

Summer  
2026



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Material for the Autumn 2026 issue should be emailed to  
John Adams - [grizzly121@me.com](mailto:grizzly121@me.com)  
by Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> July, 2026 - No Later please

Charity Numbers: Mochrum SC003300 Millisle SC010621

# SUMMER VISITORS

**THE SEASON changes from spring to summer. The branches of the trees leaf out and spread, an abundance of green, as they convert the summer sunlight into food for growth and oxygen to breathe.**

Our gardens bloom in a riot of colour. The insect pollinators buzz around us, going about their daily business. The geese who visited for winter have flown back to their northern homeland, while the swallows visit us, having travelled all the way from Southern Africa to share our summer bounty.

We come out of our homes to spend more time outdoors, in the garden, on woodland walks, or travelling to other places, near and far, visiting family and friends. And while some leave, others, from all over the globe, bring the gift of their presence, welcome to enjoy all that we have to offer.

The most important visitor we can ever welcome in our lives is Jesus. For he brings the greatest gifts that we can ever receive; joy, peace, love.

*A prayer by Fr. Austin Fleming who blogs at  
"A Concord Pastor Comments" from  
Guideposts.org*

## **"Come Summer with Me"**

Come summer with me, Lord;  
summer deep down in my soul;  
restore my faith in summer's time,  
in rest, in joy, in play, in you ...

Summer in my heart, Lord,  
and dwell there  
as if time would never end,  
as if all time were children's time, eternal time  
when school is always out and joy is ever in...

And let others summer in my shade, Lord,  
and share whatever summer's peace is mine to  
give,  
whatever summer's light is mine to shed,  
whatever summer's warmth is mine to share...

Good God of every season and every day this  
week,  
come summer with me, Lord, and let the child  
in my heart  
spend this summer in your love. Amen

**Rev. Eric Boyle**  
(INTERIM MODERATOR)

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## **COFFEE MORNING ROTA**

<b>May</b>	<b>6th</b>	Bridget Hillman and Robina Richmond
<b>June</b>	<b>3rd</b>	Rachel Wadsworth and Helen McTier
<b>July</b>	<b>1st</b>	Kevin and Vicky Parker
<b>August</b>	<b>5th</b>	Jane Nelson and Rose Christie
<b>September</b>	<b>2nd</b>	Lorraine Ker and Beth Robinson

Thank you to everyone who takes the time to do the coffee morning,  
I do appreciate your help..

**Bridget Hillman**

# CHURCH SERVICES LIST

Services start at 11.00am unless otherwise stated

*Refreshments are served at the end of all services and all are welcome  
Please come and join us.*

## APRIL

26th Millisle

## MAY

3rd Mochrum Rev. Steve Fulcher  
10th Wigtown Parish Church **11.30am**  
17th Mochrum Rev. Alex Currie  
24th Millisle Rev. Eric Boyle  
31st Mochrum Donna Brewster

**Joint Churches Martyrs Service**

**Pentecost**

## JUNE

7th Millisle Rev. Steve Fulcher  
14th Mochrum Donna Brewster  
21st Millisle Rev. Alex Currie  
28th Mochrum Rev. Eric Boyle

## JULY

5th Millisle Donna Brewster  
12th Mochrum Rev. Alex Currie  
19th Millisle Rev. Steve Fulcher  
26th Mochrum Elder-Led

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## FLOWER ROTA FOR MOCHRUM KIRK

*(if the dates do not suit please swap and let us know)*

<b>May</b>	<b>3rd</b>	Arlene Morgan
	<b>17th</b>	Ann Wadsworth
	<b>31st</b>	Laura Rennie
<b>June</b>	<b>14th</b>	Rachel Wadsworth
	<b>28th</b>	Bridget Hillman
<b>July</b>	<b>12th</b>	Robina Richmond
	<b>26th</b>	Jenni Gray
<b>August</b>	<b>9th</b>	Jane Nelson
	<b>23rd</b>	Maria Old
<b>September</b>	<b>6th</b>	Julie Walker
	<b>20th</b>	Elizabeth Wallace

Again, thank you to all for putting flowers in the church. It is much appreciated,  
especially by those who receive them.

*Church keys are available from Jenni Gray 01988 700948 and also  
Robina Richmond at no. 21 just near the church 07950 335492*

**Bridget Hillman**

# MOCHRUM PARISH CHURCH REGISTER

## **FUNERALS**

*“The Lord Is My Shepherd”*

Arthur Burgess	Wigtown
Nancy Wallace	Port William
Graham Smith	Mochrum

## **WEDDING**

*“Love bears all things; Believes all things; Hopes all things, Love never ends”*

Kirsty Jones joined in Holy Matrimony with James McGowan

## **ELDERS’ DUTY LIST**

<b>April</b>	Elizabeth Wallace/Vicky Parker
<b>May</b>	Ann Wadsworth/ Gilbert Hyslop
<b>June</b>	Moira Adams/Jane Nelson
<b>July</b>	Elizabeth Wallace/Vicky Parker

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## **HOLY COMMUNION**

The Sacrament of Holy Communion is a very important part of our worship. If you would like to receive Holy Communion and are unable to come to church, please contact Jenni Gray, Session Clerk on 01988 700948 and arrangements for a home visit can be made.

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## **JUST FOR FUN!**

**Wedding words in a muddle - can you solve them ?**

- |                    |               |                      |
|--------------------|---------------|----------------------|
| 1) BEAM DID SIRS   | 5) COT NET IF | 9) A DECKED WING (2) |
| 2) ENCORE MY       | 6) ACE PANS   | 10) ENCAMP HAG       |
| 3) ACTS FINDER (2) | 7) TONIC PEER | 11) NON OOH MY       |
| 4) BATSMAN (2)     | 8) BUS QUOTES | 12) CHESS PEE        |

**Answers on Page 16**

## MOCHRUM GUILD REPORT

**SINCE OUR LAST report, we have held our 'end of syllabus' spring meetings and what a variety of speakers we had.**

It started in **February** when guest leader, Jean Willis, opened by introducing herself and talking about how we are given 'names' in our lifetime such as mother, sister, grandma, wife, friend etc and how we are all friends in the room today.

Jean then introduced Phil Hayes. Phil had been one of our speakers last year and he entertained us so much we had to invite him back again. Phil did not disappoint, with his own humour and touching poems and songs, he had us all singing and laughing.

Traditionally in **March** we hold our AGM and this year was no different. Ann Wadsworth officially closed the AGM with a prayer and passed the rest of the meeting over to Kevin Parker who had come along to talk to us about the Galloway Talking Newspaper who provide a free of charge service for blind or visually impaired folk.

Kevin gave us some background information about how the charity had been set up and how things operated today. Kevin played a small sample from last week's edition then opened the floor for questions. What a fantastic service this is for people to enjoy the local newspapers who are struggling to read them.

The speaker booked for **April** couldn't make it and we asked for a little help from

PIRSAC. Kenny Barr came along and saved the day. He gave us a very interesting talk about the organisation, how this little independent inshore rescue service is crewed by volunteers 365 days of the year.

For over 45 years PIRSAC crew have carried out rescues and calls in our area, covering around 500 square miles saving well over 400 lives.

The charity relies on donations and grants to keep every think 'ship shape' and ready for action. As all you locals know PIRSAC has another form of income and that is "The View", which is a café and gift shop above the boat shed offering all types of gorgeous goodies for the passing seafarer etc. Everyone enjoyed the time with Kenny and we thank all the members of PIRSAC for carrying out these acts of bravery to help others in need.

Lastly, Galloway Guilds Together are having a Summer Rally on **3rd June 7pm** at Penninghame St. Johns when a speaker from one of our projects will attend. This is open for anyone to attend.

That's our syllabus year concluded and we look forward to our new year starting in **September**. Have a fantastic summer everyone and please do come along and support your local Guild group.

**Vicky Parker**  
SECRETARY

## ADVERTS

We have space on our advertisement pages

**If anyone would like a slot the cost is£20 per annum**

## MOCHRUM SESSION CLERK'S REPORT

**WHEN I START to write this report I always look to see what I had written this time last year and I said then that it was a cold wet windy day, so no change as yet.**

I do think it should be getting warmer by now so that we can turn the heating off and spend time in the garden but we are still blessed to enjoy our beautiful surroundings.

I also look at what I have written in the last magazine and then I admitted to the thing I like most about the Sunday services is the hymns, and I am reminded of the words of "Abide with Me": "Change and decay in all around I see". I am someone who doesn't like change but the hymn goes on to say "O thou who changest not, abide with me", and I know that even though the world is in turmoil; as we may be going through sad or difficult times and facing changes in our own lives my faith helps me to know that God will always be there at our side.

The Kirk is certainly going through many changes now. So many Church of Scotland

buildings are closing and we had all been worrying that Mochrum would soon be following suit, but thankfully that is not the case and subsequent to Presbytery approval in **June** the united churches of Millisle and Mochrum will be joining in union with Whithorn and then looking to call a Minister who will cover all three of the churches. The parish churches of Wigtown and Kirkcowan are also looking to form a union and the Rev. Eric Boyle will remain their minister. The plan will then be for the united churches of Wigtown and Kirkcowan to be linked with the united churches of Millisle, Mochrum and Whithorn and for Rev. Boyle and the new Minister to form a "Team Ministry". So hopefully a change for the better and something too look forward to.

We have now held the third of our shared lunch discussion groups and although sadly not well attended there was plenty of food and some thought provoking crack. In February we celebrated the wedding of Kirsty Jones and James McGowan; in **March** the Guild hosted the World day of Prayer Service; and on **Easter Sunday** we celebrated the Sacrament of Holy Communion, with our thanks, as always going to Vicky Parker for the little touches she put together (*photo*) to ensure that the church looked exceptional for such a special day.

On the **10th of May** we will join with Wigtown Parish Church when we shall remember the courage of the Wigtown Martyrs; in **June** we look forward to welcoming to the area visitors from the Presbytery Twinning of the Czech Republic and we then have Carnival Week to look forward to when on the **9th August** we shall welcome the carnival Queens and members of Port William Community Association to take an active part in our service.



It is also now time to think about our annual **Bursary** which is open to anyone in further education, regardless of age, who resides or has resided within the bounds of Mochrum parish. Sadly the rules of the bursary only allow for one applicant to be gifted this and the closing date is **Saturday 26th September**, so please get your applications to me in plenty of time.

We have certainly had some wet and windy weather in the past months and not a time for the heating to have gone wrong, but we cannot predict these things, and we had to endure one very cold Sunday service when the burner capacitor went on the boiler, maintenance on the church is always ongoing. We continue to support the work of the Machars Basics Food Bank; and although the Guild is now having a rest for the summer they will be back in **September** and hope that you will go along and join with them when they meet in the Maxwell Hall Supper Room on the 2nd Tuesday of each month at 2.00pm Our monthly coffee mornings which are an important part of both our outreach and our

fundraising continue and we are very grateful to all who host and provide refreshments for these each month. We have also been fortunate to receive donations from both the Port William Community Shop and the Community Windfarm Benefit, and we are indebted to them for helping towards the costs of printing this magazine which is distributed to over 500 homes throughout the parish and which I know is appreciated by all who receive it.

Meanwhile we are here or at Millisle every Sunday, and although our Locum Minister Rev. Steve Fulcher has now retired he is still with us on occasions; and we are also grateful to Rev. Alex Currie, Donna Brewster and Mike Johnstone who regularly lead us in worship ... and of course to our Interim Moderator Rev. Eric Boyle.

Please come and join us. The welcome is always warm; the kettle is always on and there is always cake!

You all remain, always in our prayers.

**Jenni Gray**

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## PORT WILLIAM SCOTTISH WOMEN'S INSTITUTE

**PORT WILLIAM SWI meets on the third Thursday of every month at 7.30pm in the Maxwell Hall Supper Room.**

We warmly welcome women of all ages to join us for a cuppa, chat, and the chance to make new friends while enjoying inspiring guest speakers.

In **April**, artist Sarah Louise from Kirkcowan will present "Engineering, Weddings & Painting Landscapes," sharing highlights from her varied career.

Looking ahead to **May**, Aileen McClymont from the Stranraer Cancer Drop-In Centre will be our guest, sharing

her experiences and discussing her role. Visitors are always welcome, and the entry fee is £5. For updates and further information, please visit our Facebook page, Port William SWI.

For those interested in crafting, we also host "Craft Evenings" on the first Thursday of each month at 7pm in the same venue. Our next craft evening will be in **May**, (*decoupage*) and everyone is invited, regardless of ability. A small fee is charged to cover expenses.

We look forward to seeing you soon!

**Maria Old**  
VICE-PRESIDENT

## PORT WILLIAM PRIMARY SCHOOL

**AS ALWAYS** Port William Primary pupils have been experiencing a broad variety of creative art and active events this year as well as their regular in-class learning.

Term 3 was no exception as it was a very busy term with all children taking part in the Port William 'Roberts Burns' poetry celebrations and the Inter-schools Burns Competition which is always a highlight! Primary 6/7 proudly led a **Burns Supper** which was brilliant.

Our Supper guests were invited as a means of saying "thank you" from Primary 6/7, as most of our guests were regular school volunteers and helpers.

All classes entered the choir or action-song section (P1-3) of the **Galloway Music Festival** as well as a significant number of children who read beautifully in the Prose section or confidently recited Scots poetry.

To perfectly finish off the term we created a 'Showcase Concert' of all performances for all families to attend.

Primary 4/5 also experienced different kinds of music and instruments including Gaelic singing from RAM TAM and senior pupils created digital music online using Soundtrap with brilliant results.

All classes received visits from our Community Police Officers PC Martin and PC MacFadzean to learn about **Online Safety** and how we can all keep ourselves safe when online; using phones, playing console games, browsing or making new friends.

Anti-Social Behaviour posters were created by one of the **Skills Friday** groups and they are displayed all over the village, making news in the local Free Press with lots of fantastic comments from local community members.

As term 4 begins, we are looking forward to a variety of outdoor experiences and sporting events. Primary 7s have started a 10-week block of **Forest Schools**; learning how to safely use saws, bowsaws and hammers, observing and learning about nature and of course just having fun in the forest!

In April the whole school will be taking part in a beach session led by the Blue Biosphere Community Officer learning about coastal marine life and sustainability which will be very rewarding. (Galloway & South Ayrshire Biosphere / UNESCO / Solway Firth Partnership).

An abundance of sporting events will be taking place this term too which started with the recent Machars Tag Rugby Festival which was a great success. Many Primary 4s took part in the 'X Country Fun 4s' running in four separate events. Seniors will take part in the Cross Country running at Blairmount and teams currently training for the Machars Football and Netball Leagues to begin.

Port William hosts the Machars Primary 2 Potted Sports with around 80 P2 pupils coming for the event. We will be hoping for sunny Sports Days and sunny school trips later in the term for maximum enjoyment.

Finally, term 4 is a great time for change as playgroup children begin several transition visits into P1 and P7s transition to S1 at the DEHS and most children change classes and teachers. We certainly have a lot to look forward to this term, and we will all be putting our best foot forward.

**Mrs Lesley McDevitt**  
PARTNER HEAD TEACHER  
KIRKINNER AND PORT WILLIAM  
PRIMARY PARTNERSHIP

## MOCHRUM/MILLISLE PARISH DIARY 2026

PLEASE NOTE that this is only a small selection of what is happening in and around Port William - If you would like your events

mentioned in the magazine please send an advertisement or even a poster direct to the Editor at [grizzly121@me.com](mailto:grizzly121@me.com).

**For a Full List of Church Services please see Page 3**

### APRIL

Wednesday	1st	10.15am	<b>Coffee Morning</b>	Supper Room Maxwell Hall
Thursday	2nd	7.00pm	<b>Craft Night</b>	Supper Room Maxwell Hall
Tuesday	14th	2.00pm	<b>Mochrum Guild</b>	Supper Room Maxwell Hall
Thursday	16th	7.30pm	<b>Port William SWI</b>	Supper Room Maxwell Hall
Wednesday	29th	7.30pm	<b>Port William Community Council</b>	Supper Room Maxwell Hall
Thursday	30th	7.00pm	<b>Port William Community Association (SCIO)</b>	The Hub, Kings Green

### MAY

Wednesday	6th	10.15 am	<b>Coffee Morning</b>	Supper Room Maxwell Hall
Thursday	7th	7.00 pm	<b>Craft Night</b>	Supper Room Maxwell Hall
Thursday	21st	7.30 pm	<b>Port William SWI</b>	Supper Room Maxwell Hall
Wednesday	27th	7.30 pm	<b>Port William Community Council</b>	Supper Room Maxwell Hall
Thursday	28th	7.00 pm	<b>Port William Community Association (SCIO)</b>	The Hub, Kings Green

### JUNE

Wednesday	3rd	10.15 am	<b>Coffee Morning</b>	Supper Room Maxwell Hall
Thursday	4th	7.00 pm	<b>Craft Night</b>	Supper Room Maxwell Hall
Thursday	18th	7.30 pm	<b>Port William SWI</b>	Supper Room Maxwell Hall
Wednesday	24th	7.30 pm	<b>Port William Community Council</b>	Supper Room Maxwell Hall
Thursday	25th	7.00 pm	<b>Port William Community Association (SCIO)</b>	The Hub, Kings Green

### JULY

Wednesday	1st	10.15 am	<b>Coffee Morning</b>	Supper Room Maxwell Hall
Thursday	2nd	7.00 pm	<b>Craft Night</b>	Supper Room Maxwell Hall
Thursday	16th	7.30 pm	<b>Port William SWI</b>	Supper Room Maxwell Hall
Wednesday	29th	7.30 pm	<b>Port William Community Council</b>	Supper Room Maxwell Hall
Thursday	30th	7.00 pm	<b>Port William Community Association (SCIO)</b>	The Hub, Kings Green

## VILLAGE HAIRDRESSER CLOSING AFTER 40 YEARS

**PORT WILLIAM are losing their hairdressers at the end of June. After 40 years of working in the village they regret to inform us that the shop is closing and is going up for sale.**

“It's time for a change”, Tracey is going to be in a salon in Wigtown, where you will be able to see her there as usual. Margaret

is going to do some mobile hairdressing for any of her customers who want this service. Alison is going to retire to spend time with family.

They thank everyone for their custom over the years. The last day of business will be June 28th and all vouchers need to be redeemed prior to that date.

## PORT WILLIAM COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION SCIO

**THIS TIME of the year it looks like we are having a rest but behind closed doors we are actively hunting for new events for Carnival Week, organising The Kings Green Caravan Site for opening and looking at what events we can put on throughout the year.**

Miss Chloe Johnstone has been chosen for Carnival Queen 2026. Chloe follows in her mother, Michelle McKnight's, footsteps as Michelle was Carnival Queen in 1999.

A lot of memories will come flooding back to Michelle so Chloe will be in good hands.

We had a great turnout for our Easter Egg Trail with 60 children having fun on a dry

day roaming all over the village hunting for clues.

On finishing every child received an Easter Egg and a wee extra goodie bag was gifted as an act of kindness from MACCS In The Machars.

The transition of The Harbour Green area from Port William Community Council to Port William Community Association Scio has now been finalised so if anyone wishes to book The Harbour Green for events please contact Davina Kiltie on 07901307632 or email [dkiltie738@btinternet.com](mailto:dkiltie738@btinternet.com).

**Davina Kiltie**  
SECRETARY

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## FROM HARDWARE SHOP TO MICROPUB

**YOU WILL probably be aware that Port William Hardware has now closed its doors with Simon looking forward to a well-earned retirement.**

The village has been fortunate over the years in having a hardware outlet but it is probably a sign of the times that this is now lost. Best wishes to Simon and family.

He has sold the premises to Dean and Annabelle Webster who many of you will already know have a planning application in progress for 6 The Square to convert into a micropub.

Dean's connection to the area runs deep. His great-grandparents lived in the Isle-of-Whithorn and his Uncle Martin, auntie, and cousin still call Mochrum home.

Dean spent many happy childhood days here fishing with Uncle Martin ... memories that have stayed with him ever since! Over the years they brought their family of three up to Port William and in 2021 purchased a cottage on Main Street where they spent 18 months renovating and visit as often as possible.

Dean has long dreamed of bringing a pub back to the village, so when he heard the old hardware store was coming up for sale they knew they had to explore it. If all goes to plan and the doors open later this year, Dean's sister Cheryl and her partner Andy will be coming up to run things day-to-day - keeping it very much a family affair.

*"Being honest this is completely new territory for us! Neither of us has ever worked in hospitality before, so it's a steep learning curve and there's still so much to learn".*

What has genuinely taken them by surprise is the incredible warmth and positivity received from the community. The support has been overwhelming, and they are quietly determined to do Port William proud and meet its expectations.





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8 Arthur Street  
NEWTON STEWART  
T: 01671 404408

M: 07850 705200

[ian.broll@btconnect.com](mailto:ian.broll@btconnect.com)

## MOCHRUM PARISH CHURCH

Interim Moderator	Rev. Eric Boyle	01988 402314
Treasurer	Ieuan Morgan	
Session Clerk	Mrs Jenni Gray	01988 700948
Organist	Mrs Gill Bateman	
Free Will Offering/Gift Aid	Mrs Jenni Gray	01988 700948
Guild Secretary	Mrs. Vicky Parker	01988 700312
Magazine	John Adams	grizzly121@me.com
Coffee Morning Convenor	Bridget Hillman	01988 700781
Coffee Morning Basket available	from Jenni Gray	01988 700948
Church Flowers	Bridget Hillman	01988 700781
Church Flowers Distribution	Moira Adams	01988 700263

## PORT WILLIAM COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION

Chairman	Mr Richard Dean	07464 757012
Secretary	Mrs Davina Kiltie	01988 700738

## PORT WILLIAM COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Chairman	Mr Robert Sheppard	
Secretary	secretary.pwcc@gmail.com	

## PORT WILLIAM COMMUNITY SHOP

Chairperson	Mrs Jean Hobbs	07484 600151
Secretary	Alison McMaster	01988 700439
Treasurer	Mrs Vicky Parker	01988 700312

## PORT WILLIAM BABY & TODDLER GROUP

Chairperson	Kirsty Teasdale	
Secretary	Roz McIntyre	portwilliamtoddlers@gmail.com
Treasurer	Robyn Galloway	

## PORT WILLIAM SCHOOL PARENT'S COUNCIL

Chairperson	Mrs Emily Nicholson	01988 700203
Secretary	Mrs Claire Cluckie	portwilliamparentcouncil@yahoo.com
Treasurer	Mrs Rachel Wadsworth	

## PORT WILLIAM GARDENERS' GROUP

Secretary		01988 700955
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# WHO'S WHO 2026

Please advise of any changes to contact details, etc - J. Adams ([grizzly121@me.com](mailto:grizzly121@me.com))

## SENIOR CITIZENS' COMMITTEE

Chairperson	Mrs Margaret Gilmour	07825 739049
Secretary	Mrs Mary Cowan	07810 435117
Treasurer	Mrs Dib Penrose	01988 700741

## P.I.R.S.A.C.

Chairman	Mr Kenny Barr	07834 985536
Secretary	Mrs Helen Oxley	07900 046350

## PORT WILLIAM SCOTTISH WOMEN'S INSTITUTE

President	Mrs Jennifer Brodie	07990 844929
Vice President	Mrs Maria Old	07786 882860
Secretary	Mrs Elizabeth Wallace	07483 347069

## PORT WILLIAM PANTOMIME COMPANY

Chairperson	Mrs Helen Oxley	01988 700757
Secretary	Mrs Linda Plunket	01988 840291
Treasurer	Mr Douglas Ballentyne	01988 700877

## PORT WILLIAM MUGA AND YOUTH BUILDING (PWCDT)

Chairperson	Ed Robinson	07919 577011
Treasurer	Arlene Morgan	07969 603077
Secretary	Emily Nicholson	01988 700203
Bookings/Enquiries	Facebook: <i>Port William MUGA and Community Youth Building</i>	

## PORT WILLIAM MAXWELL HALL MANAGEMENT

Chair/Secretary	Mrs Mary Cowan	07810 435117
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## MADAG (MONREITH & DISTRICT ACTION GROUP)

Chairperson	Mr Robert Mckinnel	01988 700117
Secretary	Emma Drysdale	<a href="mailto:madagsecretary@gmail.com">madagsecretary@gmail.com</a>

## PORT WILLIAM BOWLING CLUB

Secretary	Hamish Paton	<a href="mailto:sydtortoise@aol.com">sydtortoise@aol.com</a>	07850 516118
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## PORT WILLIAM SHORT MAT BOWLING CLUB

Secretary/Treasurer	Allison Scott	07796 164320
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<p><b>ANDREW BRAWLS</b> <b>PRIVATE HIRE</b></p> <p>8 Seater Mini Bus &amp; Taxi</p>  <p><b>Tel: 07810 872688</b> Brawood, Myrton Crescent PortWilliam DG8 9SP</p>	<p><b>Skate Antiques</b></p> <p>Lorraine &amp; Robin Murray</p>  <p><b>Tel: 01988 700208</b></p>	<p><b>PETER SKIMMING &amp; SON</b></p> <p>JOINERS &amp; ROOFING CONTRACTORS</p> <p><b>Tel: 01988 500454</b></p>
<p><b>ACE CLEANING SERVICES</b></p> <p><i>Carpet &amp; Upholstery Cleaning specialists</i></p> <p>Contact Clark Gracie</p> <p><b>T: 01671 820899</b> <b>M: 07584 297274</b></p> 	<p><b>GALLOWAY PLUMBING SERVICES</b></p> <p>Gary Huxtable gallowayplumbing@btinternet.com</p>  <p><b>M: 07917 385887</b> <b>T: 01988 700663</b></p>	<p><b>SAM HORNELL</b> ELECTRICAL SERVICES</p>  <p>All types of electrical work undertaken</p> <p><b>Telephone: 07500 113076</b></p>
<p><b>W. McSHANE</b> <b>PLUMBING &amp; HEATING</b></p> <p>All types of Plumbing &amp; Gas &amp; Oil work</p> <p>INSTALLATION, MAINTENANCE &amp; SERVICING</p> <p>Landlord/Safety Certificate</p> <p><b>Tel: 01988 500611</b> <b>Mobile: 07850 013023</b></p>	<p><b>PORT WILLIAM COMMUNITY SHOP</b></p> <p><b>SUMMER OPENING TIMES</b></p> <p>Every day except Sunday 11am-3pm</p> <p><b>(Easter to September)</b></p>	<p><b>Hairflair</b> UNISEX STYLING</p> <p><i>Traditional and Modern Colours</i></p>  <p><b>Tel: 01988 700511</b></p>
 <p><b>FAY WALLACE</b> HCPC Registered Mobile Podiatrist</p> <p>t: 07557 225878 e: faywallacepodiatry@outlook.com</p>	 <p>Public Liability Insurance</p> <p>Free Quote</p> <p><b>PWK ELECTRICAL</b> <b>Tel 07776 492080</b></p> <p>Over 40 years experience in the domestic industry</p>	<p><b>ADVERTS</b></p> <p>We have space on our advertisement page</p> <p>If anyone would like a slot the cost is <b>£20 per annum</b></p>

This publication is generously supported by our  
advertisers and donations.

Please give them your support

## PORT WILLIAM BOWLING CLUB

**THE GREEN** opened on Saturday 18th April, when there was a really good turnout and a great time was had by those in attendance. It was windy but the sun shone brightly.

An excellent variety of refreshments were available in the clubhouse and a huge vote of thanks go to Babs Mellor and Ann Ballantyne, amongst others, for their efforts.

There has been much work done in the lead-up to the opening day by a small band of volunteers to get the green in the best condition it has been in for several years.

The club has a new very smart sign fitted to the clubhouse, a new banner and also a new flag flying high over the clubhouse. A big thank you to Paul Hermison for gifting the sign and banner.

Kevin Wilde, Club President, thanked Billy Hedley again for his kind donation of a new lawnmower. Billy then had the duty of throwing the first bowl of the 2026 season.



The new lawnmower has helped make a significant improvement to the playing surface.

Work to maintain and improve the green continues, we do not have a greenkeeper but we have a small group of volunteers who usually meet on Tuesday



afternoons at 1.30pm. We would welcome any offers of assistance, experience is not required.

Regular sweep nights recommence on Tuesdays and Fridays 6.45pm for a 7pm start costing £2. These are fun nights with a little friendly competition. If you are new to bowling you are more than welcome to come along and give it a go, you may enjoy it and find you have a hidden talent. We have plenty of spare bowls and you will be assisted by club members.

The price of membership has been held at the same rate as last year, £45 per annum for full membership.

If you are interested in volunteering or have any queries about the bowling club please contact the Club Secretary.

**Hamish Paton** SECRETARY

sydtortoise@aol.com or phone  
07850 516118.



## PORT WILLIAM & DISTRICT COMMUNITY COUNCIL

**YOUR Community Council are your link to the wider Dumfries & Galloway Council. Please help us to help our community by bringing any local issues creating concerns or problems to our attention.**

We can then, if appropriate, bring these to the attention of the wider Council on your behalf. Responses can sometime be slow, please be patient with us. If the issues creating concern are not for the wider Council to deal with, we can relay these to the correct person/people/organisation.

We would like to welcome new members John Adams and Steph McClelland to the Community Council. We would welcome more people from the community coming forward to support your Community Council. Please come along to a monthly meeting to observe and discuss what is involved.

Exploration of a local tidal/sea pool arising out of the Local Place Plan continues. The expert based in London has visited three potential sites in the area recently. These sites include: Port William, Black Rocks Monreith and Garlieston. Please look out for further information on this and a public consultation meeting.

Following on from the Ward 2 Event, we are also exploring with the wider Council, installation of electric vehicle chargers (EVCs) in the village square. This will take some time unfortunately and will most likely be next year now but we will hopefully have an efficient fast charging EVC at some point. Installation of one

only is an improvement on what we have now...none.

Windfarm donations: Firstly, thank you on behalf of us all to Tony Cottam who has been the person managing this for us for a number of years. Tony has done a great job for which we are very grateful. Tony has now retired from the Community Council due to a house move.

Unfortunately, Carscreugh have changed their system for windfarm donations and returned to applications rather than automatic payments. We were not informed of this change and found out quite by accident. As a result, we have missed the Spring donation payment. We will apply here in June for a donation.

If you would like to apply for a donation from the Windfarm monies, please submit your application electronically to secretary.pwcc@gmail.com or post through Number 12 Main Street. Please include in your application the amount you need and what this will contribute to.

Port William and District Community Council meets in Maxwell Hall Supper Room at 7.30pm on the last Wednesday of every month apart from July, August and December

Members of the community are welcome at monthly meetings. However, if you wish to raise an issue or discuss anything it is helpful to let us know what this is so we can re-direct your query if not suitable and allocate time at the meeting accordingly.

Please email: secretary.pwcc@gmail.com

**Jacqueline Crowther**

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### ANSWERS TO WEDDING QUIZ (page 4)

- |                |             |                 |               |
|----------------|-------------|-----------------|---------------|
| 1) Bridesmaids | 4) Best man | 7) Reception    | 10) Champagne |
| 2) Ceremony    | 5) Confetti | 8) Bouquets     | 11) Honeymoon |
| 3) First dance | 6) Canapés  | 9) Wedding cake | 12) Speeches  |



## MOCHRUM LADIES JEAN ARMOUR CLUB

**IN FEBRUARY** over 100 ladies celebrated their 26th Burns Supper event in the Maxwell Hall. £2000 was raised for charity - £1500 for Prostate Buddies D&G and £500 for RETT.

Guests were welcomed by our MC, Elizabeth. Our top table speakers were Kirsty Andrews, Kate Kaye, Andrea Thomson and Kathleen Cronnie.

Lynn Fisher addressed the haggis, piped in by Karen-Marie and our haggis bearer was Lizzy. Siobahn delivered the Selkirk Grace.

Entertainment was provided by our six year old Highland dancer, Marielle and music was from Helen and Lesley.

Our photographer was Hazel Smith. Poetry was from Toola and Mary made the health and safety warning. Monica delivered the vote of thanks before Auld Lang Syne.

The Maxwell Hall provided the perfect venue for this quite unique event.



**Mary Cowan** SECRETARY



## NATURAL HISTORY OBSERVATIONS:

**EARLY IN THE new year I decided to check on the Rustyback Fern which was on a wall overlooking the River Cree at Newton Stewart.**

It is an uncommon plant in Wigtownshire although it is in several places in this town. However, from a few plants a couple of years ago, I could find only one (*see photo*). Winter heliotrope was flowering freely along the riverbank close to the new bridge.

The middle of **January** saw Snowdrops both in the garden at Seymour House and on road verges in tight bud. By the end of the month they were in full bloom.

Towards the end of the January our neighbour

Julie found Turkeytail fungus in her garden and on the 27th, we had a splendid fully grown Hedgehog in the garden snuffling its way along the privet hedge. It had been a very wet day, Seymour House front garden was completely under water as it cascaded down the road from the farm.

At the end of the month a Lt Egret was on the foreshore close to King's Green at Port William.

**February** continued to be extremely wet rain falling most days but on Valentines Day we were rewarded with a dry sunny start which meant a walk to the foreshore at Port William. Six Brent Geese were seen together with Shelduck, Oystercatchers, Rock Pipit and

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## NUMBER 12 PORT WILLIAM - SCIO

**SINCE THE last issue, we have had two further Trustees join our ranks.**

Funding has been received that will allow us to continue to run sessions at affordable rates. Keep up with information on events on our Facebook page.

We hosted the "Love Your Clothes" event in conjunction with MAC-CAN on Valentines Day, with films showing the life of a T-shirt, and a live link with Susan in Kenya discussing the millions of clothing items that end up in her country because of "fast fashion" - mainly items not able to be sold in re-use shops.

There was a clothes swap, and also a quiz to get people to suggest how long it took different clothing materials to degrade.

Foodtrain paid us a visit in the last week, where their members had a fun few hours working on various craft projects.

We have another exhibition scheduled for **May**, with Machars Makers exhibiting their work - see our Facebook page for details closer to the event.

**Open House** on Sundays continues to be well attended, and our numbers are constantly growing for our keystone event.

We were fortunate to receive four refurbished laptops from Scottish Power Networks, which we have many plans for, including a basic genealogy session in the near future.

On that note, we would like to thank those that have donated craft materials, tools and vinyl / CDs over the past few months. These items are always welcomed.

The new dormer in the **Music Room** is now complete, and the **Creative Space** has also been plastered and is due for painting in the next few weeks.

New flooring is due to be added by Kinnear's to the upstairs bathroom in a few weeks, and work will be starting shortly on the new **Garden Room**, which will replace the semi-derelict conservatory on the back of the building

Contact us on [Number12PW@outlook.com](mailto:Number12PW@outlook.com) and keep up with what's going on via our Facebook page "Number 12"

**Bob & Rebecca Sheppard**

## JANUARY TO MARCH 2026

Curlew. Plovers were seen far off and they were either Ringed or Golden both occurring here in some numbers.

Mid February was cold and showery and a walk on the Monreith Estate saw hundreds of plants of White Butterbur in full flower although there was no sign yet of the Purple Toothwort. Mid February and a walk along the lane to Airylick close to the Old Mill Burn saw the vegetation in the burn very lush with lots of Flote Grass (*see photo*) and Brooklime. The hedgerow comprised mainly of Common Hawthorn & Blackthorn with many lichens evident. Common Polypody was on several Oak trees and Artichoke Gall was also seen.

On the 22nd of the month we had frogspawn appear in the pond and the end of February was marked by a warm, sunny and dry day, a real rarity!

2nd **March** was mainly sunny after early rain and the Coltsfoot was in flower close to the track beyond Kings Green. Further along in some low bushes there were 18 Greenfinch - 5 male and 13 female.

The following day was warm and sunny and on the Monreith Estate there were around a dozen Greylag Geese on the loch and lots of Soft Shield Fern in the woodland.

A week later on the Monreith Estate the following plants were seen: Purple Toothwort (*see photo*), Soft Shield Fern, Hartstongue Fern, Yellow-flowered Strawberry, Opposite leaved Golden Saxifrage, White Butterbur, Pyrenean Squill, Dog's-tooth Violet, Ramsons, Snowdrop, Butchers Broom, Lesser Celandine, Wild Cherry, Alder and Scots Pine.

The weather gradually improved as March went on and a Chiffchaff was singing at Seymour House on the 19th of the month and a couple of days later the following birds were seen (or heard) in the foothills of Cairnsmore of Fleet - Buzzard, Nuthatch, Blackbird, Great Tit, Blue Tit, Coal Tit, Chaffinch, Robin, Wren, Pied Wagtail and Great Spotted Woodpecker a sure sign that Spring was with us!

Alan Wake



**THE MAXWELL HALL Management Team continues to appreciate the support from all our regular groups and other customers.**

We were sorry to lose Tony and Joan Cottam from our team as they are now living in Whithorn. Tony as our chairperson did a tremendous amount of work behind the scenes to ensure the hall was managed effectively.

Our other news is...the orange ceiling is gone! The Main Hall and corridor have had a makeover thanks to the Pro Touch decorating team. This redecoration was long overdue and we are delighted with the results.

<b>Hall Rates (per hour)</b>	
Main Hall	<b>£15</b>
Supper Room	<b>£10</b>
Upstairs Room	<b>£7</b>
<b>Commercial Rates (per hour):</b>	
Main Hall	<b>£25</b>
Supper Room	<b>£15</b>
Upstairs Room	<b>£10</b>

New water heaters are being installed in the toilets and new ceiling tiles are being fitted in the accessible toilet which also has a new baby changing unit.

The kitchen has been measured up for new units to make better use of space. Monica is our kitchen project manager so we can be rest assured a stylish new kitchen will be installed.

We received a donation of £300 from Wigtown Community Shop to buy a table trolley to make set up for bigger events in the Main Hall easier. New smaller tables for the main hall have also been ordered.

We continue to host our regular groups and our music sessions are proving popular.

The whole building is being used on Thursday 7th May as a polling station and Thursday user groups have been informed.

*email: [hallcommittee.mhm@gmail.com](mailto:hallcommittee.mhm@gmail.com)*

**BOOKINGS:**

**[hallbookings.mhm@gmail.com](mailto:hallbookings.mhm@gmail.com)  
 also messenger or text 07810 435117**

**SEE PAGE 21 FOR REGULAR EVENTS HELD IN THE HALL**

**Mary Cowan** CHAIRPERSON  
 (07810 435117)

**PORT WILLIAM MEN’S SHED**

**IT HAS BEEN difficult at times, but the first part of the tractor at the Primary School should be installed in the next week or so.**

The garage at Number 12 has now been fitted out as a permanent home for *the Shedders*. If anyone in our Parish is at a

loose end on Tuesday and Thursday mornings from 10am, drop in for tea and banter before we move into the Shed to get on with the pieces of work that we have on the table for our Community.

**Bob Sheppard**

## REGULAR MEETINGS

*weekly unless stated*

### MONDAY

9.30 - 11.30am	<b>Baby &amp; Toddler Group</b>	Maxwell Hall
7.00 - 10.00pm	<b>Port William Bridge Club</b> <i>Autumn to Easter</i>	Maxwell Hall
7.00 - 10.00pm	<b>Kirkinner Bridge Club</b> <i>Easter to Autumn</i>	Whauphill Hall
6.00 - 7.00pm	<b>PWCDT Football</b> - 5 to 8 years old	Port William MUGA
7.00 - 8.00pm	<b>PWCDT Football</b> - 8 years and over	Port William MUGA
7.30 - 9.30pm	<b>Community Bingo</b>	Maxwell Hall

### TUESDAY

9.00 - 11.00am	<b>Library and D&amp;G Customer Services</b>	Maxwell Hall
2.00 - 4.00pm	<b>Guild</b> <i>monthly</i>	Maxwell Hall
6.00 - 6.45pm	<b>HIIT Fitness</b>	Maxwell Hall
7.00 - 8.00pm	<b>Popdance</b>	Maxwell Hall
6.50	<b>Port William Lawn Bowls Sweep</b>	Bowling Green

### WEDNESDAY

10.15 - 11.15am	<b>Kirk Coffee Morning</b> <i>monthly</i>	Maxwell Hall
10.00 - 11.00am	<b>Pilates</b>	Maxwell Hall
1.45pm	<b>Bridge Club</b>	Wigtown Golf Club

### THURSDAY

10.30am - 12noon	<b>Knit &amp; Natter</b>	The View
1.30 - 2.30pm	<b>Tap Dancing</b>	Maxwell Hall
7.00 - 9.00pm	<b>SWI Craft Group</b> (open to all) <i>(1st Thursdays)</i>	Maxwell Hall
7.30 - 9.30pm	<b>Scottish Women's Institute</b> <i>(3<sup>rd</sup> Thursdays)</i> (visitors welcome)	Maxwell Hall

### FRIDAY

3.00 - 5.00pm	<b>Library and D&amp;G Customer Services</b>	Maxwell Hall
6.50	<b>Port William Lawn Bowls Sweep</b>	Bowling Green
7.30pm	<b>Bingo</b>	Garlieston Hall

### SUNDAY

11.00am	<b>Morning Worship</b>	See Rota on page 3
2.00pm	<b>Music Sessions</b> <i>monthly (8<sup>th</sup> Feb / 15 March)</i>	Maxwell Hall

*NB: Not all exceptions to regular meetings are shown.  
Please refer to individual organisations if in doubt!*

**NOTE: NO SERVICE AT MILLISLE  
ON 10TH MAY**

instead there is a Joint Martyrs Service, Wigtown Parish Church 11.30am  
*All Welcome*

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**MILLISLE FLOWER ROTA**

<b>May</b>	<b>10th</b>	Hazel Campbell
	<b>24th</b>	Hazel Campbell
<b>June</b>	<b>7th</b>	Anne McDonald
	<b>21st</b>	Alison Graham
<b>July</b>	<b>5th</b>	Jean McKay

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**MOCHRUM PARISH EDUCATIONAL TRUST**

Applications are invited for a  
**BURSARY**  
from the above Trust

The fund is used to assist students in Further Education, who reside or have resided within the bounds of Mochrum Parish or who have close connections with the Parish.

Closing Date 26th September 2026

**There will be ONLY ONE BURSARY AWARDED**

*Applications from previous applicants are welcome*

A letter of application should be forwarded to the Session Clerk  
at the address below:

**Mrs Jenni Gray, Session Clerk, Mochrum Parish Church,  
33 Main Street, Port William , Newton Stewart DG8 9QH**

**by Saturday 26th September 2026**

## MILLISLE DOOR DUTY

If you are unable to come on your listed day, do not worry,  
as I am sure someone else will step in!

*Whoever is on the door, can you shut outside door before coming in - one of you take the offering  
plate to the front at the end of second last hymn. Please stand until after prayer.*

*THANK YOU.*

<b>May</b>	<b>10th</b>	Willie Johnston and Agnes Adams
	<b>24th</b>	Willie Johnston and Jean McKay
<b>June</b>	<b>7th</b>	John McDonald and Anne Gorman
	<b>21st</b>	Norrie McIntosh and Bunty Cloy
<b>July</b>	<b>5th</b>	Jean Whittaker and Alison Graham
	<b>19th</b>	Tom Galloway and Agnes Adams
<b>August</b>	<b>2nd</b>	Jean McKay and Willie Johnston

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## SORBIE VILLAGE HALL WEEKLY MEETINGS

### MONDAY

10.00am	<b>Aerobics</b>	(Trish active.communities@dumgal.gov.uk)
1.30pm	<b>Hobbies</b> <i>1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Monday of each month</i>	(Rosamond 01988 850237)
6.00pm	<b>Dog Training</b>	(Mel Duncan 07880 590703)
7.30pm	<b>Carpet Bowling</b>	(Neil Milven 01988 840396)

### TUESDAY

9.30am	<b>Yoga</b>	(Susie McKay 01988 850258 / 07703 677117)
6.00pm	<b>Lego Club</b>	(Morag Cuomo 01988 8850270)
7.30pm	<b>Sorbie WI</b> <i>3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday of month</i>	(Rosamond 01988 850237)

### WEDNESDAY

7.00pm	<b>Dog Training</b>	(Mel Duncan 07880 590703)
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### THURSDAY

7.00pm	<b>Yoga</b>	(Susie McKay 01988 850258 / 07703 677117)
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### FRIDAY

9.30am	<b>Homestart Wigtownshire</b>	(Office 01776 706984)
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### SUNDAY

2.00pm	<b>Dance Class</b>
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# The Heart of the Community

PORT WILLIAM COMMUNITY SHOP has been part of the village since 2004 with many volunteers over the years giving their time to help. Previously the shop belonged to The British Red Cross before its purchase by Friends of Port William Shop.

Over the last year or so, new heating and window replacements have had to be installed and recently the shop area has had a make-over making it bright and fresh for our customers. The shop has a fantastic group of volunteers who help to keep the shop open four days a week - 11am till 3pm with an extra two days opening during summer.

These volunteers do so much within the shop by unpacking and arranging goods, serving customers, documentation, finance, general maintenance and of course always having a smiling face for the customers.

Anyone can volunteer for the shop and can work as little or as often as they please as the opening times are covered by a rota system of two hours at a time. Over the years this little shop has helped thousands of good causes especially within the community and continues to do so by the help of the volunteers but of course by the good folk who donate their unwanted items.

So please continue to donate if you can, we do ask for the items to be clean, intact and functioning for us to sell it on. If anyone would like to apply for a donation, you must call into the shop to collect an application form which can be done at any time. Application forms are reviewed four times a year but a group or organisation will only be successful once per year.

You will also find inside the shop a blue bin. This is for anyone to donate non-perishable food items, toiletries etc for Machars Churches Basics Food Bank. These are then taken to their premises in Newton Stewart by one of our volunteers, to help provide food for anyone who needs it across the Machars.

This little shop is in the heart of our community. It's warm, friendly and inviting while also giving back to our area plus you are always sure to find a bargain or two.

