



Winter 2022



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**Material for the Spring 2023 issue should be handed in to the Editor,
Bridget Hillman, or by email to bridget.hillman70@gmail.com**

by Sunday 15th January 2023 - No Later please

Charity Numbers Mochrum SC003300 Kirkinner SC001946 Sorbie SC010621

EMMANUEL - GOD WITH US

Finally, after two Christmases of restrictions, it looks like we are going to be able to enjoy a more traditional Christmas this year. So, what are we most looking forward to this Christmas? Is it the food, the decorations, the presents, the carols?

For me, what will make this Christmas special is to gather together once again with others; family, friends, church and community, in an atmosphere of joy, a sense of shared humanity. No longer separated, distanced, fearful of sharing or embracing but close and intimate; the human touch.

In our carols we sing about Jesus, our Emmanuel. What does this mean? Emmanuel means, 'God with us.' (Matthew 1:23). We, who were distanced, separated from God, fearful of God, have been brought close through Jesus, God's Son. God is here with us, close to us, one of us, the human touch. Jesus has shown us our very human God.

I don't know about you, but I never want to go back to being distanced; neither from one another, nor from my God. So now that we can gather together, without restriction, come join us in one or more of our services this advent and Christmas. Come and celebrate the coming of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ - God with us.

May God's blessing and peace be with you and yours this Christmas.

Rev. Eric Boyle (Interim Moderator)

FLOWER ROTA FOR MOCHRUM KIRK

| | | |
|---------------------|-------------|------------------------|
| November | 6th | Ann Gerrish |
| | 20th | Barbara Gaw |
| December | 4th | Lorraine Ker |
| | 18th | Claire Nash |
| January 2023 | 1st | Bridget Hillman |
| | 15th | Rose Christie |
| | 31st | TBA |

CALENDAR

NOVEMBER

| | | | |
|-------------|---------------------|-----------------|--|
| 6th | Sorbie | 11.00 am | Elders led service |
| 13th | Port William | 10.45 am | War Memorial - Remembrance Sunday |
| | Mochrum | 11.30 am | Gillian Lynn |
| 20th | Mochrum | 11.00 am | Donna Brewster |
| 27th | Sorbie | 11.00 am | Communion - Rev. Eric Boyle |

DECEMBER

| | | | |
|-------------|----------------|-----------------|--|
| 4th | Mochrum | 11.00 am | Elders led service |
| 11th | Sorbie | 11.00 am | Donna Brewster |
| 18th | Mochrum | 11.00 am | 9 Lessons & Carols with Creetown Silver Band - Catherine Morrison |
| 25th | Sorbie | 11.00 am | Christmas Day - Elders led service |

JANUARY 2023

| | | | |
|-------------|----------------|-----------------|--|
| 1st | Mochrum | 11.00 am | New Year's Day - Elders led service |
| 8th | Sorbie | 11.00 am | Donna Brewster |
| 15th | Mochrum | 11.00 am | Catherine Morrison |
| 22nd | Sorbie | 11.00 am | Donna Brewster |
| 29th | Mochrum | 11.00 am | Communion - Rev Alan Ford |

MOCHRUM PARISH CHURCH REGISTER

WEDDINGS

August Sarah–Mary Walker & Jeffrey Robert Penrose

FUNERALS “ *The Lord is my Shepherd*”

| | | |
|------------------|-----------------|--------------|
| July | William bell | Elrig |
| August | James Blain | Barrachan |
| | William Brown | Port William |
| | Billy McTaggart | Port William |
| September | Joan Denny | Port William |

ELDERS’ DUTY LIST

| | | |
|-----------------|------------------|----------------------|
| December | * Ann Wadsworth | \$ Elizabeth Wallace |
| January | * Gilbert Hyslop | \$ Bridget Hillman |
| February | *Moira Adams | \$ Bridget Hillman |

** In charge \$ Deputy*

ADVERTISEMENTS

**PLEASE COULD I REMIND EVERYONE WHO ADVERTISES
IN THE MAGAZINE THAT THEIR MONEY (£15)
IS DUE AT THE END OF JANUARY 2023.**

**If you could drop the cash off to me at Ben Laggan
I would be very grateful**

Thank you

Bridget 01988 700781

THE WILD GEESE

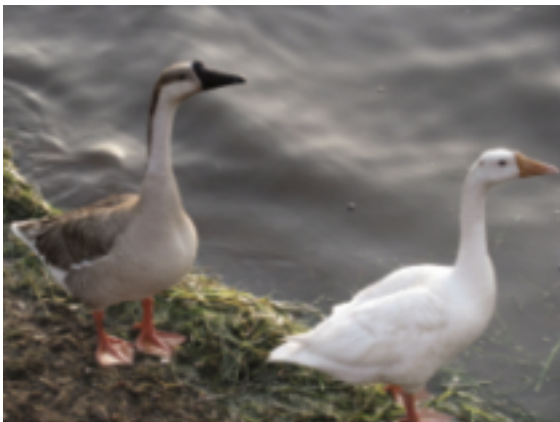
"Oh tell me what was on your road, ye roarin' norlan wind,
As ye cam' blawin' frae the land that's niver frae my mind?
My feet they traivel England, but I'm deein' fur the North."
"My man, I heard the siller tides rin up the Firth o' Forth."

"Aye, Wind I ken them weel eneuch, and fine they fa' and rise,
And fain I'd feel the creepin' mist on yonder shore that lies,
But tell me as ye passed them by, what saw ye on the way?"
"My man, I rocked the rovin' gulls that sail abune the Tay."

"But saw ye naethin' leein' Wind, afore ye cam to Fife?
There's muckle lyin' yont the Tay that's dear tae me nor life."
"My man, I swept the Angus braes ye hae'na trod for years."
"O Wind, forgie a hameless loon that canna see for tears!"

"And far abune the Angus straths, I saw the wild geese flee,
A lang, lang skein o' beatin' wings wi' their heids towards the sea,
And aye their cryin' voices trailed ahint them on the air -"
"O Wind, hae mercy, haud yer whisht, for I daurna listen mair."

Violet Jacob
(a poet from Angus)



NATURAL HISTORY OBSERVATIONS

July - September 2022

The first three weeks of July I was on holiday, so sightings of species etc. will be from later that month. Late on in July a mothing at Seymour House provided 32 different species with a total of 78 moths and that was not counting the ones that got away! It is amazing that there are so many moths around us and yet they are rarely encountered. The highlights of this particular night of mothing were the Poplar Hawk (*see photo*), Beautiful Golden Y, Marbled Beauty, Swallowtail, Burnished Brass, Garden Tiger and the Wormwood Pug.



The last week of the month and a walk from Burrow Head to Ducker Craig and back provided much of interest including Common Restharrow, Eyebright species, Harebell, Wild Carrot, Bell Heather, Scot's Lovage and the rare Grayling butterfly. Gannets and Atlantic Grey Seals were also seen. On the 26th July up to 50 Sandwich Terns were seen at Barsalloch Point and Six spot Burnets Moths were on the wing. The following day a Wool Carder Bee was seen in the garden at Seymour House. (*See photo*).

Early in August, Rock Samphire was spotted growing from the harbour wall at the Isle of Whithorn, this plant is more commonly seen on rocky sea coasts. Also early in the month, I went to check on the Haresfoot Clover, a local plant here, that grows on a rocky outcrop at Front Bay, Monreith. It had increased a great deal compared to when I previously had seen it, so that was a good outcome.

Green Figwort a rare plant in this area was increasing in numbers too, in a partially shaded ride close to Glasserton Church, and the rare Bithynian Vetch also seems to be thriving above the Port of Cunan. The second week of the month and another moth night at Seymour House provided us with 16 species comprising of 50 moths. Buff and Dingy Footman moths were the undoubted highlights.



The end of the month at the Crook of Baldoon RSPB reserve, we saw both Little and Great White Egrets.

NATURAL HISTORY OBSERVATIONS

(continued)

Early in September on *Eupatorium purpureum* in the garden, there were at least 40 butterflies on the large flowering stems. The species involved were Small Tortoiseshell, Red Admiral and Painted Lady. No Peacock species were seen surprisingly. Later, an Elephant Hawk moth caterpillar was seen.

Now off to the Cairngorms for more delights hopefully!

Alan Wake

A class of schoolchildren were asked to write down what they thought were today's seven wonders of the world.

While gathering in their work the teacher noticed one pupil hadn't finished the exercise, so she asked if she was finding the task hard. The pupil replied "Yes a little, I couldn't quite make up my mind because there are so many, I think the seven wonders of the world are,

to SEE, to HEAR, to TOUCH, to TASTE, to FEEL, to LAUGH and to LOVE."

A gentle reminder to us all that the most precious things in life cannot be built by hand or bought by men.

May we reflect on these words which Queen Elizabeth 11, used in her Christmas Message 2002.

"I know just how much I rely on my faith to guide me through the good times and the bad. Each day is a new beginning. I know that the only way to live my life is to try to do what is right, to take the long view, to give of my best in all that the day brings, and to put my trust in God....

I draw strength from the message of hope in the Christian gospel".



REV. JEFF MEAD

We remember the Rev. Jeff Mead with great affection and now his portrait is in the Millisle Church at Sorbie

CRUGGLETON CHURCH



An Ecumenical Service was held at Cruggleton Church recently and was very well attended.

Unfortunately the photos did not come out very clear. It is by candle light as there is no power there



MOCHRUM PARISH WHO'S WHO 2022/23

(Telephone numbers all commence with 01988 unless otherwise stated)

MOCHRUM PARISH CHURCH

| | | |
|---------------------------------|---------------------|--------|
| Interim Moderator | Rev Eric Boyle | 402314 |
| Session Clerk. | Mrs Jenni Gray | 700948 |
| Clerk to the Board | Mrs Jenni Gray | 700948 |
| Organist | Mrs Gill Bateman | |
| Free Will Offering & Treasurer | Mrs Jenni Gray | |
| Guild Secretary | Mrs. Vicky Parker | 700312 |
| Magazine | Mrs Bridget Hillman | 700781 |
| Coffee Morning Convenor | Mrs Bridget Hillman | 700781 |
| Church Flowers and Distribution | Mrs Bridget Hillman | 700781 |

PORT WILLIAM GARDENERS' GROUP

| | | |
|-----------|--|--------|
| Secretary | | 700955 |
|-----------|--|--------|

PORT WILLIAM FIRST RESPONSE TEAM

| | | |
|-----------|-------------------|--------|
| Chairman | Mr Murray Morland | 700488 |
| Secretary | Mrs Audrey Kevan | 700463 |

PORT WILLIAM COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION

| | | |
|-----------|-------------------|--------|
| Chairman | Mr. Shaun Dodds | 700536 |
| Secretary | Mrs Davina Kiltie | 700738 |

PORT WILLIAM COMMUNITY COUNCIL (secretary.pwcc@gmail.com)

| | | |
|-----------|--------------------|--|
| Chairman | Mr Robert Sheppard | |
| Secretary | | |

PORT WILLIAM COMMUNITY SHOP

| | | |
|-------------|---------------------|-------------|
| Chairperson | Mrs Alison McMaster | 700439 |
| Secretary | Mrs Eunice Murray | 07818519213 |
| Treasurer | Mrs Margo Brawls | 700832 |

TODDLERS' GROUP

| | | |
|-------------|----------------|-------------|
| Chairperson | Natalie Brawls | |
| Secretary | Laura Shell | 07776010803 |

PORT WILLIAM SCHOOL PARENT'S COUNCIL

| | | |
|-------------|---------------------|--------|
| Chairperson | Mrs Kay Christie | |
| Secretary | Mrs Emily Nicholson | 700203 |
| Treasurer | Mrs Arlene Morgan | 700694 |

SENIOR CITIZENS' COMMITTEE

| | | |
|-------------|-----------------|-------------|
| Chairperson | Mrs Nikki Steel | 07766433409 |
| Secretary | Mrs Mary Cowan | 07810435117 |
| Treasurer | Mrs Dib Penrose | 700741 |

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

| | | |
|----------------|-----------------------|-------------|
| Chairman | Mr. Kenny Barr | 07834985536 |
| Secretary | Mrs. Helen Oxley | 07900046350 |
| P.W.R.I: | | |
| President | Mrs. Jennifer Brodie | 700214 |
| Vice President | Mrs Elaine Milven | 07901623876 |
| Secretary | Mrs Elizabeth Wallace | 700274 |

PORT WILLIAM PANTOMIME COMPANY

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

PORTWILLIAM COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT TRUST

| | | |
|-------------|-------------------------|--------|
| Chairperson | | |
| Secretary | Mr Mike Cooper (Acting) | 700734 |
| Treasurer | Mr Paul Carrigan | 700394 |

PORT WILLIAM MAXWELL HALL MANAGEMENT

| | | |
|-------------|----------------|-------------|
| Chairperson | Mr Tony Cottam | |
| Secretary | Mrs Mary Cowan | 07810435117 |

MADAG (Monreith & District Action Group)

| | | |
|-------------|---------------------|--------|
| Chairperson | Mr Robert Mckinnel | 700117 |
| Secretary | Mrs Alison McMaster | 700439 |

If you would like the details of your organization's office bearers listed please give the details to the Editor (shown on the front page) including any changes in personnel before the closing date stated on the front of the magazine so that the directory may be kept up to date. Thank you - B Hillman

I remember the corned beef of my
Childhood,
And the bread that we cut with a knife,
When the Children helped with the
housework,
And the men went to work not the wife.
The cheese never needed a fridge,
And the bread was so crusty and hot,
The Children were seldom unhappy,
And the Wife was content with her lot.

I remember the milk from the bottle,
With the yummy cream on the top,
Our dinner came hot from the oven,
And not from a freezer; or shop.
The kids were a lot more contented,
They didn't need money for kicks,
Just a game with their friends in the road,
And sometimes the Saturday flicks.

...
I remember the slap on my backside,
And the taste of soap if I swore
Anorexia and diets weren't heard of
And we hadn't much choice what we wore.

Do you think that bruised our ego?
Or our initiative was destroyed?
We ate what was put on the table
And I think life was better enjoyed.

Author Unknown

MOCHRUM SESSION CLERK'S REPORT

Well here we are, well into autumn now and winter not far away. I hope that you have all been keeping well and managing to keep warm through these difficult times.

There have been many changes within the Church of Scotland over the past months, not least in that the Presbytery of Wigtown and Stranraer has now closed and the first meeting of the Presbytery of the South West has been held in Kilmarnock, when the new Presbytery Clerk, Mrs Christine Murray was sworn in. Sadly, with the passing of David Mann who was our Presbytery Elder we were not represented at this meeting but Mrs Ann Wadsworth has now agreed to take on this role, although she is relieved that the majority of meetings will be held via Zoom and that she won't have to make the journey to Kilmarnock. What would we do without technology!

David was also our church Treasurer but latterly with his failing health his wife Judith had been doing the book work and she has agreed to continue in that role and we are grateful to her for that, although church law requires that we do have an official Treasurer. This was discussed at our last meeting of the Kirk board and agreed that as I am currently the church officer registered with OSCR I would take on this role, at least until such time as a willing candidate can be found.

Although the Kirk is most importantly a place of worship, it does not run itself. It will deteriorate, as will any building if not properly cared for. It has been standing for over 200 years but we do need your help in ensuring that it will be standing for the next 200 years, so do please come along and support us if you are able. If you see a task that needs doing, please tell me or any member of the Board so that we can sort it, or better still tell us if you know someone who can sort it for us. It is your church and although we will do our best to make sure that we are always there when you need us we can't do it alone.

One of the tasks that has recently been completed, and we are very grateful to Claire Nash for this, is the tidying of the 'Sunday School Garden'. This garden was created by the late Elsie Walker and means so much to so many people so please, if you see a weed pull it out. If you can spare some time to tend it please do, so that Claire doesn't have to take sole responsibility for it and so that in future it won't become such a mammoth task.

We have, as always had a number of funerals in the church and our thoughts and prayers are with all who have lost loved ones.

We have celebrated the wedding of Sarah Walker to Jeffrey Penrose which was a beautiful occasion and we wish them both a long and happy life together.

A number of us attended the closure service of Kirkinner church. An Ecumenical service was held at Cruggleton again, the first since the start of the pandemic.

MOCHRUM SESSION CLERK'S REPORT

(continued)

Our Bursary has been awarded. This year it went to Elli Wadsworth who is studying MA Health in Social Science at the University of Edinburgh. Elli has been a regular member of our congregation since she was wee as well as being involved with helping the Sunday School, assisting at many of the 'Messy Churches we have held in the past. I always find it hard that we are only allowed to award one Bursary as we had a number of very deserving candidates this year, but those are the rules and Elli is a very deserving winner. We wish her every success in all that the future may hold for her.

Our Thursday Club still meets regularly at The View; our monthly coffee morning is still held on the 1st Wednesday of every month and we are in church either at Mochrum or Sorbie every Sunday morning, with services led by our Interim Moderator or by a visiting Minister, with occasional services led by either Morag or myself, with help from other members of the congregation. Morag and I both having now completed the Worship Team Training Course.

The Remembrance Sunday service will this year be at Mochrum at 11.30am, following an act of Remembrance at the War Memorial, Port William, at 10.45 and on the 18th December we welcome back the Creetown Silver Band for our service of Lessons and Carols. The tree will be up; the church will be decorated and there will be mulled wine and mince pies, so do please come and join us for a wonderful start to Christmas.

You all remain, always in our prayers

Jenni Gray

MONTHLY COFFEE MORNINGS

1ST WEDNESDAY OF THE MONTH

In the Supper Room, Maxwell Hall

At a recent meeting it has been decided that the price of coffee/tea and cake/biscuit should be raised from £2. to £2.50.

It is still much cheaper than other places serving the same.

I do hope it will not put you off coming to our monthly 'get together' which are always quite lively! IN DECEMBER WE ARE GOING TO HAVE A SALES TABLE OF GOODIES so do come. Contributions to the Sales table should be wrapped and labelled with the ingredients on.

PORT WILLIAM COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION SCIO

2022 saw the return of Carnival Week to celebrate our 70th Anniversary. To help us celebrate we were joined by several of our former Queens who were invited to join us for Afternoon Tea and a Ball at night. It was a pleasure to have them and it was great for them to catch up and reminisce about Port William and the fun they had both growing up here and their time as Carnival Queen. Our Queen for 2022 was Miss Molly Legge who was crowned by our very own MBE Mr George McKenzie. Molly was an excellent Queen and mingled with everyone, locals visitors, young and old, talking and dancing the night away.

We had an array of events. Some old favourites, like our sports day, teddy bears picnic, bowling, etc and some new like Owl Magic, Chainsaw Carver and Emily Black Dancers. Most of our events were well attended and enjoyed by everyone but alas our Fancy Dress had very few participants this year – very disappointing.

How Can We Rectify This? How do we encourage children /adults to participate and have some fun? If you have a suggestion please feel free to drop a message to Shaun or Davina and we will try it as we certainly don't want to lose the Fancy Dress Parade.

A big **thank you** must go to the volunteers who without their help Carnival Week could not run and to one and all that attended our events and if you couldn't make it this year please put it in your diary for next year. Carnival Week begins on 29th July 2023 hopefully see you there.



We are delighted to report The Maxwell Hall is buzzing with activity again. Exterior repairs have been completed by the council. We are excited to welcome The Bridge Club and Dancing Classes to the hall. For details on how to book any of our rooms, email hallbookings.mhm@gmail.com

Thank you to all the user groups who continue to support the hall. The hall is available for regular bookings or for one-off events or private parties.

The Maxwell Hall Management Team

MOCHRUM GUILD REPORT

September's meeting was the start to an exciting year ahead for Mochrum Guild but with a BIG difference. We shall still be meeting on the 2nd Tuesday of each month but now we are afternoons!! **2pm start**. This is a positive move forward to encourage members and visitors to come together in a brighter and safer environment.

Our new theme is "Wee Seeds, Big Trees" and we set off with our September meeting of a quiz, catch up and cuppa. Ann Wadsworth led the afternoon with Jean Hobbs providing a challenging quiz about trees followed with refreshments.

We shall be holding an event on Saturday 5th November 12-2pm in Maxwell Hall. A Winter Warmer of homemade soup and sweet and a hot drink will be served at a cost of only £5. This event is open to everyone and tickets will be available from early October. Please contact Vicky Parker on 01988 700312 for your tickets.

Dates for your diary:

- 5th November 12-2pm – Winter Warmer Meal
- 6th November 11am Mochrum Kirk – Rededication Promise
- 8th November Meeting 2pm – Barnardo's
- 10th January Meeting 2pm – Dancing & Quiz
- 14th February Meeting 2pm – Guide Dogs Scotland

We really would love to receive new members/visitors to our meetings. So, to help us do this, we can now offer any new member a "Free Taster Year" if they wish to do so. Come along, try us out and have a free year on us and if you like it, why not stay..... just bring a cup and maybe a friend and you will leave with many more friends.

Lastly, can we remind you of our new theme... 'Wee Seeds, Big Trees'. Let the little seed of Mochrum Guild grow into a Big Mochrum Guild Tree by reaching out and letting people know we are here and invite them to our meetings.



PORT WILLIAM PRIMARY SCHOOL

Maths Week Scotland took place between the 26th of September and the 2nd of October.

The theme this year was *'The Beauty of Maths'*.

To celebrate we had a fun week taking part in different activities. On Monday a teacher from Douglas Ewart High School and two pupils came to the school to teach us how to make Origami. Primary 5, 6 and 7 made hexa exagons, primary 3, 4 and 5 made butterflies.

On Wednesday, the house captains arranged board games for us to play in our houses - Myrton, Kirkmaiden and Monreith.

On Thursday, Kirkiner joined us for the morning. We took part in three different workshops. In the music workshop we were learning about quarter and half notes. We played some rhythms and patterns on our bodies and Purple Mash and built a water xylophone.

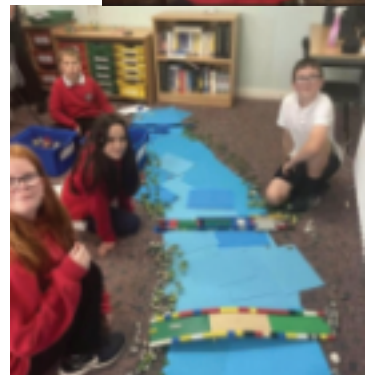
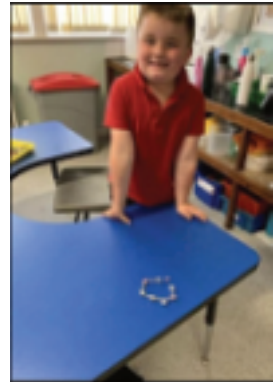
In the STEM (science, technology, engineering and maths) we were thinking about where we might use maths every day in the real world. The Primary 5, 6 and 7s were learning how angles are important in golf, how speed, distance and time can be calculated by building some skis for a ski slope and explored area and perimeter by designing our dream bedroom floor plan.

Primary 1, 2, 3 and 4 were learning about patterns and built some beautiful necklaces, enjoyed painting some symmetrical butterflies and explored angle and rotation by directing the BeeBot.

We were also very lucky to have a visit from Gina Lawson, who kindly came into school to do a printing workshop with us. We were learning about pattern and shape and decorated materials and bags.

We are really looking forward to taking these home.

We had such a fun week!!



REGULAR WEEKLY MEETINGS

MONDAY

9.30 - 11.30am Mothers and Toddlers (MH)
7.30pm Bingo Garlieston
7.00pm Bridge Club (KH)

WEDNESDAY

10.15am Church Coffee Morning - 1st Wed of the month
1.45pm Bridge Club at Wigtown Golf Club
10.00 - 11.00.am Pilates (MH)

THURSDAY

9.30 - 11.30am Mothers and Toddlers (MH)
Thursday Club

FRIDAY

7.00pm Short Mat Bowling re starts in September (MH)
7.30pm Bingo Garlieston
Youth Club (WH)

SUNDAY

11.00am Morning Worship alternate weeks Mochrum with Sorbie

| | | |
|-------------|-------|----------------------|
| KEY: | (MH) | Maxwell Hall |
| | (WH) | Whauphill Hall |
| | (MK) | Mochrum Kirk |
| | (PWS) | Port William Surgery |
| | (THW) | Town Hall Whithorn |
| | (KH) | Kirkinner Hall |

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

PORT WILLIAM PANTOMIME COMPANY

OH YES WE ARE!

Following the success of our Platinum Jubilee performance in the Maxwell Hall, we are delighted to announce that plans are well underway for a Pantomime performance in February 2023! We shall be calling a meeting soon to engage with all those interested in performing and those interested in backstage as well. Watch this space!

If you are interested in joining our happy team, send us a message on our facebook page or contact us on the numbers below:

Helen 07900046350

Mary 0781043511



PAUL'S DANCE CLASS

PAUL IS HOLDING A DANCE CLASS (Ballroom and Latin)

**EVERY WEDNESDAY EVENING
from 7 pm - 9 pm**

in the
MAXWELL HALL
PORT WILLIAM

£5. including Tea / Coffee

**If interested please phone Paul
on 07485153421**

