

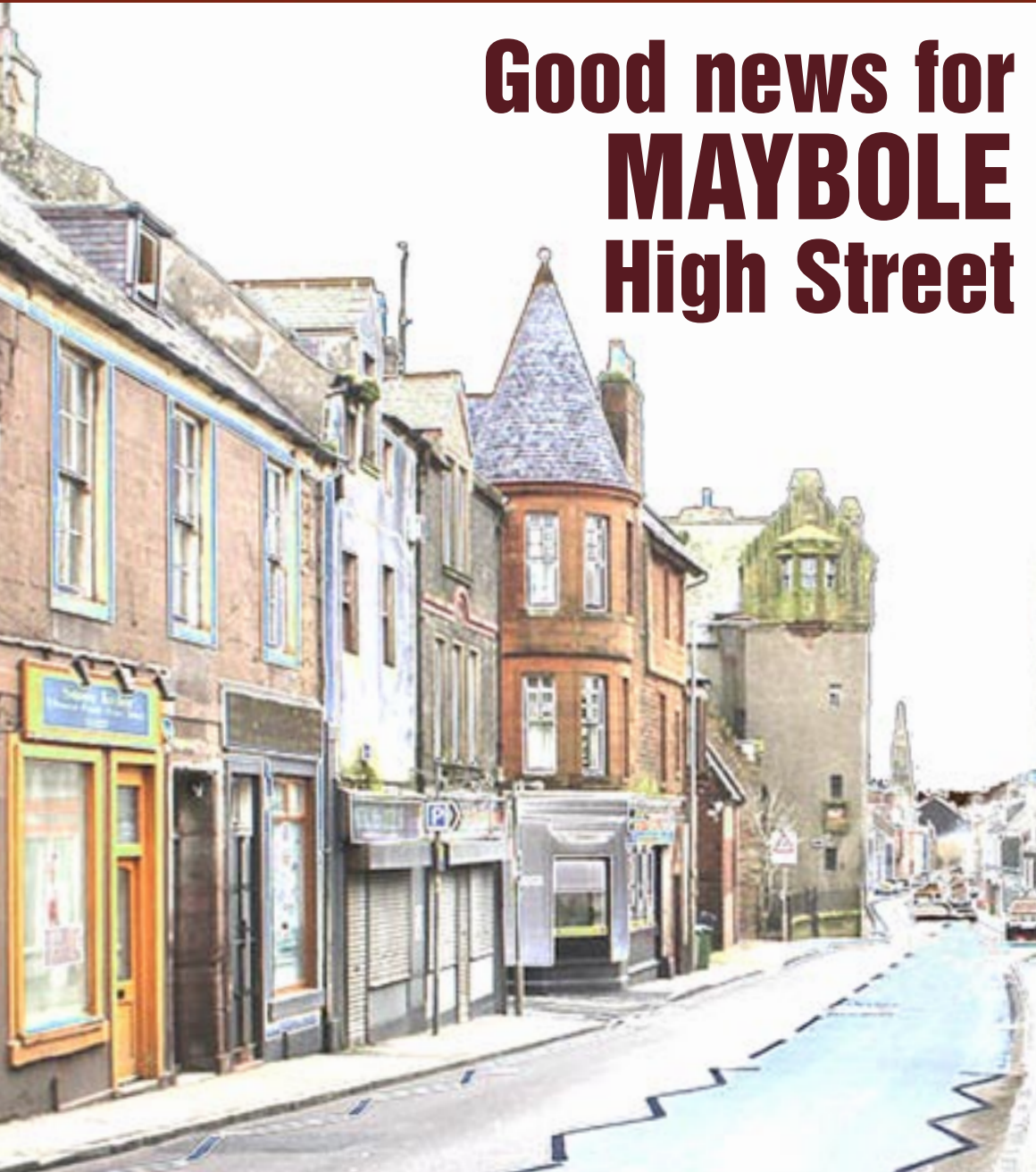
North Carrick Community News

Spring issue 2019
www.nccbc.org

FREE

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

Good news for **MAYBOLE** High Street



Ambitious plans to regenerate and revitalise Maybole's town centre have received a massive boost with the recent announcement of two funding awards.

With £1,825,000 awarded to the Maybole Town Centre Regeneration Project, plus £1 million already committed by South Ayrshire Council, the town can look forward to a brighter future. Full story on page 9

Welcome to our fifth newsletter. In this edition, there's lots of good news and happy smiley faces. We also carry appreciations of the lives of three individuals who contributed greatly to community life in North Carrick – Pearl Barton, William Milligan, and Dr Bertie Collie – who will be sadly missed.



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You can also follow us on Facebook and download all issues of the Newsletter at: www.maybole.org



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North Carrick Community Benefit Company Directors are:

- **Crosshill, Straiton and Kirkmichael:** Henry Anderson, Norman Geddes and Pat Lorimer (Treasurer)
- **Dunure:** Angus Craig and Tim Donaldson
- **Maidens, Turnberry and Kirkoswald:** Chris Savage (Vice Chair), Gordon Caldwell and Les McFadzean
- **Maybole:** David Kiltie, Senga Mason and Mark Fletcher (Chair)
- **Minishant:** Jackie Murray and Debbie Watt

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 2019:

- 15th May 2019
- AGM - TBC
- 21st August 2019

Application for funding must be received 3 weeks prior to these dates.

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.



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 fifth issue and we want to ensure the newsletter grows from strength to strength but we cannot achieve this without the participation of our readers.

Please email all articles, stories, photos and comments to **David Kiltie** at: david.kiltie@talktalk.net; for all advertising enquiries please contact **Shona McMahon** at evolutiondesigns@sky.com

MAYBOLE & NORTH CARRICK VILLAGES

DECISION DAY



YOUR VOTE COUNTS !

People in Maybole and the surrounding villages are being encouraged to show their support for local community groups by voting on their favourites. The latest Maybole and North Carrick decision day will be held

on **Saturday 23rd March : 10am - 12 noon**
in **Maybole Town Hall**

The Maybole and North Carrick villages' locality planning group event is part of a drive to get people actively involved in local decision making known as 'Participatory Budgeting'. Building on the success of recent community funding decision days, this latest marketplace event will see groups display ideas for community projects to local people who are being invited to drop-in to vote to award funding.

Groups can be funded up to £1,000. Voting is open to everyone 10 years old and over who lives, works, volunteers or studies in Crosshill, Dunure, Fisherton, Kirkmichael, Kirkoswald, Maidens, Maybole, Minishant, Straiton, Turnberry. The money is being made available from South Ayrshire Council and South Ayrshire Health & Social Care Partnership.

For more information

Tel: 01292 612158 or email:
sharron.connolly@south-ayrshire.gov.uk





Maybole Memorial Park Bowling Club £4,384.41 – Declan Shaw, Kate Shaw (2nd and 3rd from left)

Declan and Kate Shaw, of Maybole Memorial Park Bowling Club, were delighted to receive a cheque for £4,384.41 from the local Co-op manager, Alastair Travers, and staff.

Thanks to their members, the Co-op nationally has helped raise an amazing £19 million for local causes since November 2017. They give 1% of what members spend on Co-op branded food products in their stores and selected services, as well as money raised from sales of carrier bags and Co-op scratch

cards, to local projects – from improving community spaces or helping school leavers learn life skills, to simply connecting people.

The Co-op local community fund gives money to local organisations to fund projects that help to bring people together and make a difference.

Any organisation can apply as long as it can prove it's not run for private profit and has a project in mind that benefits their local community.

Bringing Baltersan Back to Life

A newly-formed group is seeking charitable status to acquire Baltersan and establish a classical music school there. The Lady Row Trust, named in honour of Egidia Blair of Baltersan, is being formed as a Scottish Charitable Incorporated Organisation. The ambitious scheme for the ruinous 16th century tower-house near Crossraguel, will kick off with a Crowdfunding appeal in April with a target of £200,000 to purchase Baltersan and commission architects to apply for planning and listed building consents.

Attending a presentation in the Carrick Centre were observers from South Ayrshire Council planning and Historic Environment Scotland who welcomed the opportunity to arrange early discussions with the proposed Trust. Making the announcement, James Brown, who has tirelessly strived to save the monument, said, "Finding new uses for important,



redundant historic buildings is not easy. But I am confident we have found the ideal future for Baltersan."

Mr Brown is planning a series of meetings throughout South Ayrshire in the months to come to build support for his plans among businesses and communities who could benefit for what will be a £3.5 million development.

Cairn's Chosen Charity of the Year



During the last session at Cairn Primary, pupils voted for a charity to support and they chose Whiteleys Retreat, a local centre which supports families of children with cancer. The school planned a special event for parents and families and there was an amazing turnout.

parents. Pupils also took part in a competition organised by Whiteleys to design an owl and there were some fabulous entries and a winner was chosen from every stage.

A cheque has been presented and Cairn is planning some activities with Whiteleys to support them further in the new year.



Every class from nursery to primary 7 made something to sell and there was food and drinks in the hall. The money made from the event will all go to Whiteleys Retreat and the pupils raised a massive £781.69 from the event thanks to the generosity of the children and

Thank you very much everyone who supported the event.



St. Cuthbert's Primary School

The pupils of St. Cuthbert's Primary School took part in a 'Sponsored Bootcamp' to raise money for two well-deserving charities, Scotty's Little Soldiers and the Army Widows' Association.



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Membership of Maybole Over Fifties (MOF's) is open to more than just the people of the town and what a wide range of activities is available to them.

Just before the festive season, 16 members spent five nights on a trip to Budapest and everyone had a great time. The weather was cold but the Christmas markets were fantastic. Which Christmas market will they be going to this year?

Contact the group to find out!



The MOF's walking group continued its weekly walks during the Christmas and New Year period. On their first walk of 2019, 19 members stopped off at the conservatory at Belleisle to celebrate with ginger wine and shortbread.

Already planned for this year is a trip to Benidorm in early May and 12 members have booked up.



Peter Mason has been chosen as the 2018 winner of the Matt Dunnachie Award.

He was presented with the trophy and a certificate at the annual Christmas lunch held by Maybole Over Fifties group at Wildings.

Councillor Brian Connolly and Bill McCubbin, chair of the committee which selects the winner, surprised Peter at the lunch. Cllr Connolly told the diners that Peter had been born and brought up in Kilmarnock, before settling in Maybole.

He continued, "He got fully immersed in the Maybole community including being a member of Maybole Community Council for over 20 years and a director of May-Tag Ltd. He has been involved in many of the town's major activities, including Town Twinning hosting, 'Robert Burns - where it began' in 2007; 'The Year of Homecoming' in 2009; Maybole 500 celebrations 2016-17; and many more.

"He has also been involved with organisations such as Ayrshire Leader, Carrick Community Councils' Forum, South Ayrshire Association of Community Councils. One of his current successes has been his work with MOF's -



Bill McCubbin, Peter Mason and Cllr Brian Connolly

Maybole over Fifties - with so many people now involved in a successful organisation.

"But probably his most significant piece of work we can all see coming to fruition around the town. When it was suggested that we needed a by-pass committee there was only one man the then chair of the community council could turn to. As chair since its formation in 1988, he has been a tireless campaigner for a bypass for Maybole".

Cllr Connolly added, "The family of the late Matt Dunnachie donated a silver trophy to Carrick Sports Club, now The Speakers, in 2007 to be awarded on an annual basis to an individual or organisation who has contributed to life in the town of Maybole over the years. It is the equivalent of the town's Citizen of the Year Award. There is so much more to Peter Mason's community work and we feel he is a more than worthy winner."



SADSA brings Dementia Care to North Carrick

SADSA
South Ayrshire Dementia Support Association

Many and varied experiences are shared by all of those involved on the Dementia journey with loved ones. South Ayrshire Dementia Support Association (SADSA) spends time with those living in Ayr (at Eglinton Terrace), in Prestwick (at Auchenday) and at the Carrick Centre in Maybole.

SADSA is delighted to participate more widely in Dementia Care for those living in North Carrick, reducing travel time for those living locally with Dementia, and helping to shape Dementia Care needs into the future.

They hope where care would benefit, or you as a carer would welcome the opportunity that care for your loved one can provide, that you will go along and join them. Following positive feedback and monitoring, they will identify benefits and indicate ideas supplied in feedback for future Dementia Care, while gladly continuing to support those living with Dementia in Maybole and surrounding villages - and their families.



NEW DATES

Dementia Training

**Improving awareness
about the illness, support
available, ways of communicating etc.
For members of the public looking
for information and guidance.**

FREE

10.00 am until 1.00 pm Thursday 14th March

OR

6.00 pm until 9.00 pm Tuesday 23rd April

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North Carrick Community Sports Hub – Easter activities

North Carrick Community Sports Hub brings together sports clubs and other key local partners to develop and grow the sporting offering in the community. Clubs/groups involved in the Community Sports Hub are able to gain a number of benefits; Networking opportunities with other clubs/groups, schools and facilities, Free training including Safeguarding & Protecting Children and Emergency First Aid courses, Funding advice and support & Promotion. If your club/group wish to become involved with the community sports hub then simply contact David Phee david.phee@south-ayrshire.gov.uk for further information.

Activity	Dates (April)	Time	Age	Venue	Cost	More Info / Booking
Multisports	Thu 4th	10am – 2pm	P1 – 7	Carrick Academy	£4	Ryan.douglas@south-ayrshire.gov.uk
Rugby	Tue 2nd & 9th	9.30 – 12.30pm	P6 – S4	Carrick Academy	£7 session	Michael.kirk@south-ayrshire.gov.uk
Rugby	Thu 4th & 11th	9.30 – 12.30pm	P6 – S4	Carrick Academy	or £20 for 4	
Fun & Floats	Thu 4th & 11th	2-3pm / 6.30-7.30	All ages	Maybole Swimming Pool	£1	www.south-ayrshire.gov.uk/schoolsout
Fun & Floats	Fri 5th & 12th	2-3pm / 6.30-7.30	All ages	Maybole Swimming Pool	£1	www.south-ayrshire.gov.uk/schoolsout
Fun & Floats	Sun 7th & 14th	2-3pm / 6.30-7.30	All ages	Maybole Swimming Pool	£1	www.south-ayrshire.gov.uk/schoolsout
Inflatable Fun Run	Tue 2nd & 9th	7.30-8.30pm	8+ years	Maybole Swimming Pool	£1	www.south-ayrshire.gov.uk/schoolsout
Outdoor Day	Mon 1st & 8th	9.30 – 4pm	10–15 yrs	Dolphin House, Culzean	£15 per day	www.south-ayrshire.gov.uk/schoolsout
Footgolf	Tue 2nd	10 – 12noon	All ages	Maybole Golf Course	£2	www.south-ayrshire.gov.uk/schoolsout
Cooking Workshop	Mon 1st & 8th	10 – 12noon	P4 – S2	Carrick Centre	£2.50	Book through the Carrick Centre
Cooking Workshop	Mon 1st & 8th	1 – 3pm	P1-7	Carrick Centre	£2.50	Book through the Carrick Centre
Multisports	Mon 1st & 8th	1 – 3pm	P1-7	Carrick Centre	Free	Book through the Carrick Centre
Arts & Crafts	Mon 1st & 8th	1 – 3pm	P1-7	Carrick Centre	Free	Book through the Carrick Centre
Hand Crafts	Tue 2nd & 9th	10 -12noon	P3-7	Carrick Centre	£2.50	Book through the Carrick Centre
Multisports	Wed 3rd & 10th	10 -11.30am	P1-3	Carrick Centre	Free	Book through the Carrick Centre
Multisports	Wed 3rd & 10th	12.30 – 2pm	P4-7	Carrick Centre	Free	Book through the Carrick Centre
Movie Magic	Thu 4th & 11th	9.30 -12noon	Any age	Carrick Centre	Donation	Book through the Carrick Centre
Movie Magic	Thu 4th & 11th	1 – 3.30pm	12+	Carrick Centre	Donation	Book through the Carrick Centre
Cooking Workshop	Fri 5th & 12th	10 – 12noon	P4–S2	Carrick Centre	£2.50	Book through the Carrick Centre
Cooking Workshop	Fri 5th & 12th	1 – 3pm	P1-7	Carrick Centre	£2.50	Book through the Carrick Centre
Multisports	Fri 5th & 12th	1 – 3pm	P1-7	Carrick Centre	Free	Book through the Carrick Centre
Arts & Crafts	Fri 5th & 12th	1 – 3pm	P1-7	Carrick Centre	Free	Book through the Carrick Centre
Youth Cafe	Sun 7th & 14th	6.30 – 8pm	P4-7	Carrick Centre	50p	Book through the Carrick Centre

Pre-booking essential for some activities either through www.south-ayrshire.gov.uk/schoolsout or by visiting the **Carrick Centre** or phoning **01655 883222**.



CARRICK RUGBY

In recognition of Carrick Rugby's outstanding achievement in season 2017-18 in winning the West Regional Shield and the BT Shield for a record third year in a row and becoming 2018 West One Champions, Maybole Community Council marked the achievement by presenting the Club with a plaque, which will be placed in Maybole Town Hall and will serve as a fitting memorial, in this the Club's fortieth season.

The plaque was presented to Club President Andy Clark by Pete Lynn at a sponsors lunch after the home game versus Orkney.

Pictured are Michael Kirk Captain, in 2016; Andy Dowie former Club President; Stephen Raby, Captain 2018; Peter Lynn, Maybole Community Council; Andy Clark, Club President; Greg Montgomery, Captain 2017; Roy Birnie, Maybole Community Council.

Really hot off the press!

As we went to print, Maybole Pipe Band were in Germany celebrating 25 years of friendship with Urmitz. The mayor had organised a celebration lunch and presented the band members with gifts to mark the occasion. Our photo shows a new medal struck for the occasion.

The band is flying the flag for Maybole and we look forward to seeing all the photos when they get back.



MAYBOLE TOWN CENTRE REGENERATION FUNDING UPDATE

Ambitious plans to regenerate and revitalise Maybole's town centre have received a massive boost with the announcement of two grant funding awards.

The Maybole Town Centre Regeneration Project, developed by Maybole Community Council, South Ayrshire Council and other local partners, will focus on conservation of the historic buildings along the High Street and Whitehall. Over a period of five years, it will transform the physical environment to provide a vastly improved town centre experience for residents and visitors. Alongside the building works, a programme of celebration, training and employment opportunities will enable all members of the North Carrick community to get involved.


Development of the project can be traced back to the Talk Maybole charrette held in 2015. Since then, the community and Council has worked hard to progress proposals and identify the necessary funding. So there were big smiles recently when the partners received word that their application to the National Lottery

Heritage Fund had been successful, with the project being awarded a grant of £1.7M. This was quickly followed by more good news from NCCBC with a further award from them of £125K. Added to the £1M already committed by South Ayrshire Council, this brings total funding to an impressive £2.83M.



If you've been in Maybole of late, you'll have seen that the High Street needs improvement but the volume of traffic makes maintenance of the buildings difficult. The history and heritage of the town have been identified as valuable assets which can be used to stimulate regeneration. The planned construction of the Maybole bypass, scheduled to begin this year, will remove much of the traffic from the town centre and the partners hope to seize this opportunity to revitalise Maybole.

There is more work to do and decisions on other grant funding are still outstanding but the £2.83M secured so far shows there is support for the project and that Maybole can have a bright future.


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Here's a fantastic wee story about a local girl who went to Crosshill Primary School and Carrick Academy.

Dr Jenna Macciochi, 37, is a mother of twins aged four and has also worked in Switzerland as a research scientist.

Her parents, John and Margaret Murdoch, now live in Maybole.

The British Society for Immunology runs an annual Immunology Teaching Excellence Award, which aims to highlight the outstanding immunology teaching happening at UK higher education institutes.

The winner of the 2018 British Society for Immunology Teaching Excellence Award is **Dr Jenna Macciochi**, Teaching Fellow in Immunology at the University of Sussex.

In their announcement, the Society said, "Dr Macciochi completed a BSc in Immunology at the University of Glasgow before conducting her PhD at Imperial College London. Since joining the University of Sussex two years ago, she has worked hard to put immunology firmly on the map for all life science, pharmacy and medical undergraduates."

Professor Alison Sinclair, Director of Teaching & Learning at the University of Sussex, commented, "Jenna has taken several steps to innovate the curriculum with diversified teaching methods to breakdown the challenging nature of immunology concepts, including use of technology to create an interactive classroom environment, which is particularly useful to engage students in large teaching groups."

"She has spent time and effort to include experiential learning opportunities such as an immunology-focused poster symposium that embeds professional skills development into learning, assessment and included an opportunity for peer feedback."

"Innovations that Macciochi has employed to move away from the more traditional, didactic lectures include 'Poll Everywhere', a mobile app that allows real-time assessment and feedback, and 'Padlet', a collaborative online tool to convey the real-time realm of immunology".



"Jenna is collegiate and outward looking and transmits her obvious passion for the subject. This has led to an almost doubling of students taking optional immunology modules and several students going on to pursue immunology-related paths after graduating," said Professor Sinclair.

According to the Society, this is certainly a view backed up by her students, many of whom contacted them to provide their thoughts. "A very efficient, helpful and hard-working lecturer who always is there to help students with any queries they may have", "an outstanding dissertation tutor" and "her teaching ultimately has led to me studying for a masters in Immunology" are just a few of the comments they received.

The Society said that the judges felt that Jenna was a dedicated and passionate immunologist who uses innovative techniques to inspire that love of the discipline in others. "Her dedication to sharing best practice with her colleagues and tailoring her teaching style to suit her students' learning styles has undoubtedly paid dividends in providing a major boost to immunology teaching at Sussex. It was clear to the judges that Jenna's teaching skill was valued by students and colleagues alike and had led many students to pursue a career in immunology."

"The BSI is pleased to award this prize to such a worthy recipient. Our thanks go to all this year's nominees and the people who took the time to send in nominations. Through this award, we hope to raise the profile and recognition that immunology teaching receives in UK higher research institutes."

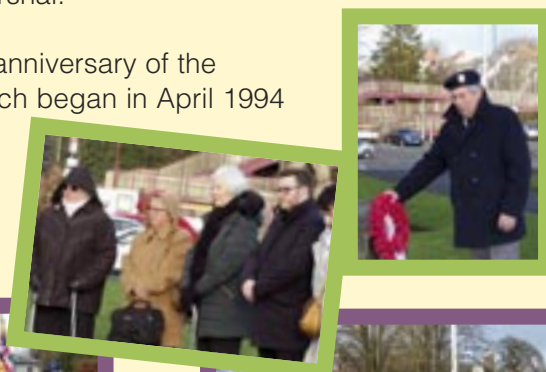
HOLOCAUST MEMORIAL DAY

Sunday 27th January was Holocaust Memorial Day (HMD) and was marked in Maybole with a service led by Rev Jim Geen at 11am at the Greenside.

This was organised by the local branch of the Royal British Legion Scotland and the theme for this year was "Torn from home".

Andy McVittie laid a wreath on behalf of Maybole Branch and standard bearers were Alex Gemmell and Blair Hannah. Alex Davidson was parade marshal.

This year marks the 25th anniversary of the Genocide in Rwanda, which began in April 1994 and the 40th anniversary of the end of the Genocide in Cambodia, which ended in 1979.



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FROM ACTION PLANNING TO COMMUNITIES DEVELOPMENT

Stuart Lindsay has been appointed as North Carrick Community Benefit Company's first ever Development Officer.

Mark Fletcher, Chair of the company, commented, "We are about to publish new Community Action Plans across all North Carrick communities. Our new Development Officer will build on the momentum created in the Action Planning phase by supporting our communities as they begin to deliver their Plans. Stuart will focus on building up skills and expertise in the third sector in North Carrick and on helping groups to access funding for their projects."



Stuart Lindsay will be known to many residents of North Carrick through his involvement in various projects including "PAR2" which saw North Carrick groups receiving grants adding up to £100,000.

Stuart is an experienced community and economic development specialist having worked in Scotland and overseas. He set up "Girvan Horizons" as a community economic development team for the area in 2002 and then floated the organisation away from

South Ayrshire Council in 2009. Ailsa Horizons, the new social enterprise supported and implemented a variety of small and large projects across South Ayrshire but mainly in Carrick. He has a successful track record in fundraising and has extensive experience working with a wide range of funders.

He said, "I'll be focusing on working with local organisations on projects that can be implemented quickly so that communities can see progress in their own villages. Obviously, the projects will need to be in line with the village action plan and we're particularly keen to work with communities that may feel that they haven't yet had much funding from NCCBC.

"I will be spending as much time as possible meeting people in each of the villages. So, I'm asking residents to keep an eye open for posters in their local shop, café or hall to find out when I'll be in the area. We'll be using social media too, hoping to raise the profile of NCCBC and of development opportunities in North Carrick. Anyone who wants to know more about project funding or about NCCBC more generally can contact me at stuart.northcarrick@gmail.com or on 07977 115974."

Email: stuart.northcarrick@gmail.com or Telephone: 07977 115974

Rights Respecting School Community Beetle Drive at Crosshill Primary and Early Years Centre

Crosshill Primary and Early Years Centre's Rights Respecting School committee are working hard to involve our community in supporting children's rights. As part of their journey to becoming a gold accredited Rights Respecting School the committee, led by Mrs Beattie, organised and hosted an excellent community Beetle Drive in January raising £149.60 (approximately 2,764,732.46 Indonesian Rupiahs) for UNICEF's Children in Indonesia appeal.

Families from the local community enjoyed participating in the Beetle Drive and other activities like 'Last Person Standing' and the '50p bucket' while the committee served refreshments. People young and old came together to support a wonderful cause and raise awareness of children's rights.

Following our tweets on twitter regarding the Beetle Drive, the Indonesian embassy tweeted their thanks for our support for the children of Indonesia.

A great night was had by all!



South Ayrshire Health and Social Care Partnership (SAHSCP)



Sharron Connolly has been appointed as Community Engagement Officer for South Ayrshire Health and Social Care Partnership (SAHSCP) in Carrick.



Sharron will be working closely with the Maybole and North Carrick Villages Locality Planning Group which covers Crosshill, Dunure, Fisherton, Kirkmichael, Kirkoswald, Maidens, Maybole, Minishant, Straiton and Turnberry.

Sharron told us, "I have lived and worked in South Ayrshire for over 20 years and bring to this post a range of experience gained through working for the local authority within various departments including Community Learning and Development, Education Additional Support Needs and Customer Services Welfare Advice.

"As the newly appointed Community Engagement Officer, I am looking forward to being a part of the Locality Planning Forum and supporting the development and implementation of planning within our local communities.

"Through locality planning we have a real chance to influence and improve the health and wellbeing of our community, so if you would like to be involved please feel free to get in touch, I would be delighted to hear from you."

As well as Maybole and North Carrick Villages, Sharron covers Ballantrae, Barr, Barrhill, Colmonell, Dailly, Girvan, Lendalfoot, Pinmore and Pinwherry.

She can be contacted by email at Sharron.connolly@south-ayrshire.gov.uk or telephone at 01292 612158.

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Robert Green Fundraising

Last November, I saw a couple of posters in the local Town Hall relating to the Poppy Pledge which caught my eye as they were visually striking with WW1 images. I forgot about them for a couple of weeks; then, for some reason, looked it up on the internet and immediately I was hooked. Over the last few years I have raised money for local charities by running, cycling, sponsored walks and the West Highland Way. I needed a new challenge and decided that this was something worth taking part in as it was financially challenging with a target of £1,918.



Having completed the West Highland Way last year, I decided to try something more ambitious and set myself four main challenges; 1. Walk the Great Glen Way at 79 Miles; 2. Walk the Arran Coastal Route at 64 Miles; 3. Cycle 100km; 4. Walk the local three hills Straiton, Mochrum and Kildoon in a day at 24 Miles. Each of these challenges looked achievable and I set myself a start date of February 2018.

1st Challenge

The Great Glen Way runs down the fault line between Fort William and Inverness and although not as long or arguably scenic as the West Highland Way, due to my timing it was more challenging. I set out on 19th February from Inverness which meant that I was tackling the hilliest stages first. My steady climb out of Inverness was soon a journey into the frozen wilderness. I was able to walk for two days; however, it became too risky and I finished the walk from Laggan Lochs to Fort William in May.



Challenge 2

The Arran Coastal Route is 63 miles and does what it says on the tin. I completed this walk over three days in April with the first two days blighted by heavy rain and a good northerly wind to

keep me on my toes. The route is not too challenging with only a couple of sections which either mean scrambling over rocks at low tide or taking a more inland route. The hardest thing about this walk was not really having any company as the scenery, although stunning around the interior of Arran on the 30 mile back stretch, is quite uninspiring particularly in the rain.

Challenge 3

My third challenge was to cycle 100km which, in itself, was not a great feat. However, with 35 miles still to complete, I was met with a road closure barrier just outside sunny Beith and came off my bike, breaking two ribs into the bargain and still managing to make it home. At least it was a dry day and a tasty BLT roll and a cone from Vanilla Joes at Irvine's Harbourside managed to relieve the pain a bit.

Challenge 4

My fourth challenge I thought would be the easiest as it was three local hills to be completed in one day. I left home at 5am and set off for Straiton Hill which was seven miles from my house. The rain was torrential for three periods during the day, all of which were when I was going up the hills. In total the complete circuit from Maybole to Straiton, Kildoon Hill and Mochrum Hill was 23 miles but the rain and the midges made this really tough.

In addition to the personal challenges I was able to run a bottle stall at my local gala day which was extremely popular, selling out in a record 38 minutes. I have raised money for charity every year since 2004 for a combination of local and national causes, each in its own way fulfilling. However, this year has been special for a number of reasons. It has given me an insight into my own family and the price they paid for the Great War and an appreciation of the impact

on families throughout Scotland. I am one of only 49 people who have taken up this challenge and happy to report that I have surpassed my target of £1,918 with my total of £2,563; many thanks to all who have supported me.

It was done on behalf of Lodge St John No.11 and I acknowledge the support of the Freemasons of Ayrshire who donated more than half of the total sum raised.

This is the **LIFE!**



Looking for things to do, places to go or a helping hand when you need it?

There's more out there than you might think and the South Ayrshire Life website is a great place to start finding out about all the great things that are going on in our local communities.

There are now more than 1,300 activities to choose from!

Whether it's toddler groups, walking football, knit and natter, sport, money advice or lunch clubs, there's something for everyone on South Ayrshire Life. You don't have to be on the internet to get the most from South Ayrshire Life as there is a free telephone number to call and find out about activities and help services near you. And now you can even text your enquiry to the South Ayrshire Life team. Not only that, but South Ayrshire Life is hitting the road! We now have drop-ins at:

- Straiton Village Hall, 10am-1pm on the second Monday of the month,
- Maybole Library, 2pm-4pm on the second and fourth Monday of every month

So come in and see us about local community groups and services! South Ayrshire Life also has a community information centre at 57 Newmarket Street, Ayr, which is home to a whole range of regular help and advice drop-in sessions.

To find out more about South Ayrshire Life or to add your group's details to the website, please visit www.southayrshirelife.org, call the friendly team on Freephone **0800 432 0510** or text **07713 009 306**.

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Cairn Primary Burns Supper



A Burns Supper is always something to look forward to: good friends, good food, poetry, song and humour. Cairn Primary's 2019 Burns Supper was all of those with some remarkable talent taking fellow pupils, parents and VIPs through a wide range of Burns culture.



FIRST AID COURSE

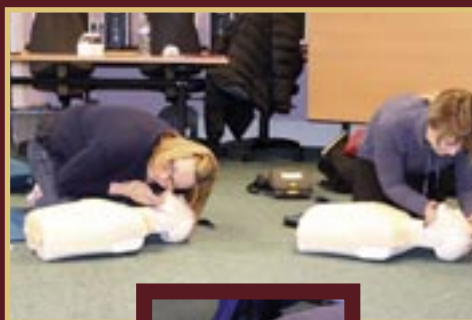
The second First Aid course funded through the North Carrick Community Benefit Company was held in the Carnegie Building Maybole on Sunday 3rd February.

The course was open to community organisations in the Maybole and North Carrick area and delivered by St Andrews First Aid Training. It was well attended with 10 people successfully gaining a First Aid at Work certificate which is valid for three years.

Feedback from participants was very positive which included:

"My new knowledge will allow me to safeguard participants in my group"

"I can now confidently operate the local AED devices that are located throughout North Carrick"



"I had zero skills before. Now I feel confident I could use what I have learned"

To date the NCCBC funding has enabled 19 people to gain this qualification and the next course will be held on Saturday 27th April running from 9.30am to 4.45pm.

To be eligible to attend this free training, you must be an adult member of an active community group in Maybole or any of the North Carrick villages. Successful applicants will gain key skills which will equip them to confidently administer emergency first aid and they will be awarded the nationally recognised "Emergency First Aid at Work" certificate which is valid for three years. Places are filling up quickly so if you are interested in taking part then contact Alison Wales, Community Learning and Development Officer at **01655 882105** or email **Alison.Wales@south-ayrshire.gov.uk**

Straiton News

December was a busy month in Straiton with the school in the forefront of the activities. The pupils were all involved in the 'McTivity' and performed to a packed hall. A lovely Scottish twist to the well known Nativity story.



There was a carol singing afternoon in the school for the community followed by delicious tea and cakes. I forgot to mention that the usual Community Cuppa took place on the first Friday of the month too. This is now well established and a great way to get together and catch up with friends. The pupils certainly deserved the visit from Santa after all that effort and work!



The Hall Committee was also busy with the traditional Christmas lunch in the hall. For a very modest cost delicious soups and sandwiches, followed by mince pies and shortbread were enjoyed by a great crowd who flocked to the hall after church. The raffle afterwards ensured a healthy boost towards much needed hall funds.

The school continued its community work in January with the Community Cuppa and then a Burns Celebratory Lunch at the school. This again showed the great talent there is in the pupils with the winners of the Scottish Poem Competition reciting their poems. Well done to Ethan, Kitty and David. This lunch gave the youngsters the opportunity to experience the traditions of a Burns Supper, including the piping in of the haggis and address to it; the address to the lassies and the



response to that; singing of Scots songs and country dancing at the end. A most enjoyable afternoon for all!

The winter season of whists continued with

the usual Wee Whist on the first Wednesdays of December, January, February and March. The next season starts in October and all are welcome to come along to learn how to play or improve their game. It is a great way to get to know folk too.

The WI had their well established whist in November and Friends of Straiton Kirk had a very successful fund raising whist in January.



A Hidden Gem in Maybole

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Obituaries

They cared passionately for the community and its people with remarkable lives of service. In turn, we have a deep appreciation of all they did.

No doubt there would have been sacrifices in their family lives and we offer our appreciation to their families, too. They were special people and those that are left behind all have our sympathies and condolences.



Pearl Barton

A very special lady

That was how Pearl Barton was described by the Ayrshire Post when she was presented with their VIP medal in 2005.

Pearl was committed to Maybole through her work for pensioners – she called them recycled teenagers! – and others. She was involved with the Community Council, the Community Association, the local Pensioners Association, OiR, Seniors Forum, Charity Shop, One Stop Shop, Maybole Community Development Group, ACCESS and the Diamonds Keep-Fit Club among other interests.

She hailed originally from Rutherglen, but lived in Maybole for many years. and was very happy to be part of the community.

In 1999, Pearl was awarded a Scroll of Appreciation by Maybole Community Council and was nominated as a Good Neighbour in the 2008 West Sound and West FM Community Awards. She was also a 'Carrick Gazette Citizen of the Year' and was thrilled at the honour.

Pearl was one of Carrick Housing Association's first tenants, and a stalwart of its Committee and later the Board of Ayrshire Housing. She cut the first sod to launch work on the housing development in the centre of Maybole.



Pearl Barton



The picture shows Pearl at the unveiling of a Saltire Housing Design plaque at Burns Wynd, Maybole. Also shown left to right are tenant Mrs Maguire, the late Paul Torrance and Provost Helen Moonie.

Pearl spent her last years at Fairknowe House in Maybole where she was a popular resident.

Jim Whiston, Ayrshire Housing's Director, told us, "even after she retired from the Board, she always made an effort to support our public events as our Honorary President and to generally keep us on our toes!" Rhonda Leith, Ayrshire Housing Chair, added, "Pearl was a stalwart and a real champion for the association and she will be very sadly missed".

William Milligan

Bill Milligan was born in 1931 in his granny's house at 10 Brown St, Maybole – a street which is no longer there.

He was educated at Carrick Academy and during his time there he took a part-time job after school to help his family. He had various jobs, including being a message boy for RAO Blackley; a bicycle repair boy at McQuiston's garage; and a telegram boy for the Post Office during the war years.

Bill left school in 1945 and started his trade as a slater and roughcaster, remaining in the trade for 52 years. In 1951, Bill was called to do his National Service which was to take him to Korea with the King's Own Scottish Borderers. His military conduct was "very good" according to his discharge papers and in the testimonial part they said, "Pte Milligan is a sober, hard working man, who tries hard & is a willing worker. He is a very keen and good footballer. He is a good, steady, hardworking man".

Having completed whole-time service he was liable to part-time service in the Territorial Army to complete five and a half years' service in all.

Bill was always a hard worker but managed a few interests as well. He was a member of Lodge St John No. 11, becoming RWM, and a member of the Royal British Legion Scotland.



Obituaries

In 2010, he was awarded a Scroll of Appreciation by Maybole Community Council for his service to the town and he was the 2011 winner of the Matt Dunnachie Award.

Presenting that award, Bill McCubbin said, "The award this year goes to someone who was a volunteer fireman as well as an elder, Fabric Convener, and a member of the choir in the Glen Kirk. He has been a stalwart in the Maybole branch of the Royal British Legion Scotland and was a standard bearer on ceremonial occasions such as Armistice Day. He has also been very active in the charity shop during the years to help to raise much needed funds for the branch."



William Milligan. Proud standard bearer for Maybole Branch of the British Legion Scotland.



Presentation of the Matt Dunnachie Award in 2011. Pictured with Bill McCubbin, wife Margaret and Alex Meek

In reply, Bill Milligan said he had been really surprised and added, "I never in my life thought something like this would ever happen to me. Thank you to everyone involved."

Dr Bertie Collie

Dr Bertie Collie was well-known and respected throughout South Ayrshire as a local GP practising in Maybole.



Born on Cerf Island in Seychelles, Bertie studied medicine at the University of Glasgow and went back to Seychelles where he served as Medical Officer at Seychelles Hospital, Victoria, Mahé, from Feb 1957 to July 1963 with nine months stationed on the island of Praslin.

In 1963, he joined Dr Innes Lumsden's practice in Maybole on Cassillis Road and after Dr Lumsden retired in 1967 Bertie took over the practice until his own retirement in the early 1990s. He had attended to patients from Carrick and parts of Kyle.

A keen cook, gardener and golfer, Bertie was also well-known for his involvement with the Episcopal Church in Scotland as a voluntary priest, particularly at St Oswald's, Maybole, which he served faithfully for very many years. He was ordained deacon in 1976 and priest in 1977 and celebrated Holy Communion for the first time at St Oswald's in March 1977. He was installed as a Canon of St Mary's Cathedral, Glasgow in 1996 and made an Honorary Canon in 1999. Bertie was also a driving force in the building of St Oswald's church hall which was dedicated in 1973.

In the late 90s, it was Bertie's vision that inspired 'Project India' when over £25,000 was raised for temporary accommodation to be built for the homeless within the Diocese of Tirunelveli in South India.

He was also the first Chair of Maybole Council of Churches when it began in 1991 and an important figure in ecumenism in the town. Bertie was part of St Oswald's Church family for over 40 years and looking through the registers of baptisms, marriages and burials, it is his signature that appears more than any other. Bertie continued to serve as a priest in Ayrshire, most recently at St Ninian's Troon, and only retired from priestly duties in June 2018 at the age of 90.

Rev Jim Geen, of St Oswald's, said, "Much of Bertie's life was dedicated to the people of Maybole, as GP and priest" and added that many people have commented on how he touched their lives, showing how much of himself he gave to our local community.

He continued, "He will be particularly remembered with affection at St Oswald's for his pastoral care of those committed to his charge, for his prayerful leadership and for his unstinting work as a priest among us. We pray for Bertie's family as they mourn his passing and give thanks for his ministry among us. May he rest in peace and rise in glory."



Rev Canon Dr Bertie Collie with Revd Anand Asir, Provost of the Cathedral at Tirunelveli



Gardenrose Primary School Burns Supper



Minibus Driver Awareness Scheme



The idea of driving a big 17-seater minibus for your community organisation can seem daunting. 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 with absolute confidence.

Normally, though, MiDAS training comes at a cost which might be beyond the means of smaller groups. HOWEVER! South Ayrshire Community Transport (SACT) is happy to be able to offer free Minibus Driver Awareness Scheme (MiDAS) training to a number of volunteer drivers in North Carrick. This will be funded through the North Carrick Community Benefit Company. The theoretical part of the course takes around half a day with a short driving assessment at the end of it. Under the rules and regulations, the driving assessment will have to take place in Ayr.

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.




The European Agricultural Fund for Rural Development: Europe investing in rural areas

Dementia Friendly North Carrick

If we get it right for people with Dementia, we get it right for everyone!

Supporting individuals living with Dementia enables them live well, to feel included and remain a valued part of our community for as long as possible. We are hoping to raise awareness of Dementia locally, to reduce any stigma by providing information, training and advice to local residents and businesses.

(Please note that whilst the primary focus of the survey is in relation to dementia we do not wish to exclude people caring for friends and relatives with other conditions. If you are a carer then please take the time to let us know your experiences.)

We would like to consult the local community to hear about their thoughts, experiences and concerns and would appreciate if you could take a few moments to complete the questions below or complete this online at: <https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/NorthCarrickCares>

Please tick the yes or no box

	Yes	No
1. Do you know what Dementia is?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
2. Would you be interested in finding out more?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
3. Do you look after someone who has Dementia?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
4. Would you know how to spot first signs of a cognitive impairment?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
5. Do you know where to access support to enable care provision if required?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
6. Do you know how to access support?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
7. If you care for someone with Dementia, do you think that are you supported well by:-		
• Medical services	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
• Social Work agencies	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
• Professional/Statutory agencies (e.g. Dept. of Work & Pensions)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
• Local community	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
8. If 'No' to question 4, what are the main concerns in your experience?.....		
.....		
9. What improvements could be made?		
.....		
10. Would you like to know more about being a Dementia friendly community?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
11. If 'Yes' to question 2 or 10, please leave contact details below.		

Name

Email address

Postal address (if you do not have an email address)

.....

.....

Please return this questionnaire to either: The Speakers, 7 Whitehall, Maybole KA19 7AJ
or The Carrick Centre, Culzean Rd, Maybole KA19 7DE

Fisherton Primary Scottish Taster Afternoon

We held a wonderful open afternoon to celebrate all that is Scottish. We supported local business, sampled local produce and enjoyed some Scottish entertainment. We really are a small school with a massive heart and are passionate about community involvement, this was a great event to open our doors and welcome everyone in! Visitors could browse the classrooms, visit the food fayre and enjoy entertainment from our young people.

We had food donations from some local small businesses: Davie McKay, Deli sh, Broun's Bistro, Doonfoot Co-op.

The whole afternoon was a great display of community involvement and sharing a wealth of local produce with our young people.

What the kids said....

- I liked it because I like the Irn Bru and the shortbread.
- I enjoyed all the parents coming in.
- I tried haggis crisps and honey. I liked that people from the community came to our Scottish taster.
- In the beginning I was afraid to do my speech but after I read it I felt a weight had been pushed off.
- At our Scottish taster afternoon I showed my mum what I had been making in the class and I tried the haggis bon bons.



- I liked everything because I liked how you could make stuff, I really like the square sausage and I like how Eve was playing the bagpipes.
- I really enjoyed all the speeches and listening to the toast to the lassies. I likes saying the reply as well. I really liked the wee ones poems because they were really cute saying them. I think it worked much better than the normal Burns supper that we have because the younger ones don't like sitting down so long. I liked that people could go round the classes and go to the hall to try new foods. It had a relaxed welcoming feel.

- Some didn't like the haggis balls but I loved them. The look of them put you off but they were nice. My dad enjoyed coming up.
- I really liked the shortbread and I liked the speeches because they were really funny.
- I enjoyed being the butcher because I enjoyed talking to all the people and giving them information.
- I liked tasting the food especially the shortbread and the cheese. I liked wearing my kilt!
- I liked the cheese and having my wee brother up to school.

*** UPCOMING EVENT ***

Fisherton church community garden picnic and dedication, Thursday 18th April at 1.30pm



The Music department of Carrick Academy showcased their Christmas Concert in Maybole Town Hall before the holidays

The show was centred around musical theatre and films/movies, and had a heavy focus on "The Greatest Showman". While the majority of the event featured pupils of Carrick Academy, there were also guests from Cairn Primary singing as part of their choir, led by Alison Purdie; and there were pupils from Cairn and Minishant Primaries playing in the school windband, led by brass instructor Scott Walker, and assisted by woodwind instructor Abraham Gonzalez.

It was great to see the younger children becoming involved in Carrick's shows – the future stars of Carrick! The Music department welcomed back three former pupils, Hannah Garlick, Hazel McDowall and Madison Stobbs to engage in after-school music and drama workshops with the pupils in preparation for the show. Jo-Ann Spreadbury, Principal Teacher of Music, said, "They truly inspired the pupils and helped encourage them in developing their confidence on the stage!"

"The professionalism of the show was helped along by a band, specially constructed for the evening's event, which featured current pupils Liam McCourt, Holly Maxwell and Iona Fisher, and also featured former pupil Hannah Garlick, and staff members Scott Walker

and Abraham Gonzalez.

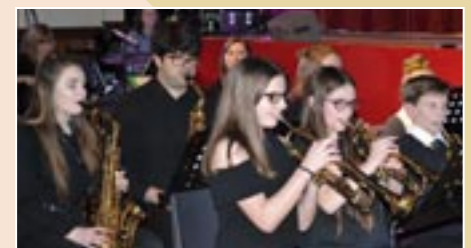
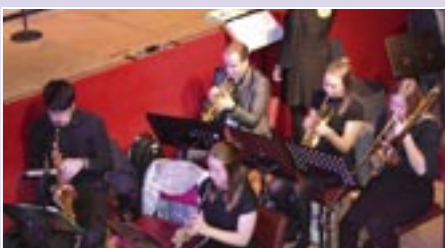
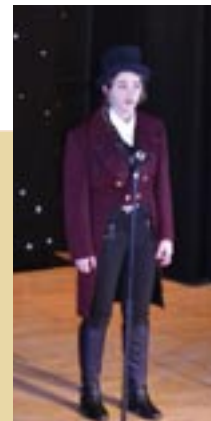
"In addition to this, guest musicians included David Dunsmuir on guitar and Fraser Graham on drumkit.

"The compere for the evening was senior pupil Robbie Paterson who was a great crowd pleaser! He was even able to make the raffle draw entertaining!"

"The Music department would especially like to thank the Parent Council of Carrick Academy for their support in organising the refreshments and raffle on the night; and to GAB audio who were instrumental in operating the sound and lighting equipment.

"The show itself featured a mix of full choir performances, small ensembles and solos/duets; and some of those pupils were seniors who had left it until their final year at school to perform on the stage!"

"There was a real wealth of talent on show, much to celebrate and it brought an incredible sense of pride to all staff, pupils, parents and families who attended on the night. The Music department look forward to their next production!"



How North Carrick celebrated Christmas

The Carrick Centre

Saturday 1st December was a really busy day at the Carrick Centre. Andrea Hutchison, Centre Manager, told us, "What a fantastic day we had. In the morning, the café was overflowing with children desperate to meet Santa and share their Christmas wishes. Whilst the parents relaxed and enjoyed a coffee, the boys and girls ate their breakfast rolls followed by cookies and looked through their gifts from Santa."



How North Carrick celebrated Christmas



"In the afternoon, Sensory Santa had its annual family Christmas Party. An opportunity for children with a need for quieter more accessible play and visit with Santa.

"Set up in 2017, through PAR Funding, Carrick Sensory offers weekly play sessions and monthly family sessions for children with barriers to learning and development.

"Offering a wide variety of activities throughout the year, Sensory Santa was the missing piece to the puzzle. "Once again, Olaf joined us to play with the snow trays, iced water tank and polar circle, while Santa chilled in the grotto allowing the children to come and go as they pleased.

"Great fun was had by all and, to top it all off, Maybole Youth Choir CCTV came along to sing carols."

CARRICK SENSORY



Carrick Stompers line dancers had a great time at their Christmas Party just before the big day. Once again, Santa dropped in with a gift for everyone.

How North Carrick celebrated Christmas

Santa's sleigh rides again!

It was another successful year for the Santa sleigh run put on by the members of Carrick Round Table.

Their first outing was to deliver Santa to Maybole so he could switch on the Maybole lights, then during the two weeks from 3rd -14th December they covered Maybole, Dalrymple, Kirkoswald, Maidens, Crosshill, Straiton, Dalrymple, Hollybush, Minishant, Dunure, Fisherton and Kirkmichael, raising lots of money for local causes and having a few laughs along the way.

A spokesman for the group told us, "We gave sleigh rides with Santa to over 300 local children.

"This was the second year of service for 'Doris IV' and she proved yet again to be a huge hit with the local community. Fortunately, we had it dry most nights with only one night being cancelled due to extreme weather conditions but we managed to re-schedule and had a successful Sunday in Kirkoswald and Maidens.

Carrick Round Table would like to thank all the volunteers who gave up their time to help with the door to

door collection.

Special thanks to Ayr Young farmers who provided two helpers a night, the PTAs from Maybole, Crosshill Community Association for hosting them for dinner after a collection night, John Jamieson, Sandra Wood, Little K's Maidens, NCCBC for part funding the new sleigh, Hamilton Brothers for providing a tractor for the two weeks.

The spokesman added, "We've already started distributing the funds we collected for 2019 by making a donation to the playgroup that is enjoyed by 22 kids each week. The donation will help cover the cost of hiring the hall at the Community Wing of Carrick Academy and we part-funded the Christmas Party for the kids.

"We look forward to distributing the funds collected over the next year. All the best for 2019."



Jackie McDowall, 2 week old Ricky, Kyle and David



Olivia and Sophie Anderson



Olivia and Imogen



Lorraine Mason and 3 generations

How North Carrick celebrated Christmas

CHRISTMAS LIGHTS SWITCH ON

Maybole Pipe Band led Santa on his sleigh, with VIP guests, from the library for the town's Christmas Lights switch on at the Town Hall. Provost Helen Moonie thanked local volunteers for organising the event and then led the countdown to the switch on.

After the switch on, Ryan Ward, Yvonne kiltie and helpers organised a disco and Provost Moonie had time for a quick photo with some of the young people before "dashing" off to her next engagement. The organisers would like to thank Provost Moonie and her fellow councillors, Carrick Round Table, Maybole Pipe band, local police, GAB Audio, Cassillis and Culzean Estate, South Ayrshire Council, Ayrshire Roads Alliance, Jamieson Plant Hire, Town Hall staff and everyone else who helped out – especially Santa!



Photo on left shows Gala King Alexander Browne and Gala Queen Anna Cochrane with Santa, Provost Moonie, Depute Provost William Grant and Councillor Iain Campbell.

Maybole Arms

Regulars at Maybole Arms enjoy Christmas lunch



How North Carrick celebrated Christmas

Our Lady & St Cuthbert's Church

Senior parishioners of Our Lady & St Cuthbert's Church enjoyed their annual Christmas lunch and were well entertained by some pupils from St Cuthbert's Primary and Queen Margaret Academy who all received a selection box.



Senior Citizens Christmas Lunch

Maybole senior citizens celebrated Christmas in the Town Hall with a great dinner which was enjoyed by everyone who attended. The meal was provided by Fiona Brownlee and her team and was much appreciated by everyone; the entertainment by Chris News who got his audience really involved - a few even managed a dance - and the raffle was fantastic with lots of donated prizes.



Alex Kelly, 2nd left, chairman of Maybole OAP Association and his committee with Pearl Barton, former president of the Association, who was presented with flowers by Rev Jim Geen.



Entertainment was provided by Chris News (his son, also Chris, obviously likes his dad's music!)



How North Carrick celebrated Christmas

CARRICK TOTS

Carrick Tots Christmas Party went off with a bang at The Carrick Centre. Over 50 toddlers went along to enjoy the annual Christmas Party, games, toys, soft play, cookies, crackers and colouring in. The children enjoyed the festive fun and waited patiently until Santa arrived. Finally, he arrived and one by one they toddled off to tell Santa their Christmas wishes and collect a lovely gift and satsuma.



Children's gift aid at the Speakers

Staff at The Speakers in Maybole gave Santa a helping hand over the festive period. They had been awarded a generous grant from a local Participatory Budget event where the community voted on projects to receive funding. With this and the generosity of users and friends of the Speakers who donated gifts, just under 1,000 gifts were distributed by various agencies to families that otherwise would have struggled this Christmas.

A staff spokesperson said, "The funds enabled us to buy to request in some cases, in as much as having a list of children's gender and ages, so we hope we purchased things the recipients and families needed and enjoyed.

"In addition, there were clothes, pyjamas and wash kits for the older children and adults in the house. This is the third year in a row that we had held this appeal and, sadly, the need for this and food banks is not diminishing; it is quite the opposite.

"Our thanks go out to the funders and everyone that donated as without these it would have been impossible to achieve this result.

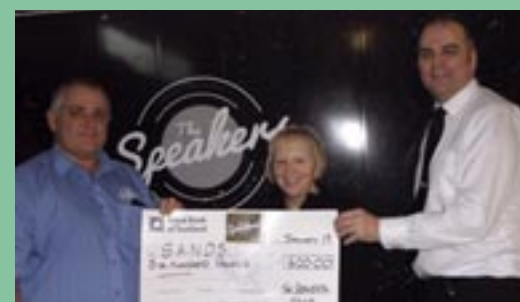
"Gift aid is completely anonymous, which is why the distribution is handled by professional organisations."



SPEAKERS PARTY NIGHTS

Throughout December the Speakers held two party nights and at each a raffle was held to raise funds to support Sands, a charity that supports families when they experience the great loss of a child that is only a few weeks old or a stillbirth. The raffles raised £480 and the Speakers donated £120 from the sales of tickets bringing the sum to £600.

A spokesperson said, "We trust everyone enjoyed the parties and The Speakers would like to thank everyone for their generosity which means we are able to support this great cause."



How North Carrick celebrated Christmas

Gardenrose Primary

P1-3 performed the Nativity 'The Inn-Spectors' to family and friends just before the Christmas break. It was a fantastic effort from all of the young pupils as they re-enacted the story of Christmas that included some strict Inn-Spectors, dazzling twinkles, some lively sheep and a singing donkey!

The Inn-Spectors were in Bethlehem and they were not pleased. A stable was no place for visitors and their newborn baby, and, it really was a health and safety nightmare!

Could they be convinced that the stable really was fit for a King? Well, you really had to be at Gardenrose nativity play to find out!

Miss Lee said afterwards, "We are very proud of our pupils at Gardenrose for putting on a fantastic performance once again! Well done everyone!"



Cairn Nursery

Cairn Nursery's nativity play was called 'Born in Bethlehem' and involved all the nursery children (ante pre and pre-school). They then did a Christmas medley of songs and finished with a snowball fight! Everyone performed brilliantly and afterwards it was time for teas and coffees for all!



How North Carrick celebrated Christmas

Carrick Senior Citizens' Lunch Club

Carrick Senior Citizens' Lunch Club welcomed 35 guests to Christmas lunch at The Carrick Centre on 7th December.

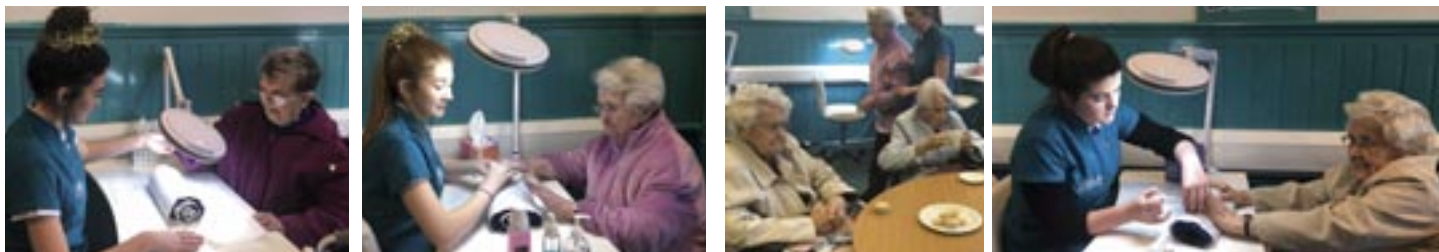
A delicious lunch was provided, there was the fun of a Christmas Raffle and of course Santa popped in with a few gifts to share.

To round up what had been a fantastic day, the guests were entertained by 22 pupils from St Cuthbert's Primary School with their delightful carols and cheeky renditions from their Christmas Show.



Fairknowe Nursing Home

Residents from Fairknowe Nursing Home were treated to a "Pamper Afternoon" in Carrick Academy's Nail Bar in time for Christmas. Pupils from the school's Nail and Barista classes treated their guests to various nail treatments and afterwards served some hot beverages, mince pies and shortbread. All the guests thoroughly enjoyed the afternoon and pupils joined in when their guests began a spontaneous rendition of "Silent Night".



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