

Summer
2025



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**Material for the Autumn 2025 issue should be emailed to
John Adams - grizzly121@me.com**

by Sunday 20th July, 2025 - No Later please

Charity Numbers: Mochrum SC003300 Millisle SC010621

LETTER FROM THE LOCUM MINISTER

THERE IS TO BE a new exhibition at the National Galleries in Edinburgh – “The world of King James VI and I”. It opens on 26th April and features the oldest surviving letter written by the King when he was a boy.

James was the son of Mary, Queen of Scots, but almost from birth he was brought up not by his mother, but by government appointed guardians, who were to ensure he was a staunch protestant.

As king, James determined to make Scotland a Christian nation, and continued the policy of John Knox to establish a school in every parish. If people could read the Bible themselves, it was argued, they would find their own faith.

We have just celebrated the greatest festival for Christians – Easter. I have been privileged to take services in each of our parish schools.

Yet a school in England has hit the headlines, as the headteacher has banned the children from having an Easter bonnet competition, or an Easter service – even though only 1% of the school have minority backgrounds.

I believe if we fail to learn from the past, we are in danger of repeating its mistakes. The Bible repeatedly urges the community to teach its values to the next generation (for example Psalm 78 verses 5-7). This has sometimes perpetuated bigoted and intolerant attitudes – but if you do not know the basics, how can anyone make an informed decision?

In a world that is seemingly fast falling apart at the moment, can we learn lessons from the past to guide us to a better future?

God bless.

Steve
REV. STEVE FULCHER

LENT DISCUSSION GROUP

The Lent Discussion Group held on Thursday afternoons through Lent was well supported. Many thanks for the generosity of the Harbour Inn, Garlieston, who provided venue and refreshments free of charge.

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.*

MAY

4th Mochrum

**with Port William Community Association
A special service to commemorate VE Day
Martyrs United Service**

11th Wigtown Parish Church *11.30am*

18th Mochrum

25th Millisle

with the Sacrament of Holy Communion

JUNE

1st Maxwell Hall

**Café Church
Pentecost**

8th Millisle

15th Mochrum

22nd Millisle

29th Mochrum

JULY

6th Millisle

13th Mochrum

Celebrating Sea Sunday

20th Millisle

27th Mochrum

AUGUST

3rd Millisle

10th Mochrum

**with Port William Community Association and Carnival Queens
Carnival Week Closing Ceremony with Songs of Praise**

10th The Marquee *3.00pm*

17th Millisle

24th Mochrum

**with the Sacrament of Holy Communion
Café Church**

31st Kirkinner Hall

SEPTEMBER

7th Mochrum

7th Cuggleton *3.00pm*

Annual Ecumenical Service – don't forget the torch!

14th Millisle

21st Mochrum

28th Millisle

MOCHRUM PARISH CHURCH REGISTER

FUNERALS

“The Lord Is My Shepherd”

Margaret Headley	Port William
Mick McShane	Garlieston
Judith Mann	Formerly Whithorn
Ray Ochiltree	Port William
Betty Templeton	Largs

BAPTISM

“Children are a Gift from God”

Margot Lloyd-Childs

ELDERS’ DUTY LIST

May	Ann Wadsworth/Gilbert Hyslop
June	Moira Adams/Jane Nelson
July	Elizabeth Wallace/Vicky Parker
August	Ann Wadsworth/Anne Highman
September	Moira Adams/Jane Nelson

SERVICES OF HOLY COMMUNION

Sunday 24th August
MOCHRUM CHURCH

COMMUNION DUTY ELDERS

Ann Wadsworth, Moira Adams, Jenni Gray and Vicky Parker

There will also be a service of Holy Communion at Millisle Kirk on the 25th May

FLOWER ROTA FOR MOCHRUM KIRK

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

May	4th 18th	Jenni Gray Anne Highman
June	1st 15th 29th	Barbara Shaw Wedding Flowers Rachel Wadsworth
July	13th 27th	Anne Gerrish Robina Richmond
August	10th 24th	Jane Nelson Maria Old
September	7th 21st	Pauline Todd Arlene Morgan

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

May	7th	Kay Gibson and Lorraine Ker
June	4th	Ann Wadsworth and Elsie Kirby
July	2nd	Kevin and Vicky Parker
August	6th	Jane Nelson and Rose Christie
September	3rd	Rachel Wadsworth and Helen McTier

ADVERTISEMENTS

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

MOCHRUM GUILD REPORT

HERE AT Mochrum Guild, our meetings run from September to April, so that's us done for a few months. Now, let me tell you folk what you have missed since our last report for the spring edition of the magazine.

For our **February** meeting we welcomed local lass Ann Todd to talk about her volunteer work in Kenya. Ann told us it started back in 2016 when she first went out to Nakuru in Kenya as a volunteer, it was a huge step for Ann as she had not been abroad before. She has gone every year since then as often as she can apart from covid times of course.

Hundreds live on the dumpsites scavenging for things to eat, sell or repurpose. Men and women make items such as baskets, necklaces, ornaments, bags etc from rubbish collected from the dumpsite which Ann buys and brings back home to sell on at fairs and markets.

Once Ann has sold enough, she goes back to Nakuru with a group of friends and buys shoes, food, clothing whatever is needed for the people they visit.

They have supported over 30 girls and five boys in getting into higher education while providing support and projects for children and families who live in extreme poverty on dumpsites.

Ann told us many heartbreaking stories which everyone found emotional and moving but also a lot with brighter outcomes due to Ann and her friends help. Listening to Ann, she has made many friends over in Kenya, changed so many lives and has made a difference in the world ... well done Ann, we need more folk like you!

At the beginning of **March** we held the World Day of Prayer in Mochrum Kirk with some new faces coming along which was lovely to see.

Later that month our AGM was held with the normal business taking place.

At the end of the meeting members were also given a chance to build a cardboard house to take home for over the summer to kindly fill with coins to donate to funds when returning in September.

On visiting the local schools, hospital and dumpsite, Ann could not believe how people were surviving especially the children.



Sometimes, things don't go quite as planned, like for our **April** meeting. We hoped to have a speaker from The Fisherman's Mission but unfortunately this did not happen and we now look forward to meeting her next year. So Jenni Gray read out passages from a magazine all about The Fisherman's Mission choosing three stories in which the charity had helped in many ways giving a service and support to fishermen and their families.

Jenni's first husband had been a fisherman and she spoke about the difficult and dangerous job her husband had and how the Mission had helped them when needed. Jenni then read out the fishermen's version of the 23rd psalm.

This was followed by a quiz which was won by Ann Gorman followed by refreshments.

A few forthcoming events are as follows ...

- **Mini Gathering** at Castle Douglas Church will be on 14th May 11am
- **Summer Rally** will in Portpatrick Church 4th June 2pm
- **Galloway Guilds Together** Big Sing will be at Penninghame Church on 25th October at 2pm

We will start our new syllabus of meetings on Tuesday 9th September and look forward to seeing lots of new members. Our meetings are open to anyone and

everyone so please don't be shy, we would love you to come along and enjoy an hour with us and have a cuppa.

Have a fantastic summer everyone and please do come along and support your local Guild group.

Vicky Parker
SECRETARY

Gods Creation

First Swallow of the year
Populates our wire
Brings anticipation
The summer to inspire

Buds green bushes
Lawnmowers buzz around
Sun shines brightly
And shadows kiss the ground

Optimism fills the day
Evenings linger long
Summer stretches far ahead
And your love leaves us strong

Elizabeth Sykes
MILLISLE KIRK

JUST FOR FUN!

Can you solve this quiz? All the answers are names of birds.

- | | | |
|----------------------|---------------------------------------|--|
| 1) To moan | 7) What a friendly dog does | 12) These were baked in a pie |
| 2) Angry Invoice! | 8) To brag | 13) Is used as a symbol of the Holy Spirit |
| 3) Theme park ride | 9) Go back the other way | 14) his bird lays the largest egg |
| 4) Out of breadth | 10) Out on a windy evening | 15) Tenth letter of the alphabet |
| 5) Famous architect | 11) Associated with a ballet or lake. | 16) A golfing score |
| 6) Burglars activity | | |

Answers on Page 17

MOCHRUM SESSION CLERK'S REPORT

THE FIRST few months of a new year are always a quiet time in the Kirk but in February we were pleased to share in the Sacraments of Holy Communion and in March we held the annual World Day of Prayer service, written this year by Christian Women of the Cook Islands with the theme of 'I Made you Wonderful'.

Sadly the world is not experiencing a quiet time. We are saddened to see and hear of all that is happening when we switch on to our news programs, but I believe that Jesus came to earth to show us how to live in peace with one another and we can only do our own small part to follow His example.

Although we know how blessed we are to live in our own peaceful surroundings life still throws many things at us - bereavement, financial hardships, pain and sickness, so often the unexpected - but I also believe that God walks with us and if we just take everything to him in prayer he will give us the strength to cope with whatever we have to face.

Throughout Lent we got together to look at the 1st and 2nd Books of the Apostle Peter. We met at the Harbour Inn in Garlieston, who very kindly provided tea and coffee for us, and Peter's instructions on how we should act led to some very lively discussions!

We are now starting to plan for our Easter services with a Maundy Thursday service at Millisle, a Good Friday service at Wigtown Parish Church and a service with the Sacrament of Holy Communion at Mochrum on Easter Sunday.

If you would like to receive Holy Communion but can't get to church please let Steve or I know and he will be delighted to bring it to you at home.

On the 4th May, together with Port William Community Association SCIO we have a special service planned to celebrate VE Day and on the 11th May we will join with Wigtown Parish Church when we shall remember the courage of the Wigtown Martyrs.

On the 1st June we are going to try something a little different when we shall hold our first Café Church in the Maxwell Hall. Refreshments will be provided throughout and there will be plenty of chat. I don't know exactly what is going to happen so why not come along and see for yourselves. I do know that there will be plenty of company and a chance to share fellowship with others.

On the 13th July we shall celebrate Sea Sunday and then we have Carnival Week to look forward to when on the 10th August we shall welcome the Carnival Queens and members of Port William Community Association to take an active part in our service.

Carnival week will finish traditionally at 3.00 p.m. on the 10th when we will lift our voices in Songs of Praise in the Marquee and express our thanks to all involved in what I am sure will have been yet another memorable week in the life of Mochrum Parish.

You may have noticed that there is now a new seat in front of the Sunday School Garden, by the front gates, and our thanks go to Robert Carruthers who has donated this in memory of his late wife Edna. The garden itself is always in need of attention and although Ann Wadsworth, together with her grandson Matthew, has done a lot of work on it, which has really made a difference, it is an ongoing task.

I am sure that many of you who visit loved ones will often sit a while in the sunshine and enjoy the peace and serenity of the surroundings so please, just give the garden a small piece of TLC whilst you are there, it would mean so much, not only to us in the church but to all in the Parish who visit this special place.

We are grateful this year to have received a donation from the Community Shop towards new window blinds for the Kirk and have also received a donation from the Windfarm monies towards the cost of printing this magazine as sadly like everything the costs are rising, so our thanks go to them both.

As you know this magazine is distributed to every household in the Parish of Mochrum, which covers Port William and surrounding villages and I know that it is enjoyed by

many so we want to continue with it for as long as we possibly can.

It will also soon be time to think about our annual Bursary and full details of this will be in the next issue. It is open to anyone in further education, regardless of age, who resides or has resided within the bounds of Mochrum Parish, and the closing date this year will be the 28th September. Sadly the rules of the bursary only allow for one applicant to be in receipt of this so please get your application to me in plenty of time.

Meanwhile, our monthly coffee mornings continue and are well supported and we are here in the Kirk or at Millisle 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



THE PORT WILLIAM Senior Citizens Committee recently held their AGM. The following office bearers were elected.

Convenor: Margaret Gilmour

Secretary: Mary Cowan

Treasurer: Elizabeth Penrose

Committee Members:

Tony Cottam, Jean Hobbs, Joan Cottam

Following the success of last year's Mystery Tour and afternoon tea in Kirkcudbright, there will be a similar event this summer. Thanks to the Port William Community Shop for their continued,

financial support which allows this trip to take place.

This year's Christmas event will sadly be the last one catered for by Caroline as she retires. The afternoon tea and entertainment will be held on Friday 28th November.

A reminder that events are free to residents in the Mochrum Parish who are over the age of 60. Outings and events, where space is available, to those under 60 years of age may be available at a minimal cost.

Mary Cowan
SECRETARY



THE MAXWELL HALL Management team is delighted to report that painting of the front entrance and corridor has begun thanks to members of the Community Payback Team.

Quotes were received for the painting of the main hall and this work will be carried out in the next few weeks. New flooring for the supper room has been purchased and Kinnears will be fitting this soon.

The cupboard under the stairs is going to be converted into the cleaning supplies and equipment area with the addition of a large sink and a hot water supply.

We are grateful for donations received recently from the Wigtown Community

Shop and from windfarm money via the Community Council. These donations will go towards our next phase of refurbishment which is the modernisation and upgrading of the kitchen and the disabled toilet.

The hall has seen user numbers grow over the past few months and we now have WiFi in the building which offers an additional service for groups. We would like to thank everyone for their continued support.

Our AGM is on Tuesday 13th May 2025 at 7pm in the supper room. All welcome.

email: hallcommittee.mhm@gmail.com

BOOKINGS:

hallbookings.mhm@gmail.com

FOOTNOTE: When Frankie and his team went to replace the supper room flooring they discovered extensive damage to the wooden floor. This is the result of floor covering being relaid after a flood in the room during Carnival Week around nine years ago.

Unfortunately this means we have been

forced to close the building temporarily as equipment is being stored in the main hall while D&G Council carry out the required repairs on the floor.

We apologise for this inconvenience.

It is hoped that while the hall is closed some of the renovations mentioned above may be carried out at the same time.

SEE PAGE 21 FOR REGULAR EVENTS HELD IN THE HALL

Mary Cowan SECRETARY
(07810 435117)

PORT WILLIAM MEN'S SHED

THE SHEDDERS have been very active over the past few months.

We have recently been dismantling the much-loved tractor at PW Primary which had begun to show signs of distress from our salty environment. Some of the tractor was so badly affected that it has been quite a task working out how some parts fit together !

You might recall that the Shedders had restored the Fingerpost 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 which will be attended to once the Tractor and Fingerpost are completed.

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

Bob Sheppard



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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	01988 700703
Secretary	Alison McMaster	01988 700439
Treasurer	Mrs Margo Brawls	01988 700832

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
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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 Jean Hobbs	01988 700703
Vice President	Mrs Elaine Milven	07901 623876
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 (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

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
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PORT WILLIAM SHORT MAT BOWLING CLUB

Secretary	Mr Richard McElrea	01988 700195
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PORT WILLIAM LAWN BOWLING CLUB

WORK CONTINUED on the green by member volunteers during the Spring period. It's been difficult due to weather conditions and availability of volunteers.

Storm Eowyn wasn't kind to us and the fence has required some significant repairs. Thanks go to Port William & District Community Council for allocating some of the windfarm funds to support the cost of these repairs. Thanks to the Secretary for making the application.

Our AGM was held on Wednesday, February 12th, 2025 in Maxwell Hall. This was well attended by many of the current members. Alastair MacMillan finally stood down as President, thanks go to him for all his support over recent years. He will continue on the Management Committee.

Kevin Wild was nominated and welcomed into role of President.

Jacqueline Crowther also stood down from the joint Secretary role. Thanks were relayed to her for all her support and contributions over the past year.

It was agreed to raise the full membership fee to £45 annually. Other levels of membership remain the same.

Many of the members continued to bowl indoors during the winter season and were grateful for the green re-opening on Saturday April 19th for the outdoor season.

Regular sweep nights, Tuesday and Friday from 6.30pm have re-commenced and the green is now open again for members to practice and fine tune their bowling skills.

We also encourage those new to bowling to come give it a try who knows you may just enjoy it and be our next champion bowlers!

We are still struggling to find a green-keeper. Volunteers to help 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 School Arts & Crafts Club
- Newton Stewart Sub Aqua Club
- Port William MUGA
- Port William Clay Pigeon Club
- Isle of Whithorn Rowing Club
- Mochrum Church
- Wigtown Fibromyalgia Group
- Port William School Parents & Friends
- P.I.R.S.A.C.
- Isle of Whithorn Community Group
- Winnie Mabaso Foundation

Many thanks for your support enabling us to continue helping all these groups.

Volunteers are always welcome especially during the summer months when we are open six days a week. If you are interested please leave your details with one of our staff and you will be contacted. Shifts are two hours per morning/afternoon and we will do our best to accommodate your choice of day and number of hours.

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

PORT WILLIAM SCOTTISH WOMEN'S INSTITUTE

JANUARY saw over 100 ladies gather in the Maxwell Hall to listen to Dr Heather Currie MBE, who is an Associate Specialist Gynaecologist at DGRI.

She set up the first hospital based menopause clinic and is a member of the British Menopause Society Council. Dr Currie talked about the menopause and other women's health issues, she was an expert speaker and it was a brilliantly informative evening where everyone gained knowledge, inspiration and invaluable information.

When **February** came around we welcomed two ladies from Wigtownshire Women's Aid who had come along to receive a cheque for £410.80 which was donated at our January meeting and it was Dr Currie's wish that this group benefitted from the money raised. It was very gratefully received and we were reassured it would come in very useful.

The presentation completed, the dancing commenced! Our theme was 'Strictly Come Dancing' and boy did Paul and Trish show us how to dance! It wasn't long before many of us were up joining in. Sadly we had no glitter ball but lots of fun and hilarity ensued. The highlight of the evening was when the unforgettable music from 'Phantom of The Opera' filled the hall Paul and Trish gracefully swept their way around the hall, an amazing performance.

'The Wee Orchestra' came in **March** to 'Give It Laldy' in the Hall. The music was excellent, with a delightful selection of tunes which enabled us to reminisce with our own thoughts, sing along to or as many did get up and dance too! Our numbers were swelled by friends and members from neighbouring rurals and it was a lovely friendly relaxing (the dancers may say otherwise!!). The committee are to be thanked for providing a delicious supper

and thanks to all who contributed and purchased from the sales table and raffle.

One highlight of the evening was the presentation of long time member Monica Melia with her Honorary Membership Certificate. Many congratulations Monica.

A wonderful evening concluding with everyone up on the floor singing Auld Lang Syne.

A dates for your diary:

17th April Talk on Machars Food Bank. This a local group supporting our fight against poverty.

23rd April Walking Group and Lunch. All details of monthly walks are to be found on Facebook page *Wigtownshire SWI Federation Walking Group* everyone welcome

3rd May Craft Day at Green Valley commences 10.30am details from Elizabeth Wallace, Federation Secretary

29th May Hats Amazing - Fascinator demonstration by Sheila McColm

15th June Afternoon Tea in a marquee, *more details to follow*

19th June Ship Ahoy - trip to Drummore for Fish Supper and Sea Shanty Singers.

In addition to our regular meetings we have a monthly Craft Group which meets in the Supper Room of the Maxwell Hall on the first Thursday of the month at 7pm. Currently we are making Spring Wreaths with felt flowers, May will be pebble pictures and in June we are having a poppy making evening in aid of the village poppy display in November. This group is not just for SWI members, it is open to everyone in the area and we would be delighted to welcome all to our regular meetings, we are a friendly bunch and enjoy lots of fun and friendship.

Jennifer Brodie

MOCHRUM VILLAGE HALL

UNFORTUNATELY Mochrum Village Hall hasn't been well used in recent years so we are hoping to bring some life back to it for the locals.

The hall needs funds to be maintained so recently we have held a coffee morning and a table-top sale. Both were very successful and well-attended, raising £475 from the two events. We also received £500 from Port William Community Council which is great news. The hall

needs a new toilet and kitchen items so the funds will go towards this.

We are hoping to plan other events in the hall in the future but firstly we're working on painting and freshening it up.

We'd like to say a big thank-you to everyone who attended and supported the hall.

Karen and Paula

karentaylorjackson90@gmail.com

NUMBER 12

EXCITING FEW MONTHS at Number 12. New windows to front installed and those to the rear and two new front doors due to be in place from 5th May.

As well as our usual "Open Space" on Sundays between 11am and 3pm, we have had several craft workshops.

These have included festive decoration making, and in the past few weeks we have had driftwood art, gelli-printing and pom-pom making.

More are planned in the months ahead.

We have hosted two music sessions since Christmas, and more are planned in the near future.

We held an art exhibition in conjunction with MAC-CAN in late January, where over 40 artists displayed their work. We also had amazing contributions from PW Primary, and their Playgroup.

MAC-CAN are also allowing Number 12 to host their large green library of books

related to environmental issues and growing food. (Bookshelves built by PW Men's Shed)

The tool library will be open after Easter. 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 shortly too.

A Genealogy Club is also proposed to help folk find out more about their ancestry.

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

Bob and Rebecca

ANSWERS TO BIRD QUIZ (page 7)

- | | | | |
|--------------|------------|-----------------|-------------|
| 1) Grouse | 5) Wren | 9) Tern | 13) Dove |
| 2) Crossbill | 6) Robin | 10) Nightingale | 14) Ostrich |
| 3) Dipper | 7) Wagtail | 11) Swan | 15) Jay |
| 4) Puffin | 8) Crow | 12) Blackbirds | 16) Eagle |

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.

Dredging of the harbour has occurred on a couple of occasions since the last magazine. Strong tides and bad weather continue to make things difficult and results in accumulation of stones at the harbour-mouth. No further information yet from the Regional Harbour Master about replacement signage or CCTV.

As you are all hopefully aware, Port William Local Place Plan (LPP) has now been agreed and is live on Dumfries & Galloway Council website for open access. There was a meeting on March 27th in the evening for the community to come and take a look at this but it was poorly attended.

Some of the groups within the community have their own copy of this now and there is a copy for reference in the library in Maxwell Hall. It can also be accessed online via D&G Council website. The Community Council will continue to monitor this and any developments arising from it.

The ward event is now planned for Thursday May 22nd, 5.30-7pm in the main hall at Maxwell Hall. D&G Council are responsible for advertising this so please look out for information

relating to it. All other villages included in ward 2 will also be invited.

There will be elected members and key people from road and traffic departments in attendance to answer your questions. Councillor Katie Hagman will be chairing this meeting. It is another opportunity to have your voices heard. Please take advantage of this, it has been arranged as a result of Place Planning and concerns expressed during consultation exercises.

Windfarm donations: We had numerous requests for these and all of the money was allocated. We have to report back on how this money has been spent in our community. Any group being successful is asked to write a brief report about how this money has been used. Please send these to: secretary.pwcc@gmail.com

The CC needs new members and a new Secretary. Interested in joining us? Please go to www.dumgal.gov.uk to find out more about what this entails.

Anyone interested can join us at our monthly CC 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

NATURAL HISTORY OBSERVATIONS: JAN - MARCH 2025

ON NEW YEAR'S DAY a flock of some **30 Golden Plover** were seen at **Barsalloch Point** close to **Port William**.

A week later, a large skein of Geese, probably Pinkfeet, passed high over the village. Towards the middle of the month, the weather turned cold and on one morning, we had 13 Blackbirds fighting over apples that we frequently put out for them. At the end of the month several Golden Plover were seen at Second Sands Port William, and a Rock Pipit was seen displaying on Main Street.

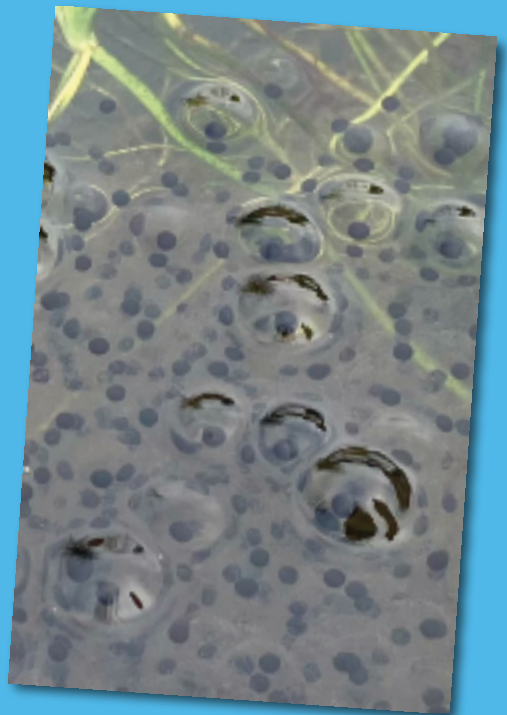
We were away for the first two weeks in **February** and on our return there were several Brent Geese near Second Sands in the middle of the month. The Martyrs Walk in Wigtown and down to the harbour area produced several Pinkfeet Geese in the surrounding fields, it was a lovely sunny and warm day.

Frogspawn appeared in our pond on the 21st of the month (*see photo*) and continued to increase into **March**. At the end of February and a walk around Port William Harbour, there were lots of Xanthoria and Caloplaca species of lichen on the rocks. These do not have any English names.

Towards the end of March (we were away again for some of the month), Common Whitlowgrass was in flower (*see photo*) by the Otter Memorial stone along with Common Scurvy Grass. A Chiffchaff was singing close by, could this be Spring at last? A few days later, a hare was seen by the roadside close to Monreith, a sight once familiar in the area but alas, no more. Two Reed Bunting, a Rock Pipit and a Stonechat were seen by Lisa close to Kings Green in Port William.

Let's hope for a warm and sunny Spring and Summer!

Alan Wake



Frogspawn



Common Whitlowgrass

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

The venue for events listed in the Maxwell Hall may be subject to change

MAY

Thursday	1st	7.00pm	Craft Night	Supper Room Maxwell Hall
Wednesday	7th	10.15am	Coffee Morning	Supper Room Maxwell Hall
Saturday	10th	12 noon	- 3pm VE Exhibition with Afternoon Tea at 1pm	Venue to be confirmed
Thursday	15th	7.30pm	Port William SWI	Supper Room Maxwell Hall
Wednesday	28th	7.30pm	Port William Community Council	Supper Room Maxwell Hall
Thursday	29th	7.00pm	Port William Community Association (SCIO)	The Hub, Kings Green

JUNE

Sunday	1st	11.00am	Café Church	Maxwell Hall
Wednesday	4th	10.15am	Coffee Morning	Supper Room Maxwell Hall
Thursday	5th	7.00pm	Craft Night	Supper Room Maxwell Hall
Thursday	19th	7.30pm	Port William SWI	Supper Room Maxwell Hall
Wednesday	25th	7.30pm	Port William Community Council	Supper Room Maxwell Hall
Thursday	26th	7.00pm	Port William Community Association (SCIO)	The Hub, Kings Green

JULY

Wednesday	2nd	10.15am	Coffee Morning	Supper Room Maxwell Hall
Thursday	3rd	7.00pm	Craft Night	Supper Room Maxwell Hall
Thursday	17th	7.30pm	Port William SWI	Supper Room Maxwell Hall
Wednesday	30th	7.30pm	Port William Community Council	Supper Room Maxwell Hall
Thursday	31st	7.00pm	Port William Community Association (SCIO)	The Hub, Kings Green

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
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

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	PWCDT Football - 5 to 8 years old	Port William MUGA
7.00 - 8.00pm	PWCDT 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> (visitors welcome)	Maxwell Hall

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!*

PORT WILLIAM PRIMARY SCHOOL

PORT WILLIAM Primary has enjoyed a wonderful but very busy start to the year.

As well as all out regular learning we always aim to provide our children with lots of experiences and opportunities to take part in wider achievements.

All pupils celebrated Robert Burns by learning a Scots poem to recite in the school competition. A super joint Inter-Schools Scots verse competition with partner school “Kirkinner Primary” followed which was very exciting. It was great to have four local judges including The Newton Stewart Burns Club.

In March all children also took part in singing at “The Galloway Music Festival” which involved a coach trip to Newton Stewart.

We had a huge number of children who competed in Prose reading from P1-P7, instrument playing, singing and along with the winners of the school Burns

poetry winners. It was a great celebration of all our children’s talents combined with their super effort.

Lots of sporting activities including rugby, netball, football and badminton have all taken place.

Almost all children took part in the new Art Club which was thoroughly enjoyed by all.

Our “Skills Wednesdays” sessions for all pupils have included a wide variety of activities such as Eco, Multi-sports, Felting Landscape, STEM, Coding, Healthy Cooking and Construction.

We are now looking ahead to a super fun term 4 with school trips, Sports Day, Open Afternoon and all the end-of-term achievement celebrations to name a few of the oncoming events (as well as lots of learning)

Mrs Lesley McDevitt

PARTNER HEAD TEACHER

KIRKINNER AND PORT WILLIAM PRIMARY PARTNERSHIP

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 and one of you take offering plate, and take to front during last verse of second last hymn. THANK YOU.

April	27th	Agnes Adams and Willie Johnston
May	25th	Jean McKay and Norrie McIntosh
June	8th	Bunty Cloy and Tom Galloway
	22nd	Alison Graham and George Houston
July	6th	Anne Gorman and John McDonald
	20th	Agnes Adams and Willie Johnston
August	3rd	Jean McKay and Norrie McIntosh
	17th	Bunty Cloy and Tom Galloway

MILLISLE PARISH REGISTER

DEATHS

“The Lord Is My Shepherd”

Robert Forsyth Lower Cults (Baltier)
Alexander (Mick) McShane Garlieston

BAPTISM

“Children are a gift from the Lord”

Margot Florence Lloyd-Childs

FLOWER ROTA FOR MILLISLE

May	11th	Ginny Arnott
	25th	Hazel Campbell
June	8th	Lynn Fisher
	22nd	Nancy McLachlan
July	6th	Ann Houston

SORBIE VILLAGE HALL WEEKLY MEETINGS

MONDAY

10.00am **Aerobics** (Trish active.communities@dumgal.gov.uk)
1.30pm **Hobbies** *1st and 3rd Monday of each month* (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** *3rd Tuesday of month* (Rosamond 01988 850237)

WEDNESDAY

7.00pm **Dog Training** (Mel Duncan 07880 590703)

THURSDAY

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

FRIDAY

9.30am **Homestart Wigtownshire** (Office 01776 706984)

SUNDAY

2.00pm **Dance Class**



Church with a difference!

Please come along to our Café Church on

Sunday 1st June

Venue to be advised 11am - 12 noon

Lots of refreshments and plenty of chat.

We would Love to see you there!

