scheduled to begin in early to mid-October.

Mark Fletcher, chair of Carrick Community Leisure Group, said, “Four years ago, we said farewell to the Carrick Sports Club, removing the need for membership and reintroduced the Speakers, a café during the day with rooms available for use by community groups and a bar and function room in the evening and at weekends.

“We will be hosting some form of closing event/s for our customers and friends as we now say farewell to The Speakers as the new building will be relaunched as a completely new venue. Through Facebook, we will keep you all apprised of the plans for the closing events.

“During the closed period, the building will undergo a much needed revamp and modernisation that will safeguard the fabric of the building but will also make the building fully accessible to all with lifts, ramps where needed, fully accessible toilets, and multiple rooms for use for varying needs. We will use Facebook and other methods to keep people updated on the progress.

“If anyone is wanting to book parties while we are closed, we are happy to assist in hiring the town hall and supplying a bar. If you want to book parties, functions or even discuss weddings in the future after the refurbishment you can contact us through Facebook messenger and we will give other methods shortly.

“At this time, we would like to thank all of our customers for your support and please continue with us until we close and we can’t wait to welcome the whole community when we open the brand new facility.”

Carrick Speakers Social Club began in the year Maybole Town Council passed into the history books as Kyle and Carrick District Council and Strathclyde Regional Council took over local government. It certainly lasted longer than they did.

The property had been bought in December 1974 and was officially opened by Jim Sillars MP in June 1975. In December 1983 the upstairs function hall was added.

The late Tom Cook was Convener for the first 21 years and in June 1996 Alex Meek took over from him as convener along with Alan Cuthbert as vice convener. There have only been four full time stewards since the Club started - John Fergusson, Jackie Dewar, Ian Hewitt and currently Willie Parker.

The name was changed to Carrick Sports Club to reflect the change in emphasis to activities and was a base for Carrick Rugby Club, line dancing, Maybole Pipe Band, bingo, bowling, golf, snooker, pool and table tennis. How many people remember that the Club once had a choir and a sea angling club, boat and all? It also held St Andrew’s nights, Burns Suppers and memorable Hogmanay celebrations.

As well as providing enjoyment for local residents with the Saturday night dances, the Club was a source of employment for many of the town’s young people in their university years and others who were in need of a part-time job. The Club also played host to many visitors from overseas through Maybole’s town twinning connections and ex-pats returning home to visit old friends and to make new ones here.
Four-legged friends had pawsome fun at Culzean Castle in August as conservation charity the National Trust for Scotland hosted its annual Dog Jamboree.

Dog lovers and their furry friends enjoyed the pawfect day out with a whole host of activities from water sports to agility courses and a ‘doggy dash’ to find the fastest pups. Making a big splash, K9 Aqua Sports ran water sport competitions for dogs of all sizes and for pampered pooches, treats and doggy themed products were purchased at the Dog Market.

Thousands flocked to the Jamboree on Saturday, August 10 and although Sunday’s weather was wet, that didn’t stop families and their dogs taking part in the fur-tastic activities. The Fun Dog Show hosted nine categories and over 200 contestants took part. Overall Best in Show was awarded to Kobe and his owner Bailey Hannah who received a pastel pet portrait donated by Culzean’s Resident Artist, Elspeth Guthrie.

Paige Campbell, Event Manager, said, “It’s great to see this event grow as it is a brilliant way for families to celebrate their love for their dogs whilst connecting with the outdoors. As Scotland’s largest conservation charity, we rely on events like these to showcase the work we do to protect Scotland’s heritage.”

Culzean Dog Jamboree will return in August 2020.

Moira and John Houston are pictured with a rarely seen part of Maybole’s history – The Buck’s Head Cup. The cup was presented to Maybole Quoting Club by Wm C Paterson in 1914.

The first winner was Moira’s grandfather John Paterson in 1914 and he went on to win it in 1921 and 1923 when he was presented the trophy to keep, having won it three times. It has been kept in the family ever since. Other winners were T Sands (1915), R Kennedy (1919), W Allison (1920) and J Sands (1922). Presumably, the gap 1916-18 was because of the First World War. Quoting was for generations a popular game among Maybole men and the quoiting ground was in Seaton Street. The Buck’s Head was a pub in Kirkland Street.
Over 100 young people from across North Carrick had a great time during the school holidays thanks to the summer holiday programme at the Carrick Centre, Maybole.

In total, 114 of them took part in the programme which built on the strength of the previous Easter programme demonstrating strong partnership working between South Ayrshire Council’s Community Learning and Development Service, the North Carrick Sports Hub, Active Schools, Community Safety Team and the Carrick Centre.

The programme ran on Mondays, Thursdays and Fridays for four weeks of the school summer break with an average attendance of 33 young people at each session.

A total of 16 sessions were organised over a period of four weeks and the young people learned new skills in cooking, got creative with arts and crafts and actively participated in a wide variety of sports. All young people received a lunch at each session and the programme culminated in a family day trip to Maidens beach.

Ronnie Sinclair, Community Learning and Development Team Leader, said, “This was a fantastic example of different organisations working together to provide the young people of Maybole and North Carrick villages with an exciting programme of activities over the summer holidays. Plans are now underway for the October holiday week.”

Carrick Centre Manager Andrea Hutchison added, “At The Carrick Centre we continue to receive praise and gratitude for the Summer Buzz Project. “The response from mums, dads, grannies and granddads was overwhelming with comments received such as ‘Thankyou’, ‘Great Support’, ‘Huge Help!’”

She continued, “Working as a partnership with the other agencies - David Phee and his team from North Carrick Sports Hub, Cash for Kids, CLD, our volunteers who supported both the lunch provision and craft classes - all came together to provide a strong cohesive and varied opportunity for the children and they loved it with comments like ‘When can I come back?’, ‘Any spaces?’, ‘Cookies are fab!’ and ‘Look what I’ve done’.

“Each day made us smile - Cooking delights; Street Art with Tosh; Needle Craft with Jean and Elizabeth, the list was endless. Whether they were in the gym hall, out at the park or down at the beach, colouring, painting or playing ball there was never a dull moment. A healthy lunch, fun things to do, all in a safe and welcoming environment, and it was all free.”

“Easter, Summer, let’s get ready for October - Fantastic!”
The Summer Programme ended with a Beach Day trip to Maidens.

South Ayrshire Council had organised beach days at different locations Ayr, Troon Girvan etc. so North Carrick Community Sports Hub organised activities for the day including Archery, Coastal Rowing, Beach Volleyball, Beach Rugby, Football, Tennis and Athletics.

They also had Graffiti Art, face painting and tattoos. Lunch was provided for everyone taking part.
It’s coming soon. Oh no it’s not. Oh yes it is! – The Carrick Centre’s Panto Project is back for 2019!

This project which was so successful in 2017 provided a great opportunity for young people from Maybole and Carrick Academy, allowing them to develop new skills and be centre stage in a fantastic community project.

We are absolutely delighted that we are able to do it again this year with the support of your votes at the North Carrick Participatory Budgeting Event, held in March, along with funding and support from South Ayrshire Council Cultural Planning, Maybole Primary Schools, Carrick Academy and an STV award made to The Carrick Centre.

The classic Grimm’s fairy tale, “Snow White” will be the base for the Panto which will be put together across eight workshops being delivered during October and November and the young people will deliver three live performances to sell out audiences in December.

The project will be delivered in partnership, with South Ayrshire Council’s Community Learning and Development, Gardenrose Primary, Cairn Primary, St Cuthbert’s Primary and Carrick Academy, as part of The Carrick Centre ‘Youth Project’ which aims to provide activities and events that promote positive wellbeing, and creative and community engagement opportunities for our young people.

The project will be delivered by Moxie Events and supported by FIB Youth Theatre.

As well as the many skills and experience the young people will gain from taking part they will also have the opportunity to receive a Dynamic Youth Award in recognition of their involvement and development. There will also be peer support from Carrick Academy pupils who will have the opportunity to achieve a Saltire Award in recognition of their volunteering.

Minishant Community Council needs your help!

To move forward with ongoing projects we are needing people from the Minishant area for these groups. If anyone is interested please contact myself on jmurrayminishantcc@hotmail.com or on 07830 787 871 and let me know what group/groups you are interested in joining.

Minishant development trust
The organisation’s purposes are to benefit the community of the Minishant community council area with the following objectives

1. The advancement of community development within the community
2. The advancement of environmental protection or improvement
3. The provision of recreational facilities, or the organisation of recreational activities, with the object of improving the conditions of life for the persons for whom the facilities or activities are primarily intended
4. The advancement of the arts, heritage, or culture

Christmas Lights project
The group will look after and arrange the lights for each year; raising money to have them put up each year; find suitable storage for lights; secure future funding for maintenance and replacements.

Nursery Square swing park.
This group will only be able to be residents of Nursery Square to take forward looking after the swing park etc. The group objectives would be to secure new fencing and play equipment along with insurance and the provision of maintaining the area by securing funding etc. Full details need to be discussed with a group.

Gala committee
To organise a new committee to hold a yearly gala day. This group will already have funding to get started due to the community council tracking down the old bank account and obtaining it for you to get started.
Community Soup Kitchen Event and Garden Party

Crosshill Primary School and Early Years Centre organised and hosted a Community Soup Kitchen Event and EYC Garden Party on 21st June 2019. Children had researched food poverty and had worked cooperatively to support their community by raising £150 for the local foodbank.

On the day, pupils shared a presentation about what they had been learning and to what charity the proceeds of the day would be awarded. At their ‘Information Station’, children also spoke about healthy eating habits, vitamins, bread making and their trip to Trump Turnberry. It was during this trip to Trump Turnberry where their inspiration for soup making came from.

The children contacted a variety of local businesses trying to rally support. The local Maybole Co-op and Simpsons provided items for the children to use on the day, Dowhill Farm donated a ‘Soup of the Day’ and Ayr Asda donated all the fresh vegetables for the children to make their own soup. The children prepared and made two different types of soups, with the support of teachers and Carrick Centre staff - Vegan Lentil Soup and Leek and Potato.

The support from local businesses and community was overwhelming. A huge thank you to Trump Turnberry staff, Carrick Centre Staff, The Simpsons Bakery, Reverend Pickles, Dowhill Farm, Councillor Grant and to the family and friends of Crosshill Primary School.

Sports Awards 2019

This year the South Ayrshire Sports Awards 2019, will take place on Tuesday 29th October in Ayr Town Hall.

These awards allow you to recognise the hard work of the voluntary contribution from coaches, officials, parent helpers and highlight individual and team achievements. Anyone can vote, so please share on your social media, twitter and notice boards.

NOMINATIONS NOW OPEN!
To look at criteria and nominate simply visit: https://www.south-ayrshire.gov.uk/sports-awards/
FISHERTON PRIMARY
Prize Giving and Leavers Ceremony 2019

In June, we had an amazing (and slightly emotional) day as we celebrated our P7 leavers and our prize winners! Fisherton Festival was also a great success and we made a profit of £191.32. Thank you to everyone who came along and supported our school throughout 2018/19 session.

Summer Trip
We had fabulous fun on our school trip to Calderglen Country Park. It was lovely to see so many schools out enjoying the sunshine.

Bikeability
Congratulations to our P6 and P7 pupils who completed their level 2 Bikeability training. They enjoyed a lovely bike ride to Greenan Castle and Rozelle.

New School Year
We are delighted to see everyone back after the summer holidays and are looking forward to lots of exciting learning experiences. We have a couple of projects that we need a little help with.

Art Project
We are highlighting the issue of waste from packaging and are creating a collage from bottle tops to display in school. We are looking for donations of plastic bottle tops of all colours and sizes.

Outdoor Learning
We are looking forward to joining our friends from Maidens Primary for regular outdoor learning days at Culzean. If anyone has old wellies that they no longer use we’d love to have them to use for outdoor learning activities. Please drop them into Fisherton Primary or contact the school and we can arrange for them to be picked up.

Harvest Donations
We will be holding a harvest assembly in school and are looking for donations to make up hampers which will be distributed to the elderly residents within our community. If you would like to nominate someone for a Harvest Hamper please contact Fisherton Primary school office. If you would like to donate items for the hampers, please hand them into school by Friday 4th October.

Contact Details:
Fisherton Primary – 01292 612049
leeanne.campbell@south-ayrshire.gov.uk
helen.hamilton@south-ayrshire.gov.uk

Senior parishioners of Our Lady & St Cuthbert's Church set off on their annual outing last month.

If the weather had been good, the intention was to visit Dumfries House. However it wasn’t, so they headed to Cumnock Factory Shop Outlet before heading for Afternoon Tea at the Coo Shed. Thanks go to Elizabeth Meek for arranging the day, Catherine Crossan for the raffle prizes and also to the volunteer drivers.
Gill Hodges  DCR(T) PgD

Gill, a former pupil of Gardenrose Primary and Carrick Academy, has been inaugurated as President of the Society of Radiographers (SoR) 2019/20 representing members throughout the UK.

Founded in 1920, it is one of the oldest and most experienced radiography organisations in the world. Gillian Andrew, as she was then, attended Gardenrose Primary School from the school opening in 1972 until 1979; then Carrick Academy 1979-1985, where she was a prefect. Gill, 52, was a member of the Brownies, Guides, Ranger Guides, a Sunday school teacher at the West Parish Kirk, a member of Carrick Players for a few years and worked in the ‘Top Chemist’ for three years as Saturday and Summer staff.

In 1985, she started training in the Middlesex and University College Hospitals School of Radiography, London, working there after graduation before moving to Northern Ireland in 1989 to “marry a local lad” for a few years.

She was nominated to be the oncology representative on the newly formed Northern Ireland Council in 2000 and was elected as the UK Council Representative for Northern Ireland five years ago.

At a ceremony in central London at the beginning of July, Gill was fêted by an audience of the great and good of the profession.

Her guest of honour at the inauguration, Geoff Hill, the chair of the Friends of the Cancer Centre, spoke about how ‘patient centred’ she is and the role model Gill has been to the students she has mentored and trained, many of whom remained to work in the Cancer Centre when they qualified; some are now managers of their own departments in Ireland and Scotland.

He spoke of the high quality of staff at the Centre and their commitment to patients and their families. Geoff finished his address by quoting from Van Morrison’s song, Days like this, saying, “I want to thank you all for allowing me to be part of this day.”

In her inauguration address to the assembled guests, Gill spoke of her passion for radiography after spending two weeks on school work-experience “in a very small diagnostic department” in Heathfield Hospital, Ayr.

Now a clinical tutor and therapeutic radiographer at Belfast Cancer Centre, Gill spoke also of the need for role models to encourage students and staff to take pride in their profession; to deliver best practice through research and evidence-based practice to ensure that patients continue to receive state of the art care; encouraging members to enable change, and to be the leaders of the future.

She is a great advocate for continuing to improve the patient’s journey and the need to engage with patients to find out what they require from radiographers.

Gill ended her talk with a quote from Maya Angelou, “I’ve learned that people will forget what you said, people will forget what you did but people will never forget how you made them feel.”

Gill has been a frequent visitor back to Maybole over the years; every couple of months but more often recently as her mum Betty Andrew (née Kidd) became unwell; her parents, Betty and Muir Andrew, are both deceased now. Her grandfather was Archie Kidd; a former member of Maybole Town Council and Dean of Guild.

Gill has stayed in touch with old school mates so has an active social live when she’s back. She regularly brings her children Stuart and Naomi who have themselves both made lasting friendships in Maybole and Gill now delights in introducing her grandson Alex to the ferry journey over. She is still a Maybole lass through and through.
Work continues in partnership with representatives from Alzheimer Scotland, Education, local groups and services around the planning and delivery of the Dementia Friendly Communities Initiative. One of the areas of this initiative that we are developing at present is Dementia Friendly training. We hope to deliver this training to businesses, voluntary and community groups throughout North Carrick who are interested in supporting and promoting a Dementia Friendly Community. We invite anyone interested in receiving this training to contact me for further information.

To support our priority around access to services and information about local health and social care provision, we have also been working with local Health and Social Care staff members who support the Maybole Connect Drop In to develop this service further and bring in a variety of agencies who can provide advice and information to the North Carrick community. We are delighted to have South Ayrshire Life on board and from September they will be attending Maybole Connect on the last Wednesday of every month to deliver information on local groups and organisations.

Maybole Connect Drop In “Supporting you to live life your way” is open every Wednesday 2pm – 4pm in Maybole Health Centre (Rear Entrance). Advice and Information available for Carers and people who need support with Dementia /Memory Loss/Cognitive Impairment queries as well as access to information and support from organisations including Seascape, Social Work and VASA. You can keep track of any updates for Maybole Connect via South Ayrshire Connect and/or Maybole and North Carrick Villages Locality Planning Facebook page and local advertising.

The above is an example of the type of work being carried out at present by your Locality Planning Group.

Interested in becoming involved?
We meet on the 3rd Thursday of every month 10am – 12 noon in the Carrick Centre, Maybole. Anyone living, working, studying or volunteering in Maybole & North Carrick villages is welcome.

Any further information required please contact: sharron.connolly@south-ayrshire.gov.uk
Two local volunteers have been bringing live bands back to Maybole for some three years now and these evenings have proven to be very successful.

Margaret Ward told us, "My motivation behind this was to bring the Town Hall back to its former glory where dancing was very popular in the years gone by and to keep the Town Hall alive with live music on a monthly basis.

People come from all over Scotland including Edinburgh, Glasgow, Glenrothes as well as locals; they also come from many parts of England including London, Cumbria, etc. “It’s bringing money into the town with people eating at local restaurants, using local shops and staying at bed and breakfast accommodation, which can only be positive for the town.

“Most bands I get in are mainly from North and South of Ireland. We do have Scottish bands and tribute bands, all equally very good and welcomed by everyone. It’s also encouraging local people who’ve not been out the house in years to come along to the Town Hall for a great night of dancing which everybody loves; and remember music is good for our souls. So, if you haven’t been to one of our music nights, do come along and join us to see what you’ve been missing. Everyone who comes along, many on a regular basis, never go home disappointed.

“There’s also a bar available on the nights for a wee refreshment or two and we also sell raffle tickets which is very popular and some people are very kind to donate prizes. We’ve also raised money for charities like Cancer Research, Kidney Research, Heart Foundation, Motor Neurone, blind bowlers and an ongoing charity bucket for blind sport; the bucket is out at every dance for people to put in their loose change. Tickets are available to buy from the Town Hall, myself and my very good friend Moira Weir who helps to make these nights a great success."

The programme for the rest of the year is:

- **Scotland Rocks** - Saturday 24th September
- **Barry Kirwan** - Friday 11th October
- **Barry Doyle with special guest Keelan Arbuckle** - Sunday 24th November
- **Dominic and Barry Kirwan Annual Christmas Dance** - Friday 13th December

**Kildoon Challenge**

On a blisteringly hot August day, 30 people undertook the Maybole Arms’ ‘Kildoon Challenge’ to walk to the monument and back to raise funds for Teenage Cancer Trust and Fairknowe Care Home.

The walk was followed by a welcome buffet provided by the pub and a prize raffle to raise more money for the TCT and Fairknowe. The Maybole Arms would like to thank local businesses who donated prizes for the raffle and all of those generous people who sponsored the participants or made a donation to the ‘Challenge’, all the funds raised will be shared equally between the two causes. At the time of going to press the total raised so far was £1,150.

**SeAscape**

**MAYBOLE BEFRIENDING GROUP**

St. Oswaldis Church, Maybole
Every Monday at 10.00am
Various Activities from Coffee and a Cake to Arts, Crafts & Prize Bingo
All Welcome
Some highlights of the past few months:

**Development Programmes:** We know from previous experience that having an Action Plan is a good first step. But it is only a first step. Communities need to secure new resources – including money – to turn plans into realities.

Dunure is the first community to take on this approach and has formed Dunure Working Group made up of representatives of the Community Council, Hall & Park Association, Harbour Committee, Parents’ Council, and the Youth Group. They have now produced the “Dunure Development Programme 2019-24”, aiming to make Dunure “The Jewel on the South Ayrshire coast”.

The programme lists a total of 15 projects. All are designed to contribute to the Priorities identified in the local Action Plan. Some are “Immediate” projects and will be completed by this time next year; others are “Short-term” and are to be completed by August 2021. Two of the projects are more expensive and aspirational. They will need project development work to secure the relatively large amounts of money involved. The Working Group will start the project development work straightaway for these larger “Medium-term” projects – aiming to have them completed by August 2024 at the latest.

The Working Group has agreed to run a public event in January 2020 to update local people on progress and hear their views on what is happening in the village. In August of each year, the Group will deliver written progress reports to all households.

Other projects are still happening in the village; at least one funding application has been submitted, details for another larger funding application are being developed – all at the same time as the community has been engaged in producing its Development Programme.

**Straiton:** Working with members of Straiton Co-operative to develop funding applications for improvements to Straiton Stores and with Straiton Environment Group to offer support for project development and funding applications.

**Kirkmichael:** Assisting Kirkmichael Village Renaissance with funding applications for a design team to work up the details of proposals for their new village shop. The outputs of the Design Team, combined with further business planning, will support the larger funding applications that will be needed to fund the construction of the shop.

**Crosshill:** Assisting the Bowling Club to apply to NCCBC for funding for furniture. The project is part of the Club’s broader efforts to improve the clubhouse, increase membership and so improve the overall viability of the facility.

**Others:** Working with two separate groups to develop their project proposals and funding applications. One group aims to provide golf lessons and experiences for primary school children. The other wants to provide opportunities for swimming for young people. Both will cover all of North Carrick.

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So much going on, so much more to do in North Carrick!

*Report from Development Officer, Stuart Lindsay*
A local group of volunteers have recently formed the STRAITON ENVIRONMENT GROUP

They were delighted to see the completion of four stone planters in June 2019. After a Village vote the planters were chosen and constructed by a local craftsman using the grant of £3,000 from the PAR funding event supported by NCCBC. This was done using reclaimed and reworked stone.

Local volunteers filled the planters with a variety of bedding flowers and looked after the plants over the summer season, although in the month of August minimal watering was required....unfortunately.

Locals and visitors have made many positive comments on how attractive and welcoming the planters have made the four main roads into Straiton. These planters should last a lifetime with little maintenance but requiring a programme of replanting on an annual basis.

FREE TRAINING FOR VOLUNTEER DRIVERS

The idea of driving a big 17-seater minibus for your community organisation can seem a bit scary. The way round this is do a short, one-day Minibus Driver Awareness Scheme (MiDAS) training course which will give you the knowledge and ability you need to drive the big beasts confidently and safely. It’s a skill that you can use to benefit your community groups and it might even help in your personal or working life.

Normally, though, MiDAS training comes at a cost which might be beyond the means of smaller groups. HOWEVER! North Carrick Community Benefit Company has decided to continue funding places for people in North Carrick. So, South Ayrshire Community Transport (SACT) is happy to continue to offer free MiDAS training for volunteer drivers in North Carrick. The theoretical part of the course takes around half a day with a short driving assessment in Ayr at the end of it.

If you are a member of a constituted community group and would like to do your MiDAS training, please get in touch with SACT on 01292 270864, or email info@sacommunitytransport.org, or contact us via the website at www.sacommunitytransport.org. We will be happy to answer any questions you might have and help you with the sign up process.

Please support our advertisers by using their services.
Culzean’s music concert on Fountain Court, a major success!

Culzean Castle’s scenic Fountain Court hosted its first music event in over a decade this summer. The Gloamin, a family fun mini festival attracted over 1000 people who enjoyed live music and entertainment throughout the night.

In 2017, the National Trust for Scotland undertook a major project to restore the historic lawn to enable large scale events to take place. This was part of a programme of investment at the site by the conservation charity which protects Scotland’s national and natural treasures.

Guests were welcomed to the National Trust for Scotland’s property by a unique Buskers Trail, where talented young, local performers led the way from the entrance to Fountain Court.

Scottish musicians took to the main stage with Sticks N Kicks, Anna Sweeney, Glen Park Ceilidh Band and headliner, Scottish tribal band, Clann an Drumma entertaining all evening. Glen Park Ceilidh band attracted crowds for dancing from the word go, with the stilt walkers joining in on the ceilidh dancing.

As well as musical acts, there was plenty more to entertain, with Kat Hula entertaining on and off stage with hula performances, circus skill workshops, traditional fun fair games like Hook a Duck and Tin Can Alley, as well as carnival mask making workshops and a West FM summer-themed photo booth.

Paige Campbell, Events Manager at Culzean Castle & Country Park, said: “We are delighted by the turnout and support for the first ever Gloamin event. The evening couldn’t have been placed in a more beautiful setting, which added to the magic of the night.”

The evening ended on a high with the finale burning of the wicker man, created by the very talented local artist, David Powell. Guests listened to the story of the 16th century abbot before the grand burning with fire jugglers and the perfect sunset.

For more information about Culzean visit www.nts.org.uk.
**Ask South Ayrshire Life!**

Looking for groups to join, activities to try or need some help and advice?

South Ayrshire Life can point you in the right direction.

We are a community information service with a website, a Freephone helpline and a drop-in centre in Ayr. Our team are also out and about in North Carrick making sure local people can easily find out what’s available in their area.

You can drop in and speak to someone from South Ayrshire Life at:

- The Carrick Centre on the FIRST Monday of the month, 11am to 1pm
- Straiton Village Hall on the SECOND Monday of the month, 10am to 1pm
- Maybole Library on the SECOND and FOURTH Mondays of the month, 2pm to 4pm

So if you’re looking to take up a new activity or just want to get out and meet people, please pop in and have a chat.

We can also signpost you to the best people to speak to if you need a bit of support and advice on a whole range of issues, from mental health to getting back into work.

To find out more about South Ayrshire Life, please visit [www.southayrshirelife.org](http://www.southayrshirelife.org), or call Freephone 0800 432 0510

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**Employability & Skills**

If you are between the ages of 16 – 25 and have been through the care system extra support is available with Employability & Skills to help you into employment, training or further education.

Come into Ayr Job Centre on any of the following dates between 9.30am – 4.30pm and speak to Maggie Murdoch or Steven Thomson.

**Tuesday 17th September Room 1**

**Tuesday 24th September Room 1**

The Room will have the sign “Employability & Skills” on the door. If you are unable to find us please don’t hesitate to ask a member of staff

WE ARE LOOKING FORWARDING TO MEETING YOU AT AYR JOB CENTRE !

For further information please contact Maggie Murdoch or Steven Thomson on 01292 612301 or [ESF@south-ayrshire.gov.uk](mailto:ESF@south-ayrshire.gov.uk)

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**Help us make Maybole a Purple Alert Zone**

Join us at a series of events from the 16 September 2019 to promote this fantastic app that is helping people with dementia live safely in Scotland.

Contact Jim Baird on 07584 327875 for details.

[www.purplealert.org.uk](http://www.purplealert.org.uk)
Based in Ayrshire, we provide financial planning solutions to clients all across the United Kingdom. Our team has over 100 years experience in the financial planning industry and are Qualified Regulated Advisors.

With the staggering number of bank closures and the lack of local financial advice services available, Lang Financial feel very strongly about engaging with our local community. Nearly 6,000 local branches have closed across the UK since 2010 and Scotland has been hit harder than most areas with the number of branches falling by around a third.

At Lang Financial we provide a bespoke financial advice service at our offices in Wellington Square, Ayr or in the comfort of your own home. Our advice is truly independent as we are not tied or restricted to any companies.

David-John, one of our qualified Independent Advisors, has worked within financial services for 30 years within the Carrick area. He has worked within the Royal Bank of Scotland and within the independent financial advice market, and is looking to provide you with the service that you can no longer obtain from your local banks.

Please feel free to contact us to discuss your financial circumstances at enquiries@langfinancial.co.uk or alternatively call us on 01292 282116.