

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

MERRY CHRISTMAS and a HAPPY NEW YEAR to you all !

ublished b

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News Foundations for Recovery

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

www.nccbc.org.uk

Your voice matters...

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



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

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

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

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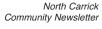


North Carrick Community Benefit Company

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

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

Next board meeting: Wednesday 8th February 2023 Any funding applications should be in by Wednesday 11th January





Download the Newsletter at: www.maybole.org or www.nccbc.org.uk



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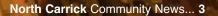


Carrick Tots!

All children under five are welcome and the group is held every Tuesday 10-11.30am, £2 per child + £1 for an additional child. Juice and biscuits are included for tots. Adults can purchase hot and cold drinks, rolls with sausage/bacon, scones and tray bakes. There are lots of toys to entertain the kids, along with crafts, messy play, and parties with our volunteers Lyn, Norma and Davie.

> Our next big party is CHRISTMAS! Santa himself might even come along if he is not too busy!





What Now in North Carrick?

The Foundations for Recovery programme, which was funded by the UK Government and NCCBC, is almost complete. It has produced studies and reports that will support funding applications for new projects. If fully implemented, these projects could completely transform North Carrick as a place to live in or visit!

All the Foundations for Recovery reports and plans can be seen on NCCBC's website at https://nccbc.org.uk/foundations-for-recovery/

Over the coming months, NCCBC will arrange workshops in all communities who want to discuss the findings of the Foundations for Recovery programme. These meetings will focus on projects specific to each community and discuss if and how local people want to take them forward. A theme for North Carrick – Robert the Bruce's Web of communities working together



NCCBC will play a role in securing funds and delivering some of the many projects that are on the agenda. In most cases, it will be local groups and organisations that apply for the funding needed to implement projects.

In total, around £15m worth of capital projects and over £1.2m worth of revenue projects are on the agenda. Obviously, these levels of funding are hugely ambitious targets and, of course, it's quite possible that not all the projects will be implemented.



The real questions for North Carrick communities are:

Do we believe that North Carrick deserves the best?

Are we ambitious enough to use what Foundations for Recovery has produced to get the ball rolling on major improvements in our communities?

You can let us know your thoughts via the NCCBC website or via email to stuart@nccbc.org.uk or claire@nccbc.org.uk.



Big thanks from Maybole Foodbank

A big thank you to all churches and schools in Carrick area for generous donations to Maybole Foodbank over the harvest thanksgiving weekend. We are so lucky in Maybole. The foodbank is open Monday and Friday 10am -12pm and donations can be handed in to Carrick Centre who have supported us for the last nine years - for this we are very grateful. As you can imagine, due to economic climate, things are really desperate for lots of folk - so please think of your fellow man and continue to be kind.

Aw the best, Wilma.



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Maybole Memorial Park (MMP) Bowling Club

What a season for Maybole Memorial Park (MMP) Bowling Club. The club won the Maybole and District League, and club members also reached the Ayrshire Gents Rinks semi-finals. Mandy and Gavin Campbell were the Scottish District and Ayrshire Mixed Pairs semi-finalists, while Ryan McCulloch and Ross Murchie were our District Pairs Winners and qualified for the Scottish Finals. Janet Warner, Mandy Ferguson, and Amber Finney were the Ayrshire Ladies Triples Runners Up and Peter McArthur was the Ayrshire Gents Singles Runner Up. The season came to a triumphant end when the club won the overall Ayrshire Top 10 Championship. The club's reward is representing Ayrshire in the Scottish Top 10 championships with a home tie in May 2023 against Carron and Carronshore BC from the Stirling County district. Well done MMP!

Pictured are the winning team of David Gass, Robert McDowall, Peter McArthur, James McClelland, Connor McArthur, Gavin Campbell, Jack Parker, Stuart Wyllie, Declan Shaw and Ross Murchie.

Kirkmichael Knit and Knatter Group Knits Blankets for Ukraine



The Knit and Knatter Group meets every Thursday in the Community Café in Kirkmichael at 10.30am. Do join us!

Contact: Kirkmichael Community Cafe on 01655 750 443

With the winter coming, the 'Knit and Knatter' group in Kirkmichael were very keen to help the people of Ukraine in any way they could. We came up with the idea of knitting squares to sew together for blankets. A big basket of wool was donated and sat in the hall and so popular it became, that squares came in from all over the village and beyond. Lesley Wilson nobly sewed them all up and we were able to send a huge parcel to Hope and Aid Direct in Essex who will ship them out to Ukraine. A huge thank you to everyone who took part.

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Colouring Communities - A year of fun in every colour of the rainbow!

Colouring Communities have had a very busy year creating wee splashes of colour throughout the community. They are a volunteer friendship group for adults with additional support needs. The group meet each week in St Oswald's Church Hall and take part in activities which benefit the wider community.

This year they have created a beautiful sign for Maybole Charity Shop, as well as making wooden signs with positive messages on them as random gifts. They have also created beautiful, cheerful Christmas cards for the elderly residents of Fairknowe and Crosne Street, and they are currently working on a sign for the entrance of Carrick Community Food Garden.

The group have worked hard in Maybole Charity shop to raise funds for materials and trips, and over the past few months have enjoyed a trip to Heads of Ayr Farm Park, Pick Me Up Paints and LA Bowl. For more information or to get involved please email Coral on coral.mcmillan@outlook.com



Showing off Christmas cards for Elderly

Cosy Space Opens at Ayrshire Healing Centre



Wilma makes a new friend

Visit

Paints /

dn Me

From Saturday 19th November, Ayrshire Healing Centre, on Barns Road, Maybole, will be hosting a 'Cosy Space' to gather on Saturday mornings throughout the winter. The refurbished tea area will be open from 10.30am - 1pm each Saturday with hot drinks, board games, a holistic lending library, and the chance to have a chat with like-minded people in a warm, safe space.



Brave Claire

Meets a Snake

The project has been kindly supported by both VASA and a local small business, which means there will be no charge to those attending for refreshments or activities. Our magical new holistic shop will be open for browsing, and therapists will be on hand to give advice and support. We look forward to welcoming you over the cold winter months and providing a cosy place to escape from the world.

Lily's Bunny

Friend



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Crosshill Kids Hallowe'en Party



Crosshill Primary School and EYC

We are always busy learning and exploring the outdoors at Crosshill Primary School and EYC and this is echoed in the extended outdoor learning time which we have committed to in our School Improvement Plan. We have enjoyed celebrating Outdoor Learning Day and also working towards our achievement of RSPB Bronze Wild Challenge.



Class 2 have been developing leadership skills as well as skills for life with our Early Years' children while working together in developing our outdoor areas and lessons together. Class 1 have been busy exploring weather stations and look forward to the arrival of our new grab bags, which will contain wonderful resources to take outdoors and extend our enquiry skills!

Crosshill had a 'spooktacular' Hallowe'en Party on 28th October for all the local primary-age children. There were some bloody brides, spooky spiders, speedy sonics, adorable grannies and even ghosts!

The Community Association cannot wait to do more events like this one and would like to thank the Crosshill community for their support.

To contact Crosshill Community Association email crosshillca@gmail.com or message on Facebook!



Our Parent Council are supporting us with funding to develop our garden project and we have also been offered assistance by volunteers to build new raised beds and help us develop our garden. We are keen to work together with our community and grow our project!



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MINISHANT PRIMARY SCHOOL

Our school improvement plan involves extending the amount of time we spend having quality learning and teaching outdoors. With that in mind, our outdoor learning has been a focus during this term, which has included celebrating Outdoor Learning Day and working towards our achievement of RSPB Bronze Wild



Challenge. We have spent time across the school, exploring our Minishant Woodland Walk and using the area for outdoor learning.

The Minishant Community Group, with the assistance of the North Carrick Community Benefit Company, have consulted with us about what we would like to see and include in the proposed development of the Woodland Walk. We have many ideas including bug hotels, tree swing, bird



feeders and a mud kitchen that we would like to see come to life. We have designed our dream woodland walk!

THE NORTH CARRICK COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER is for YOU, the community, so PLEASE submit all your articles, events, news updates etc. to:

newsletter@nccbc.org.uk

North Carrick in the Galloway & Southern Ayrshire Biosphere



'UNESCO Biosphere' is an international designation which was awarded to Galloway and Southern Ayrshire by the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation in 2012. This designation recognises our fantastic array of landscapes, wildlife and cultural heritage, and local opportunities for sustainable living. Galloway and Southern Ayrshire is one of two UNESCO Biospheres in Scotland (the other being Wester Ross), and part of a network of more than 700 Biospheres worldwide.

Galloway & Southern Ayrshire UNESCO Biosphere (GSAB) covers a region of over 5,200km², a vast range of landscapes that includes river catchments, peatlands, and native woodlands, to name just a few. It's a non-profit organisation with a team of staff who work in partnerships that support conservation, education, climate awareness and initiatives led by local groups and development trusts. GSAB is home to rural communities of varying size, some of whom have chosen to celebrate their special location by becoming 'Biosphere Communities'. In South Ayrshire this title has been awarded to both Ballantrae and Colmonell during 2022.



Individuals, businesses, and organisations can get involved with the Biosphere through its Proud Supporter scheme, which is helping widen understanding of sustainability and how collaboration and sharing ideas can help build resilience in a time of exceptional economic and environmental challenges. Among the Proud Supporters located in the North Carrick area are Windyhill Kennels, Straiton Village Co-Operative, Carrick Coastal Honey, and Cloncaird Castle Estate. For businesses, there's also the opportunity to achieve the IPO-trademarked Biosphere Certification Mark, which was awarded to the Walled Garden Touring Park earlier this year. All these businesses feature on the 'Explore the Biosphere' map on www.gsabiosphere.org.uk, which was created to help local people and visitors find out more about what's there is to see, do, and experience in our region, from leisure activities to

local food and drink and the creative arts.

GSAB has some highlights in North Carrick in the run up to Christmas. Home Cook School – a



Biosphere-certified business at Kirkoswald – hosts the Biosphere's 2022 AGM in December, and the latest Biosphere Guide Training Course recently ran in Straiton. Designed for local people who are passionate about Biosphere life, guide training develops participants' local knowledge and personal passions, helping them turn these into new careers. Existing Biosphere Guides offer a variety of tours based on cycling, foraging, wildlife, dark skies, and much more, and we look forward to seeing what 'Team Straiton' does next!

Anyone who wishes to keep up to date with GSAB's news and events is encouraged to visit the website and sign up to the monthly e-newsletter, or connect on Facebook, Twitter, or Instagram – follow the hashtag #gsabiosphere.

For more information about any of the initiatives mentioned above, please contact **info@gsabiosphere.org.uk**. Biosphere officers are always pleased to visit and speak to community groups about what it means to be part of a UNESCO Biosphere and how GSAB can support volunteer projects, local enterprise, and the wildlife and habitats of this amazing part of Scotland.



Raised beds by The Walled Garden Touring Park.

12 ... North Carrick Community News based at Girvan and covers Ayrshire.



The Biking Explorers by Paul Osborne/The Biking Explorers. Paul is one of our Biosphere Guides based at Girvan and covers Avrshire





All other images belong to GSAB

Allan Dorans MP

Ayr, Carrick and Cumnock



Allan Dorans MP



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🔀 allan.dorans.mp@parliament.uk

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Are you unsure what to do with your food waste over the festive period?

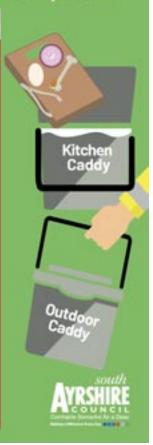


Are you unsure what to do with your food waste over the festive period?

You can help us to make a difference by using our weekly food waste collection. This year, 33% of the waste found in the general waste was food, so by using your food caddy correctly, you'll have extra room in your general waste bin. Tea bags, egg shells, vegetable peels and even bones from your turkey can all go in your caddy. All food waste counts, even in small amounts!

Food which is put in your caddy goes to a processing plant where it's shredded and heat treated, allowing energy to be generated or be used to produce agricultural fertilisers. By recycling food waste, we're tackling climate change as this reduces the amount of methane gas released when food waste breaks down. To find out what can go in your food waste caddy and to request a caddy, visit www.south-

ayrshire.gov.uk/food-waste or call 0300 123 0900



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HO HO HO it's santa and his elves

TOM CARRICK ROUND TABLE

We can't believe it's coming up to that time of year again. Santa and his elves have been busy getting everything organised and we hope you're getting into the Christmas spirit. If not, then let the Carrick Round Table help with our Santa Sleigh coming to a street near you!

Dates:

Maybole: 5th to 8th December Kirkoswald and Maidens: 11th December Minishant and Kirkmichael: 12th December Hollybush and Dalrymple: 13th and 14th December Straiton and Crosshill: 15th December Fisherton and Dunure: 16th December



Santa's elves will be knocking on doors to collect donations for use in our local area. Once again, the Ayr and District Young Farmers and Carrick Rugby are helping us out. If your organisation would also like to help, then send us a message.

Like us on Facebook @carrickroundtable to keep up to date with Santa's Sleigh and our other events. If you take pictures or videos, please send them to us! If you are male between the age of 18 - 45 and want to join the Round Table, then send us a message on Facebook or speak to one of us.

You can find more information at **www.roundtable.co.uk**

Have a very Merry Christmas from Carrick Round Jable, Santa and his elves !

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Bonfire Night

Following on from last year's wonderful comeback after Covid, the Kirkmichael Village Fireworks took place again on Saturday 5th November. Luckily, it was a clear, dry night and there were well over 600 people at the event. A huge bonfire was topped by a magnificent Guy Fawkes made by the Primary School children. Over £1,000 worth of fireworks were set off in a display that lasted almost half an hour. Delicious burgers and hot dogs were served by a band of volunteers, selling out of all supplies of food and Glowsticks by the end of the evening. The annual Kirkmichael Fireworks were resurrected some 12 years ago by members of Kirkmichael Village Renaissance (KVR), the village charitable organisation, with much help from the local community. We would like to thank all the volunteers, past and present, who have given their time to make this event such a success and for all the kind and generous donations made by those attending. We look froward to seeing you all next year!



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An update from Goudie's in Maybole

Goudie's in Maybole, owned by charitable organisation Carrick Community Leisure Group (CCLG), closed its doors on 11th November. The group holds the property on behalf of the community.

A spokesman for CCLG told us, "The decision to close was incredibly difficult to take but the model was impossible to continue with in this current economic climate. We thank the staff for their incredible dedication to the facility and its customers, also the customers and community groups that made Goudie's in some cases a second home. We are truly grateful and wish you all the best in these difficult times.

"Although CCLG, as a charity, owns the building, because of restrictions on charities, a trading arm known as a community interest company (CIC) was responsible for trade through the café, bars and function facilities and employed the staff. It was this CIC which stopped trading and, without the staff to operate the building and supply a source of income to pay the bills, the facility is currently closed to all. This includes the community groups that it was created to help support which at the time of closure was Maybole Pipe Band, who rehearse there; Maybole Over Fifties' yoga, sewing, knit and natter, bingo and arts group; the OAP lunch club; two martial arts clubs; Slimming World; a line-dancing group; another arts group; a counselling group and more. These groups paid for lets or contributed towards costs but, without trade, that would simply not cover the costs of heating and lighting."

He continued, "The facility has not been lost. It is secure for now whilst options are considered for its future use. The building has full CCTV coverage, fully monitored alarms, frost protection on heating and periodically the air exchange will run to circulate air throughout including loft voids etc.lt should be stressed that both entities are/were on a not-for-profit basis and no trustee or director can receive any payments or dividends and never have.

"Folk will have questions and some of those will largely be around the building and its future, so we hope this will help.

"We can confirm that advice from accountants, key funders, charity regulators and other professional bodies was, and still is being, taken so we now feel that we have enough detail of how the options for the facility could be focused. We will host an open meeting in Goudie's on 11th January 2023 to discuss everything in more detail. We will have professional advisors there to help in the decision process and to support those that wish to carry on, diversify or completely change the model." The options, and perhaps others, will become clearer by the time of the meeting in January.

• It is a charitable organisation which holds the building title; new trustees can come forward to simply take over the facility and operate it as volunteers within the context of the Memorandum and Articles of Association. A minimum of four trustees, the maximum is currently set at seven, unrelated persons. Numbers can be amended with the consent of the Charity Regulator OSCR.

• A new group could be formed with similar objectives e.g. to reduce social isolation through making space available to carry out activity or by providing activity. This group could be an individual community-led organisation or a consortium of groups working together under a new organisation or could come under option 1 by nominating trustees from several groups and then agreeing how to operate and share the space and time.

• Another single organisation that is community-led could take over the facility, under its own management, and use the facility to expand their own spaces under a different roof; maybe their facilities are too small or outgrown. This would require approval of OSCR and key funders but is possible.

• If no community persons or groups come forward, CCLG could look to find a tenant who could then operate the building as they see fit. CCLG, as a not-for-profit organisation, could make grants to other groups with similar objectives.

• The last option would be to sell the facility which is owned/held by CCLG. The reason for the word "held" is because when capital grants to refurbish are made there is often a retention added to the title in favour of the funders. This reduces on an annual basis over a set period of time; at this time the main funder would take back their grant, after expenses. What happens with the building and its usage at that point is no longer in the hands of the community but could be accessible to the public in some way.

The spokesman ended, "Whatever the outcome of this meeting, the building and the street scape is secure. In 2015 it had a five year life expectancy at best, as was proven during the works when it was found the roof and first floor were barely attached to the walls.

As mentioned, the date for the meeting will be 11th January at 7pm in Goudie's.



Fisherton Primary School

Go Purple Fundraiser

On Friday 14th October, our staff and pupils wore purple to support the Ayrshire Hospice. We were

delighted to receive a visit from Agent H! Parents and carers joined us for a fun afternoon of activities.





Remembrance Day

Councillor Grant, The Royal British Legion and other friends and family of the school joined us for an extremely blustery Remembrance Service. Primary 5-7 recited In Flanders Fields

War Poem, they shared information about the significance of Remembrance Day and sang 'I wish for Peace.' P1-4 learned about the significance of the poppy as part of Remembrance Day and they created some poppy art using oil pastels.

Anti-Bullying Week

During Anti-bullying Week, P1-4 explored the impact that unkind words can have on others by crumpling up a piece of paper and saying unkind words to it. They then opened it up, flattened it out and said sorry, but they then noticed the 'scars' of their unkind treatment were still visible. They used the paper to create anti-bullying messages.

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Road Safety Week

Our JRSOs presented to the whole school during Road Safety Week. They shared the 'Three Golden Rules' of road safety always hold an adult's hand when crossing the road - find a safe place to cross and - always use the green cross code. They carried out a variety of activities with pupils and hosted a competition with quizzes.

Book Week

Throughout Book Week, pupils shared reading across the school where they discussed and read their favourite stories. Pupils created surveys about book preferences and participated in a 'Living Books' activity during outdoor learning where they recreated book covers or created characters using transient art.



North Carrick Community Newsletters are available in:

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

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Kirkoswald – Maidens – Turnberry Operation Christmas Goodie Bag

KMT Volunteers have been operating for three years within the communities and rural areas of Kirkoswald, Maidens and Turnberry.

This year we will be delivering Christmas Goodie Bags in and around Kirkoswald, Maidens and Turnberry.

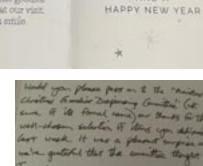
Our aim is to bring a smile and a friendly face to people's doors, at what we know can be a difficult time of year for many, particularly with the current financial climate and the likelihood of significant emergency events such as extended power loss.

Our volunteers work quietly throughout the year, raising funds and support, within the communities of Kirkoswald, Maidens and Turnberry.

Last year, many people were delighted to see a friendly face at their door and many were overwhelmed

to receive these little bags of cheer; but the really valuable part was the time spent on the doorstep for the handover.

KMT Volunteers have been overwhelmed to receive many appreciative letters and messages, proving that communities can do and are doing something to address loneliness.



With Kink in

Merry

hristmas

AND A

This is a days shere you to Kay TS duction and all also demated and filled the Churchene General Days with such landy supervises. He shanks to she charmes and outsits and the famous who delivered to show of me in the community. You have who you are "If certainly speed a way of another and a dolling of kindness on the or challenging times



One recipient wrote, "means a great deal to folk like myself who are alone at this time of year." The pupils of Maidens Primary School take part in a Christmas card competition every year and the winning three cards are reproduced and delivered along with the goodie bags.

For more information or to get involved, please contact: KMTvolunteers@gmail.com

T. same P







Santa's helpers are visiting people in the communities of Kirkowseld. Maidens and Turnberry to deliver a linie hit of Christmar cheer! We know that 2021 has been

We know that 2021 has been a difficult year and we hope that you enjoy these goodses and treats and that our visit, will make you amile





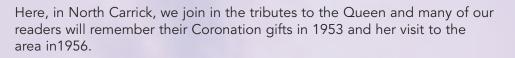
THE NORTH CARRICK COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER is for YOU, the community, so PLEASE submit all your articles, events, news updates etc. to: newsletter@nccbc.org.uk



Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth

Unfortunately, the news of the death of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth on 8th September 2022 came too late for inclusion in our last magazine.

Her reign of 70 years and 214 days was the longest of any British monarch and the longest verified reign of any female monarch in history. When her father died in February 1952, Princess Elizabeth, 25, became queen and reigned through many major political changes.





Prince Charles was Earl of Carrick from 1952 until he became King Charles III with Prince William now the Earl of Carrick.

As a student, the new Earl of Carrick attended St Salvator's College at the University of St Andrews. The oldest of the university's colleges, it was founded in 1450 by James Kennedy, Bishop of St Andrews. Bishop Kennedy was the third and youngest son of Sir James Kennedy of Dunure so there is an interesting link between North Carrick and Prince William.

Maybe, we'll see him visit us with his wife, who also attended St Salvator's College!



Kirkmichael Primary - Harvest Celebration





Our pupils ran a soup kitchen for their families and local community. As part of our 'curriculum day' the pupils went to the local shop to buy the ingredients, prepared the vegetables, cooked the soup, and

made sandwiches. They then took the responsibility of serving the meal and tidying up. In addition to this, pupils wanted to collect food items for the local food bank and they plan to make up food parcels to distribute in the community.











Kirkmichael Primary and Kirkmichael Community Shop and Café

Kirkmichael Primary has been working closely with Kirkmichael Community Shop and Café. Pupils have been given the opportunity to visit the shop on a weekly basis to gain work experience.

They are learning to serve customers, refill stock, clear tables, work with money and date-check items. It has been a very positive experience and something that has given the pupils the opportunity to learn skills for the future when they go into the world of work.



Tel: 07393 829 198 (Crosshill)

Email: stevenheaney4@gmail.com





Straiton News

November has certainly brought the high winds which have stripped the trees of their leaves and strewn them along the pavements and roads, swirling them up in corners of the garden to be gathered in for mulching for next year.

August rainfall was pretty average at 126.9mm, while September exceeded that with 131.1mm there were 13 completely dry days in that month. October excelled with 185.3mm and only one 24 hour period of dry weather.

Congratulations to two Straiton lasses who have completed marathons in the past couple of months. Olivia McWhirter completed the Glencoe Marathon on 4th September; 28 miles of hills, rain, sunshine, midges and uneven trails which followed part of the West Highland Way, including The Devil's Staircase, and Amy Sinclair completed the London Marathon.

Olivia had enjoyed sporting activities since childhood and took up running just four years ago when she was 14. She loved the benefits of running, including the good dose of fresh air which allowed her to clear her head. Having run her first 10km race, she progressed to multiple half-marathons and her goal was to complete a full marathon by the age of 18. And what a challenging marathon to pick as her first!

Through sponsorship, Olivia raised over £1,000 for The British Heart Foundation. She chose this particular charity as having a close connection to her family. Olivia hopes to run another marathon soon, continuing to see

different parts of the country on foot.

The first Sunday of October was our annual Harvest Thanksgiving Service at church, always such a joy with the familiar harvest hymns. Donations of canned and packaged

foodstuffs were taken to a local food bank.

"The leaves are fading and falling, The winds are rough and wild" (Alice Cary)

After the service, the Hall Committee held a Harvest Lunch which was well attended by the community welcoming back a sense of normality. The last Harvest Lunch had been in 2019 but the makers of soups and sandwiches had not lost any of their skills and the food was, as always, delicious.

The primary school also had a Harvest Lunch at the end of October to which the community was invited.



The pupils had made the heart-warming soups, a choice of sandwiches and a selection of cakes to finish off. They were also responsible for other aspects of the hospitality; meeting and greeting guests, taking orders, directing and serving, all done with grace and courtesy.



Donations of canned and dried foodstuffs were later taken to a local foodbank. The pupils thus learned that while we give thanks for what we have, we also share our good fortune with others less fortunate.

The Guild started up again in October when our speaker was Susan Russell who brought along beautiful examples of her new hobby – woodcarving. Such skill was put on show and especially so when Susan is self-taught.



In November. Arno Bremer talked to us about Celtic Christianity. This, too, was most interesting and provoked lively discussion afterwards. Our AGM will be held in December after which afternoon tea

will be served. We welcome new members and also visitors who are interested in a particular topic.

Members of Straiton church and community have again contributed to the Blythswood Care Shoe Box Appeal. Janet Jones, our minister's wife, has once more co-ordinated this most worthwhile effort and, indeed, celebrates 29 years of doing so. Shoe boxes will leave the manse on their journey to Moldova in November.

Another welcome return to The McCandlish Hall was the Christmas Fair. There was a super variety of stalls with lovely goods to tempt the buyers. Teas, coffees, sandwiches and a delicious selection of cakes were available too, provided by elders and members of the church with proceeds going to church funds. All agreed that it was a most successful day and enjoyed by so many from the community as well as very welcome visitors.

The Remembrance Sunday Service was held in the church with a very meaningful address by the Rev Gerald Jones. This was followed by a short service and laying of wreaths at the War Memorial. Wreaths were laid by James Murdoch on behalf of the community and church; Major Peter Clapton (retired) for the Scots Guards and Councillor Brian Connolly for South Ayrshire Council.

The McCandlish Hall committee was also successful in procuring funding to provide a Cosy Corner throughout the winter months. Thanks to them the hall will be open on Monday afternoons throughout the winter for residents to come along and enjoy good company, a blether and a cup of tea or coffee with nibbles too. Monday 14th November was the first day of opening and it proved a great success for all who came. We enjoyed the chance to take part in board games and generally socialise on what was a dreich afternoon outside.







STRAITON PRIMARY "SPOOKTACULAR" Party!



We had a great time at our Halloween party this year. We had a range of costumes from witches to zombies, fairies and even dinosaurs! The children enjoyed 'dooking' for apples, catching doughnuts on a string, and playing musical statues. There were prizes for our best dancer, best costumes and, of course, lots of snacks too!



Straiton Primary Hosts Harvest Soup Kitchen!

On Friday 28th October, we were delighted to be able to hold our annual Harvest Soup Kitchen! The pupils at Straiton Primary School created their own menu, bought items required from our local shop (Straiton Stores), prepped all the ingredients, and finally made some delicious soup,



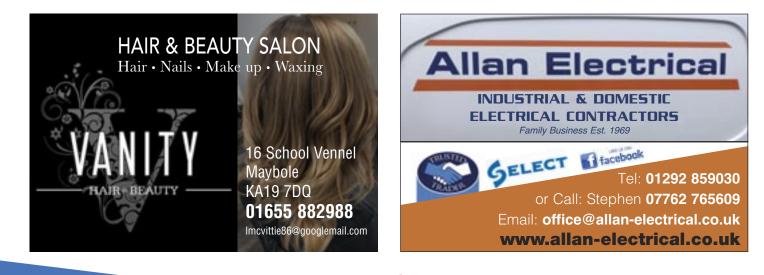
sandwiches, and cakes! We invited our families and members of the community in to join us.



The pupils helped to serve and waiter the event, taking responsibility for the cleaning up and dishes too! We would like to thank everyone for all the kind donations towards our foodbank appeal.







Amy's Marathon

"I completed the London Marathon in October 2022 after applying for a charity place the previous year. I chose to do it after being inspired by my closest friend, and I wanted to run it for her. I chose to run for Macmillan Cancer Support as they do so much good for so many people.

"I was lucky enough to get a charity place. I had been running a bit in the autumn but began training properly in the new year. I built up my mileage over the summer months and did my longest training run from Glasgow to Loch Lomond in the summer.

"I was very nervous on the day, my longest run was 21 miles and I had to run 26.2. I wondered if I would manage it, and I wanted to run it in around four and a half hours. The run had an amazing atmosphere with spectators cheering us on the whole way. There were great sights to see as we ran past the Cutty Sark, through Canary Wharf, past Big Ben and finished outside Buckingham Palace

"The last six miles were particularly hard. Crossing the finish line was emotional, and I managed it in 4 hours 29 minutes and 43 seconds, so just made it with 17 seconds to spare, under my target! I was blown away by people's generosity in donating and managed to raise £2,500 for Macmillan.

"Overall, it was a challenge but I am glad I did it!"

Amy Sínclaír



We are looking for any stories, large or small, to include within future publications.

Please send all your stories and photographs to: newsletter@nccbc.org.uk



1st Crosshill Guides and Rangers



1st Crosshill Guides and Rangers came back after a restful summer and attended the "Wander the World" event at Blair Drummond



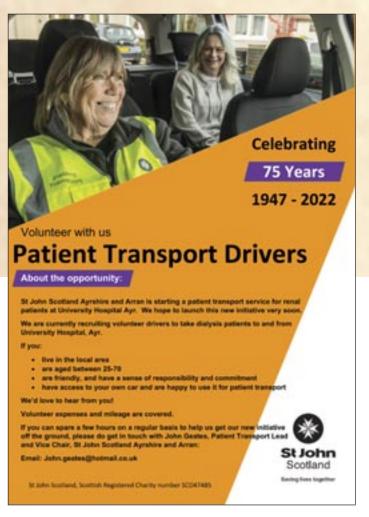
Safari Park on 17th September. They travelled up by bus with all other units from Carrick District including Maybole and Girvan. They loved seeing all the amazing animals from all over the world and exploring the park, which was open exclusively for Girlguiding members. Blair Drummond even provided shuttle buses to give the girls the full safari experience. They even got a pair of animal ears and a Wander the World badge to remember the fantastic day.

In October, we celebrated Jackie's 60th birthday and all the girls signed her card and even created a video message for Jackie to keep. We also made spooky tote bags with lots of scary pumpkins and petrifying ghosts, which some of them used for guising the following weekend.

In November, the Guides attended the Remembrance Service at Crosshill Parish Church and went to the monument on King Street. Our flag bearers were Freya and Cerys, and the flag party were Mirren, Grace, and Elana. Well done girls, you did the village and Girlguiding proud that day!



Throughout the term, the girls have been working through the Girlguiding programme to earn their badges. We are looking forward to going to Matilda's



Mighty Movie Screening on 11th December when Ayr Odeon Cinema will be open exclusively for Guiding members to watch the new Matilda movie.



HOTEL

If you are interested in

B& **B**

joining or volunteering within Girlguiding please contact dccarrick@girlguidingayrshiresouth.org.uk and extend our enquiry skills!

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North Carrick Tourism



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Read

An overall strategic approach – Bruce's web

"Tourism is no longer just about tourists; it's about people. Success means more than numbers; it's about enrichment and prosperity for residents and our visitors". https://scottishtourismalliance.co.uk/ scotland-outlook-2030-overview/

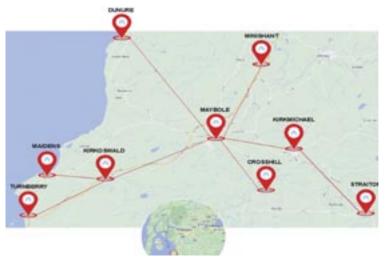
So, for North Carrick:

- The key goal is to increase the opportunities for visitors to stay longer and spend more.
- Investment should give a high priority to community benefits and resilient businesses.
- Plans must link to wider Scottish and Ayrshire initiatives, not be stand-alone.
- Focus should be on developing strong narratives around Burns Country, Robert the Bruce, maritime and farming heritage, Clan Kennedy, walking, cycling, water-based sports.
- Aim to create an experience that links the visitor through a series of things to see and do, and places to eat and stay (rather than one or more major self-contained destinations).

There is a real opportunity, which builds on the existing initiatives and Community Action Plans, to develop local itineraries and packages of experiences – linking to higher level branding and promotion at Ayrshire and Scotland levels. This means structuring the tourism products around the separate communities in North Carrick. Geographically it resembles a web - Bruce's Web.

The web is a distributed model. The responsibility for delivering an excellent experience to visitors is shared across North Carrick, and each community benefits. But like most web structures, there needs to be a centre. In this case one that supports and encourages village nodes rather than controls them. Maybole is the centre of the web and its development will be key to the overall strategy. In turn it will link with wider initiatives beyond North Carrick.

The approach should use Community Wealth Building principles and build on recent community consultation and planning in the communities. There is a need to link these developments together – so each community is in a business relationship with all the others – mutual support is essential.



Within this structure of a supportive centre and linked nodes, each community will have responsibility for, and control of, its offer – based on agreed minimum services and standards. This approach should enable distribution of tourist visits across the area, leading to longer stays and higher spend by providing much more than a day trip experience. In turn, this will support more businesses to flourish and communities to thrive.

If you are new to the area and would like to find out more about the existing tourism offerings in North Carrick – there is a wealth of information available on **NorthCarrick.com** with links to other websites such as **maybole.org**.

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Christmas Tree Sprig of Holly A Robin Christmas Card Twinkly Fairy Lights Christmas Star A Reindeer A Christmas Window Santa

Merry Christmas!



White Christmas Tree Christmas Food Something Glittery Someone on the Naughty List A Wreath on a Door A Candle Sleigh Christmas Bauble An Elf

All children must be accompanied by an adult!

coral.mcmillan@south-ayrshire.gov.uk



ÀRAINNEACHD EACHDRAIDHEIL ALBA





Artist in Residence Exhibition

Our Artist in Residence, Cate Ross, showcased the beautiful pieces that she has been working on with the community. The exhibition took place in Maybole Library and was very well attended. MSPs Elena Whitham and Sharon Dowey came along to show their support. Also in attendance was Master wood carver John McRitchie who put on a display of his amazing carving skills. John Campbell came along to show the amazing artefacts that had been uncovered during the dig for Maybole bypass. Simon Glendenning from Carrick History Society presented a storyboard of the

Maybole Shoe Industry.

Traditional Careers Day

Thirty S3 pupils at Carrick Academy participated in taster sessions in four traditional crafts: stone masonry, traditional joinery, sign writing and leather work. The young people and the instructors had a brilliant day and some of the pupils were inspired to consider some of these trades as a career.



Some of the exhibits on show

Taster sessions on Sign Writing and Pointing





Youth Drama and Media Project

Rehearsals are well underway for our Panto Project which integrates the three Maybole Primary Schools' P7s. This , vibrant project is a partnership between Maybole Regeneration Project, SAC Thriving Communities, Maybole Primary Schools, The Carrick Centre

and Drama Llama Events. The Panto will be loosely based on Dickens' work and named Maybole's Christmas Carol- a Town's Past, Present and Future.

Please email:

coral.mcmillan@south-ayrshire.gov.uk

for more info on our training or activities.



Special thanks to the Design and Technology Department at Carrick Academy who made a massive Maybole Castle set for us! Our artist in residence will work with a group of young people to paint it, ready for the panto!



Elena Whitham MSP and John Campbell

HERITAGE AWARENESS COURSE

Archaeology Scotland delivered a brilliant Heritage Awareness Course for us.

Thirty pupils at Carrick Academy participated and earned Heritage Hero Awards. We were grateful to Chris Savage, of Cassillis Estate, who gave Archaeology Scotland an



amazing insight into the history and architecture of Maybole Castle. We hope to run this course twice next year for other pupils to benefit.



FRESH OPINIONS NEEDEDI

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Remembrance

Rev Jeanette Whitecross, our interim moderator, members of the community and Maidens Primary School held a service of Remembrance at Turnberry Memorial on Friday 11th November at 11am, when wreaths were laid. One of the pupils, Robbie Stewart, read out his poem of remembrance.

Date for your diary14th December

Crossraguel Community Choir "Carols for Christmas" in Kirkoswald Church Hall at 7pm, with tea afterwards.

THE RICHMOND FUND

The fund was set up in 1962 to help those in straightened circumstances living in the parish of Kirkoswald. Applications to the fund should be made in writing explaining your financial situation and any other matters that are relevant.

Mrs Elizabeth Veitch, 21 Ainslie Road, Girvan KA26 OAY

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October Holidays – Thriving Communities and Carrick Centre

Thriving Communities CLD and Health and Wellbeing Team, in partnership with the Carrick Centre, offered a range of activities during the October break. Young people took part in cooking, crafts, and sports. A healthy, hot, free lunch was provided throughout the week, too.

Carrick Centre and Maybole Parish Church Annual Festive Fayre 2022

We were delighted to see the fantastic turnout to our annual festive fayre on Friday 4th November. The centre and church rely on and value the support of the people involved in the event as well as the members of the community attending, it is always a great success. Amazing artwork, beautiful dried flowers, felting, crochet, delicious home baking and creative cards were on display. Fee's Fancy Bites; Eight Giraffes; Carrick Gardens; Windfall Woods and Lumie Scents were just a few of the crafters showcasing their skills. Amie Johnstone and her son Layton who is seven years old, won tickets to our Elvis & Dancing Queen Party night on Friday 9th December as well as a pack of cards and lovely Christmas wreath.

The kitchen team and volunteers did us proud with Morag's mince pies - the real star of the show (mouth-watering!) Santa popped in to collect letters that the children had been writing, and Mags did a fantastic job in the face painting corner.

All in all, a wonderful evening of festive fun.





Pirates and Princesses PARTY



Dozens of children had a whale of a time at a Pirates and Princesses Party held at the Carrick Centre.

The party was open to all ages from babies aged six months to children up to 11 years old. Pirate masks and hats were made by Norma Docherty and the children adored them!



The most popular activity was "Walk the Plank" into a paddling pool filled with paper fish.

Deirdre Cuthbertson, Vice Chair of the centre, said, "The party was a great success and although it raised about £180, it was more to encourage people back into the centre after Covid." She added, "The children really loved "Walk the Plank" - it was a big hit as they were given a certificate for doing so. It was so popular; we couldn't keep them off it!"

Eat and Heat is a new programme offered to anyone in the community by the Carrick Centre to provide a tasty meal and a warm place to be.

Thanks to the support of the Scottish Government, the programme offers a hot meal – main course and dessert - for £2.50 for adults, with children under the age of 16 eating for free. The menu varies each evening with favourites such as mince and potatoes, lentil soup, chicken curry and custard or rice pudding for afters. After enjoying your meal, you can sit back and enjoy the warmth of the building, read a newspaper, complete a puzzle, or just sit back and relax. You might also want to join in some of our activities such as the Man Cave on Mondays or perhaps a family cookery session where we will share our recipe for Gordon's famous 'Ayrshire Bolognese'!

The initiative is for everyone; we welcome families, with or without children, singles, seniors - all are welcome here. You do not have to book, just come along to the centre.

The programme will operate until the end of March 2023, thanks to funding from Local Authority Covid-19 Economic Recovery fund and the Maybole Parish Church of Scotland. Hope to see you there!

The Carrick Centre also held an event recently with stalls from support services available to residents of North Carrick to provide advice and guidance with energy, bills and much more.













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Armistice Day

Maybole held its annual service at the Greenside at 11am on 11th November; the 11th hour of the 11th day of the 11th month. Organised by the local branch of the Royal British Legion Scotland, Branch Chaplain Rev Jim Geen welcomed everyone prior to the two minute silence.

Standard bearers were Alex Gemmell and Dave Trotter; wreaths were laid by Alan McIntyre on behalf of the

branch and Cllr William Grant representing South Ayrshire Council. Local schools, organisations and families laid poppy crosses.

A unique difference this year was a painted stone showing a poppy and the Ukrainian flag. The underside has the inscription "A symbol of solidarity and empathy" and it was provided by local resident Bob Mitchell who was a Warrant Officer in the Royal Engineers with a total of 18 years' service.



Photos by Alistair Hastings

Remembrance Sunday

The Carrick Centre was the venue for Maybole's Remembrance Sunday service on 13th November. Following the service, Maybole Pipe Band led the parade to the war memorial for the traditional two minute silence and laying of wreaths. Standard bearers were Alex Gemmell and Blair Hannah and Pipe Major Gavin Nicol played the lament.

The service was led by Rev Jim Geen and the closing prayer was by Fr Benjamin Mkeri.

They shall grow not old, as we that are left grow old: Age shall not weary them, nor the years condemn. At the going down of the sun and in the morning We will remember them. Laurence Binyon

When You Go Home, Tell Them Of Us And Say, For Your Tomorrow, We Gave Our Today. Kohima Epitaph

Both pieces above were recited by Alex Kelly at both services.





















Photos by Alistair Hastings

Obituary

Sadly, we have to note the death of a man who played a huge part in the life of Maybole.

William Miller OBE

William Miller OBE, the "driving force" behind the building of the Carrick Centre in Maybole, was honoured with a packed send-off at his funeral in November.

Bill, as he was known to everyone, died peacefully on 2nd November, aged 90.

After the service held at The Carrick Centre on 14th November, his friend for 20 years Norman McLean, an architect and former chair of Ayr's Fort, Seafield and Wallacetown Community Council, said, "Bill was a guy who got things done. He was the man for Maybole at a time they needed him, someone with vision to drive things forward.

"Despite adversities with people throwing dust in his eyes he was never daunted.

"The result is the terrific Carrick Centre, a building that works for the community. If the community is behind it, it's a success. The centre isn't just a building, it's a vibrant community and it's Bill's legacy"

Chair of the Carrick Centre, Marguerite Hunter Blair spoke warmly of Bill, "The community of North Carrick owes so much to Bill Miller. He became a local legend long before he passed away and I am delighted that he lived to see his ambitions for the centre fulfilled. At this time of economic crisis, thanks to his tenacity, we have a warm and welcoming community hub, working to meet the needs of local people, physically, mentally, and spiritually. A legacy his family can be forever proud of, thank you Bill. "But to secure the future of this wonderful legacy for future generations we need the community to keep supporting the Centre as we try to achieve funding for a sustainable future. Bill taught us that WE can do it!"

David Kiltie, a former chair of the original management committee, speaking at the time the centre building was just starting, said of Bill Miller, "He has really been the driving force behind this historic project."



The centre was born of a decision to listen to what the community wanted. Instead of closing either the North Church or the Old Church, the building committee went on to create a new centre and Church of Scotland hub aiming to serve the needs of all ages and to be "at the heart of the community for all citizens".

Interim Moderator, Paul Russell, who gave the funeral address, said Bill Miller was a man of faith, with a sense of humour, who "walked with royalty, but did not lose his common touch."

He was "a man held in high regard" by many in Scotland and in the United Kingdom. Qualifying as a mechanical engineer, Bill Miller worked for Rolls Royce. However he said that he became restless and left to launch his own electronic business, Prestwick Circuits, which grew from three to 600 employees in 15 years.

He joined the council for the Confederation of British Industry (CBI) and became its Vice Chair. In 1990, he was the founding investor and Director in the buy-out of Prestwick Airport from BAA. He was also founding investor and director of WestSound Radio in Ayr in 1979. He was awarded an OBE in January 1983. In the spring of 2021, during a ceremony to thank the key players who brought the centre into life, Bill Miller said, "It has been used by hundreds of people and organisations. It has fulfilled what the dream was at the beginning - meeting the needs of the community seven days a week both as a community centre and a church." He said, "My thanks to everybody from the bottom of my heart - you have made our dream come true."

He leaves his wife of 62 years, Brenda, and a daughter, Alison.

Winter update

Over the last few months, our regular youth groups have been joined by a group of third-year pupils from Carrick Academy. They have been learning garden maintenance from Patsy, our Head Gardener, and finished their time with a pizza lunch when they all enjoyed home-made pizza using ingredients harvested from the garden.

Our regular groups and volunteers have also been busy this Autumn harvesting and preparing for winter. Activities included collecting seaweed at Maidens to fertilise the potato patch, planting winter vegetables, soil testing and fertilising, and plant maintenance. For the last month they have been constructing a bug hotel and a bird table for the garden and these should both be installed in the next week or two. On 13th October, we hosted a visit

from Elena Whitham, MSP for the Carrick, Cumnock, and Doon Valley Constituency. She discussed the garden's activities with committee members and met with the youth groups working in the garden.

APPLE DAY 2022

On 15th October, in conjunction with local members of the Association of Scottish Smallholders, we held our first Apple Day at the garden. Using equipment provided by the Association, we pressed over 200 kg of apples brought in by individuals and groups from the surrounding area. Everyone went home with litres

ADVERTISING OPPORTUNITY

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CARRICK COMMUNTI

of fresh-pressed apple juice, much of which is no doubt fermenting nicely into cider for Christmas! This will hopefully become an annual event, so look out for Apple Day 2023!

WHAT'S NEXT?

Over the winter, we will be building the polytunnel staging in addition to the general garden maintenance. We will also be working on landscaping projects within the garden with focus on the 'Quiet Area' around the wildlife pond and on the plant nursery area at the rear of the polytunnel. There will be a wide range of tasks for a wide variety of skills and abilities!

HOW CAN YOU CONTRIBUTE?

We can't carry on with our work without the help, support and input of individuals, groups, and companies within our community. All help towards any of our projects is gratefully accepted, whether it's an hour or two of shovel work here and there; donating building or gardening supplies; or taking on the management of one of our projects - there is something for everyone. We also need feedback from you to let us know if there is anything we could be doing that is different or better that would help groups or communities within Carrick. If you want to help, donate, or just learn more about the CCFG then you can contact us by:

- Coming along to the garden on Wednesdays and Thursdays between 11am and 2pm at 28 Allan's Hill Maybole, KA19 7AU (behind the car park of Our Lady and St Cuthbert's).
- Calling/messaging Simon Bloomfield (07771 758517) or Patsy McCallum (07484 642180).
- Sending us a message on our Facebook page -@CarrickCommunityFoodGarden.

Thanks, as always, to all the volunteers and groups who put in the effort needed to keep the garden going and especially to everyone who contributed to the success of our first Apple Day.



North Carrick Community News... 37

Maybole's "French Connection"

Maybole celebrated its 40th anniversary of officially twinning with Crosne, France on Saturday 24th September. The occasion was commemorated with a range of events including the unveiling of a plaque to mark the 40th anniversary, an 'Auld Alliance' conference, a gala dinner and Scottish Games. The Mayor of Crosne, Michaël Damiati, was also present during the festivities and addressed the crowd who came along to enjoy the celebrations.

South Ayrshire's Provost Iain Campbell was there and said it was a great pleasure and an honour for him. He added, "Today, another signing will take place which will further cement the bonds of friendship, as we look towards another 40 years of twinning.

"I would like to thank all those involved in the twinning, it's your efforts that have ensured our friendship has not only endured but thrived. Crosne and Maybole may be separated by hundreds of miles, but both our towns have a strong sense of community. This is my first visit to your town, but I have lived in Maybole for over 30 years, and I can see many similarities.

"Thank you for inviting me to take part in this historic signing, hopefully it won't be another 40 years until my next visit. I wish long life to the twinning between Crosne and Maybole."



Provost presents a quaich to the Mayor of Crosne



Senga Senga Mason delivers a speech on behalf of Maybole Town Twinning Association



Maureen Craig and Michaël Damiati, Mayor of Crosne, sign the 40th anniversary documents

On behalf of Maybole Twinning Association, Senga Mason recounted the history of the links between the two towns and a gift was presented to the mayor. Maureen Craig signed an official document marking the event.



Michaël Damiati, Mayor of Crosne, with engraved gift from Maybole





Plaque marking the 40th anniversary



Tom Fulton and Daniel Robin celebrate



Provost Campbell and Cllr Connolly with the pipe band off-duty



Provost Campbell and Michaël Damiati, Mayor of Crosne, with the pipe band prior to parade



Pipe Band members enjoying a meal



Maybole Pipe Band leads the parade



Flying the flags



This doesn't look like a fair competition!

Ilangfinancial wealth solutions for life

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.

Lang Financial is a firm of expert, independent financial advisors, established in 1999.

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**.

Expert advice on pensions, investments and retirement that helps you plan a financial strategy for your business, family and future.



Take control of your financial future today... Call David-John Nicholson on **01292 282116** for a free consultation.



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