

Issue

21

Summer

2015

FERRY NEWS

Compiled by Creetown Initiative Ltd.



Lottery Supports Enterprise Centre

It is with great pleasure that we can announce we have been successful in securing £730,000 from the Lottery to develop the Creetown Community Enterprise Centre. This project has been four years in the making and after much hard work, it is coming to fruition.

The ground floor of the centre will house an arts and crafts cooperative shop. In a nutshell, a group of artists and craft-makers will share the ground floor, taking it in turns to man the shop, whilst sharing the overheads. It is hoped that up to 20 artists and craft-makers will join the cooperative. If you are an artist or craft-maker and are interested in joining, please get in touch with Creetown Initiative.

The two upper floors will be a bunk-house. Cheap accommodation, aimed at mountain bikers, walkers and people doing other country pursuits. The idea is to tap into the market of people looking for no frills, cheap accommodation; people who are, at present, passing us by. The idea is that these people will use other village facilities, helping to support other local businesses and protect jobs. Indeed, some will come back and chose a more up market accommodation in the future; something we will actively promote.

It's about getting them here in the first place. 7 Stanes attracts 400,000 people a year; if we attract just 2% of those visitors that would mean 8,000 people who would potentially use the butchers, village store, garage, B&Bs, hotels, museums and other facilities.

To the side of the premises the Cycle4life and Reuse Matters projects will be housed. This means that on site we will be able to offer bike hire and repairs, whilst the Reuse Matters project will, in time, generate

income for community groups and projects; in essence this will be a charity shop/recycling initiative, and there will be a work/office space to let for anyone looking for small business premises.



There will also be a laundrette, primarily to serve the bunk-house, but this will be open to the public. Industrial washing machines means things like dog beds, duvets and other large items can be cleaned here in Creetown.

The electric car will be stationed at the Barholm and there will be two charge points. People will be able to hire the electric car if they wish; another reason for people to stop in Creetown.

This project will attract new visitors and will create jobs and help protect existing ones. It will revive a semi-derelict building which will help those that live and work close by. The Heritage Centre will also benefit via the additional footfall in the area, and will provide educational and learning opportunities.

The next step is the tender process to choose a building company. This will take a few months, but hopefully this time next year the centre will be open.

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Sew What's Happening?

Recycling is an excellent way of saving energy and conserving the environment. Creetown's "Reuse Matters" project exists to responsibly collect and divert waste from landfill, while promoting the concept of zero waste.

Our mission is to offer upcycled alternatives to traditional fashion and home goods as a way to reduce landfill waste. We aim to educate people on the benefits of upcycling, so when given the choice, they select an upcycled product over a new one.

The Reuse Matters project aims to reduce the amount of waste sent to landfill by encouraging residents to donate clothing and household textiles, which would have otherwise been thrown away or remain unused forever in wardrobes and drawers. Items that are no longer needed or wanted will be given a new lease of life by being transformed into something that is either useful or creative. A pair of jeans turned into a shoulder bag or soft toys, old ties into a dress... the possibilities of upcycling are endless! When you upcycle an item, you aren't breaking down the materials. You may be

refashioning it, like cutting a t-shirt into strips of yarn or converting it into a designer bag, but it's still made of the same materials as when you started. Also, the upcycled item is typically better or the same quality as the original.

To encourage people to upcycle and reuse, Reuse Matters offers a free collection service (using our community car club electric vehicle). The Reuse Matters project is looking to bring together a wide range of local individuals and groups with the common aim of promoting and supporting the reuse and upcycling of clothing and textiles.

Awareness raising events including open days, clothes swap events, talks and sewing workshops for people of all ages and abilities are being held in Creetown and across the Mid Galloway project area to teach about the benefits of upcycling and the sort of things that can be upcycled into something new and useful.

If you are familiar with sewing but don't have the space or equipment, you are more than welcome to simply pop along and use our sewing machines, embroidery machines, overlockers, material etc if you would like.

Reuse Matters hopes to encourage people to view this community initiative as their "reuse community project", which will help both the community and the environment. We want to educate people to create and maintain a "think before you throw" ideology.

Progress to Date

- ~ The workshop premises have been fitted out with furniture and equipment to enable sewing workshops and demonstrations by textile artists to take place, or for use by members of the community.
- ~ A number of local and national textile artists and craft workers have been contacted with regards to future cooperation, and specialised workshop dates have been booked for the future. These will be free for anyone to attend.
- ~ Following on from the success of the first clothes swap held in Kirkcudbright, similar events are planned to take place throughout the region.
- ~ Thanks to the generosity of a manufacturing business we have a large quantity of polyurethane latex (PUL) material, both patterned and plain that is available for FREE to any craft person or group to collect. As a waterproof material it would be ideal for a large number of uses, travel rugs, pet beds, seat covers, play tents and mats.

Check us out on facebook @Reuse Matters Creetown, or pop into the Creetown Initiative office to keep up to date with all the FREE workshops that are planned.

We are very conscious of the many people who already recycle and donate goods to charity shops, schools, groups or textile collection points and applaud their actions.



BE SMART WITH YOUR TEXTILES
REuse Matters

PLEASE DONATE YOUR UNWANTED AND UNUSED CLOTHES AND HOUSEHOLD TEXTILES TO BE UPCYCLED. (PLEASE MAKE SURE THEY ARE CLEAN)

UPCYCLING IS THE ACTION OF TAKING SOMETHING THAT WOULD NORMALLY BE THROWN AWAY OR RECYCLED AND TURNING IT INTO SOMETHING BEAUTIFUL AND USEFUL

ACTIVITIES:

- FREE HOME COLLECTION OF TEXTILES: PLEASE PHONE TO ARRANGE A PICK-UP OF YOUR UNWANTED TEXTILES
- DROP-IN SESSIONS FOR CLOTHING REPAIRS AND EMBELLISHMENTS: SHARE TIPS AND SKILLS
- FREE UPCYCLING WORKSHOPS THROUGHOUT THE REGION: LEARNING TO MAKE SOMETHING ELSE OUT OF YOUR OLD T-SHIRT OR JEANS, MAKING CUSHIONS, BAGS ETC.

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Climate Challenge Fund
part of the Keep Scotland Beautiful (KSB) fund
natural scotland
SCOTTISH GOVERNMENT

The Way We Were...

The Heritage Museum

No, we aren't going to ask you if you know the man in the photograph! He is one that we do know, although we are going to repeat a request we made some time ago about other people. The photo is of Dr. Smith who practised in Creetown about a century ago. He had his own problems with walking, so often used a tricycle to get around, although he was not averse to asking for a helpful push up any hill he happened to meet! Maybe our own Health Centre would like a copy of the photograph!

We are, however, going to repeat the request we made previously in the Ferry News, for information on other Creetown characters who all made a marked contribution to life here, but about whom we don't know enough. They are, Felix Slevin, Gordon Skimming and Drew Murray. We would like to have more to put up in the 'personalities' section of the Heritage Museum about them all. So, if you can provide us with information about any of them, please get in touch with the Chairman, Archie McKie (820267), as we really ought to have something about them on display. Or, if you know where we might get such information, that could be equally helpful.

Otherwise, the museum is open as usual and amongst other things, a calendar for 2016 has been compiled again by Peter Howie and is now available for sale. Local purchases have been a considerable help to the museum's finances over the last three years and we are very grateful for the support we have received.

Local History Group

The local history group is doing so well that the church hall seems to be bulging at the seams on the second wednesday each month. In the last quarter, the speakers have included David Steel of Gatehouse, whose topic was Planned Villages in the area. This was a carefully researched paper, which explained a great deal about the way Creetown and Gatehouse have developed. Then, there was quite a contrast in theme when Kate Nicol spoke about her home on the Weir, which proved to be an intriguing



personal account of growing up in a tiny cottage on the Carsluith shore. Ian McDonald provided the group with a fascinating old film of the railway journey from Castle Douglas to Port Patrick, which stimulated many reminiscences. Laurie Johnson had fully researched the Creetown connection with the last war. It reminded us all of the great sacrifice made by the men and women of the village who were in the forces. The last speaker of the year was Robert McQuistan whose talk on Carsluith Castle was, if not what might have been conventionally expected, something which might well make those of us who heard him look more closely at just how the castle was built and what many of its details can tell us.

It is both interesting and rewarding to see how this group is attracting people from Creetown and the surrounding area who have a desire to learn more about how things have grown and changed over the years.

Andrew McDonald

Creetown's Huge Picnic, 100 Years On

The 'Picnic in the Park' idea was originally conceived after an old photograph from 1915, depicting Rev. Black and a large community gathering in the King George

V park, was posted on the 'Creetown Now and Then' social media page. This photo generated a lot of interest and Fiona Blaes contacted myself to try and organise a centenary celebration of this community event.



We gathered together an informal group, consisting of myself, Fiona, Nicola McCartan, Mr and Mrs Bell, Shirley Cronie Snr and Robert Ross Snr and began organising mainly through Facebook and contacting old and present people from Creetown, encouraging everyone to get together for a picnic in the park. All sorts of entertainment was provided voluntarily from Creetown Silver Band, Creetown Highland Dancers, traditional childrens' games and a bouncy castle. Over 300 people attended, bringing with them their own picnics and seating arrangements and over £600 was raised for charity; it turned out to be a great success!

Robert Ross Jnr



'Tar' Very Much!

The car park tarmac-ing at the entrance to the Creetown park has now been completed. This was the final phase of the King George V Playing Field Regeneration Project, which has been funded by the BIG lottery, Community Spaces Scotland and the Holywood Trust.



Did you know...

1.4million tonnes of textiles is sent to landfill each year



BE SMART WITH YOUR TEXTILES
REuse Matters

Creetown Silver Band



The band is now in the middle of a hectic summer period with engagements most weekends. This follows a busy start to the year with many extra rehearsals for the Scottish Championships which were held in March in Perth. Although the band's placement was slightly disappointing, the band acquitted itself well and many good comments were made.

Youngsters: learn to play an instrument, have a life long hobby

Adults: learn a new skill and enjoy music making with a friendly group of musicians.

Past Players: start playing again and find out what you have been missing.

The band committee is very concerned about the lack of progress with the hall development. The plans have been trimmed down to cut the cost; however there is still no sign of money being available.

This year two members of the band will be attending the National Youth Band of Scotland summer course at Dunblane. The two promising youngsters, who are being sponsored by the band, are Rebekah Hughes and Kyle Fitzsimmons

Recently the band contacted all local Primary schools with a view to giving a demonstration/workshop with the aim of telling them about brass bands and the instruments used. It is hoped that some new recruits might ensue.

Earlier in the year saw the retirement of three long serving bandsmen: Dennis Samways, Clive Paterson and Malcolm Gordon. All three were given a life membership of the band.

ENGAGEMENTS FOR AUGUST

- 9th August Cardoness Shore service at 3.00pm
- 16th August Isle of Whithorn harbour service.
- 23rd August charity run Newton Stewart Golf club.
- 30th August Annual Concert in the Cinema Newton Stewart

The band only survives due to the people in it. Members are lost and gained due to retirement and movement in and out of the area. This means that there is always a need for new members, of all ages. Tuition is given in all brass instruments, as well as refreshers courses for past players. Percussionists are also welcome.

Band members will be participating in a workshop in Castle Douglas on 4th October. This will be run by the Scottish Brass Band association for band in the South West and will be taken by the well known conductor Richard Evans.

Please support your local band!

Stuart McNab

Ferry News Website



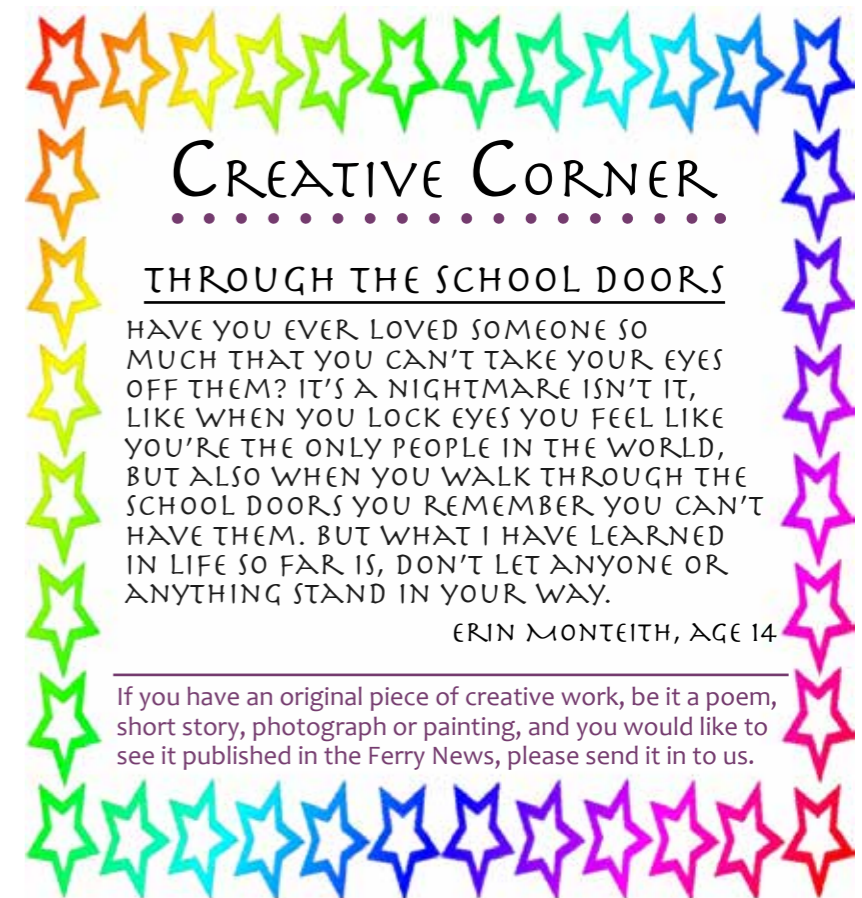
Shortly Creetown Initiative will be launching the Ferry News Website. The website is designed to promote Creetown and all that's going on. There is a page for community groups and a page for businesses. They are free to use.

If you want to promote your community group or business, please contact Amy on amydeetighe@gmail.com

You can write about what your group or business does, add contact details or links to your web site. You can add one photograph also.

It's up to you to get information to us, for us to add onto the website. It is due to go live in the next month.

THIS IS A CHANCE TO PROMOTE YOUR COMMUNITY GROUP OR BUSINESS FOR FREE.



CREATIVE CORNER

THROUGH THE SCHOOL DOORS

HAVE YOU EVER LOVED SOMEONE SO MUCH THAT YOU CAN'T TAKE YOUR EYES OFF THEM? IT'S A NIGHTMARE ISN'T IT, LIKE WHEN YOU LOCK EYES YOU FEEL LIKE YOU'RE THE ONLY PEOPLE IN THE WORLD, BUT ALSO WHEN YOU WALK THROUGH THE SCHOOL DOORS YOU REMEMBER YOU CAN'T HAVE THEM. BUT WHAT I HAVE LEARNED IN LIFE SO FAR IS, DON'T LET ANYONE OR ANYTHING STAND IN YOUR WAY.

ERIN MONTEITH, AGE 14

If you have an original piece of creative work, be it a poem, short story, photograph or painting, and you would like to see it published in the Ferry News, please send it in to us.



This is the space for Creetown's youth, where you'll find out about what the Creetown Initiative Youth Work Team and our local young people have been up to and what's coming up!

'Consequences' Film Making Project and Premiere

The youth film making project originally began at the beginning of 2014 at Senior Youth Club, when Senior Youth Worker, Amy, brought in the new film equipment and asked the young people whether they might like to make a short film. Of course, the overriding answer was 'YES!' and from that moment on, the young people took ownership of the project. They soon decided on the theme of underage drinking, as this was an issue affecting most young people at the time, who had access to a social media account. Many underage teenagers were downing a whole pint of, - at best cheap cider, but at worst spirits or wine, - whilst being filmed in silly or dangerous situations. They then uploaded their videos onto social media and nominated some friends to do the same. The social pressure to carry this out was huge and although the trend began with adults, its popularity filtered down to children and young people.



One of the young people, Ryan Hewitson, went away and wrote a 5 page script and brought it into youth club a few weeks later to share with the other young people who were interested in the film. They edited the script and then youth workers Amy and Jody, went through film production planning, such as shot composition, types of shots, locations, casting, costume considerations, sound, lighting and props. The young people began shooting the film in April and May 2014 and managed to shoot 3 out of the 6 scenes. However, youth worker Amy went on maternity leave in May, so the filming was set aside for a time. The young people's enthusiasm for the project and determination to finish it, ensured that we began filming again in February this year and we wrapped at the end of March. The young people attended an editing workshop and each had a go at putting together a rough cut of the film. To round off the project, the youth work team organised a film premiere at the Gem Rock Museum on 25th June, complete with a red carpet, 'bloopers reel' and buffet. It was a huge success, with over 40 people attending, including Helen Turner from the Hollywood Trust, (the charitable organization that provided funding for the film equipment) and members of Creetown Initiative's Board of Directors were also in attendance.



Senior Youth Club Trips

In February, the Senior Youth Club went on a trip up to Braehead, Glasgow to go to the Xscape Centre, where they participated in an aerial assault course, 15 metres harnessed up in the air above the centre, rock climbing and also snowboarding on the indoor snow slope, with real snow! It was a great experience for all. The Senior Youth Club member's most recent trip was to Dumfries to see a drama production entitled, 'The Toon'. 'The Toon' was an interactive, hard-hitting, issue-based theatrical production aimed at meaningfully raising awareness on a range of issues effecting the lives of young people e.g. drugs, alcohol, bullying, rape, sexual exploitation. This production has been designed and written by young people in Dumfries, who were successful in gaining a grant award from National Lottery Young Start Fund and Cashback for Communities to deliver a building-based pilot project. The production was aimed at an audience aged 12 - 20. Our young people said they found the production very informative and also reassuring, in that they are now aware where to go to, or who to contact should they find themselves in any of the situations highlighted in the production.

Youth Achievement Awards

Six young people aged 14 - 18 have just begun their Youth Achievement Awards qualifications with us. Youth Achievement Awards (YAA) are a specialised learning programme where young people choose their own 'challenges', are peer assessed (before being internally and externally moderated) and take responsibility for their award. Young people can gain the equivalent of an SVQ Level 1 and 2 (which is the same as the old Intermediate 1 and 2) and they can complete it at their own pace. What's even better is that Youth Achievement Awards have been credit rated for the Scottish Credit and Qualifications Framework (SCQF) by the Scottish Qualifications Authority (SQA), which means that these awards actually count for something and will be a qualification young people can use on their CV when they are older. Examples of the projects young people are working on in order to achieve their awards are youth work volunteering, sports coaching volunteering, music session volunteering at school, creative writing, including plays and film scripts, film making, learning Japanese and a whole host of other interesting projects.

Multi-Sports on a Friday Night

Leading up to the summer holidays, our youth work team ran 2 months of multi-sports sessions, where there was a different session available every Friday evening for young people to try out. These included, football, tambourelli, gymnastics, tennis, boxercise, dance fitness, basketball and rounders.

New Youth Work Team Members

We are pleased to welcome two new members to our youth work team, June Paterson and Sheree Johnston. June is our newest Youth Worker and has been employed with us since January. Sheree has been in a youth leadership role with us for the past 4 months and now that she has turned 18, she is an official Youth Work Volunteer.

If you have any comments, ideas or questions about Senior Youth Club or about any events, issues or activities affecting young people, please contact Amy on 01671 820654, or amydeetighe@gmail.com.

Amy-Dee Tighe

Community Council Elections - We're Looking At You!

ARE YOU 16 OR OVER?

DO YOU LIVE IN KIRKMABRECK PARISH?

ARE YOU REGISTERED TO VOTE IN LOCAL GOVERNMENT ELECTIONS?

WOULD YOU LIKE TO BE INVOLVED IN SHAPING THE FUTURE OF THE VILLAGE?

If you can answer yes to all of these questions then why not take the opportunity to become an elected member of the Community Council?

The Community Council is made up of 10 local people elected by members of the community to represent their views on a wide variety of subjects such as planning applications, public transport, the

environment conservation and licensing matters.

The Community Council meets 10 times a year and meetings are attended by a Local Councillor, the Police and other individuals/organisations at the invitation of the members.

Details of how to obtain nomination forms will be displayed on the council notice boards shortly and the deadline for submitting these will be Friday 25 September.

If there are more nominations submitted than places on the council there will be a poll which will take place on Thursday 22 October.

So if you would like to represent local people and communicate their views to the Council please apply.

Isobel Campbell, Current Chair

Creetown Country Dance

Creetown Country Dance Class runs from October to March with the emphasis on having fun, but we do our best to learn the steps too. Beginners are welcome and you don't need a partner. The Class ends in March with an Open Night where we are very fortunate to have live dance music supplied by Ian Muir.

Ian started playing accordion as an 8 year old and formed his own Band in 1984 and is now Senior Accordion Tutor at The Royal Conservatoire of Scotland. Ian and his band have played for Dance Classes around the world, on cruise ships, on stage and on television. We even have music lovers who don't dance come along to the Open Night just to listen to his music.

Anyone interested in coming along please contact Annette on 820435 or Patricia on 820258.



Wheels4Creetown is run for the benefit of our community, providing affordable vehicles for YOU* we have a Renault grand scenic (7 seats), Renault Clio estate and All Electric Renault Zoe for use at £2.95 per hour, or £24 for any 24hr period plus the cost of actual fuel used. So whether you want a car for 1 hour, 8 hours, 24 hours, a weekend, a week or anything in-between.**

THERE ARE NO OTHER HIDDEN COSTS, NO MEMBERSHIP COST, NO INSURANCE COST, NO REPAIR COSTS, NOTHING.

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***a minimum age of 22 and subject to insurance acceptance.**

**** fuel is charged at cost price.**



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- 12cm x 12cm - £60
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- Full Page - £100

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CREETOWN SERVICE STATION

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Workshop/MOT



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To contribute to the Ferry News, please contact Amy-Dee Tighe on 01671 820654 or amydeetighe@gmail.com

Your input is vital so please do get in touch with any news, views, events or advertising.

THE NEXT ISSUE IS DUE TO BE PUBLISHED IN NOVEMBER

