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Barholm Redevelopment Inderway! will run the hall. Creetown Initiative will continue to provide support, but the hall belongs to the community and it is up to the community to

Work is progressing and people are commenting how great it is to see the buildingbeingbroughtbacktolife. Thenew roof is nearly on and the rear extension has been rebuilt. The building had to be stripped back to the bare walls and new floors put in. It has been a major piece of work and is difficult to say precisely just when the work will be completed but we hope it is around May/June.

We will start to advertise for staff around March/April time. There will be three posts initially; Manager, Assistant and Cleaner. Detailed information about these posts and how to apply will be posted in the New Year.

If anyone wants further information about the Barholm project please call in to the office, phone or email us.

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Dancers, pg.

Creetown Highland

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Скеесоши School News

The Way We Were

Reuse Maccers

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From Скеесоши **co keuya**

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Compucer Classes



Waverley Hall - Update

Slowly but surely we are sorting out the teething problems in the Waverley Hall. In the main, everyone seems happy with it, but there are a few things still to sort out. At the moment hall users clean up the hall after they have used it. Some have suggested it would be good to have a cleaner, which isn't a bad idea. However until we are confident that we can afford to pay a cleaner we will continue as we are as, at present, the hall does not earn enough to pay a cleaner. Another problem is noise. Since the hall was rebuilt it seems to have acquired an echo which amplifies sound. This was completely unexpected and we are looking at ways to rectify this.

> Finally, in the New Year we will form a user group committee to manage the hall. This group will decide on hourly rates, they will deal with queries from the public; in essence they

decide how it's used.



Yuck! Dog Muc

Dog fouling has been a continuing issue, not just in the village, but particularly within our Primary School grounds. Unfortunately dog owners are still using the school grounds to walk their dogs and, even more worryingly, dog faeces is not always being lifted when they do.

Many dangers arise from this; the most obvious is that our school children have been getting dog faeces on their shoes and clothing. Not only is this an unpleasant experience for the child and parents, it can also have a detrimental risk to health. Although all types of faeces contain bacteria that can cause stomach upsets, dog faeces may also contain eggs from a type of round worm called Toxocara. The health risks from this are serious; illness from tissue damage, issues with the immune system and even blindness. Children are especially at risk due to their weaker immune systems. A scary fact is that the eggs can survive up to 3 years in the soil emphasising how important it is to pick it up!

The Parent Council wishes to highlight this ongoing concern to our local community. Officers from the Resilience and Community Safety Service of Dumfries and Galloway Council are assisting the Parent Council and school with ... continued on page 5 ۲

DANCING AT DISNEP Creetown Highland Dancers go to Paris!

dancers from Wigtownshire ~ Creetown Primary School are traveling to Disneyland ~ Wendy Davis Memorial Paris to compete at the ~ Nam's Vietnamese and International Gathering of Chinese Restaurant Scottish Highland Dancing ~ Ferrytoon Football Club at the end of November. ~ Creebridge Hotel The young people, aged 4 ~ Riverside Day Centre to 17 are members of Paula ~ Cumloden Manor Herries's School of Highland ~ Cally Palace Dance, based in Creetown. ~ Scottish National Party

"It all started two years ago", ~ Sue and Daniel Walker explains experienced dance ~ Newton Stewart teacher Paula, who has been Traditional Music Festival dancing since the age of 4 ~ Wigtown Show and passed her teachers ~ Chevron Oil exam aged 17. "I saw the ~ Kirkmabreck Church advert for the gathering and ~ Neil MacIntosh Memorial thought, I'd like to take my dancers to that one year. I Afantastictotal of £9,650 has to take part in the Disney competitors from across didn't actually think it would been raised and the project character parade happen and then one day has also been sponsored by were chosen by the event Europe last September I mentioned West Coast Sea Products, in organisers! The dancers it to the dancers and Kirkcudbright. parents. I was overwhelmed when everyone was up for "We will arrive on 24th parade, constantly, for over young dancers and Paula it, so that was that. The November and our dancers 30 minutes. "It is quite an Herries and her fundraising began!"

The group has been busily says. raising funds for dance fees, travel and transport for the 18 dancers and have held bingo quiz nights, coffee mornings, soup and pudding lunches, local displays, Burns Suppers and they have done some busking too. They have also had some incredible donations from local people, businesses, and organisations:

- ~ Alistair Barnett
- ~ Tommy Marr
- ~ Muir Consultancy
- ~ The Round Table
- ~Wigtownshire Community Shop
- ~ Creetown Gala

Eighteen talented young ~ Creetown Football Club

- ~ Brighouse Bay

will compete in different levels,"

where I choreograph dances challenge. The adrenaline to Disney music." The un- will keep them going," der 14s will dance to a track laughs Paula. from Disney film Zootropolis

and the over 14s will dance Paula Herries is deservedly to the song 'Crusin' for a very proud of her dancers Brusin" from Teen Beach and the past 13 months Movie. There will also be a the young people have duo dance to 'Supercalifra- been training twice a gilisticexpialidocious' from week the 1964 Disney film Mary the exciting event. The Poppins, danced by Maura young dancers, who are Wilson and Emma Harrison, from Creetown, Carsluith, aged 17. They have aptly Kirkcudbright, named their routine 'Bert n' and Newton Stewart are Mary's Fling'!

The young people aged 8 specifically and above also auditioned amongst will be required to dance The event is a fantastic in front of the moving opportunity for our local many undertaking, but the girls should be commended for Paula understand this and have their efforts in "Choreo-Magic' is been improving their fitness this dream

one of the competitions and are ready for the

and promoting Wigtown excited to represent South West Scotland and more Creetown, international and the UK, USA, Canada, and beyond!

> team bringing to fruition.



Photo credit: Stephen Jolly Photography; www.sjollyphotography.co.uk

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RAFT AND RODUCE

FREE ADMISSION

Shop local, shop smart

On Sunday 11 December 2016



There's something for everyone so come and buy from local quality artists, makers and producers

... and of course ... the Gem Rock tearoom and gift shop will also be open all day and there will be free admission to the Museum for all customers

(The Gem Rock Museum, tearoom and gift shop is open Wednesday to Sunday inclusive (10am-4pm) until 18 December (inclusive) – re-opening 1 February 2017)

Creetown Computer Workshops

Dumfries and Galloway Council, working in partnership with Creetown Initative, are intending to run computer workshops in the **Waverley Hall**, **starting in January 2017.** Workshops would include Beginners iPad, More Advanced iPad, Android tablet and Windows 10. Ipads and tablets may be provided or learners can bring along their own device. A nominal fee would be charged to cover the cost of the hall. To establish the level of interest, would you please contact Creetown Initiative. *Christine Cannon, Learning Support Officer*

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The Way We Were...

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Heritage Group

Those of you who have passed by the museum recently may well have noticed the brightly painted plough outside the window. This has been given to the museum by James Taylor who has a collection of farming equipment near Wigtown and to whom the Committee is very grateful. The design dates back to the early eighteen hundreds and would have most probably been made by a local blacksmith, although we don't know the details. It would have been pulled by two horses and the two mouldboards would have pushed into the soil like the prow of a ship, raising parallel rows of earth called drills. It has been carefully repainted by Jim Petrie, and now helps to draw the attention of passers-by to the museum itself.

Visitor numbers have been modest this year, but as well as people from all over the UK, the visitors' book includes names from Germany, Brisbane, Sydney, Victoria, New South Wales, Virginia, Montana and New York. A recent caller said he had often been here as a seaman on one of the boats which took granite from the quarries, but had always been so busy that this was the first time he had actually been in Creetown itself!

Next year the museum will celebrate having been open for twenty years! How quickly the time has gone! One idea for a celebration has been that we should put on a ploughing competition in Gala Week with our new plough, but that hasn't got very far.

Don't forget the new calendar is available for you to send to anyone who has connections with Creetown and who you think would like be reminded of what it used to be like.

Local History Group

The history group continues to attract about 30 people to its monthly meetings. Since restarting in September there has been a presentation by Fiona Blaen of her comprehensive collection of photos of people and places around Creetown which aroused a lot of interest as well as memories. Then Jeanette Lupton talked about kilt making here and explained some of the techniques which lie behind the production of a well-fitting kilt. Two male members of the group were appropriately dressed for the occasion. The third meeting on farms in Kirkmabreck Parish was led by Wullie McKnight. Did you know that 150 years ago there were as many as 34 farms in the parish with an average of at least ten people employed on



each farm, with some having considerably more? How things have changed! Nowadays it's nearer three men, a tractor and a quad-bike! No wonder the population of Creetown is falling. As well as producing a booklet of Scots words still in use locally, the group is involved in listing all the shops which were here at one time. Some of you might have seen the group's chairman recently taking a party of children from Creetown School round the streets to see where they all were.

Kirkmabreck Parish Church

Necessary repairs to the church hall have at last been carried out so that the roof has been fully re-slated and the problem of an irritating ceiling leak has been solved. We never knew just how the rain got in, although we certainly knew exactly where to place the red plastic bucket to catch the drips! New heaters are not only more efficient, but will be much more economic as well.

In the church itself, two chairs, which sat behind the communion table, have been re-upholstered by Mick MacCleod and look very good indeed. Members are very grateful for his expertise.

Some notes for you diary:

- ~ 17th. December, Greenview Church Nativity Concert in Kirkmabreck Church Hall
- ~ 18th. December, 7:30pm, Creetown Silver Band Carol Concert
- ~ 24th. December, 11.39pm Watchnight Service.
- ~ 25th. December, 11am Christmas Morning Service.

~ 1st. January, 11am Morning Service. Andrew MacDonald



REUSE Matters

Sew Waterproof - Ponchos Anyone?

The end of the year is approaching – and my, what a year it has been for Reuse Matters! We had several very successful Clothes Swap events, up-cycling workshops and demonstrations all over Dumfries and Galloway, from Stranraer to Dumfries. We had a stall at the Arts and Crafts Trail in Kirkcudbright this summer and provided a few days of demonstrations and workshops at the Gracefield Arts Centre in Dumfries. We worked with the ARC in Newton Stewart and Stranraer and visited Creetown Primary School to make Christmas decorations from scraps of fabric. We made cushions for the local football club and we donated tonnes (literally!) of the high quality and versatile 'PUL'-material to various church and community groups.

One of the ideas we developed was to turn the waterproof and breathable material into rainproof ponchos. And what better cause to make them for than all the hundreds of thousands of refugees from Syria and other countries who currently live under very challenging conditions in the various refugee camps in Europe and the middle East (Lebanon for instance). Together with the D&G refugee action group 'MOOL' we ran two workshops in Dumfries, in which we taught the MOOL volunteers to make simple, but comfortable rain ponchos for adults and children. Two of the participants of the workshops are Syrian refugees themselves and know first-hand how important it is to have good and comfortable clothing. 'It gives you a sense of dignity', one of them said.



The public have been very enthusiastic and supportive of this project. Some of the workshop participants in Dumfries have offered to continue this project themselves in their depot.



Currently a group from Newton Stewart has come forward to make more ponchos at a workshop in January. For more information please contact jolanda.creetown@gmail.com or look on our Facebook page ReuseMattersCreetown.

contined from front page

...the launching of a poster campaign in the new year. All school children will be able to enter by designing a poster to highlight the issues around the dog fouling problem. The competition is kindly being sponsored by Rupert Gourlay, Creebridge Veterinary Practice. Winning entries will receive a book token and have their work displayed in school grounds and within the village.

We look forward to having community support with this; ideally not walking your dog in school grounds and, more importantly, always lifting and safely disposing all dog faeces from the school grounds and the village as a whole. Please look out for the winning poster designs in the new year. Thank you.

Did you know that whenever you buy anything online - from your weekly shop to your annual holiday - you could be collecting free donations for Creetown Primary School? There are over 3,000 shops and sites on board ready to make a donation, including Amazon, John Lewis, Aviva, The Trainline and Sainsbury's – it doesn't cost you a penny extra! It's as easy as 1, 2, 3...

1) Head to https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/ creetownps/ and join for free.

- 2) Every time you shop online, go to easyfundraising first to find the site you want and start shopping.
- 3) After you've checked out, that retailer will make a donation to your good cause for no extra cost whatsoever! There are no catches or hidden charges and Creetown Primary school will be really grateful for your donations. Thank you.

Victoria Donnelly, Creetown Primary Parent Council



Creetown Silver Band has just completed a very full summer season culminating in an enjoyable concert in Newton Stewart Cinema. Preparations are now in hand for an equally full Christmas period which, for the band, starts on 19th November. Details of these are shown below.

At the recent AGM reports showed that financially the band was sound but that once again more players were required. Prospective members of all ages are welcome, with free tuition available.

Winter Engagements:

19 Nov	Winterfest Newton Stewart	1.00pm
25 Nov	Wigtown lights	7.00pm
1 Dec	Penninghame Church	6.30pm
4 Dec	Gatehouse Christmas Market	ТВС
6 Dec	Colmonell	7.30pm
11 Dec	Mochrum Church	11.00pm
11 Dec	Kirroughtree Visitors' centre	1.00pm
16 Dec	Carol concert Isle of Whithorn	7.30pm
18 Dec	Carol Concert Kirkmabreck Church	7.30pm
23 Dec	Cally Palace	5.00pm
23 Dec	Dashwood Square	6.oopm
24 Dec	Creetown Square	<mark>7.30pm</mark> Stuart McNab

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Creetown Primary School News

After the success of last year, it has been a busy start to this school session for pupils at Creetown Primary School. We are excited to be writing articles for the Ferry News and hopefully we will be able to write more in the future.

Tin Whistle

P5-7 learned some tunes on the tin whistle with Will from Feis Rois. We learned to play The Grand Old Duke of York, Coulter's Candy, The Skye Boat Song and many more.

Learning about Creetown

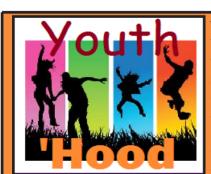
In term 1, P1-4 and P4-7 learned about Creetown and the community. Mr McQuistan came to visit P4-7 twice to tell us all about Creetown Granite and the history of Creetown. We were amazed about how far the granite had travelled and really enjoyed finding out about the shops in Creetown in the past. Mr McQuistan also took us on a walking tour to identify Creetown Granite. We also visited the Heritage Museum to find out even more about the history of the village. We are very lucky to have such an interesting and informative Museum on our doorstep!



Senior Friends' Party

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In October P7 pupils organised a very successful Senior Friends' Garden Party. They developed some new skills such as organisation skills, baking skills, communication skills and gardening skills. All of the visitors were very impressed about how well everyone worked as a team; how well behaved the children are; how lovely the school and the gardens are and how well organised the event was. We are grateful to Creetown Stores, Simpson's Bakery, the Co-op, Irving's Bakery and Corson's Bakery for donating items for our Garden Party. We really enjoy the



We are really pleased to have welcomed lots of new S1 children to our Senior Youth club this autumn. It's lovely to see new faces every Thursday night and we now have a brilliant membership of 18 young people - a great number for such a small village! The young people have been participating in lots of different activities, such as tambourelli, making tray bakes, a halloween party, kickboxing and socialising and listening to music. In the new year we will be providing music workshops, lead by a musician and youth arts professional and also sexual education workshops, lead by a practitioner from the NHS. Of course, all of our activities and workshops are optional and the young people can always opt out

if they don't fancy doing it. Some of our young people have been earning their Saltire Awards for volunteering, via helping out every week at our junior youth club in Newton Stewart. Furthermore, we have also been delivering film making workshops for young people from Creetown and Newton Stewart aged 12 - 17 as part of the new Wild Film Festival. The young people will make a short film about the wildlife and topography of Dumfries and Galloway and it will be screened at the Wild Film Festival in March 2017. Amy-Dee Watson

opportunity to invite other members of the community into our school and would like to thank everyone who gave us donations to spend on our gardens.

Armistice Day

On Friday 11th November P1-7 walked down to the village War Memorial to remember all of those who fought (or are fighting) in wars and conflicts. Our youngest pupil, Phoebe and our oldest pupil, Tammy laid a wreath from Creetown Primary School. Other pupils recited poems and we respected the two minutes silence.



Coming Up...

At the moment, Nursery pupils and P1-7 pupils are very busy practising for their Christmas Concerts. Nursery pupils will perform Nursery Rhyme Nativity and P1-7 will perform Lights, Camel, Action! Rehearsals are going very well and the staff are so impressed with the pupils' enthusiasm and dedication to learning lines and song words. We can't wait to perform for our audiences!

P4-7 Creetown Primary School

Waltzing in the Waverley Galloway Dance Comes to Creetown

Do you love watching "Strictly"? Well why not give it a go yourselves? Steph and Angie Bishop are both qualified dance teachers and Associate Members of the British Association of Teachers of Dancing. They now live near Newton Stewart and have been running Galloway Dance since 2013. "Our philosophy is dancing must be fun. It is all about enjoyment and getting a buzz from learning a new skill.'

Steph and Angie have just finished a beginners' taster course in Waverley Hall, Creetown and are looking to run another 6 week beginners' course in the New Year. They still have to decide whether it will be Salsa or Social Sequence and are investigating which will be the most popular. If you are interested then please contact them on 01671 401107, or by email at gallowaydance@btinternet.com.

Steph and Angie also run classes at Beginner, Improver and Intermediate level in Ballroom & Latin and Salsa. These classes are on Tuesday and Friday evenings at the Riverside Day Centre Newton Stewart. Full details are available on their website www.gallowaydance.co.uk

They also provide 1-1 Private Lessons for those who want to learn or progress more quickly. Wedding First Dances are also available and very popular.



From Creetown to Kenya mains water, connecting the Hilton Dumpsite of the London area of Nakuru with fresh





During the first two weeks in October, Eddie and chairs and the children McGaw and five other people from the UK ate chicken, apples, bananas, travelled to Nakuru, Kenya to carry out charity chocolate, chewing gum and work for local children and families. For the crisps – many for the first time. past 6 years Eddie has visited the same area, including St Jerome's Orphanage and The Eddie has been nominated for Walk Centre School.

In previous years, the team has improved Year award. "I want to thank the facilities and quality of life for the everybody who has helped", children, including installing flushing toilets, said Eddie. "I just want to a fridge and freezer, providing clothing keep making their lives better. and toys and warm meals. During this visit, Poverty like that should generous donations from local people, never happen today, but in organisations and businesses enabled five Nakuru, they get no help at all new houses to be built and for the water from their government, only tanks for be filled up with fresh water, with from groups like us."Anyone money left over to continue this for the rest interested in going on next of the year. Furthermore, the next month years trip should contact Eddie will see the installation of waterpipes from McGaw.

area of Nakuru with fresh, running water.

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Donations have also paid for two months of college fees for a 22 year old man, who once attended the Walk Centre and now wishes to train as a teacher and return to his town and provide inspiration and opportunities for the local young people. The children of St Jerome's Orphanage have been given radios, football strips, balls, skipping ropes and hula-hoops, the local hospital was given new born baby clothing and the Walk Centre School was given 30 new desks

Dumfries and Galloway Life Magazine's Volunteer of the

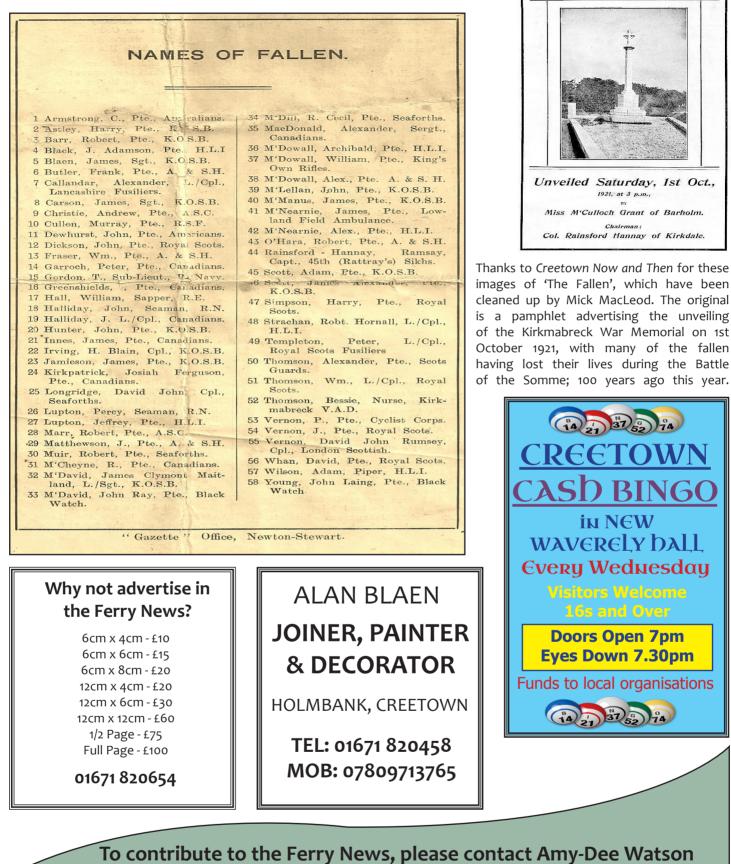
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Creetown Now and Then

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Kirkmabreck War Memorial



on 01671 820654 or amydeewatson@gmail.com

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Your input is vital so please do get in touch with any news, views, events or advertising. PLEASE NOTE: IN ORDER TO FUND THE PRINTING OF THE FERRY NEWS, WE NEED PEOPLE TO ADVERTISE. PLEASE SUPPORT YOUR LOCAL NEWSLETTER.

REETOWN INITIATI



ROBERTSON TRUST & Galloway

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BBC

Children

in Need

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