

Autumn
2025



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**Material for the Winter 2025 issue should be emailed to
John Adams - grizzy121@me.com**

by Sunday 19th October, 2025 - No Later please

Charity Numbers: Mochrum SC003300 Millisle SC010621

LETTER FROM THE LOCUM MINISTER

I learned a new word recently – PALTERING. It means to tell a narrow truth in order to hide a big lie.

For example, an estate agent says there has been a lot of interest in a property, meaning there have been a few enquiries, but none have been followed up.

Or if a child is asked “Have you finished your homework?”, and replies he has written an essay on Val McDermaid – but was that the homework in question?

Something true has been said in such a way as hides the real truth.

Politicians do it; Artificial Intelligence does it (AI recently told me that the Beatle John Lennon served in the trenches in the First World War. It did not seem likely, as he was born in 1940. Someone named John Lennon probably did, but he was not one of the Beatles).

How can we hope to function as a society, as humans, if we doubt all the information we receive and distrust everyone around us? If no-one tells the truth, communication eventually becomes impossible.

In the Bible, the 9th Commandment says “Do not bare false witness”. Paltering seems to me to be doing just that.

Jesus gives an alternative when He says “The truth will set you free”.(John 8:32)

Worth a try?

God bless,

Steve

REV. STEVE FULCHER

ADVERTISEMENTS

We have spaces on our advert page
If anyone would like a slot the cost is £20 per annum

Cover Photo: “Walking With The Coos”, Stairhaven to Auchenmaig by Louise De Lisle

CHURCH SERVICES LIST

Services start at 11.00 a.m. unless otherwise stated and will normally be led by our Locum Minister Rev Steve Fulcher.

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

AUGUST

- 3rd Wigtown Parish Church *11.30am* **Joint Service**
Guest Speaker Joe Carlson from Bethany Schofield Baptist Church in Wisconsin
The sermon will be on 'The Lord's prayer 'Praying for Daily Bread'
with Port William Community Association and Carnival Queens
- 10th Mochrum **Carnival Week Closing Ceremony with Songs of Praise**
- 10th The Marquee *3.00pm*
- 17th Millisle
- 24th Mochrum **Sacrament of Holy Communion**
- 31st Kirkinner Hall **Café Church**

SEPTEMBER

- 7th Mochrum
- 7th Crugleton *3.00pm* **Annual Ecumenical Service – don't forget the torch!**
- 14th Millisle
- 21st Mochrum **Service of Harvest Thanksgiving**
Please bring your gifts for the work of the Machars Basics Food Bank
- 28th Millisle

OCTOBER

- 5th Mochrum **with Guild Rededication**
- 12th Millisle
- 19th Mochrum
- 26th Millisle

NOVEMBER

- 2nd Mochrum
- 9th **Remembrance Sunday**
10.50am Port William War Memorial
12.00 noon Millisle Morning Worship
1.30 pm Garlieston War Memorial
2.15pm Sorbie
3.00pm Kirkinner
- 15th Mochrum
- 23rd Millisle
- 30th Mochrum

MOCHRUM PARISH CHURCH REGISTER

BAPTISM

“Children are a Gift from God”

Jane Penrose

WEDDING

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

Jill McCulloch Joined in Holy Matrimony with Stuart Wallace

Rebecca Davison Joined in Holy Matrimony with Robert Sheppard

FUNERALS

“The Lord Is My Shepherd”

Marlene Bell	Elrig
Jimmy Gilmore	Port William
David Hirst	Port William
Joy Kevan	Port William
Pearl McGowan	Dunragit
Mhari McFadzean	Newton Stewart
George McKenzie MBE	Port William
Brian Wallace	Formerly Port William

ELDERS' DUTY LIST

August	Ann Wadsworth/Anne Highman
September	Moira Adams/Jane Nelson
October	Elizabeth Wallace/Vicky Parker
November	Ann Wadsworth/Gilbert Hyslop

SERVICES OF HOLY COMMUNION

Sunday 24th August

MOCHRUM CHURCH

COMMUNION DUTY ELDERS

Ann Wadsworth, Moira Adams, Jenni Gray and Vicky Parker

FLOWER ROTA FOR MOCHRUM KIRK

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

July	27th	Robina Richmond
August	10th 24th	Jane Nelson Maria Old
September	7th 21st	Pauline Todd Arlene Morgan
October	5th 19th	Elizabeth Wallace Rhona Morland
November	2nd 16th 30th	Jane Nelson Lorraine Ker Jean Hobbs

Thank you to everyone who puts the flowers in the Church. They are so appreciated by the congregation and those who receive them after the Church Service on Sunday.

Bridget Hillman

Church key available from the Session Clerk, Jenni Gray, 01988 700948

COFFEE MORNING ROTA

August	6th	Jane Nelson and Rose Christie
September	3rd	Rachel Wadsworth and Helen McTier
October	1st	Lorraine Ker and Beth Robinson
November	5th	Jean Hobbs and Frances Baird
December	3rd	Babs Mellor and Vicky Parker – with sales table

JUST FOR FUN!

These clues are anagrams of board and card games, which have been played over many years and are still popular today.

For example the letters ETELEB would spell BEETLE. Can you solve the rest?

- | | | |
|---------------------|--------------------------|---------------------------|
| 1) TCESHS | 6) HTGUARDS | 11) BRACLEBS |
| 2) OMONDIES | 7) SANDELANDS DRAKES (3) | 12) LOUD |
| 3) CONFRONT CUE (2) | 8) SITRAOLIE | 13) KILTY WINDDS (2) |
| 4) PLOOMNY | 9) I PAS HAM FLY PIE (2) | 14) RYSOR |
| 5) PANS | 10) NEETAPIC | 15) RECK CHEESE SINCH (2) |

Answers on Page 9

MOCHRUM GUILD REPORT

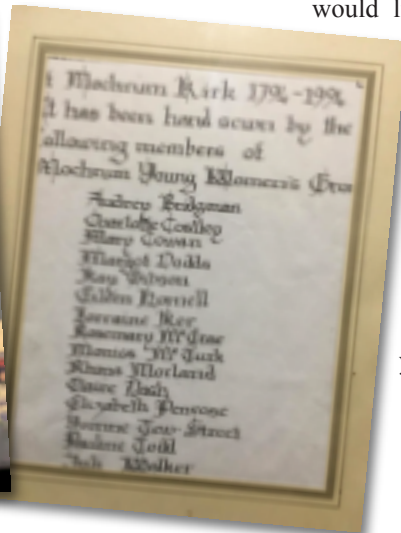
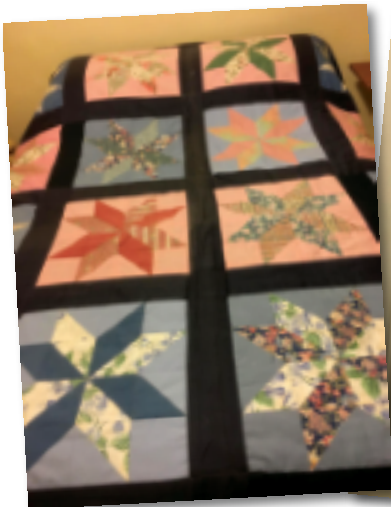
HERE AT MOCHRUM Guild we are enjoying our summer break at the moment so we are not holding any meetings. We are busy arranging our new syllabus to start in September with some exciting speakers for the coming year.

Earlier this year, Ann Wadsworth met up with former member Betty Muir, who wished to hand over a quilt she had that celebrated Mochrum Parish Church Bicentenary, 1794-1994. (see photos).



This quilt had been sewn by Mochrum Young Women's Group and Betty wanted to put it to some use.

Elizabeth Wallace stepped forward and converted the quilt into a lovely new pulpit cushion and two knee blankets. Ann then presented one of the knee blankets back to Betty who loved the idea and gratefully accepted the gift.



In the meantime, why not make a note in your diary about a couple of events which will be taking place over the next few months.

Firstly, Galloway Guilds Together are holding an afternoon tea in the North West Castle, Stranraer on **Thursday 18th September** 2pm costing £15. Please give names to Ann Wadsworth or Vicky Parker asap if you are wanting to attend.

Secondly, let's all have a sing song ... it's back by popular demand. "*Big Sing*" at Penninghame Parish Church on **Saturday 25th October** 2pm with a harvest festival theme. The roof was lifted off last time, let's do it again.

We will resume our meetings on **Tuesday 9th September** when Steven Fulcher will be our guest speaker and would love to see some new faces. Please do come along and join us, we usually have a speaker followed by a cuppa and biscuit and it lasts about an hour and a half.

Everyone is given a warm welcome to join us at these meetings held in the Supper Room of Maxwell Hall at 2pm. If you

would like to become a member of our Guild membership fees will be taken at our September and October meetings at a very small cost of £18 for the year. Looking forward to seeing you all soon.

Vicky Parker
 SECRETARY

MOCHRUM/MILLISLE PARISH DIARY 2025

PLEASE NOTE that this is only a small selection of what is happening in and around Port William. Some events during the summer months may be subject to change.

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

For a Full List of Church Services please see Page 3

AUGUST

Wednesday	6th	10.15am	Coffee Morning	Supper Room Maxwell Hall
Wednesday	6th		Wigtown Show	Bladnoch Park
Thursday	7th	7.00pm	Craft Night	Supper Room Maxwell Hall
Thursday	21st	7.30pm	Port William SWI	Supper Room Maxwell Hall
Thursday	28th	7.00pm	Port William Community Association (SCIO)	The Hub, Kings Green
Sunday	31st	11.00am	Café Church	Kirkinner Hall

SEPTEMBER

Wednesday	2nd	10.15am	Coffee Morning	Supper Room Maxwell Hall
Thursday	4th	7.00pm	Craft Night	Supper Room Maxwell Hall
Tuesday	9th	2.00pm	Mochrum Guild	Supper Room Maxwell Hall
Thursday	18th	7.30pm	Port William SWI	Supper Room Maxwell Hall
Saturday	20th	11.00am	- 3.00pm Autumn Market	Maxwell Hall
Wednesday	24th	7.30pm	Port William Community Council	Supper Room Maxwell Hall
Thursday	25th	7.00pm	Port William Community Association (SCIO)	The Hub, Kings Green

OCTOBER

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

NOVEMBER

Wednesday	5th	10.15am	Coffee Morning	Supper Room Maxwell Hall
Thursday	6th	7.00pm	Craft Night	Supper Room Maxwell Hall
Tuesday	11th	2.00pm	Mochrum Guild	Supper Room Maxwell Hall
Thursday	20th	7.30pm	Port William SWI	Supper Room Maxwell Hal
Wednesday	26th	7.30pm	Port William Community Council	Supper Room Maxwell Hall
Thursday	27th	7.00pm	Port William Community Association (SCIO)	The Hub, Kings Green

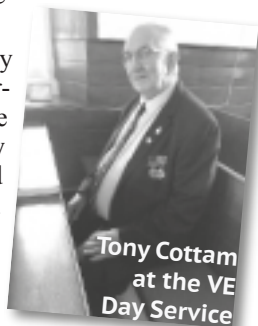
MOCHRUM SESSION CLERK'S REPORT

WHEN I START my report I always look to see what I wrote last year at this time and I am pleased to see that we have been enjoying some much improved weather than we had then. Isn't it lovely to have some sunshine and to enjoy time in the garden.

We are so blessed to live in these beautiful surroundings when the world is in such turmoil, and although I know that for some these past months may have brought sadness our thoughts and prayers are with you all.

We have been able to enjoy some special times in the Kirk and we are indebted to Vicky Parker who always adds her unique touch to decorating the church for these significant services.

We held a VE Day Service remembering all who have served their country both past and present; enjoyed our Café Church which we held in Port William Primary School and our Sea Sunday Service when we were



Service when we were joined by members of PIRSAC, sadly this year without George McKenzie who was very much in our thoughts.

We have had a baptism and a wedding and we now have our Carnival Week Service to look forward to on the **10th August**



The Font decorated for Sea Sunday

as well as the closing ceremony in the Marquee.

As well as singing some favourite hymns and giving thanks to all who work so hard to put Carnival Week together we shall also think about VJ day which falls on the **15th August**. I know that my Father-in-Law fought in Burma and I am sure that many of you will have relatives also who endured such hard times; and we must remember all that they gave in the hope that our world would become a better place.

We then have another Café Church to look forward to on the **31st August** in Kirkinner Hall. Although Café Church is still in keeping with a traditional church service of hymns and prayers it is much more relaxed in that we sit around tables enjoying endless cups of tea and coffee, plenty of cake and the opportunity to chat together, so do please come along if you can. I am sure you will enjoy it.

The date for our annual Ecumenical Service at Craggleton is the **7th September** and this will be led by our Locum Minister Rev Steve Fulcher together with ministers from both the Catholic and Episcopal churches, so we hope that you will be able to come along, *but don't forget the torch!*

Our Harvest Thanksgiving will be on the **21st September**, when we will again accept gifts for the work of the Machars Basics Food Bank.

The Services of Remembrance are planned, also a service of Holy Communion will be held in **August** at Mochrum and in Millisle at the beginning of **December**.

On the third Sunday of Advent which this year will be on the **14th December** we will look forward to our annual Carol Service with the Creetown Silver Band.

Applications for our annual Bursary are now open and you will find details of this elsewhere in the magazine, but it is open to anyone in further education, regardless of age, who resides or has resided within the bounds of Mochrum Parish.

It always saddens me that the rules of the bursary only allow for one applicant to be in receipt of this, but if you have applied in the past and have not been successful please do try again and send your application to me in plenty of time.

Our monthly coffee mornings continue and our thanks go to Bob and Rebecca for letting us hold these at No 12 whilst the

Maxwell Hall has been out of use.

We must also thank the Maxwell Hall Committee for all their work in ensuring that the hall will soon be available to us all again.

The Guild will start up again on the **10th September** 2.00pm in the Maxwell Hall and we are here at Mochrum or at Millisle 11.00am every Sunday.

The welcome is always warm, the kettle is always on, so please come and join with us if and when you can.

You all remain, always in our prayers.

Jenni Gray

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 28th September 2025

There will be ONLY ONE BURSARY AWARDED

Applications from previous applicants are welcome

A letter of application should be forwarded to the Session Clerk, Mrs Jenni Gray, at the address below:

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

by Saturday 28th September 2025

ANSWERS TO GAMES QUIZ (page 5)

- | | | | |
|-----------------|-----------------------|-------------------|----------------------|
| 1) Chess | 5) Snap | 9) Happy Families | 13) Tiddly Winks |
| 2) Dominoes | 6) Draughts | 10) Patience | 14) Sorry |
| 3) Connect Four | 7) Snakes and Ladders | 11) Scrabble | 15) Jay |
| 4) Monopoly | 8) Solitaire | 12) Ludo | 16) Chinese Checkers |

AS I WRITE this article, the committee has met to put plans into place for the reopening of the Maxwell Hall.

It is my hope, that as you read this article, the hall is open and back in full swing.



A deep clean of the Hall has been scheduled and we have reached out to the community for volunteers to help us with this. A big thank you to all who came and helped us. We really appreciate your support.

A huge thanks to Tony Cottam, our Chairperson, for negotiating and organising work being done by the Council to repair the Supper Room after Kinnear for Carpets discovered that the floor was badly damaged.

Frankie and his team have made a superb job in replacing the flooring to our original plans.

We would like to thank all our user groups for their patience during the hall's closure. We look forward to welcoming all our groups and new hall users.

email: hallcommittee.mhm@gmail.com

BOOKINGS:

hallbookings.mhm@gmail.com

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

Mary Cowan SECRETARY
(07810 435117)

PORT WILLIAM MEN'S SHED

THE SHEDDERS have continued to be active over the past few months.

We have recently been making the component parts for the much-loved tractor at PW Primary, and we're well on with this, although holidays and other commitments have slowed progress slightly.

You might recall that the Shedders had restored the finger-post at Harbour Green. Unfortunately, Storm Eowyn snapped the

main post at its base, which resulted in three of the fingers being shattered. We are working on getting the post back into shape as soon as possible.

Several other projects are in the book for once the tractor and fingerpost are done.

If you know of a community project that needs our help, contact us on Number12MensShed@hotmail.com

Bob Sheppard



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Interim Moderator	Rev Eric Boyle	01988 402314
Locum Minister	Rev Steve Fulcher	07484 139736
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	Mrs Jenni Gray	01988 700948
Church Flowers	Bridget Hillman	01985 700781
Church Flowers Distribution	Moira Adams	01988 700263

PORT WILLIAM DEFIBRILLATOR GROUP

Chairman	Mr Murray Morland	01988 700488
Secretary	Mrs Audrey Kevan	01988 700463

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	Demi Robertson	
Secretary	Joely Barnes	portwilliamtoddlers@gmail.com
Treasurer	Erin McPhillips-Smith	

PORT WILLIAM SCHOOL PARENT'S COUNCIL

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

WHO'S WHO 2025

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

PORT WILLIAM GARDENERS' GROUP

Secretary 01988 700955

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 Jean Hobbs 07484 600151
Secretary Ms Elizabeth Dally 07917 858230

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 (PWCDDT)

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

PORT WILLIAM MAXWELL HALL MANAGEMENT

Chairperson Mr Tony Cottam 07742 057430
Secretary Mrs Mary Cowan 07810 435117

MADAG (MONREITH & DISTRICT ACTION GROUP)

Chairperson Mr Robert Mckinnel 01988 700117
Secretary Emma Drysdale madagsecretary@gmail.com

PORT WILLIAM BOWLING CLUB

Secretary Hamish Paton sydtortoise@aol.com 07850 516118

PORT WILLIAM SHORT MAT BOWLING CLUB

Secretary Mr Richard McElrea 01988 700195

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PORT WILLIAM LAWN BOWLING CLUB

THE BOWLING GREEN opened again in April and many members have been enjoying the regular Tuesday and Friday sweep nights.

It's great fun, the winnings are small but it's a great introduction to green bowling and newbies and new members are always welcome. No bowls, no problem, we have plenty of spares. Don't want to bowl, no problem, just come along and watch instead. Meeting time is 6.45pm for 7.00pm prompt start cost is £2 per person for bowling.

Work continues on the green by club members who take time out to volunteer. The fence has now been repaired and repainted and the sleepers running alongside the clubhouse have been replaced, thanks again to member volunteers.

Two dates for your calendars during Port William Carnival Week:

Thursday August 7th - Junior Bowling competition. Meet at Bowling Green at 1.00pm

Saturday August 9th - Come Try Bowling. Meet at Bowling Green at 2.00pm refreshments available.

Also: **Autumn Market** in Maxwell Hall on **Saturday 20th September** 11am - 3pm. To reserve a table please contact Babs Mellor on 07968 032741 - £10 in advance £12 on the day.

As a result of a very generous donation from a local person, along with all other donations received, we are now in a position to purchase a new lawn mower. Thanks to all who have donated so generously to this cause and members who have fund raised in different ways towards this.

Our hunt for a greenkeeper and support to maintain the green and surrounding areas continues. Volunteers are always welcome to join us on Monday afternoons from 2pm. You don't have to be an expert or have experience but that would help massively! We have all the equipment needed but still need more willing hands.

If you are interested in volunteering and helping out in any way please contact the Bowling Club Secretary below.

Hamish Paton

SECRETARY

sydtortoise@aol.com / (07850 516118)

PORT WILLIAM COMMUNITY SHOP

THIS QUARTER WE HAVE ALLOCATED FUNDS TO:

- Port William Toddlers Group
- Newton Stewart Ladies Football Club
- South Machars Arts & Crafts Group

Many thanks to everyone who supports us, especially all our volunteers who sometimes get overlooked. The shop could not continue without their unfailing support.

Donations of goods are always welcome, so please think of us if you are having a revamp/ sort out. Once again your support is essential to our fund raising.

Many thanks to everyone - Jean Hobbs (Chair)

SUMMER OPENING HOURS FROM EASTER TO SEPTEMBER MON - SAT 11.00AM TO 15.00PM

PORT WILLIAM & DISTRICT COMMUNITY COUNCIL

PORT WILLIAM and District Community Council (CC) continues to work on behalf of local communities as a link into the wider Dumfries & Galloway Council. Issues brought to our attention by local residents are reported to the wider Council. Response times can be frustrating but we usually get there in the end! Thank you for your patience.

We have held our monthly meetings at Number 12 whilst Maxwell Hall has been closed but will be returning to the hall in September after our summer recess. Thank you, Number 12, for supporting the ongoing business of the CC.

We have been asking for the bus shelter in the village to be replaced. A lot of the panels are damaged/scratched. We have been advised by D&G Council as the panels aren't broken the shelter can't be replaced. A new panel, replacing a broken one, has now been placed in the village bus shelter.

The ward event was held on **Thursday May 22nd**, 5.30-7pm in the main hall at Port William Primary School due to Maxwell Hall being closed.

This was very poorly attended which was disappointing. Katie Hagman, SNP, and Melinda Dolan, Ward 2 Officer, were both in attendance and led the meeting. Head of roads department at D&G Council was also in attendance.

A number of items were discussed including: speeding traffic approaching and going through the village; broken speed signs; parking in and around the village; e-vehicle chargers; A75 diversions through the village and the consequences of this.

Items discussed will be taken forward and feedback given.

As a result of the LPP process, the old out-of-date village map is being replaced. The new one will shortly be placed in the village square. The old posts have received treatment in anticipation of this.

Windfarm donations: Anyone/group in receipt of this, please report back to the Community Council how this fund has been spent/used. Please look out for notification of future funds and when and how to apply for these. Please send reports on expenditure to *secretary.pwcc@gmail.com*

The CC still needs new members and a new Secretary. Some of the members have served the community on the Community Council for a number of years. Younger people are needed going forward. Please consider becoming a member. Go to *www.dumgal.gov.uk* to find out more about what this entails. Anyone interested can join us at our monthly Community Council meetings to observe what happens before making a final decision. If you are interested, please email *secretary.pwcc@gmail.com*.

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 so we can re-direct your query if not suitable and allocate time accordingly. Please email *secretary.pwcc@gmail.com*

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.

Jacqueline Crowther

PORT WILLIAM COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION SCIO

WE HAD A COUPLE of quiet months with no events but during that time we were busy organising for Carnival Week.

Our "Easter Egg Trail" was well attended with over 70 children taking part - even though it was raining! They still came out to support us and had fun along the way ... they all went home with an Easter Egg!

The village had a VE Day celebration which was very well attended. The highlight of the day was the tank sitting in the school playground.

On entering the school there was an array of work relating to the war displayed from every class. There were also artefacts from Stranraer Library and a very interesting display of local men who lost their lives during the war.

There was a sketch very cleverly put together by the local Pantomime Company and a very scrumptious afternoon tea ... everything being donated by various groups.

After "Carnival Week" our next event will be a "Pumpkin Carving Competition" then "Bonfire Night" which has not been happening for a few years.

Then there will be the run up to Christmas ... we will have our Christmas Light witch-on with the usual mince pies and drinks.

After that there will be a kids "Christmas Craft and Meet Santa" event, and finally for the year our Hogmanay Dance.

Thank you to everyone who continually supports us.

Davina Kiltie
SECRETARY

NUMBER 12

SINCE THE LAST magazine we have had the windows to the rear and the two new front doors installed.

As well as our usual "Open Space" on Sundays between 11 and 3, we have had several craft workshops, as well as several sessions where bunting, table decorations and button holes were made for our wedding. More are planned in the months ahead, especially when the evenings start to draw in.

We have been "standing in" whilst the Maxwell Hall has been out of action, and meetings for the Community Council, the Hall Committee and the Kirk coffee mornings have been hosted at Number 12.

MAC-CAN are also continuing to add to their green library of books related to environmental issues and growing food sustainably. (Bookshelves built by Port William Men's Shed)

The tool library is still a "work in progress". We have had lots of donations of tools. If there is something you need for a DIY project, we may be able to help.

We also have donated building materials, including offcuts of plasterboard, MDF, plywood and timber. If you need a small piece of sheet material or timber, we may be able to help with that.

The Music Room is available for hire by local musicians at an affordable rate.

We hope that a music club (listeners, not performers) will be formed, probably during the early winter months.

A Genealogy Club is also proposed to help folk find out more about their ancestry, again the winter months are most likely for this.

Contact us on *Number12PW@outlook.com*, and keep up with what's going on via our Facebook page "Number 12"

Bob and Rebecca

NATURAL HISTORY OBSERVATIONS: APRIL - JUNE 2025

THE BEGINNING of April at Second Sands, Port William, a single Gannet was seen diving while on the shore between low rocks, several Brent Geese were seen.

Lisa thought she heard Sandwich Terns but could not be sure as they make calls that can be similar to Black-headed Gulls. Danish Scurvy Grass, Thale Cress and Common Whitlow Grass were all in flower somewhat later than previous years. In the afternoon, Greater Periwinkle was in flower close to Kings Green. A day or two later on the 5th of the month, our neighbour Julie saw both House Martin and Swallow.

On the 10th of the month at Kings Green, several Linnet (*see photo*), a Stonechat and a Rock Pipit were seen. There was no sign of Bulbous Buttercup flowering yet at the caravan site, neither was Sea Sandwort on the foreshore despite it being abundant here, yet more evidence of it being a late year. Blackthorn finally was flowering freely in the Heughs and roadside on the Stranraer road out of Port William.

Few-flowered Garlic is now well established on the grassy bank in High Street Port William, and continues its march along the verges right up to the Monreith Estate. This non-native Allium is indeed very successful and one you would not want in the garden.

Danish Scurvy Grass is common along both South Street, Main Street and the harbour area of Port William and Primrose, Lesser Celandine and Cuckoo Flower are all to be seen at the war memorial area. On the 20th April, we walked around the Monreith Estate looking at the early flora some of which was probably planted well over 100 years ago.

Purple Toothwort, an alien that grows on the roots of Poplar & Willows is common in one or two areas but interestingly is quite common under Beech & Oak and in an area some way off, it is growing among a large area of Comfrey. Other plants of interest,

most of them aliens, were White Butterbur, Dogs-tooth Violet, Pyrenean Squill, Coralroot, American Skunk Cabbage, Yellow-flowered Strawberry and a Primula looking very much like Oxlip but could possibly be a Hybrid. Also seen were native species including Opposite leaved Golden Saxifrage, Wood Sedge, Common Dog Violet, Primrose, Ramsons, Bluebell, Male Fern, Tubular Comfrey and Common Sedge. Birds seen or heard included Great Tit, Nuthatch, Goldcrest, Chiffchaff, Willow Warbler, Blackcap, Chaffinch, Robin, Wren, Blackbird, Song Thrush, Jackdaw and Crow.

Later in the month, an Orange Tip was seen in a High Street garden in Port William and we had a Chiffchaff singing in the garden at Seymour House. Towards the end of April we visited Barsalloch Point and found the following plants: Bulbous Buttercup, Corn Salad, Wood Sage, Soft Cranesbill, Common Ragwort & Ivy-leaved Toadflax growing on the shingle.

Only one plant of Yellow-horned Poppy was found despite several new plants that appeared a year or two ago, however Spring Squill appears to be increasing here. Lots of Meadow Saxifrage and Carline Thistle were over large areas which was nice to see and Teasel plants, dried from last year, were very common. Sea Sandwort and Sea Kale were abundant on the upper foreshore. Birds seen included Wren, Stonechat and Chiffchaff.

Early in **May**, a Holly Blue butterfly was in our garden at Seymour House followed the next day by an Orange-tip. At around the same time, Lisa actually watched a male Blackbird imitate a Curlew song, something new to us. We always thought this was the preserve of the Starling, however on investigating further it appears it is not an unusual thing for Blackbirds to do. You live and learn! During the middle of the month, we put out the moth trap twice but the cold nights we were experiencing meant only a

small amount of moths were seen among them being Buff-tip, Flame Shoulder, Peppered Moth, Grey Dagger, Water Carpet, Small Square-spot, Bright-line Brown-eye, Brown Silver-line, Silver-ground Carpet and Fox Moth (*see photo*).

On the foreshore beyond Second Sands in Port William, several small plants were found of the rare Oysterplant. They were high up on the shore and far less than other years probably due to the severe storm we had last Winter. Further along the foreshore a plant of Rock Samphire was growing on the shingle, the first time I have seen it in Port William. On the way back, an Oystercatchers nest was found on the breakwater part of the harbour with two eggs in it. On checking it a couple of days later a third egg had been laid (*see photo*) so it was clearly an active nest although I never saw or heard any bird.

At the end of the month, the garden at Seymour House was really getting underway and some of the native species of plant included Common Birdsfoot Trefoil, Northern Marsh Orchid, Yellow Rattle, Wood Vetch, Common Catsear and of

course, Buttercup and Daisies. A Cinnabar moth was also seen late in the month.

Early in **June**, House Martins and Rock Pipits were seen at Second Sands, Port William and Biting Stonecrop was just coming into flower in the harbour area. On the 5th of the month hundreds of Hairy Buttercup plants were again seen on the Baldoon Airfield site. This is a rare plant in the County but appears most years here due probably to the lack of pesticides used in the area. For the rest of June I was away on holiday so no more observations.

Alan Wake



Linnet



Fox Moth



Oystercatcher's Nest

PORT WILLIAM SCOTTISH WOMEN'S INSTITUTE

I AM WRITING my draft for this report while enjoying some beautiful summer weather and loving the perfume from my nearby Sweet Peas

Our Institute has been enjoying a variety of subjects at our meetings, which have been recently held in the Youth Centre while the Maxwell Hall is under repair. Our thanks to the Youth Group for allowing us to make use of their facilities.

In **April** we welcomed Margaret, a volunteer from Machars Churches Food Bank, who kindly gave us an insight into the incredible work this organisation does. Margaret's visit gave us a deeper understanding and appreciation of the invaluable service provided by this group.

The following month we had the pleasure of welcoming Sheila from "Hats Amazing". She shared her journey of creating and building up her very successful business making the most gorgeous hats for wearing on special occasions. Many of us loved trying them on!

Unfortunately our **June** outing to Drummore was cancelled at the last minute. Fortunately Sheralyn at St Medans came to the rescue and provided a very tasty, delicious fish tea for everyone. In addition she organised some live music so a great evening was enjoyed by all.

The Craft Group, which normally runs on the 1st Thursday of the month was suspended during the hall renovation. Just before it closed very attractive felt flower wreaths were completed.

Last week we decided to have a get-together in Mochrum Hall and fantastic pebble pictures were created. Lots of originality and creativity was put to good work. Thank you Vicky for facilitating the evening.

This is an open group and anyone living in the Parish is welcome to attend.

In **June**, courtesy of the Wallace family we enjoyed a super basket afternoon tea in the marquee at the farm. Thanks also to Annie and Davie for your selection of songs and foot-tapping music.

It was a wonderful day with members from all over Wigtownshire coming together. There was much chatting, laughter, dancing and fun and friendship.

It was a pleasure to award two of our slightly more senior members with Honorary Membership of the Port William Institute. Congratulations Jean Hindle and Monica Melia.

Coming up soon will be Swi Summer School at Stirling University, which several local members are attending.

There is a 4-night bus trip to Llandudno, Wales, leaving on the **13th October**.

Nearer home there will be a Macrame workshop weekend at Green Valley Golf Academy on **6th and 7th September**. Numbers are limited for this event.

Our regular meeting will resume at Maxwell Hall on **18th September** with a visit from the very talented Carol Rennison and Heidi Hunt from over in the Rhins.

October we have our AGM and a game's event.

November, we will have a fascinating meeting with author Jayne Baldwin from Wigtown.

We welcome any ladies to come and join us and find out about all the fun things we get up to.

Jennifer Brodie
PRESIDENT
(07990 844929)

REGULAR MEETINGS

weekly unless stated

MONDAY

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

TUESDAY

9.00 - 11.00am	Library and D&G Customer Services	Maxwell Hall
7.00pm	Port William Bowling Club Sweep Night	Bowling Green
2.00 - 4.00pm	Guild <i>monthly</i>	Maxwell Hall

WEDNESDAY

10.15 - 11.15am	Kirk Coffee Morning <i>monthly</i>	Maxwell Hall
10.00 - 11.00am	Pilates	Maxwell Hall
11.30am - 12.30pm	Indoor Kurling	Maxwell Hall
1.45pm	Bridge Club	Wigtown Golf Club

THURSDAY

9.30 - 11.30am	Baby & Toddler Group	Maxwell Hall
10.30 - 12noon	Knit & Natter	The View
1.30 - 2.30pm	Tap Dancing	Maxwell Hall
7.00 - 9.00pm	SWI Craft Group (open to all) <i>(1st Thursdays)</i>	Maxwell Hall
7.30 - 9.30pm	Scottish Women's Institute <i>(3rd Thursdays)</i>	Maxwell Hall (visitors welcome)

FRIDAY

3.00 - 5.00pm	Library and D&G Customer Services	Maxwell Hall
7.00pm	Port William Bowling Club Sweep Night	Bowling Green
7.30pm	Bingo	Garlieston Hall

SUNDAY

11.00am	Morning Worship	See Rota on page 3
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*NB: Not all exceptions to regular meetings are shown.
Please refer to individual organisations if in doubt!*

MILLISLE SESSION CLERK'S REPORT

DOESN'T TIME FLY?! Cannot believe my last report was in early spring issue and I was wishing everyone all the best for 2025. Well here we are more than halfway through the year.

What has been happening?

A very successful afternoon tea was held in **April** in Whauphill Hall. It was a really chatty afternoon and thanks must go to everyone who contributed in any way.

We are very grateful to Linda Galloway who set up the hall for us and kept us right.

Our new sign is looking good at end of Church Road and proving helpful for keeping everyone aware of next service. (Well, with most folk - Tom McMillan !!) Never mind, you made it to Mochrum on time!

The new "Tea Area" has been completed and I think looking quite smart. Thanks to Clive who re-used the pews brilliantly ... and in double-quick time.

Also to Paul from PS Carpets who provided and laid flooring free of charge.

Again thanks to all the ladies who help with the teas. Hopefully in the future this area could also be used for other activities.

Sorry about the mess in the grounds where the trees came down. This is in hand to be cleared up.

Rev. Fulcher is kept very busy, between services, visits, funerals and school services. Garlieston School had a lovely end-of-term service and prize giving in the Church on the 7th July.

As you see on the back cover of this magazine there is a "Café Church" in Kirkinner Hall on **31st August** and hopefully we will have a good turnout. Notices were handed out at school and around village, so we can do no more, apart from word of mouth!

Crugleton Service will be on **7th September** ... please let folk know.

If anyone has any ideas about anything at all, please tell me.

I saw a little quote the other day which I found amusing: "*Worship Now and Beat the Christmas Rush.!!!*"

Jean McKay

FLOWER ROTA FOR MILLISLE

July	6th	Ann Houston
	20th	Ginny Arnott
August	17th	Vera Christison
September	14th	Hazel Campbell
	28th	Lynn Fisher
October	12th	Jean McKay

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 door, can you shut outside door before you come in & one of you take offering plate, and take to Rev. Fulcher at end of second last hymn & stand until after prayer. THANK YOU.

August	3rd	Jean McKay and Norrie McIntosh
	17th	Bunty Cloy and Tom Galloway
	31st	Alison Graham and George Houston
September	14th	Anne Gorman and John McDonald
	28th	Agnes Adams and Willie Johnston
October	12th	Jean McKay and Norrie McIntosh
	26th	Bunty Cloy and Tom Galloway
November	9th	Jean Whittaker and Jean McKay
	23rd	Anne Gorman and John McDonald
December	7th	Agnes Adams and Willie Johnston

SORBIE VILLAGE HALL WEEKLY MEETINGS

MONDAY

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

TUESDAY

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

WEDNESDAY

7.00pm	Dog Training	(Mel Duncan 07880 590703)
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THURSDAY

7.00pm	Yoga	(Susie McKay 01988 850258 / 07703 677117)
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FRIDAY

9.30am	Homestart Wigtownshire	(Office 01776 706984)
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SUNDAY

2.00pm	Dance Class	
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Church with a difference!

*Please come along to our Café Church on
Sunday, 31st August
Kirkinner Hall - 11am*

*Lots of refreshments and plenty of chat.
We would Love to see you there!*

