

SOUTH AYRSHIRE COUNCIL MAGAZINE

2026 SUMMER EDITION








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AYRSHIRE
COUNCIL
Comhairle Siorrachd Àir a Deas
Making a Difference Every Day

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-  Nextdoor - @SouthAyrshireCouncil

Latest News

Council Donates £17,000 to Charities



South Ayrshire Provost Iain Campbell welcomed representatives from two charities to Ayr's County Buildings to present donations on behalf of South Ayrshire Council.

Ayrshire Baby Loss Support and The Ayrshire Hospice both received a donation of £8,500 from one of the Council's charitable schemes.

Ayrshire Baby Loss Support provides support to bereaved parents, families and anyone affected by baby loss. The charity prides itself in hosting regular in-person support meetings, remembrance services including memorial trees and wildflower seed packs, fundraising events and a safe space for individuals to talk about their loss.

The Ayrshire Hospice has become a vital part of palliative care in Ayrshire. They strive to enhance the quality of remaining life for those suffering from any life-limiting illness including cancer, neurological conditions, end stage heart failure and lung disease, as well as to support families and carers facing the loss of a loved one.

Scan the QR codes to find out more about these two fantastic Ayrshire charities.



GIRVAN'S STORY

REGENERATION PROJECT

Girvan's Story is moving into an exciting new chapter, with a major community-led regeneration programme now underway to protect local heritage, support traditional skills, and strengthen pride in Girvan and South Carrick.

The project, driven by local residents and organisations, has secured a total of £5.9M from multiple sources, including the National Lottery Heritage Fund, Historic Environment Scotland, South Ayrshire Council Ward Capital, the Scottish Government Regeneration Capital Grant Fund, Carrick Futures and The William Grant Foundation. These contributions mark a major milestone in delivering long-term improvements across the area.

KEY BUILDING IMPROVEMENTS

Each project is progressing at a different stage, with further community consultation planned as designs and plans develop.

The Bandstand | Dalrymple Street Bank Building | McKechnie Institute | Stumpy Jail

The Bandstand project will be the first to move forward, with partners Adventure Centre for Education (ACE) hoping to begin on-site works later this year. The Bandstand is a familiar landmark to many in Girvan and South Carrick. The proposed works will involve the conservation, repair and renovation of the existing bandstand, transforming it into a café and flexible community events space.



SHOPFRONT IMPROVEMENT & HOMEOWNER GRANT SCHEME

A heritage-focused grant scheme is being developed to support property owners with repair and improvement works. Eligible projects must follow funder guidance, and more information will be available soon. Everyone who has previously expressed an interest in this scheme will be contacted directly. All grant offers will be subject to the necessary approvals, and priority areas may be identified to ensure the greatest community benefit.

TRADITIONAL SKILLS TRAINING ACTIVITIES

The project will deliver a wide range of hands-on opportunities aimed at addressing the shortage of traditional building and craft skills:

- Traditional and Heritage Skills Work Placements
- Girvan Youth Trust Traditional Skills Training Certificate
- Live-build Traditional Building Repairs Training
- Heritage Skills Exchange Days
- Youth Media Project
- Conservation Area Awareness Training



COMMUNITY HERITAGE ACTIVITIES

Creative and heritage-focused activities will celebrate Girvan's identity and support local talent:

- Girvan Craft Hub/Network
- Weaving Heritage Research Project
- Heritage Art Trail
- Heritage Interpretation
- Girvan Today Community Quilt
- Girvan Mural Trail
- Craft Tool Library



Local groups are already achieving a great deal across Girvan and South Carrick. Building on this momentum, the Girvan's Story Project will continue working collaboratively with the community to deliver meaningful improvements to our built heritage, address the shortage of traditional skills and widen opportunities for learning and creativity across all generations. Together, we can help Girvan grow as a thriving and vibrant place to live, work and visit.

COMMUNITY PARTNERS

Throughout the development phase local voices have shaped Girvan's Story. Key partners include Girvan & District Community Council (lead partner), Girvan Academy, Girvan Town Team, Girvan Attractions, Scotland's Urban Regeneration Forum (SURF), GoGirvan, Adventure Centre for Education (ACE), UNESCO Biosphere, The Friends of The McKechnie, Girvan Youth Trust and Girvan Tourist Information Point.

Thank you to these groups and everyone who took part in consultations, because of your involvement the project reflects what matters most to the community and has achieved successful funding outcomes.

Please look out for further updates as Girvan's Story moves into its next phase.



HISTORIC ENVIRONMENT SCOTLAND

ÀRAINNEACHD EACHDRAIDHEIL ALBA

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The Digital Phone Switchover - what you need to know

What is the digital phone switchover?

The UK's telephone network is changing. Between now and January 2027 most telephone providers will be moving their customers from old analogue landlines over to new upgraded landline services using digital technology. This means services that rely on the old landline system such as home phones, telecare and health devices will need to be compatible.



How will it affect me/what do I need to do?

The good news is – your landline isn't going anywhere and for most consumers and businesses, this change will be straightforward. In fact, many customers are already making the switch when they upgrade to fibre broadband.

Your telecoms provider (for example Vodafone or BT) should contact you before the switchover to check in and discuss what you need to do to make sure any relevant services you may have aren't affected. However, we're encouraging everyone to know what to expect.

The change may be as simple as plugging your phone into your broadband router rather than the phone socket on the wall, or you may be given a new router to do this.

Please note that your provider will move you to a digital service before January 2027. If you care for a vulnerable person, please look out for correspondence about a switchover date.

If you have any concerns or questions, please contact your telecoms provider directly.

Do you or someone you know depend on their landline and/or use a telecare device connected to a phone line?

If yes, please contact your telecoms provider directly.

Other Devices

If you have other devices connected to your phone line that you may have purchased, such as alarm systems, you might need to upgrade your device to make sure it is compatible.

If you are unsure about how a device in your home or business might be affected, it is recommended you contact the equipment supplier or device manufacturer to find out whether it will remain functional on a digital phone line.

People who use health monitoring or telecare devices should check if the switchover will affect how they work.



Key Points to Remember

- If you have any queries or have no means of making emergency calls, you need to contact your communications provider. If you have a telecare alarm, please contact your telecoms provider directly.
- Check with the appropriate equipment manufacturers if you have any other devices supported by your existing telephone line (such as intruder alarms) to check it will work digitally.
- Most telecare alarm providers will have upgrade plans, if your phone line has or is due to be upgraded by your communication provider let the telecare alarm provider know.



In a Power Outage

Digital landlines cannot carry an electrical power connection, so in the event of a power cut they will not work. If you have a mobile phone this can still be used, but if you've no other means of calling emergency services your telecoms provider will offer a solution to allow calls to be made to emergency services.

You should tell your telecoms provider now if you have no other way of making emergency calls.

Scams

There have been incidents reported of scammers contacting vulnerable users in relation to digital migration. Communication providers or telecare services will never call you to ask for money.

Contact is usually by letter, and charges are only applied to normal invoices. If you are in any doubt as to the authenticity of a caller, just hang up and call your communications or telecare provider to report the incident, using a trusted phone number, such as the one on the bill.

THE INTERNATIONAL
AYR SHOW
FESTIVAL OF FLIGHT

GET SET FOR FAMILY FUN AT THE AIRSHOW FESTIVAL VILLAGE!

Mark your calendars for Friday 4 and Saturday 5 September! The International Ayr Show - Festival of Flight will return with entertainment for the whole family in our fabulous Festival Village.

A host of attractions throughout Ayr's Low Green are planned to keep crowds entertained in between the thrilling aerial displays.

The Festival Village opening hours* are:

FRIDAY 4 SEPTEMBER: 4:00 - 9:00PM WITH THE FAIRGROUND OPEN UNTIL 9:30PM

SATURDAY 5 SEPTEMBER: 12 NOON - 6:00PM WITH THE FAIRGROUND OPEN UNTIL 7.30PM

We've got some new action-packed attractions this year, with more to be announced! Thrill seekers will love our zip line – which is new for 2026 – as well as the ever-popular funfair. If you've ever wondered what it's like to fly a plane, why not try the Red Arrows simulator?

Another brand-new attraction is the drone soccer arena. This is the first of its kind in the UK and offers a unique opportunity for children and families to safely operate specialist "drone balls" inside a secure netted arena. Not just for fans of football, this hands-on activity is perfect for aviation and tech lovers alike as a way to engage with and learn about drone technology!

In the Family Zone, there's plenty to do for kids of all ages, including laser tag, zorb bubble football, mini Highland Games, mini bikes and track, a magic show, a dinosaur show, a circus workshop, Book Bug, and more! This year, we're pleased to welcome a new family attraction – the Cosmos Planetarium!

Visitors will be spoiled for choice with a wide selection of food and drink options** on offer, including ice cream vans throughout the festival, and our on-site bars.

In the Local Trade Village, you'll be able to browse a wide variety of market stalls selling goods from local vendors.** Why not take home a souvenir to remember the weekend? At our merchandise stalls, you can find International Ayr Show – Festival of Flight branded goods, plus our official programmes.

With an array of exhibitions on offer, there's something to satisfy all interests. The Ayrshire Classic Car Club, Ayrshire Radio Control Car Club, Scottish Fire Brigade Heritage Trust, Scottish

Aeromodellers Association, and Ayrshire Classic Motorcycle Club will be in attendance, showing off a range of classic vehicles – plus a Spitfire themed Jaguar XJ will be on display on the Low Green. The Royal Highland Fusiliers Museum and Solway Aviation Museum will also be bringing exhibits to the airshow.

In our returning Military Village, we'll have representatives from the Army, Navy and RAF.

We're especially pleased to welcome back our event charity partner – the Royal Air Force Benevolent Fund – to the Festival Village. The RAF Benevolent Fund is the RAF's longest-standing charity for serving and former RAF personnel and their families. Their marquee will be staffed by representatives from the charity who are available to tell festival goers more about the invaluable support the Fund provides.

Our popular STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics) Village will also return this year, with activities and representatives from the STEM sector to be announced.

Entry to the Festival Village at the International Ayr Show – Festival of Flight is free of charge however, charges may apply for some attractions, including the funfair and planetarium.

**Please note that opening times are subject to change*

***Applications for professional food, beverage and trade stalls will be announced in due course. Visit <https://destinationsouthayrshire.co.uk/ayrshow/> and keep an eye on Council and Destination South Ayrshire social media channels for updates.*



SAVE THE DATE!

THE INTERNATIONAL
AYR SHOW
FESTIVAL OF FLIGHT

AYR SHOREFRONT
FRIDAY 4 & SATURDAY 5
SEPTEMBER 2026



TROON WIN WEST OF SCOTLAND FOOTBALL LEAGUE FINAL

Troon Football Club played Auchinleck Talbot in the Strathclyde Demolition West of Scotland Football League Cup Final recently winning 1-0.

South Ayrshire Provost Iain Campbell attended the match to support and cheer on the South Ayrshire team; he also congratulated them on their win.



Educational Services



South Ayrshire Secondary Schools Compete in Modern Languages Football Competition

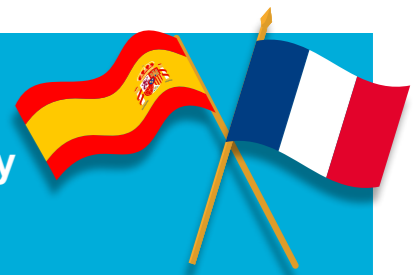
Young people from six South Ayrshire secondary schools showcased their talents in an exciting modern languages football competition. The annual event, held in collaboration with Ayr United Football Club was organised by the South Ayrshire 1+2 languages and South Ayrshire Reads teams.

S3 pupils from Queen Margaret Academy, Belmont Academy, Prestwick Academy, Marr College, Kyle Academy and Carrick Academy presented a video of football drills in French or Spanish to a panel of judges. Pupils also created their own virtual football teams and logo.

The young people presented their projects to podcaster and football fanatic, Sean McDonald, Ayr United representative Matthew Merry and South Ayrshire Read's representative, Sally Law.

Following the presentations, the winners were:

- Overall winner (French) – Marr College
- Best use of language (French) – Prestwick Academy
- Overall winner (Spanish) – Marr College
- Best use of language (Spanish) – Marr College



Congratulations to the winning teams and to everyone who took part in the event.



THE SOUTH AYRSHIRE Gift Card



SOUTH AYRSHIRE GIFT CARD

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South Ayrshire Council Customer Services

You can contact our Customer Services Team:

- 🌐 By logging on to the Council's website at south-ayrshire.gov.uk/contact-us
- ✉ By e-mailing CustomerServices@south-ayrshire.gov.uk
- ☎ By phone 0300 123 0900 (our contact centre is open 09.00 - 16.45 Monday to Thursday and 09.00 - 16.00 on Fridays)

If you can't manage your enquiry online or by phone, you can arrange a face-to-face appointment.

Face to face appointments are available at:

Where	When
Ayr Carnegie Library, 12 Main Street	Tuesdays, Wednesdays, Thursdays and Fridays
Troon Troon Library, South Beach	Tuesdays
Prestwick 2-6 The Cross, Prestwick	Wednesdays
Girvan Carrick Opportunities Centre, Henrietta Street	Thursdays
Maybole Maybole Library, 1 High Street	Fridays

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South Ayrshire Provost Celebrates Young Entrepreneurs with New Schools' Challenge

The first ever Provost's Enterprise and Innovation Challenge was held recently at Ayr Town Hall, showcasing the very best of South Ayrshire's entrepreneurial spirit!

Young people from across South Ayrshire secondary schools participated in the challenge set by Provost Iain Campbell – to come up with an innovative new product or service and present a pitch in front of a panel of judges.

The competition was tough, with all teams creating thoroughly researched proposals consisting of product overviews, market research, and financial projections with roles allocated to each team member, with the aim of convincing the judges to "invest".

The judging panel consisted of Provost Iain Campbell; Councillor William Grant, South Ayrshire Council's Policy Lead for Education and Lifelong Learning; Scott Mulholland, South Ayrshire Council's Director of Education; Lord Lieutenant Iona McDonald; and Lisa Nairn, President of Ayrshire Business Women, Non-Executive Director of A Scents of Scotland, and Chief People Officer for Teleperformance.

The overall winners were Queen Margaret Academy, with teams Marr College and Carrick Academy as the joint runners up. Congratulations to the winning teams and to all schools that took part in this year's challenge.



EVERY LEARNER EVERY DAY

Term time is learning time

Every day lost is an opportunity missed

St Patrick's Primary Celebrate FairAchiever Award Success

St Patrick's Primary School in Troon are thrilled to have retained the prestigious FairAchiever Award from Fairtrade for the 13th year in a row.

This award marks the highest level of achievements in the Fairtrade Schools programme and is testament to the school's commitment to sustainable consumption through Fairtrade sourcing and raising awareness of Fairtrade in the local community.

The award supports pupils in developing invaluable skills including teamwork, critical thinking and communication by participating in outreach activities to promote Fairtrade values beyond the school setting.



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south ayrshire
health & social care
partnership

Connect South Ayrshire Expands its Reach with New Community Hub in Prestwick

The South Ayrshire Health and Social Care Partnership (HSCP) and Voluntary Action South Ayrshire (VASA) are delighted to announce the expansion of Connect South Ayrshire with the opening of a brand new community hub in Prestwick.

Following the launch of the first hub in Ayr town centre in 2024 and their Maybole hub earlier this year, the Prestwick hub marks the next step in a joint approach to providing South Ayrshire residents with easier access to information, advice, and wellbeing support.

Located at Freemans Hall, 2-4 The Cross, Prestwick, the new venue is designed to be a one stop shop for the community, combining statutory, healthcare, and voluntary services under one roof. The Prestwick hub will follow the successful model established in Ayr, offering a welcoming space where residents can drop in for information on wellbeing, social opportunities, and practical support.

Mirroring the Ayr model, the Prestwick hub will host a rotating weekly programme of partner organisations. This collaborative approach ensures that visitors can connect with various services ranging from VASA and HSCP teams to local third-sector partners all in one familiar location.

The Prestwick hub will be open to the public four days a week: Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, and Friday. The Freemans Hall building will continue to be used by South Ayrshire Council's Customer Service Team for face-to-face appointments on Wednesdays.

You can also access Connect South Ayrshire services, by phone or on their website:

Call the free phonenumber: 0800 432 0510

Visit the website: www.connectsouthayrshire.org



Two Ayrshire Couples Celebrate 60 Years of Marriage

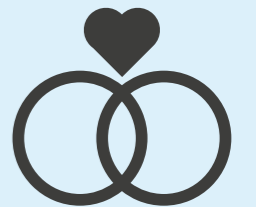
John and Valerie Blackwood and Francis and Sarah Devlin both celebrated their diamond wedding anniversaries recently.



John and Valerie, both originally from East Renfrewshire, first met through the church choir. The couple now live happily in Dundonald and have 1 son and 2 granddaughters. They were visited by Depute Provost Mary Kilpatrick who presented them with an engraved paperweight to mark this momentous anniversary.



Francis, originally from Troon, met and married wife Sarah in her hometown of Ayr. The happy couple have four children and nine grandchildren. Depute Provost Mary Kilpatrick visited the couple at their home in Ayr and presented them with a bouquet of flowers to congratulate them on 60 years of marriage.



Immerse Yourself in History with Ayrshire Archives

Ayrshire Archives plays a vital role in preserving and providing access to the area's rich local history, supporting research, learning and community connection.

Did you know:

- The oldest record held dates back to 1205, signed by King William the Lion
- Users travel from across the world to access Ayrshire's collections
- Records are held not only from the Ayrshire councils, but also from local businesses, clubs, societies and families



If you're interested in local history, find out more about the Ayrshire Archives at:

<https://ayrshirearchives.org.uk/>

Ayrshire Archives is a pan-Ayrshire service funded by East, North and South Ayrshire Councils.

Follow Ayrshire Archives on Facebook @AyrshireArchive



International Workers Memorial Day



South Ayrshire Provost Iain Campbell laid a floral tribute at a memorial bench in Rozelle Park in Ayr to mark International Workers' Memorial Day 2026.

International Workers Memorial Day commemorates all workers who have lost their lives to workplace illness or injury.

This global initiative is also an opportunity to promote health and safety and minimise workplace incidents, many of which are preventable.

Connect with Nature this Summer

This summer, begin exploring the great outdoors and the breathtaking spaces we have right here on our doorstep in South Ayrshire with the help of our seasonal calendars.

Our 'Green Health' and 'Blue Health' calendars serve as a monthly guide offering a range of suggestions to embrace nature either by exploring our spectacular green spaces or interacting with water and our impressive blue spaces.

These seasonal calendars support health and wellbeing by supporting individuals to connect with nature either in person or from the comfort of your own home.

Learn more about our species of the month, take part in our doorstep challenge and enjoy connecting with nature.

View our Summer Health Calendars online by scanning the QR codes.



Provost Celebrates Planting of Peace Seeds

Provost Campbell accompanied school pupils from across South Ayrshire as they planted special ginkgo tree saplings in Ayr, Prestwick, Troon, Maybole and Girvan.

The ginkgo seeds were donated as a gift by Mayors for Peace, an international organisation bringing together cities and places dedicated to the promotion of peace. They were handed over by the Consul-General of Japan, Daisuke Matsunaga during a special ceremony held in 2018. The seeds originated from trees in Hiroshima which survived the atomic bombing of the city in 1945 and have since been nurtured at Belleisle Conservatory until they were ready for planting.



New Nature Focussed Project



South Ayrshire Council's Ranger Service recently launched a brand-new nature focussed project known as 'Stepping Stones'.

The project celebrates the inspiring ways local people have undertaken various nature focussed projects to create greenspaces that help facilitate ecological connectivity and aims to inform people of what's happening in the local area.

The project tells the story of 12 different groups who have been creating nature rich greenspaces within their local communities. The inspirational work led by the groups includes tree planting, improving outdoor learning areas to support nature, creating wildflower meadows and establishing food growing areas.

To promote the work of the groups, a booklet titled 'Underfoot' has been created and is one of many booklets which will be released during 2026 that will provide information, share best practice and give inspiration on ways people can get involved. Copies of the 'Underfoot' booklet can be picked up from any South Ayrshire library location.

Here are the stories of 3 groups involved in the Stepping Stones project including Coylton Primary School, Rozelle Wetlands and Carnegie Library.

COYLTON PRIMARY SCHOOL

Supporting nature is key to Coylton's new community garden and outdoor classroom in the school's playground. The school is giving nature a chance to flourish, adding a vital refuge for wildlife in the patchwork of different land uses found in the nearby countryside.



ROZELLE WETLANDS

Volunteers at Rozelle made a valuable contribution to South Ayrshire's wildlife when they transformed a damp, overlooked field into a valuable wetland hotspot. By scraping away the grass with a digger, a range of different depths in the boggy soil were created - from shallow edges to deeper water - creating a habitat perfect for frogs and dragonflies.

A mix of plants around the sides now provides hiding and nesting places for birds too. Even in hot, dry summers, deeper pools will still hold water, so wildlife always has somewhere to go.



CARNEGIE LIBRARY

In 2026, Carnegie Library's community gardening club invited people with no gardening experience, or no outdoor space of their own, to help create a shared green space. Previously, the library's garden consisted of bare lawn and was described as "a bit ecologically dead". With support from Green Libraries funding, this forgotten patch has been transformed into a flourishing hub for biodiversity, wellbeing and social connection.



If you would like to get involved or find out more about the Stepping Stones project, please email the South Ayrshire Ranger Service at ranger.service@south-ayrshire.gov.uk



SOUTH AYRSHIRE GOLF FESTIVAL 2026

TROON WEEKENDER

FRIDAY 28 - SUNDAY 30 AUGUST

LOCHGREEN, DARLEY & FULLARTON

MEMBERS £40 / £50 VISITORS

3 ROUNDS*



FRIDAY 28 AUGUST 2026

STABLEFORD OPEN COMPETITION* on Darley
CHARLES BUCHANAN VETERAN SHIELD on Lochgreen
LADIES TRIAM COMPETITION - on Fullarton

SATURDAY 29 AUGUST 2026

STROKEPLAY COMPETITION ROUND 1* on Lochgreen
MIXED FOURSOMES on Fullarton

SUNDAY 30 AUGUST 2026

STROKEPLAY COMPETITION ROUND 2* on Darley
TROON JUNIOR STROKEPLAY OPEN on Lochgreen
JUNIOR FLAG COMPETITION on Fullarton



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Learn2Gymnastics

From first tumbles to confident flips, our Learn2Gymnastics programme invites children aged 2.5 to 16 years to discover the thrill of gymnastics in an environment designed just for them. With spaces now available, this is the perfect time to join a programme where fun comes first, confidence grows, and every child feels supported.

Our sessions are vibrant, welcoming, and expertly coached, focusing on safe skill development, active play, and plenty of smiles along the way. Whether your child is taking their very first steps into gymnastics or looking to stay active and build new skills, Learn2Gymnastics offers a friendly, inclusive, and inspiring space where they can move, learn, and shine.

Scan the QR code to find out more.



Full Fitness Membership – only £31 per month

Take advantage of our Full Fitness Membership for only £31 per month.

- ✓ No joining fees
- ✓ No contract
- ✓ Free Tailored Programme
- ✓ Why wait – join now!

Scan the QR code to join online or speak to a member of staff at one of our facilities for more information.



Access to all sites:

- Citadel Leisure Centre
- Maybole Leisure Club
- Prestwick Leisure Club
- Riverside Sports Arena
- Community Fitness Hubs at Muirhead Activity Centre & Whitletts Activity Centre
- ★ Unlimited gym access
- ★ Unlimited Fitness Classes - standard and premium classes
- ★ Unlimited Swimming (includes General and Lane swimming)
- ★ Indoor and Outdoor Track Hire
- ★ 50% off Court Hire



Lifeguard Courses Now Available!

Are you looking for a rewarding role where you can build skills, gain qualifications, and help keep your community safe? Our Lifeguard Courses are now open for booking!

- ✓ Nationally recognised qualification
- ✓ Develop lifesaving skills & confidence
- ✓ Great pathway into employment

In South Ayrshire, water safety is more important than ever. Every year, preventable incidents occur in and around water — and being prepared can save lives. By training as a lifeguard, you're not only investing in yourself, you're helping to promote drown prevention and safer communities for everyone.

Whether you're starting your career or looking for a new challenge, this is your chance to make a real impact.

Scan the QR code to view the full list of 2026 available course dates.





SOUTH AYRSHIRE GOLF FESTIVAL 2026

GIRVAN GOLF CLASSIC

FRIDAY 25 - SUNDAY 27 SEPTEMBER

MEMBERS £35/£40 VISITORS

3 ROUNDS



FRIDAY 25 SEPTEMBER

1ST ROUND STROKEPLAY on Girvan Golf Course

SATURDAY 26 SEPTEMBER

2ND ROUND STROKEPLAY on Girvan Golf Course

SUNDAY 27 SEPTEMBER

3RD ROUND STROKEPLAY on Girvan Golf Course



Enter via the QR code or
www.golfgenius.com/ggid/hs9aqn

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South Ayrshire Libraries

Summer Fun for all the Family

Our library teams have been busy welcoming customers into a whole range of new digital workshops - discovering everything from hidden gems in our online catalogue to mastering scanning and printing; and even diving into our brilliant free library apps PressReader and Libby.

We're now excited to open these free sessions up to local groups. If your organisation or group would be interested, we'd love to hear from you. Send an email to carnegie.library@south-ayrshire.gov.uk with the subject line 'SAL at SAC'.

Go All In!

From 1 July to 31 August, South Ayrshire Libraries invite children and families to Go All In for a season of stories, creativity and fun - families can enjoy a mix of reading challenges and active events across all branches.

Every child who signs up receives a Welcome Pack with a stamp card, stickers, a bookmark and activity sheets to kick start their summer adventure.

Libraries will be hosting **Active Bookbugs, Active Story Times and Active Craft sessions**. Children earn a stamp each time they return books and after four library visits each child will receive a gift to celebrate their reading success!



Commonwealth Games Fans

Join us on Saturday 1 August for family-friendly Commonwealth Games activities, games and excitement at Carnegie, Girvan, Troon and Prestwick Libraries. Look out in libraries and online for more details.



Cutty Sark Centre **What's On This Summer**

Where to find us:

The Cutty-Sark Centre, 40 High Street, Ayr KA7 1PA

What's on	Date & Time	More Information
Pageant Tuesday's	Every Tuesday 12:30pm - 4.00pm	Revisit the Pageant of Ayr with arts, crafts and archery!
Commonwealth Thursday's	Every Thursday 12:30pm - 4:00pm	Sports themed crafts and activities for Commonwealth Thursdays including Boccia, New Age Curling, archery and darts!
Farmers Market & Coastal Artisans Creatives Market	Saturday 4 July 9am - 3:30pm	The best of fresh produce from local suppliers in this outdoor market. Indoors, find that ideal unique gift with artists, jewellers and crafters.
Live Outdoor Painting for Teens with Holly Bates	Wednesday 8 July and Thursday 9 July 12:30pm - 4:00pm	Bring along your sketchpad and get helpful tips on how to paint outdoors with Holly Bates. 12 - 19 year old.
BODYWORKS	Saturday 11 July 10:30am - 3:00pm	Glasgow Science Centre brings its touring exhibition BODYWORKS
Cosmos Planetarium	Wednesday 15 July 10:30am - 4:00pm	Explore the mysteries of the night sky with Cosmos Planetarium
Vintage & Vinyl Market	Saturday 18 July 10:30am - 4:00pm	Re-stock your vinyl collection with our vinyl record market
Reweave Character Sculptures	Friday 24 July - Thursday 29 July 10:30am - 4:00pm	Help reweave 3 of the character sculptures from our Story Stroll in Rozelle Park
Farmers Market & Coastal Artisans Creative Market	Saturday 1 August 9am - 3:30pm	The best of fresh produce from local suppliers in this outdoor market. Indoors, find that ideal unique gift with artists, jewellers and crafters.
Panto!	Saturday 4 August - Sunday 16 August 12:30pm – 4:00pm Midweek & Sunday 10:00am – 4:00pm Saturday	Costumes from Pantos at The Gaiety Theatre

For our busy calendar of markets and events, or to keep up to date with what's on, visit us online:

-  @thegrainexchange
-  @thegrainexchangeayr
-  @grain_exchange
-  thegrainexchange.co.uk
-  destinationsouthayrshire.co.uk/cutty-sark-centre

Museums & Galleries

Exciting New Exhibitions at Rozelle House and the McKechnie Institute

This summer, South Ayrshire's Museum and Gallery service has an exciting programme of new exhibitions and activities on offer.



Rozelle House Museum and Galleries, Rozelle Park, Monument Road Ayr KA7 4NQ

Opening Hours: Monday to Saturday: 10am - 5pm
Sunday: 12noon - 5pm
Free Entry



Celebrating Together

With Frances Walker and Ade Adesina at Rozelle House
20th June - 13th September 2026

In 2026 the Royal Scottish Academy celebrates its 200th anniversary with RSA200: Celebrating

Together. This partnership project will bring hundreds of artists, partners, galleries and institutions together for an extraordinary year of exhibitions, events and performances.

The museum and gallery service of South Ayrshire Council is taking part and the exhibition at Rozelle House celebrates two prominent Royal Scottish Academy artists, Frances Walker RSA and Ade Adesina RSA, as part of the RSA200 national programme.

The exhibition will feature one-of-a-kind artwork on loan from the Royal Scottish Academy as well as several other collections across Scotland.

Our guest artists both work with themes of environment & landscape, and work predominantly with printmaking in their works.

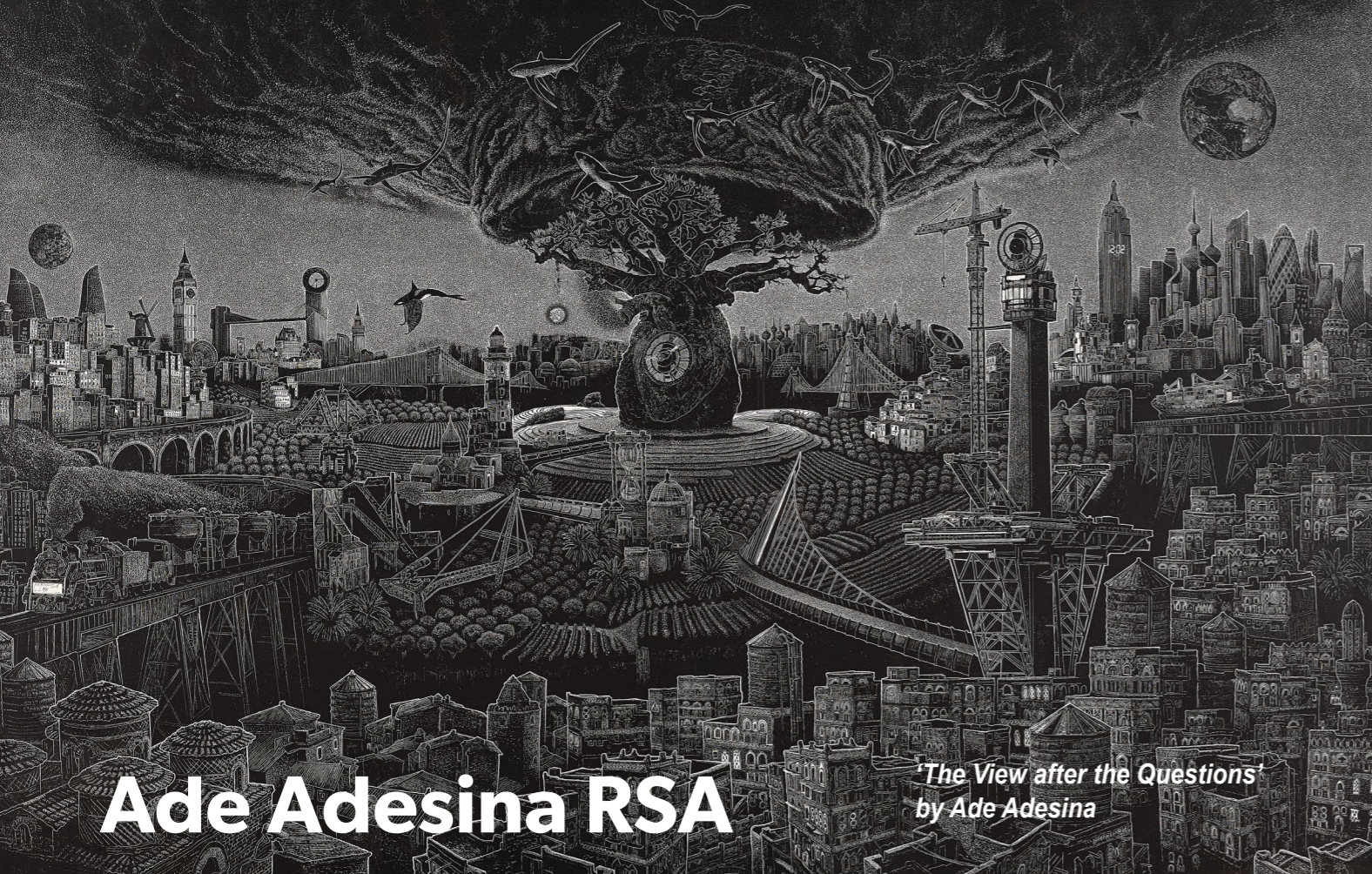
About the artists



Frances Walker RSA

'Coastal Glimpses' is a series of works featuring the Ayrshire coastline, made in the mid-Nineties by Frances Walker for Ayr Hospital, though it is not in any local collections. Rozelle House is delighted to be able to show the entirety of the series for the first time since its initial creation, alongside other loaned works by the artist from several collections across Scotland. A newly commissioned edition of posters will be specially created for the exhibition in collaboration with Peacock Studios and will be available for sale at the gallery.

'Achmelvich Landscape', Image from Peacock Visual Arts



Ade Adesina RSA

*'The View after the Questions'
by Ade Adesina*

This will be the first time RSA Academician, Ade Adesina, RGI, RE, LG, will be showing work in the region. Adesina produces exceptionally detailed, large scale print works with themes of environment and global concerns. He combines depictions of objects, places and scenes from both his African heritage and British culture through traditional printmaking techniques. Ade visited the galleries in spring during the development of the project.

A new edition of prints has been specially commissioned and created for the exhibition and will be available for purchase at Rozelle House.

Fun for all the family

Rozelle House will be hosting fun and free activities relating to the artwork themes and content, such as a family friendly exhibition trails, and hosted lino print workshop sessions for adults and children. The gallery will also be facilitating the production of a public participatory art project for all to enjoy. Keep an eye on the Destination South Ayrshire website for more information!



SCAN ME!



McKechnie Institute Dalrymple Street, Girvan KA26 9AE

Opening Hours: Tuesday, Thursday and Friday: 1pm – 4pm,
Wednesday: 1.30pm – 4.30pm, Saturday: 10.30am – 4pm

From Tuesday 14th July 2026

This summer at The McKechnie Institute, the gallery will host a new exhibition as part of 'Our Freedom: Then and Now' project, led by Future Arts Centres.

OUR FREEDOM: THEN & NOW

The touring programme is a vibrant photography exhibition that brings together images from 60 locally-led projects from across the UK, marking 80 years since the end of the Second World War. A nationwide portrait of people, place and belonging, this exhibition reveals communities' thoughtful and varied take on freedom.

The exhibition features images taken by Anneleen Lindsay, official photographer of the local project 'Our Freedom Song', delivered in 2025 by the Museum and Gallery service, created at the McKechnie Institute, Girvan, as part of the national programme. This will feature portraits of project collaborators from Girvan and District Great War Project.

'Oor Freedom Song' by Sacred Heart Primary



Anneleen Lindsay





Royal Air Force Benevolent Fund

“The Fund futureproofed our home for our family”

When John Wright and his wife Mary were told by doctors to take their son Lewis home and love him, they did just that, not knowing how long they would have him. Now, 16 years on, Lewis still requires 24/7 care and support to allow him to safely engage with his family and surroundings – all of which has been made easier due to the support provided by the RAF Benevolent Fund.

Lewis was born with severe epilepsy, limited mobility, learning disabilities, autism and several other serious conditions. Against the odds, Lewis fought through. By the time he was two, his seizures had been brought under control, although he still needed constant care.

When the family’s home, in Dunfermline, Fife, needed major adaptations they couldn’t afford, John – then serving in the RAF – turned to the Fund for support. The Fund provided the home adaptations Lewis needed as he grew, including adapting the garage into a safe bedroom, along with a fully accessible bathroom.

The rest of their home was also made more accessible, opening up the living room and dining room to make the space big enough for Lewis’ wheelchair. The family’s life was transformed.

John said: “Before we had the changes made to the house, if Lewis was playing in his bedroom upstairs, you had to be there with him. Now, we can relax while Lewis is playing because he is safe downstairs.”

John worked as an IT/Electronic Engineer in the RAF completing just shy of 29 years of service. Since retiring in 2019, John joined Police Scotland in an IT Support role, where he can work from home which allows him to more easily assist Mary, who is a full-time carer for Lewis, and there for their youngest son Joe.

In 2020, the Fund provided a grant for Lewis’s electric wheelchair to replace his manual chair, which was difficult for him to propel at times and very tiring. In 2024, the Fund provided a further grant to upgrade him to an adult-sized chair as Lewis grew into a young man, and this new chair will provide lifelong support to him.

John said: “The chair was amazing



and meant Lewis could have that little bit of independence and control as we no longer had to wheel him. It helped him to engage more in what was around him too.”

John is proud of his RAF career, with Mary also having served for 12 years. Between them both, and their family’s service background, they have accrued over 100 years in the military.

John became a Fund Ambassador in 2025, sharing his experiences in support of the RAF Family and the wider work of the Fund. He said: “We received an enormous amount of support from the Fund. They futureproofed our home for us as a family and it is really coming into its own.

“These lifechanging adjustments have made our lives a lot easier. It is important that I can now give back and raise awareness of the help available to support anybody who may need it. If the Fund can help my family, then they can help you.”



Royal Air Force Benevolent Fund

We’re here to support you



Whether you’ve served in the RAF for a day or decades, as a Regular or Reserve, we’re here for you and your family with:

- Financial assistance
- Emotional wellbeing support
- Family and relationship support
- Mobility and home adaptations
- Welfare breaks

Find out more:
rafbf.org/ayrshire

Call our helpline:
0300 102 1919



Scan me with your camera



The RAF Benevolent Fund is a registered charity in England and Wales (1081009) and Scotland (SC038109). Eligibility criteria apply, visit our website for more details.

An Update from Trading Standards and Environmental Health

A New Chapter for Consumer Advice Services in South Ayrshire

Residents across South Ayrshire will soon benefit from an important change in how initial consumer advice is delivered.

In a few months, the first point of contact for consumer enquiries will move from council funded Trading Standards teams to Advice Direct Scotland, the national service funded by the Scottish Government.

This shift marks a significant step toward creating a more consistent, accessible, and modern advice system for residents in Scotland. While the way you access initial support is changing, the commitment to protecting consumers within South Ayrshire remains as strong as ever.

What this means for you

Advice Direct Scotland - which runs the service consumeradvice.scot - will now provide the first layer of help for issues such as faulty goods, misleading claims, online purchases, scams, and general consumer rights queries.

Their service is free and impartial, nationally consistent, easy to access, and staffed from Monday to Friday 9am - 5pm.



Trading Standards is still here for complex issues

Your local Trading Standards team remains a vital part in consumer protection and will still be here to assist. When a case requires enforcement action, specialist investigation or additional support with unresolved civil disputes, Advice Direct Scotland will refer it directly to the Trading Standards team for consideration.

How to Access the New Service

Anyone seeking consumer advice should contact Advice Direct Scotland as their first port of call. Their advisers can guide you through your rights, help you take the next steps, and escalate matters to Trading Standards when necessary.

Advice Direct Scotland can be contacted on the following details or by scanning the QR Code:

Telephone **0808 164 6000**

Email Contact form on the website below

Website www.consumeradvice.scot/contact/



If you have an on-going Trading Standards complaint which an officer from South Ayrshire Trading Standards is dealing with, then you can still contact the officer via the main Council telephone line on 0300 123 0900 or by emailing trading.standards@south-ayrshire.gov.uk

Free Food Allergen Training



Free online allergen training is available from Food Standards Scotland.

The training increases awareness of allergens in catering and manufacturing environments. It is intended for food business operators and local authority enforcement officers but may also be useful for anyone wishing to learn more about food allergies.

If you are interested, please scan the QR code for more details.



SCAN ME!



South Ayrshire Council provides a pest control service delivered by a fully trained officer.

The service can help with:



To find out more, including reporting a problem and costs, please scan the QR code.

This Summer Get Involved with the Galloway and Southern Ayrshire Biosphere

Recent months have seen exciting progress in community conservation activities coordinated by the Galloway & Southern Ayrshire Biosphere Partnership working alongside Environmental Non-Governmental Organisations (eNGOs) and local wildlife enthusiasts.

South Ayrshire residents have been training in red squirrel recording, and are helping identify sites with colonies of swifts, so that these can be monitored and swift boxes installed. These citizen science volunteers have an important role in generating new ecological data for South Ayrshire that will be useful to researchers and conservationists for decades to come.

Summer event programme

The Biosphere's summer event programme is well underway offering walks, talks and workshops, all free to attend and bookable on Eventbrite by scanning the QR code.



One of the Biosphere's most interesting new collaborations is with Swiss University ETH Zurich with whom they are co-hosting a series of interactive workshops titled 'Negotiating Stinchar Landscapes'.

These sessions are part of a wider project to develop a community-led nature restoration plan for the River Stinchar catchment but also aim to create space for anyone connected to the Stinchar to help shape a vision for its future.

Marketing and Sustainability Advice

South Ayrshire businesses, attractions and event organisers looking for new ways to increase visibility this summer and beyond can access support through the GSA Biosphere Partnership.

Marketing and sustainability advice is available at zero cost through their expert officer team. Businesses and events can join award-winning accreditation schemes and have the opportunity to take part in promotional campaigns through press features and journalist visits, and collaborative marketing with partners such as VisitScotland.

Applications are always open with details at www.gsabiosphere.org.uk, or email Business Development Officer Jake McLaughlan via jake@gsabiosphere.org.uk.

Look out too for the Biosphere's Proud Supporter Networker coming up on 29 July, and its Ayrshire Accreditation Holders' Networker on 17 September.

Ayrshire Small Scale Tree Planting Programme

If you are moved and inspired by the early summer beauty of the UNESCO Biosphere's landscapes, and know of marginal, unused or derelict land which could be transformed with a few native trees, why not apply for a grant through the Ayrshire Small Scale Tree Planting Programme.

Planting season starts in autumn and applying early gives plenty of time for site visits and planning, and more opportunity to organise volunteer planting events, which can be a great way to get whole communities involved.

Grants up to £1,000 cover trees, guards, and labour costs for some applicants, and the scheme is particularly accessible for local projects and community groups who would like to enhance small pockets of green space. For more information email Nature Recovery Officer Antoine Lemaire at antoine@gsabiosphere.org.uk.

The GSA Biosphere Partnership is a registered Scottish charity (SC044137) which receives core funding from South of Scotland Enterprise and three local authorities including South Ayrshire Council. Red squirrel activities are made possible by the National Lottery Heritage Fund which is supporting a network of conservation organisations across the south of Scotland and northern England; new volunteers are always welcome. The Ayrshire Small Scale Tree Planting Programme is funded by South Ayrshire Council, the Woodland Trust, Scottish Forestry, and Land Energy.



Ayrshire Cancer Support Drop-In Centre

A warm, friendly environment



**AYRSHIRE
CANCER
SUPPORT**
We're here for you

Whether you're looking for information on cancer, a place to relax, or support during treatment, Ayrshire Cancer Support are here to help.

Their cancer support centres offer a welcoming, informal space where you can drop in without an appointment. You can meet a member of their support team, find out more about the services they offer, or simply take some time to relax in their Ayr or Kilmarnock centre and outdoor spaces.



"It was great to be able to pop in and speak to a friendly face. I know the service is there, and that I can drop in and out if I need to."

Daily

Monday-Friday,
09:00 - 17:00

No Booking Required

Locations:

7 Prestwick Rd, Ayr KA8 8LD
5 Dundonald Rd, Kilmarnock KA1 1EQ

Destination South Ayrshire

Dunure Castle. Image credit: Colin Hyslop Photography

Discover, explore and enjoy South Ayrshire with ideas delivered direct to your inbox

- ✓ Free quarterly **Newsletter** packed full of inspiration and insider knowledge to enjoy our beautiful region all year round
- ✓ Free monthly **What's On** bulletin highlighting entertainment and events across South Ayrshire

SCAN ME



Sign up for the latest news and events from South Ayrshire Council's Tourism Team
destinationsouthayrshire.co.uk/mailling-list



Destination
South Ayrshire

south
AYRSHIRE
COUNCIL
Comhairle Siorrachd Àir a Deas
Making a Difference Every Day

01563 538008

www.ayrshirecs.org

This information can be made available, on request, in braille, large print or audio formats and can be translated into a range of languages. Contact details are provided below.

درخواست کرنے پر یہ معلومات نابینا افراد کے لئے ابھرے حروف، بڑے حروف یا آڈیو میں مہیا کی جاسکتی ہے اور اسکا مختلف زبانوں میں ترجمہ بھی کیا جاسکتا ہے۔ رابطہ کی تفصیلات نیچے فراہم کی گئی ہیں۔

本信息可应要求提供盲文，大字印刷或音频格式，以及可翻译成多种语言。以下是详细联系方式。

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ਇਹ ਜਾਣਕਾਰੀ ਮੰਗ ਕੇ ਬੋਲ, ਵੱਡੇ ਅੱਖਰਾਂ ਅਤੇ ਸਣਨ ਵਾਲੇ ਰਪ ਵਿਚ ਵੀ ਲਈ ਜਾ ਸਕਦੀ ਹੈ, ਅਤੇ ਇਹਦਾ ਤਰਜਮਾ ਹੋਰ ਬੋਲੀਆਂ ਵਿਚ ਵੀ ਕਰਵਾਇਆ ਜਾ ਸਕਦਾ ਹੈ। ਸੰਪਰਕ ਕਰਨ ਲਈ ਜਾਣਕਾਰੀ ਹੇਠਾਂ ਦਿੱਤੀ ਗਈ ਹੈ।

Niniejsze informacje mogą zostać udostępnione na życzenie, w alfabecie Braille'a, w druku powiększonym lub w formacie audio oraz mogą zostać przetłumaczone na wiele języków obcych. Dane kontaktowe znajdują się poniżej.

Faodar am fiosrachadh seo fhaighinn, le iarrtas, ann am braille, clò mòr no clàr fuaim agus tha e comasach eadar-theangachadh gu grunn chànanan. Tha fiosrachadh gu h-ìosal mu bhith a' cur fios a-steach.

South Ayrshire Council
Contact Centre
0300123 0900