

FREE

North Carrick

Community News

Autumn issue 2025
www.nccbc.org.uk

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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 and individuals in North Carrick 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 by **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). 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, please visit **<https://nccbc.org.uk/apply/>** or email **admin@nccbc.org.uk**.

Please note: all applications must be complete with accompanying documentation for review, they may be deferred if not completed.

Copies of the newsletter are delivered to homes in Maybole and the North Carrick villages. If, for any reason, you don't receive a copy please let us know. Extra copies are in various outlets in each community.

Next copy deadline: **12th November 2025**

North Carrick
Community Newsletter



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MAYBOLE Events Committee



Maybole Events Committee would like to thank everyone for making Maybole Gala 2025 the success that it was. There was a fantastic effort made by everyone that got involved on the day from the wonderful costumes in the parade, the great turn out, food and drinks village and visiting the variety of stalls available. Special thanks to our Gala King and Queen, Craig Campbell and Katie McCahill and also to Alex Meek and Margaret Kiltie for coming along to crown them 68 years after they themselves were crowned.

On the 1st of August we hosted a bounce day at Maybole Town Hall which was well attended by the kids of the town, and we received good feedback from this. We are looking forward to arranging the next one. On Friday 22nd August we held a back-to-school disco at the Scout Hall in Maybole and all the kids enjoyed themselves. Special thanks to Boogiebeats for once again coming along and helping us out.

As usual, we are always looking for ideas to fundraise throughout the year. All these events help us to make the Gala the best it can be whilst keeping the cost to the public down on the day.

If you have any ideas, please email them to mayboleeventscommittee@gmail.com



DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

6th December
Christmas Bazaar.
20th December
Beauty and the
Beast Pantomime.
*tickets available
soon*

Since its founding in 2014, NCCBC has invested nearly £3 million into 9 North Carrick communities, leveraging over £43 million in economic growth. Funded by ScottishPower Renewables' Dersalloch Windfarm, NCCBC delivers a return of £8 for every £1 spent, supporting hundreds of projects that enhance infrastructure, wellbeing, and resilience.

1. Purpose and Context

NCCBC's mission is to make North Carrick "a better place to live, work, visit, and enjoy leisure." Operating across a 54-square mile area, it addresses health, poverty, sustainability, and economic development. Amid rising costs and public sector cuts, NCCBC remains agile, aligning with national priorities like net zero and community wealth building.

"North Carrick faces significant health challenges, including high rates of anxiety, depression, and chronic conditions—compounded by economic deprivation."

2. Key Achievements

Grant Funding

- 151 applications, 81% success rate.
- £912,914 awarded, attracting £7.9 million in match funding.
- Average grant: £12,032; average match (excluding major projects): £14,089.
- £184,950 invested in accessible community-led projects.

Strategic Investments

- Foundations for Recovery: 26 feasibility studies for capital projects.
- Tourism: Bruce Festival, Northcarrick.com, and arts trails.
- Community Assets: Renovated buildings generating income and services.
- Workforce Development: Driving lessons, coaching apprenticeships.
- COVID-19 Response: £179,000 to 25 projects in 2022.

Economic Impact

- 51.6% growth in local economy (vs. 16.4% in South Ayrshire).
- £88 million annual output, with £43.4 million attributed to NCCBC.
- 14.5:1 Benefit-Cost-Ratio on direct investment; 3.8:1 including leveraged funds.

3. Community Outcomes

Survey Highlights

- 77/100 average positive impact rating.
- 28% increased turnover, 31% more volunteers, 46% reduced poverty.
- Strong outcomes in regeneration, youth support, and education.

Case Studies

- Arts project created jobs and cohesion.
- Youth mental health initiative secured £200k+ in follow-on funding.
- Sports club grant prevented closure and boosted engagement.

4. Strengths and Challenges

Strengths

- Responsive to crises (e.g., COVID, cost-of-living).
- Strong partnerships with local authorities and funders.
- Development Manager role supports applicants and builds capacity.

Challenges

- Application and monitoring processes can be burdensome.
- Match funding requirements may exclude smaller groups.
- Need for improved data collection and storytelling.

5. Recommendations

1. Dual Funding Streams: Simplify small grants; maintain strategic fund with match funding.
2. Support Formation of Development Trust: Lead regeneration and attract investment.
3. Capacity Building: Continue funding support roles.
4. Focused Themes: e.g. Regeneration, youth, learning, and reducing disadvantage.
5. Better Monitoring: Light-touch systems and 3-year external reviews.
6. Process Refinement: Simplify forms and tier match funding.
7. Stronger Communication: Showcase impact and engage the community.

Conclusion

NCCBC has delivered exceptional value, reversing economic decline and empowering communities. With strategic focus and continued investment, it is well-positioned to scale its impact over the next decade.

For more information on the review of NCCBC's Impact please visit:

[NCCBC Impact Assessment 2025](#)

MAYBOLE REGENERATION PROJECT



WHO BUILDS UP MAYBOLE

Who are the Superheroes of Maybole? It's the people who build up our town and make living here better.

Maureen McElroy, The Maybole Makers, 3rd year Carrick Academy Art students and anyone interested in being involved are weaving a 2.5m banner to be adorned with linocuts of Maybole's Superheroes. Are you interested in joining in or finding out more please email Maureen McElroy at mcelroy54@gmail.com or you can usually find us in the Library on a Thursday between 2 and 4

THE GREEN FRINGES OF MAYBOLE

Local Botanist Carol Crawford has been taking us on guided walks of our local habitats illustrating the beautiful botany we have on our doorsteps and how it changes through the seasons



The walks start and finish at the library at 10am and there are free refreshments after. Watch out for posters around town for more details.

2025 remaining walk dates
October Thursday 16th
November Thursday 6th
December Thursday 4th

Maybole Regeneration Project is glad to report that three projects have commenced work on site in recent weeks, supported by Heritage Lottery Fund, Historic Environment Scotland, and Maybole Regeneration Project Fund.

The aim of the scheme, now closed to applicants, was to support property owners and tenants to repair the historic fabric of buildings on Maybole High Street and funding will help to improve grant-eligible items such as the walls, roof, and windows of the buildings.

Grant eligible works at 4 Whitehall and 55 High Street (Scissorhands) are programmed for 6-8 weeks. Works at 88-90 High Street, the former Day-Today, will take around 16-18 weeks and the owners are taking the opportunity to upgrade the internal spaces of the building at the same time, at their own cost.



Inheritance Tax (IHT) relief on business and agricultural assets

From April 2026, Inheritance Tax (IHT) relief on business and agricultural assets will be capped at £1 million per estate which may result in many business owners and farmers' estates subject to IHT.

Previously, farming and business assets could qualify for 100% relief allowing farms and businesses to be passed down to the next generation without any tax due.

Under the new regime, assets above the £1 million threshold may attract only 50% relief - effectively subjecting them to a 20% tax rate.

Farmers and business owners will still

have their own personal inheritance tax allowances, and a married couple may have up to a £2 million allowance if advice is sought and future planning put in place.

The £1 million allowance is not transferable unlike the personal allowances which means that Wills need to be carefully drafted to ensure that an estate maximises all allowances available.

The options available to families will very much depend on their own circumstances; the ages of those involved in the business, the nature and value of the assets, current borrowing etc. Matters may be more complex than families realise as there are not just tax consequences to consider when estate planning.

We are urging clients who think they may be impacted by the changes to review their affairs well ahead of the rule changes to ensure assets are passed on as efficiently as possible either during lifetime or through a Will.

If you would like to learn more about how the change to Agricultural Property Relief and Business Relief may impact you we are holding a seminar in Ayr on Wednesday 8th October, if you are interested in attending please contact Ashley Fleet - ashley@mckinstry.co.uk

If you would prefer to speak to a solicitor regarding your affairs please contact us on 01292 281711. Below is a checklist of matters you may wish to consider before an initial meeting.

PROPERTY LAW - WILLS AND ESTATES - EMPLOYMENT LAW - DEBT RECOVERY - BUSINESS LAW - FAMILY LAW - AGRICULTURAL LAW - ACCIDENT CLAIMS



The McKinstry Company Inheritance Tax Farming Seminar

If you are concerned about the changes to Inheritance Tax reliefs, we are holding a seminar in Ayr on **Wednesday 8th October**. Our Partners will be discussing what the changes may mean to you, your family and your business and what you should be considering now before it is too late. We will also have speakers from a local Accountancy firm and financial advisor. If you are interested in attending please contact Ashley Fleet - ashley@mckinstry.co.uk or 01292 281711. If you cannot attend but would like a meeting with one of our solicitors, please contact them directly.

Checklist for Farmers

- ☒ Where are your Title Deeds?
- ☒ Do you know how the title to your farm is held? (in your name personally or in the name of the partnership?)
- ☒ Do you have a partnership agreement in place? If so, is it up to date?
- ☒ Does everyone involved in the business have a Will in place?
- ☒ Does everyone involved in the business have a Power of Attorney in place?
- ☒ Have you discussed a potential legal rights claims with your solicitor?
- ☒ Has anyone involved in the business recently married or separated?



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From Beachcomber

Every spring for decades Jan Moore, who died aged 96, would pack her bags in Brisbane, hop on a plane and fly 10,000 miles to land up in Maidens. There she would spend the summer in the family cottage overlooking the harbour, the Clyde and the mountains of Arran.

This pilgrimage halfway around the globe flowed in her Ayrshire blood. She was born in the village, raised there and vowed she would always return. And she did. Every year for decades despite raising a family in Australia.

Jan was born on 23rd November, 1928. Her father James Sloan was a Carrick fisherman, her mother Elizabeth (nee Howatson) was a cheese maker. Jan spent her childhood in Shanter Road only steps away from the cottage where she ultimately lived in latter years. In fact it was her parents' summer retreat.

She trained as a teacher and worked in, among other Ayrshire schools, Maidens Primary where she herself had been a pupil. After the war she travelled with her mother to Australia on a family trip. In Adelaide, they were driven around by the only person they knew with a car. And that was Alan Moore, an agronomy student. Three years later, he showed up in Maidens. Romance blossomed. An engagement emerged.

Alan left for the US for his doctoral studies. Jan followed and they married in 1954 in the intriguingly named town of Black Diamond, Washington. Her

innate curiosity about the world around her never flagged and with Alan's work they lived and worked in Canada, Nigeria, Holland, India and Italy. The latter held special interest for the couple as they held a mutual passion for zippy Alpha Romeo sports cars which at times were housed in Maidens after visits to Rome for Alan's work with the United Nations.



In recent years, her vibrant wartime memories of her teenage years in Maidens were recounted in the authoritative book 'Turnberry Airfield' about the RAF base. Author Margaret Morrell quoted Jan as saying: 'The airbase had a huge impact on village life. ... For a teenager it was all very exciting, rather frightening and sad too'. Her stories included not only the social side of the base but also, tragically, those of the young men who died while training or in action.

'The airfield changed our lives dramatically. It scattered local girls to Canada, New Zealand, and Australia. The village had changed forever.' she explained.

Jan's determined commitment to Scotland increased after Alan's retirement. Annual visits become her norm. After his death in 2004, she returned every year, many times accompanied by her son Nic. Even this year, aged 96, she was packing her bags in Brisbane ready for her next 10,000 mile trip to Maidens when she became ill and sadly died.

Her four children and five grandchildren in Australia ensured her ashes returned to Ayrshire. It was her wish. They were interred at Kirkoswald cemetery where her husband Alan and parents are buried. Jan Moore will be forever near the village of Maidens that she loved so much, enfolded among the Carrick hills she dreamed of throughout her long and eventful life.



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KIRKMICHAEL

It's been a landmark summer for Kirkmichael. The village has taken a huge step forward with the creation of the Kirkmichael Ayrshire Development Trust and, through it, the ongoing project to purchase the historic McCosh Hall on Patna Road for the community. It is hoped that this wonderful achievement will secure the hall's future for generations to come. The hall is already at the heart of village life – home to the shop and tearoom, and buzzing with activity from local clubs and groups, including the bowling club with its thriving membership. Looking ahead, there's plenty to look forward to.

A Plaque was Unveiled on Sunday 14th September, led by the Kirkmichael History Group with a short talk from Rev. Gerald Jones and Rob Close. The plaque marks the countdown to the hall's 150th anniversary in 2026. A little history: John McCosh, born in Kirkmichael Parish in 1805, left an extraordinary legacy. After a distinguished career as a military surgeon in India – and a sideline in poetry and early photography – he bequeathed funds that led to the opening of McCosh Hall in 1899. Ever since, the hall has stood at the centre of village life.

And there's more on the horizon!
Mark your calendars for these highlights:

- **Fireworks Night** – 5th November, playing field
- **Race Night** – 7th November, in aid of Kids in the Community
- **Christmas Fayre** – 29th November
- **Hogmanay Party** – 31st December
- **Quiz Night** – 17th January
- **Casino Night** – 14th February, supporting the community shop

Add in the ever-popular Cinema Club and the many regular groups, and it's clear there will be no shortage of fun to brighten the winter evenings. Watch our Facebook pages and village noticeboard for more information. Finally, we're delighted to share some historic photographs of Kirkmichael – including one showing the McCosh Hall in its very early days – a reminder of just how far we've come, and the legacy we're carrying forward.



Maybole Indoor Bowling Club

We are delighted to announce we are commencing our bowling afternoons in Maybole Town Hall from Tuesday 7th October 2025.

Bowling sessions will start promptly at 1pm and finish at 3pm. We will be playing twice per week, Tuesday and Wednesday as per let guidelines. Each session will be split into two games, so even if you cannot stay for the full session or will be late, you have the option to play either the first or second game. During the interval between games you can enjoy a cup of tea or coffee and catch up with your fellow bowlers. You don't have to have played bowls before, instruction will be provided. Flat shoes are a requirement "e.g. slippers". Bowls are provided.

Membership £10 (and as a member you are covered by our liability insurance) Thereafter, costs £1.50 per session. Tea and coffee 50p
It's a long wet winter, so we are hoping to see a good turn out.



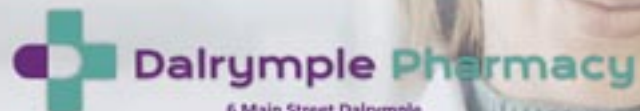


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Thanks to funding from VASA (Voluntary Action South Ayrshire) in 2022, MCA (Maidens Community Association), were able to start an Arts and Crafts club. The funding was a one off from VASA, from their coming out of Covid fund, but it did allow the establishment of the club.

The club meets on Wednesday evenings, in the church hall. At £30 a night, it is a major cost outlay for us. So, in later years, we are extremely grateful to NCCBC (North Carrick Community Benefits Company) and KMT (Kirkoswald, Maidens, Turnberry Development Trust), for stepping in with funding for materials and payment of the church hall costs.

Without their help and continued support, it would be difficult to keep the club running. We mostly use expertise from within the group to learn different crafts, but where appropriate will bring in trainers to deliver new crafts.



Some of the topics we have tried so far are – decoupage, acrylic painting, card making, neurographic art, jewellery making, quilling, macrame and many others. We are a very sociable bunch, with over 22 in the WhatsApp group, of which there are 10 regulars. We all agree it has helped with the transition back into the community after the catastrophe of Covid.

Our aim now, is to become more self-sufficient and less reliant on the funding from our supporters, which we are of course very grateful for. We are therefore trying to build a stock of finished parts of the different crafts we have found most successful. We had a trial run with one of the local groups which was very good and has prompted us to take a table at a local Christmas fayre later this year.

Maybole Juniors FC Installs Life-Saving Defibrillator at Stadium

Maybole Juniors FC is proud to announce the installation of a public access defibrillator outside our stadium. This vital piece of life-saving equipment has been generously provided by NCCBC (North Carrick Community Benefit Company).

We are extremely grateful to NCCBC for their continued support of community health and wellbeing. Having a defibrillator on-site ensures that in the event of a cardiac emergency, we are better equipped to respond quickly and effectively — potentially saving lives.

The defibrillator is available for public use and is in a clearly marked, accessible area outside the stadium.



Together, we're building a safer and more prepared community.

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Bute House Fundraising

Janice shepherd writes about raising funds at the gatherings Maybole and due to generosity of Maybole, outlying areas, Ayrshire and Kirkmichael, raised £1020 in the 3 weeks she ran the shop after all expenses was paid out.

My husband Tom Shepherd who is now in Bute House nursing home Cumnock loves living there, he originally went in for respite care so I, his wife, Janice could get a rest. After going into this home a few times when the time came for him to move in permanently, he chose this home out of all the ones he visited as the best. Yes, he loved Dalmellington and Patna's care homes, but there was something about the people, staff and janitors he just really liked. He gets on so well with the staff who are super helpful and friendly that this became his home.

Tom has been here since he caught COVID in 2023, he developed vascular dementia, and I could no longer care for all his needs. My family and friends have been a great support to me, and I would have been lost without them. So as a group, we decided to give something back to the home that has looked after him and so many others. I set up a charity shop at The Gatherings in Maybole for two weeks, the word went out and the donations came in as can be seen in the photos. I had enough stock items to keep the shop open for more weeks than I could manage, but, as I relied on help volunteers to run the shop, two weeks was my maximum with a goal of £1000 to go towards residents' funds in the home. We in total raised £1500 after costs and we donated £1020 to the home's funds as pictured. A good friend Jan and Alan Finlay taught me how to run the shop and with the help of Patna knit and natter group, over 60s we loaded the goods into cars and set the shop up.

I cannot thank my volunteers and friends for all their help, Sandra Laidlaw is like my sister, her encouragement, cups of tea and biscuits kept us all going. My family, what can I say you were brilliant,



all this meant a great deal to myself and family in giving something back to a home who cares and loves the clients as their own.

The large cheque donated from random acts of kindness Jan and Alan Finlay finally finished off our adventure. Unsold donated goods were handed to a group in Gambia, the thistle centre, Netherthird community centre, Random acts of kindness and Kirkmichael community shop.



Thank you for all your donations the people of Dalmellington, Patna, Cumnock and Maybole. Is was a really good but, hard working two weeks.

Copies of the North Carrick Community Newsletter are available throughout many North Carrick venues, if you need to pick one up, your main outlets are:

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

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You can book your Winter Brown Bin collection for December, January and February via our online booking system from 17 November 2025

A VALID WASTE SUBSCRIPTION IS REQUIRED

Festive Waste Collections

There will be no collection of any waste on Thursday 25 December or Thursday 1 January. Residents should check the website or social media to find out when their waste will be collected.

Don't forget to book your Winter Brown Bin collection

south-ayrshire.gov.uk/garden-waste

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Development Manager's Update



Bruce Trail Buzz

We're working on funding applications to support a series of arts and cultural events linked to the new artworks and AR Trail. We're also making sure local shops are stocked with stickers and know how important their role is in keeping the Trail alive.

Carraig Connections Taking Shape

- Work continues to set up the new Carraig Connections Development Trust, with OSCR registration as a SCIO now complete.
- Plans for the Kirkoswald Reading Room are moving forward – once the Building Warrant is secured, the local group will seek quotes from local contractors and start fundraising.
- The Trustees of Maybole Castle have been asked to consider giving Carraig Connections a lease as a community tenant. A new Business Plan and Economic Impact Statement are strengthening funding bids and showing the Castle's potential as a huge asset for the wider economy.
- The Trust's full business plan is also underway, backed by the NCCBC's "Heritage Enterprise Village" project and with a good chance of £45,000 from Firstport's Build It programme next year.

Lion of Carrick Update

Ideas for a large statue to celebrate Carrick's place in the story of Robert the Bruce are progressing slowly. Now led by the new Carraig Connections, we're waiting on feedback from the planning authority. Once advice comes in, Carraig Connections will decide on the next steps for this exciting project.

A Fresh Look at Memorial Park

Talks are ongoing with South Ayrshire Council about the future of Maybole Swimming Pool and Golf Course. The idea is to develop a Maybole Outdoor Activity Hub – but we'll need funding to bring in sports facility expertise to help make it happen.

Green Light for Minishant

Great news – NCCBC has secured £13,500 from the Ayrshire Climate Action Hub for the Minishant Development Team. This will fund a Landscape Architect and Ecologist to design the grounds around the proposed Community Ecology Centre, with results expected by the end of the year.

The Gatherings – Upstairs and Down
The flat above The Gatherings is now successfully let. The Gatherings itself is available to community groups – to use as a charity shop or for exhibitions or other activities. (Contact gatherings@nccbc.org.uk for details)

Strengthening Our Team

- The impact assessment and social return on investment study into NCCBC's 10 years of grant-making is complete. A short summary is included in this Newsletter and full details are available in NCCBC's website at: NCCBC Impact assessment 2025 - NCCBC.
- A warm welcome to Lynne Hyslop, who has settled in brilliantly as our new administrator.
- We're reviewing workloads with the Chair and Vice-Chair to make sure NCCBC is future-proofed and well-resourced.

Stuart Lindsay Development Manager, NCCBC





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Updated NCCBC Funding Guidance and Application Form Aims to Make Applications Easier



North Carrick Community Benefit Company (NCCBC) has recently updated its funding guidance and application form, aiming to make the process of applying for grants a bit easier for local groups.

The new documents are the result of feedback from community organisations who told us that the previous version could be hard to follow. We've tried to respond by making the information clearer, better structured, and more practical for the people using it. And we have moved the application process online.

What's Changed?

1 Easier to Navigate

The guidance now has a clearer layout, with headings, bullet points, and shorter sections. We hope this helps applicants find what they need more quickly without having to read through lots of dense text.

2 Clearer Language

We've done our best to remove jargon and overly formal language. The tone is intended to be more straightforward and supportive, especially for groups that may be new to applying for funding.

3 Better Guidance on What's Eligible

The sections on what NCCBC can and can't fund have been made more prominent and specific. This includes clearer information about exclusions and funding limits, to help applicants avoid common pitfalls.

4 Step-by-Step Application Help

There's now a more detailed walkthrough of the application form itself, breaking it down section by section with brief explanations. This is intended to support applicants in completing each part accurately.

5 Match Funding Requirements Set Out Clearly

Match Funding Requirements Set Out Clearly We've included a simple table and some examples to explain match funding – something several applicants told us was confusing in the past.

6 More Transparency Around Conditions and Deadlines

Conditions and Deadlines We've also clarified what kind of evidence and reporting will be required if funding is awarded, and added clearer information about application deadlines and decision-making timelines.

7 Lower levels of Match Funding Required

One of the most significant changes in the updated funding scheme relates to match funding. In the previous version, most applications needed to have 50% match funding.

- Grants Under £3,000: Small projects can work with their local village panel to access NCCBC's Community-led Projects Fund, with no match funding required. (Or they can fundraise via local charity shops or apply to other funders.)
- Grants between £3,000–£6,000: A reduced contribution of 20% match funding is needed.
- Grants between £6,001–£15,000: Most NCCBC applications fall into this category, and the requirement has been lowered from 50% to 30%.
- Grants between £15,001–£40,000: 50% match funding is required and NCCBC has set an upper limit on the size of grants it will provide. This is to make sure that funds can be spread across the whole area.

8 Moving to Online Applications

The move to an online application form, now available through the NCCBC website, is intended to make the funding

process more accessible, consistent, and manageable for everyone involved. By completing the form directly online, applicants can now work through each section in a clear, structured order. They can scroll down to the bottom of the form at any time to save it and come back later. All of this should help reduce errors, missed sections, or confusion about what information is needed, ultimately making applications stronger and easier to assess.

Submitting applications online also means everything is submitted in one place, at the same time – avoiding the risks of lost attachments or incomplete email submissions. It creates a more straight forward process for applicants and ensures that applications can be processed more efficiently by the NCCBC team. We recognise that this may be a change in approach that some groups might find difficult. We hope the clarity and structure of the online form will make the overall experience simpler and more reliable. Support and advice is always available for any groups that need help navigating the process.

LOOKING AHEAD

NCCBC is committed to helping local ideas take shape – whether that's a new facility, an activity or training programme, or improvements to community spaces. These updates are intended to remove some of the hurdles that applicants faced in the past and ensure more groups can benefit from the support available.

The updated funding guidance and application form are available now at: <https://nccbc.org.uk/apply/> For more information or to discuss a potential project, contact: stuart@nccbc.org.uk



Join us this season!



All films at Carrick Centre Maybole at 7:30pm

On Friday 26 Sept we showed the classic musical South Pacific. The Rogers and Hammerstein hit stars Rossano Brazzi and Mitzi Gaynor as the lead couple. On a South Pacific island during World War 11 love blossoms between a young nurse and a secretive Frenchman who is being courted for a dangerous mission. A wonderful film filled with romance, song, splendour, humour, and expert acting. And to cap it all a young Sean Connery landed a small part as one of the Seabees chorus boys. Cert U. If you missed this don't miss our next exciting film.



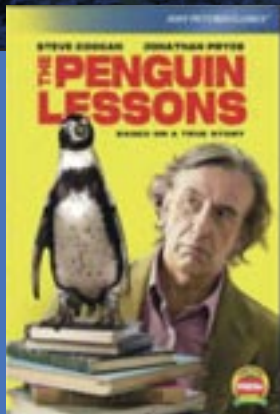
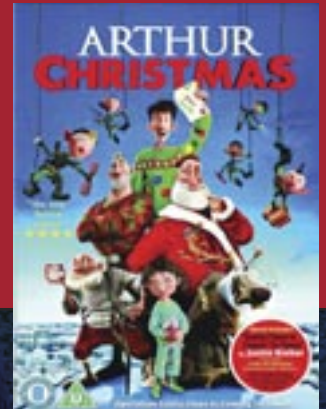
Friday October 24: Mission Impossible -

The Final Reckoning is an all-action send-off for Ethan Hunt that accomplishes its mission with a characteristic flair for the impossible. It serves as the grandest and boldest farewell to arguably the greatest action franchise of all time. Tom Cruise is Ethan Hunt delivering breathtaking stunts. With his team they race against time to find the Entity, a rogue artificial intelligence that can destroy mankind. **Cert 12.**



Friday Dec 19 : Arthur Christmas

An animated family comedy Arthur Christmas is an Aardman production (makers of Wallace and Gromit, The Wrong Trousers, Chicken Run, Shaun the Sheep) for Sony Pictures Animation, at last reveals the incredible, never-before seen answer to every child's question: 'So how does Santa deliver all those presents in one night?' Starring voices of :James McAvoy; Hugh Laurie; Bill Nighy; Jim Broadbent; Imelda Staunton. A clever holiday film with surprising emotional strength. **Cert U.**



Friday November 21 : The Penguin Lessons

stars the incomparable Steve Coogan. The tale is about a disillusioned Englishman- Coogan, who goes to work in a divided Argentina in 1976. But he finds his life transformed when he rescues an orphaned penguin from

the beach. Coogan is balanced by his boss, the school's head played by Jonathan Pryce, which leads to humorous scenes with the adorable penguin against a darker South American dictatorship background. **Cert 12.**



FRIDAY JANUARY 23 : A GOOD YEAR

To cheer you into the New Year a lovely film with charming performances from all the cast. Russell Crowe with co-star French actress Marion Cotillard are incredibly sexy and watching it transports you to Provence. Written by author Pater Mayale (A Year in Provence) and directed by the great Ridley Scott (House of Gucci, The Martian, Gladiator 1 and 2). **Cert 12.**



**CCC Membership £35 for all nine films Sept 2025 -May 2026.
Buy membership at first or second film or Ticket £6. Cash only Please.**



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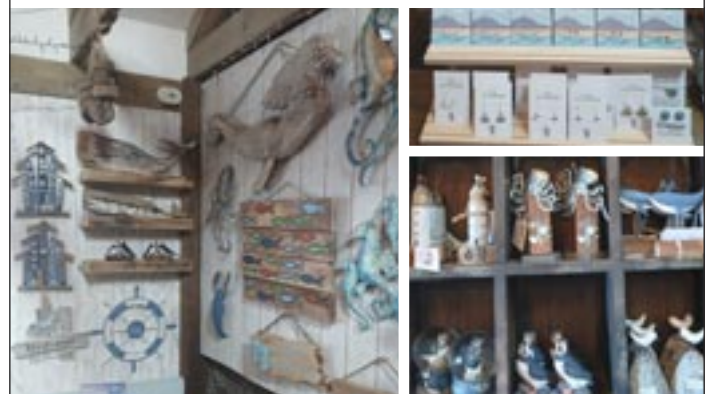


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Outdoor education in South Ayrshire had a big boost this summer with the launch of the Sundew Badge, a collaboration between the Galloway & Southern Ayrshire Biosphere Partnership and Dolphin House to create a new achievement badge for young adventurers aged between 7 – 16 years. Taking inspiration from the hugely successful Biosphere Badge for Scouts & Girlguides, the Sundew Badge has an accompanying Activity Booklet packed with challenges designed to build closer connections with our natural world and understanding of environmental issues such as carbon, climate and sustainability. The MaidSafe Foundation contributed STEM activities making the Sundew Badge even more valuable as a learning experience. The first Sundew Badges were awarded over the weeks of endless sunshine that are behind us now and the Biosphere team and Dolphin House will gladly take enquiries from local groups or those planning a visit to Ayrshire in the months ahead.



Jake McLaughlan
Business Engagement Officer

organisations. Community Officer Faith Hillier from the Biosphere team has been busy all summer running Green Health workshops in village hubs, introducing nature-based activities that boost physical and mental health. Sessions have already run in Colmonell, Girvan, Ballantrae and Maybole and can be arranged upon request if a local group in North Carrick has interest: please contact faith@gsabiosphere.org.uk for details.

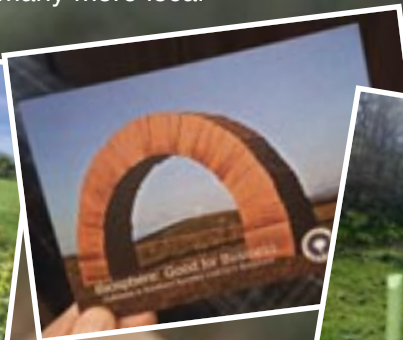
Autumn is a great time to apply for the Ayrshire Small Scale Tree Planting Grant, an initiative led by the GSAB Partnership with funding support from South Ayrshire Council, Scottish Forestry, the Woodland Trust, and Land Energy. Grants of up to £1,000 are available for planting native species in South Ayrshire and East Ayrshire within the UNESCO Biosphere.

The area to be planted must measure less than 0.6ha (0.25 acres) and individuals, farm and business owners, community groups and other non-profits are all eligible to apply, which can be done via a simple single-form process. The Biosphere's Nature Recovery Officer, Antoine Lemaire, is project lead and can visit to advise on your site. Please email antoine@gsabiosphere.org.uk for more information.

Still on the theme of our glorious outdoors: the GSAB Partnership is part of the Green & Blue Health and Active Living group which also includes NHS Ayrshire & Arran, The Outdoor Partnership, NatureScot, South Ayrshire Ranger Service, and many more local



GSAB Communities & Business Manager
Jenna Cains & Community Officer Faith Hillier on
South Ayrshire coast



Business owners and event planners with a bit of downtime between the summer season and the chaos of Christmas are recommended to look at the GSAB Partnership's development opportunities and accreditation schemes. These include Carbon Literacy training certified by the global Carbon Literacy Project; the Biosphere Certification Mark for planet-friendly, nature-positive businesses and social enterprise; and the Sustainable Event Charter, for organisers that want to centre community regeneration and green goals in planning local events. All these initiatives bring with them the wide-ranging expertise of the Biosphere's officer team and zero cost promotional opportunities, helping local people access the benefits that come with our region's UNESCO designation. Please contact Business Engagement Officer Jake McLaughlan for further details of upcoming training dates and application requirements for accreditations; Jake would be delighted to arrange a call or visit: jake@gsabiosphere.org.uk.

Finally: anyone who wishes to ask questions or give feedback on the GSAB Partnership's programme is warmly invited to the Biosphere's Year in Review event taking place at the Carrick Centre in Maybole on Wednesday 8th October, 6:45pm – 8:15pm. The GSAB Partnership encourages input and participation among local people in the firm belief that the UNESCO Biosphere has something for everyone! Free tickets can be booked via the Biosphere's Eventbrite page; search 'GSA Biosphere Eventbrite' in Google, or staff will be pleased to send the ticket link to any email request that comes in to info@gsabiosphere.org.uk.

More information about SW Scotland's UNESCO designation plus all the GSAB Partnership's latest news is available at www.gsabiosphere.org.uk or follow [#gsabiosphere](https://twitter.com/gsabiosphere) on social media.





Dunure Festival of the Sea 2025

The annual Dunure Festival of the Sea took place on Saturday 23rd August down at the uniquely stunning, seaside village Harbour on the handsome Carrick coastline. A simple yet heady concoction of locally sourced food, drinks & talented musicians all came together to provide a smashing day in the sunshine that will long be remembered.... maybe. The dramatic and emotional entrance made by



the Maybole Pipe Band marching down the road, into the crowds and onto the stage, set the tone. Provost Iain Campbell thanked all the hard work of the Dunure Village volunteers that came together to host the many, many Festivalgoers, all contributing to an atmosphere like no other.

"We hoped you liked it. Thanks for coming. See you next year. Tell yer friends!" – DFOTS Crew.



Straiton News

**Autumn is the second spring
When every leaf is a flower**

Albert Camus

Already the leaves are turning from the green of spring and summer to the reds, golds and russets of a more mature autumn. The summer suns are a sweet memory on this wet, blustery afternoon.

Summer is always ushered in by the Straiton Show, held on the second Saturday of June and usually a fine, dry day. This year, however, was an exception with dreich and rainy weather, but this did not deter the usual visitors or the community which turned out in force to support the farmers. The hall committee, with support from the community, put on a splendid array of sandwiches and cakes. Their efforts are always very much appreciated by all who take the opportunity for a sit down and blether after a tour of the show field. Where else could you have as much as you can eat for a very modest cost, and all delicious too?



The committee has been busy in other ways too, overseeing a refurbishment of the hall, including an updating of the kitchen and new curtains for the stage. A sound system has also been installed along with projector and screen. This was all made possible by funding from South Ayrshire Council Million Pound Ward Fund.



The directors of Straiton Village Co-operative are delighted to announce the opening of The Buck Tearoom following a successful community purchase.



The Buck opened for business on Monday 18th August offering soup, sandwiches, scones and cakes as well as a range of teas and coffees. Once we have completed the last phase of the renovation, the tearoom will also offer breakfast and lunch options.

We are extremely grateful to our funders, Scottish Land Fund & North Carrick Community Benefit Company for making it possible for the community to secure the long-term future of a cherished asset. Huge thanks to Mark Fletcher and team for their support and encouragement throughout the process. The directors would also like to acknowledge the support from our community throughout the process.

Finally, we wish our new tenants every success in their new venture. We have been very fortunate to secure Lindsay Scott and Paul Smith and their daughter, Courtney as tenants for the Buck and adjoining house. Lindsay, Paul and Courtney bring a wealth of experience having operated the award winning Carsphairn Tearoom for many years.

It's been fantastic to see the Buck buzzing with locals and visitors in the first few weeks, and we are sure it will be a great hub for the village for a long time to come.

The Jam Sessions continued in the hall over the summer, and the ever-popular monthly quiz continued in The Black Bull.

With the reopening of The Buck, the Sunday quiz has resumed there so plenty of opportunities for mind-sharpening.

We look forward to the new session of the guild, which starts again in October when our speaker will be from the charity, The Night Before Christmas.

This is a local charity, based in Annbank, supporting children who would otherwise receive nothing. Guild Week started on the 14th September and finished on the 21st with Guild Dedication Day which will be marked in church.

Communion was celebrated on the first Sunday of June and will next take place on the first Sunday of November. The sponsored walk at the end of June was, as always, well supported and enjoyed by all who took part. The evening was, in the main, dry with a breeze



which kept the midgies and flies away – always a bonus! A hearty supper awaited participants in the hall and the evening concluded with sharing of tales, past and present.

The Christmas Fayre will take place on Saturday 8th November with a good selection of stalls, and teas provided by members of the church and community.

And finally, there will be a special joint service with Kirkmichael Church at Straiton Church on Sunday 26th October, followed by a lunch in The McCandlish Hall, to mark the fortieth anniversary of the induction of Reverend W. Gerald Jones to the churches of Kirkmichael and Straiton. We offer our congratulations and thanks to Gerald for his long and faithful ministry in the joint parishes.

Ladies Lunch Fundraiser

The Action Medical Research Maybole and Girvan Branch Committee recently held their annual Ladies Lunch in Maybole Town Hall with over 100 Ladies attending. AMR have been funding medical research to help sick and disabled babies, children and young people for more than 70 years and have helped to beat polio, prevent stillbirths and help to fight meningitis. The Ladies of the Committee would like to thank the attendees for their ongoing support over the years.



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Mark Fletcher: Celebrating a Decade of Service to Maybole and North Carrick

After years of dedicated service, Mark Fletcher is stepping down as Chair of both Maybole Community Council and North Carrick Community Benefit Company. As he prepares to move away from the area, the communities he has served so faithfully are taking the opportunity to thank him and to reflect on all that has been achieved under his leadership.

A Community Leader Through Change

Few individuals have given more to Maybole and North Carrick in recent years than Mark Fletcher. His name has become synonymous with community leadership: reliable, approachable, and focused on making things happen. Now, as he stands down from his official positions due to moving away from the area, residents and organisations alike are reflecting on just how much has been achieved during his time in post.

Securing the By-pass: A Campaign That Changed the Town

For decades, Maybole's High Street suffered from relentless A77 traffic. Heavy lorries thundered through the town every day, damaging buildings, polluting the air, and endangering pedestrians. Alongside local stalwarts David Kiltie and Peter Mason, and many other campaigners, Mark played a leading role in the effort to finally secure a Maybole By-pass. It required determination, persistence, and the ability to keep decision-makers' attention focused on Maybole's needs. The by-pass, completed in 2022, has transformed daily life in the town. The High Street is quieter, safer, and healthier. Businesses and residents can now look to the future without the constant disruption of through-traffic. For many, even though work is yet to be done on important 'public realm' parts of the project, this achievement stands as one of the most significant turning points in Maybole's modern history — and Mark's leadership was at the heart of it.

Driving Regeneration: £7.5 Million for the Town

With the traffic issue resolved, Mark turned his energy towards regeneration. As Chair of the Maybole Regeneration Project (MRP) Board, he helped secure £7.5 million of investment — a scale of funding few towns of Maybole's size ever see. The regeneration programme has delivered: - Repairs and renovations



to Maybole Town Hall, creating a community hub fit for the 21st century. - Restoration of Maybole Castle, one of Scotland's oldest castles, safeguarding it for future generations. - Proposals for Shopfront and housing improvements, raising standards and making the High Street more welcoming. - Proposals for Active travel projects, improving paths and connections for walking and cycling. Mark chaired the board throughout, keeping partners aligned and making sure local voices were heard. Whilst everyone can see that the project has not been fully realised, Mark's steady hand ensured the project kept moving and delivered visible results.

Saving and Repurposing the Speakers Club

When the old Speakers Club building on Whitehall fell into disrepair, Mark once again stepped up. He helped form a new charity to take ownership, secured funding, and led a major refurbishment. The building was transformed, providing modern facilities and space for community and enterprise activity. Although the initial social enterprise could not survive the shock of the Covid-19 pandemic, Mark ensured the asset was not lost. The building was handed on free of charge to another local charity, and today it thrives as the KA19 Youth Hub, offering vital services and opportunities to young people in Maybole and North Carrick. It is a shining example of Mark's philosophy: *never give up, always find a way forward, and make sure the community benefits.*

Delivering Local Projects

Mark's leadership of the Maybole Community Council has also delivered many other practical improvements. One standout is the new skatepark, a popular facility giving young people a safe and exciting place to be active. From supporting local events and festivals to making sure residents' concerns were represented to South Ayrshire Council and other agencies, Mark has consistently ensured that MCC was a council that got things done.

Strengthening the Wider North Carrick Area

Mark's contribution has not been limited to Maybole. As Chair of the North Carrick Community Benefit Company (NCCBC), he has overseen major investment across all eight towns and villages of the area.

Under his leadership:

- Millions of pounds of windfarm community benefit funds have been invested in local groups and facilities.
- Upgraded play parks in Maybole and the 8 North Carrick Villages, jointly funded by NCCBC and South Ayrshire Council.
- The Foundations for Recovery programme secured over £500,000 from the UK Government's Shared Prosperity Fund, supporting projects in tourism, health, wellbeing, and employability.
- An independent impact assessment showed just how transformative NCCBC's work has been over its first ten years, enabling dozens of projects and strengthening community capacity across North Carrick. Mark's chairmanship provided the governance, credibility, and vision that funders and partners looked for — giving confidence that local people's priorities would be respected.



Style of Leadership

Those who have worked with Mark often highlight the qualities that make him so effective: - Persistent but pragmatic - never letting go of key issues like the by-pass, but always willing to work constructively with officials and politicians.

- Community-first - keeping the spotlight on projects, not personalities.
- Partnership-focused - building bridges between local volunteers, statutory agencies, and funders.
- Future-oriented - always looking at how today's efforts could secure tomorrow's opportunities.

Of course, as with anyone in a high-profile community role, Mark has had his critics and detractors. The naysayers can sometimes shout the loudest, but it is important to remember that the vast majority of residents and partner organisations have supported the work carried out under his leadership. The visible improvements to Maybole and North Carrick stand as clear evidence that his persistence and vision have made a positive and lasting difference.

Stepping Down, Not Stepping Away

Mark's decision to step down is driven by circumstance: moving away from Maybole and

North Carrick means he is no longer eligible to hold office locally. At the same time, he has been open about his ongoing battle with cancer - a challenge he faces with the same courage and determination he has brought to community work. Although he will no longer chair MCC or NCCBC, Mark's contribution does not end here. The organisations he has led are stronger and more effective because of his guidance. The by-pass, the regeneration project, the Youth Hub, the skatepark, upgraded play parks in Maybole and the 8 villages, the Foundations for Recovery programme - all these continue to deliver benefits, and all bear the imprint of his leadership.

A Community's Thanks

As Maybole and North Carrick look back on the past decade, it is impossible not to see Mark Fletcher's influence everywhere.

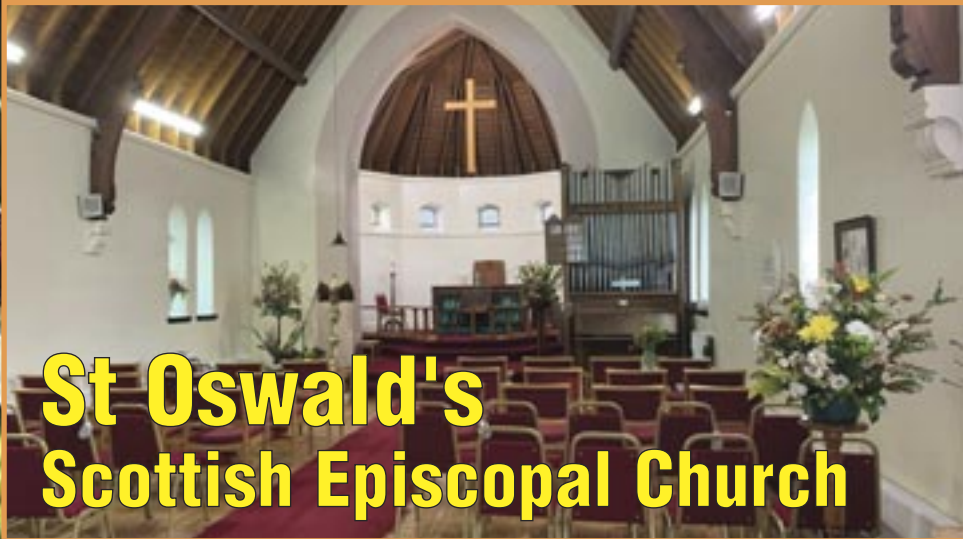
He has been at the centre of campaigns, projects, and partnerships that have changed the face of the area. From safer streets to restored heritage, from youth facilities to resilient communities, his service has touched every corner of North Carrick.



On behalf of the whole community:
thank you, Mark. Your leadership has made a difference. Your persistence has delivered results. Your care for the people of Maybole and North Carrick has been unwavering. And while you step down from formal roles, your example will continue to inspire those who follow.

'When Mark came to stay in Maybole over 20 years ago he was keen to find out what was happening in the town. A chance meeting with David and Peter after a Community Council meeting in a local pub gave Mark the opportunity to find out more by coming along to the next meeting. Over the years Mark became chair of the Community Council and throughout his time was involved in many projects which made Maybole a better place. Many things would not have happened had it not been for his determination to make sure things were completed. Maybole has lost one of the best Community Councillors. I feel very privileged to have worked alongside Mark for many years.'

Senga Mason



St Oswald's Scottish Episcopal Church



St Oswald's recently welcomed the new Diocesan Bishop, the Right Rev Dr Nick Bundock to their Sunday Service. As well as presiding and preaching, he confirmed Petko Marinov and celebrated 30 years of ordination of our Priest in Charge, Liz Crumlish.

Liz Crumlish, priest at St Oswald's recently published a book on Women's Leadership, amplifying Biblical Women, many of whose stories are hidden in the patriarchal culture in which they lived. You may be inspired by some of the stories: *Miriam's Sisters, Deborah's Daughters – When Women Lead the Way*, 2025 Canterbury Press Available at: <https://canterburypress.hymnsam.co.uk/books/9781786226051/miriams-sisters-deborahs-daughters>

St Oswald's is open every day as a quiet space for people to sit and reflect. This summer, the church grounds have been very colourful – with thanks to the Brownies for planting up pots to add to the colour in the garden.

On **Sunday 5 October at 3pm**, there will be a **Pet Blessing service** – all are welcome to bring along their pets (or a picture) so that our beloved companions can be celebrated.

**Services at St Oswald's:
THURSDAYS AND SUNDAYS AT 11AM.**

Contact: St Oswald's Church, Cargill Road,
Maybole KA19 8AF. stoswaldsmaybole.org.uk
Priest-in-Charge: The Rev Liz Crumlish
Email: priest@stoswaldsmaybole.org.uk



Wellbeing and support for all ages

Community Wellbeing Hub have had a busy summer, particularly with our younger clients. Our teenage sessions have been well attended in a mix of groups and one to one sessions, covering everything from yoga to sound healing, creative writing, arts and crafts and much more. It's been great to see so much engagement and interest from the young people. We are excited to welcome our school groups back into the Hub now that the new term has begun. Carrick Academy will be joining us again from September. Supporting our young people is really important to us at the Hub and we are always happy to support with building practical confidence when people train in holistic therapies and are building a new career.

One of our young volunteers has just launched a new beauty business and has already been invited into our Wellbeing group to demonstrate her services, which has been great for them all.

Our weekly Wellbeing group has started back again after the Summer break, and we look forward to lots of great chat, tea and cake, mindful activities and guest speakers over the run up to Christmas. All are welcome and the atmosphere is very relaxed and friendly. On a final note, we are honoured to have been nominated in the "Thinking outside the Box"



category of South Ayrshire's Suicide Prevention Awards, and to have reached the finals. It is lovely to know that the Hub is appreciated and well thought of, and that is prize enough for us. We'll be looking forward to

networking with all the wonderful organisations at the awards day as the more contacts we have, the better we can help spread the word about all the great work being done in our area.

Follow us on Facebook @Communitywellbeinghubcic to keep up with all we have going on in Maybole and beyond.



Crosshill Crafters

Crosshill Crafters have been busy again this year with their post box toppers. Sadly, this may be coming to an end as the post box in the village is going digital and will have a solar panel on top! But...we are looking for other ideas to continue doing something similar. Here are a few photos of our St Patrick's Day, Gala Day and VE Day Toppers. The Crafters are working on a new display for Remembrance Sunday so something to look out for come November.





Kirkmichael Primary School and EYC Go Fully Digital

Kirkmichael Primary proudly announces its achievement of the Equitable Creative Coding Award (ECCo), recognising innovative and inclusive approaches to computational thinking and coding from early childhood to secondary level. As part of the Digital Schools Awards Scotland initiative, ECCo celebrates work in ELCs and schools to integrate coding into the curriculum and aligns with the principles of the Curriculum for Excellence. Andrew Hislop, Head Teacher at Kirkmichael said: "The Equitable Creative Coding Award (ECCo) holds significant importance for our school and reaffirms our school's commitment to fostering problem-solving, critical thinking, key meta skills and digital literacy skills in our students.

By embedding these skills into our curriculum and extracurricular activities, we aim to empower students to explore, create, and innovate in an increasingly digital world. "At Kirkmichael, we have implemented a variety of engaging activities and initiatives to support our students in developing coding and computational thinking skills. We are immensely grateful for the support from the local authority's digital learning officers and the resources within the Digital Lending Library.

We have had in class support from Amanda Pickard, leading learning with all pupils across P1-7 using Micro:Bits, and the excitement and enthusiasm from children has been incredible. The children enjoy using digital toys such as Bluebots and Indi cars to support their learning across the curriculum and are enjoying investigating how digital resources work. I am proud of the learning opportunities the young people here are participating in, the efforts of all staff across the school

to instigate it, and I am pleased it has been recognised at a national level. Our validator said that Kirkmichael EYC was one of the best EYC's she has validated! Kirkmichael Primary and EYC now collectively hold all 7 digital schools award and gained all within 12 months which is a fantastic achievement.

Growing, Cooking and Munching – A Community Collaboration

Kirkmichael Primary previously told the NCCBC magazine about the continuing development of the polytunnel and the support of the Kirkmichael Gardening Club and community to get this up and running. In May, the children were able to see the efforts of their hard work as produce was able to be harvested. After a fantastic beetroot harvest, Emma White taught the children how to prepare and pickle beetroot, and all families got a jar to take home. Additionally, the children harvested potatoes, lettuce, cucumbers, a variety of herbs, onions, spring onions, peas and rhubarb before the summer, which was collected by the Kirkmichael Arms.

Justin had previously worked with P3-7 to develop a menu using these ingredients, and on Thursday 27th June, all families were able to go to the Kirkmichael Arms for a 3-course meal using the locally grown produce. The menu included a roasted beetroot humous with bread, a vegetable risotto and finally a lemon posset with meringue and fresh fruit. Kirkmichael Primary are excited to see what happens next in year 2 of the polytunnel, and we are looking forward to future collaborations with the gardening club and the Kirkmichael Arms.

Kirkmichael End of Year Service

On Wednesday 25th June, Kirkmichael Primary and EYC held their end of year service. This celebrated the successes of pupils throughout the year, allowed our EYC children to graduate into Primary 1 and we said farewell to our Primary 7 children leaving for Carrick Academy.

We also said a sad goodbye to Mrs Bruce as she leaves us to begin a new adventure as Head Teacher of Crosshill Primary and Minishant Primary. We are sorry to see her go, but we know she will be fantastic in her new role and all pupils and staff are lucky to have her.

During the service, we celebrated pupil achievement and handed out many certificates, awards and shields for: Spirit of Sport, Junior Coaching Academy, Junior and Senior Sports Champion, Gala King and Queen and Bikeability.



THE CARRICK CENTRE

THE CARRICK CENTRE IS A CHARITY REGISTERED IN SCOTLAND SC041794.

AT CHRISTMAS

It seems to come round quicker every year, but Christmas is just around the corner! This year at The Carrick Centre we're pulling out all the stops – from indulgent four-course Christmas lunches for just £20 (with a licensed bar!), to our ever-popular Christmas Fayre, children's parties, and even a pantomime to keep the whole family entertained. We'll also have parcel wrapping drop-ins, giving you the chance to wrap your gifts in peace and keep those festive surprises away from prying eyes.



FRIDAY 28TH NOVEMBER

6:30PM - 8:30PM

**THE CARRICK CENTRE,
MAYBOLE**



**Craft stalls, gifts,
licenced bar, tombola!**



**TUESDAY 2ND,
9TH, AND 16TH
DEC.
6PM TO 9PM.**

Bring your own wrapping paper, tape and trimmings, and escape the prying eyes at home – we'll supply the festive tunes and atmosphere so you can wrap your gifts in peace.



Available Thursdays to Saturday in December. Book by calling 01655 883 222 or email info@carrickcentre.co.uk.

STARTER

Lentil Soup (v)
Trio of Melon with Fruit Compote (v)
Pate, chutney, and oat cakes

MAIN

Roast Turkey with Trimmings
Beef Bourguignon
Nut Roast with Trimmings (v)

DESSERT

Christmas Pudding
with Brandy Sauce
Pavlova and Berries (v)
Cheese and Biscuits

TEA AND COFFEE

Served with Mince Pies



£20/PP



CHRISTMAS PANTO
AT THE CARRICK CENTRE

CINDERELLA



SATURDAY 13TH DECEMBER

3PM - 4PM

THE CARRICK CENTRE, MAYBOLE

★ Oh yes it is! ★ This Christmas, join us at The Carrick Centre for our magical family pantomime, Cinderella! Packed with laughter, music, and plenty of festive fun, this timeless tale will whisk you away from the everyday and into a world of glass slippers, fairy godmothers, and happily-ever-afters.

£5/ADULT. KIDS GO FREE.

Book by calling 01655 883 222, or at reception at the Carrick Centre.



Tuck shop available on the day! 🍬



SUNDAY 7TH DECEMBER

2PM TO 3:30PM

THE CARRICK CENTRE'S
KA19 YOUTH HUB,
MAYBOLE

Please book your child's place at our Sensory Christmas Party by emailing
info@carrickcentre.co.uk.

**FREE
EVENT**



FRIDAY 12TH DECEMBER

P4-P6 6pm - 7:30pm (Requires booking on Spond app or by email
info@carrickcentre.co.uk)

P7+ 7:30pm - 9pm (No booking required)

THE CARRICK CENTRE'S
KA19 YOUTH HUB,
MAYBOLE

**FREE
EVENT**

01655 883 222

www.carrickcentre.co.uk

info@carrickcentre.co.uk

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North Carrick Parish Church

Rev Karlien Becker inducted as minister of North Carrick Parish Church of Scotland in the Carrick Centre on Tuesday 9 September.

A good turnout of ministers and elders of Presbytery of the South West attended the lovely service conducted by the moderator of Presbytery, Gillian Lynn.

She spoke very fondly of the time her husband Rev Robert Lynn was interim moderator at Kirkoswald and how welcome they felt in this community.

A choir brought together just for this occasion from members of the five previous parishes and members of Crossraguel Community Choir performed a selection of songs from Mission Praise while the congregation took their seats.

Kay Feldman conducted the choir and Deirdrie Cuthbertson accompanied the singing on the organ. Karlien was presented with flowers and and stole as a welcome to the parish. Rev Paul Russell was thanked for his time as interim moderator of Crosshill linked with Maybole and later North Carrick Parish and presented with a cheque from the congregation. A beautiful tea was served in the hall with catering provided by the Carrick Centre and members of all the congregations.



Fundraiser event was a charity shop in the Gatherings by the Kirkoswald congregation.

Items were donated the previous week and sold in the Maidens hall on the Wednesday and Thursday then everything was moved to Maybole on the Friday.

A big thank you to all who donated, volunteered in the shop and came and bought all the treasures they didn't know they needed. The grand sum of **£1725** was raised (last year £1306). Such a great time was had by all, lets do it again next year!



CROSSHILL COMMUNITY LUNCHES

Last Friday in the month at 12 noon

:: 2025 ::

31 October

28 November: lunch followed by Christmas Tree Festival

:: 2026 ::

30 January

27 February

27 March

24 April

29 May

Guild Syllabus

meetings are held in Crosshill church

13 October at 2pm - speaker, Roddy Leitch, Glenapp and Ailsa Craig

3 November at 2pm - Jan Crafts Willow Weaving

17 November at 2pm - speaker, Ceilia Davidson
Womens roll after WW2

1 December at 2pm - speaker, Ian White

8 December at 7pm - Candle Night with Crossraguel Community Choir.

There are services every Sunday in Maybole 10.30am, Crosshill noon and Kirkoswald 11.15, please come along.

A Letter from our New Minister

I love God and I love people. I feel fortunate that I can support others and that I am called to be the minister of North Carrick Parish. I hope we can work together to be a church that serve God and our community. I am excited to get to know the people of this beautiful area and to be part of this vibrant community.

I am married to Hennie Becker, an electrical engineer, and together we serve God and love to meet new people and to explore the beauty of Scotland. We are South Africans and since June 2024 we live in Scotland. We were for 15 months in Perth where I did my familiarisation in the Church of Scotland and on the 9th of September 2025, I was inducted as the minister of North Carrick Parish.

In South Africa I was the minister of three congregations (Melmoth, Welgemoed and Nuwerus). I served for thirteen years in the Dutch Reformed Church before I came to Scotland. I studied at the University of Stellenbosch, where there is a statue of Professor John Murray, he studied in Scotland and

was the first Professor in theology at the Stellenbosch Seminary. There are a lot of connections between South Africa and Scotland. There are even towns with names like, Aberdeen, Dundee, Fraserburgh and Glencoe in South Africa.

Me and Hennie love to go for walks in nature (Scotland has so many beautiful paths) and we both love going to music concerts. I like photography and Hennie likes cooking and to work on cars.

We are excited about the future and to help build up our community. Together we can all make a difference and therefore I believe we need everyone's talents, gifts and involvement in the community to create a positive environment.

Please come and introduce yourself when you see us and thanks for the warm welcome we already received.

Blessings,

Reverend Karlien Becker, North Carrick Parish.
kbecker@churchofscotland.org.uk

Another Driving Success!

Another pass on the NCCBC driving Project in collaboration with Thriving Communities. Sharon Munro from Maybole passed 2nd September.

Sharon Said - "The funding I received pushed me to finally learn to drive. It took the financial pressure off me massively even though I paid for another 20hrs of lessons to give me the best chance of passing as the 40hrs wasn't quite enough due to the 5 month wait from booking to sitting my test.

There were times when learning this new skill became overwhelming and I didn't think I could do it, but due to the fact I was funded by NCCBC I pushed myself as I refused to waste this opportunity or any money paid to help me achieve this life changing goal. Thank you for giving me the opportunity to learn with Peter Shepherd of Apex Driving Tuition (AA) who not only taught me to drive and successfully pass my test but also how to become a confident and safe driver."



ADVERTISING OPPORTUNITY

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

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