



New Faces at A' The Airts!



A' the Airts
8 - 12 High Street
SANQUHAR
DG4 6BL

T: 01659 50514

E: contact@all-the-airts.com

Web - www.all-the-airts.com

An exhibition of hand and machine embroidered masks will be on show at A' The Airts from 9th June to 4th July. These masks were a group project by members of Dumfries & District Embroiderers' Guild and were created to showcase in the stairwell at Gracefield in Dumfries. They were part of the Guild's tri-ennial exhibition held in partnership with the Dumfries & Galloway Guild of Spinners and the Solway Quilters. The 2012 exhibition was called "A Trio of Textiles"

There is a wide variety of stitches, techniques and fabrics used to bring these faces to life. On the left is a very small sample of the works which will be on display.

This is the first time the project has been displayed outside Dumfries and it gives a chance to see some of the amazing ideas and stitchery behind each mask.

There's a face for everyone!

Saturday 9th June to Wednesday 4th July.

Free admission

Next Issue:

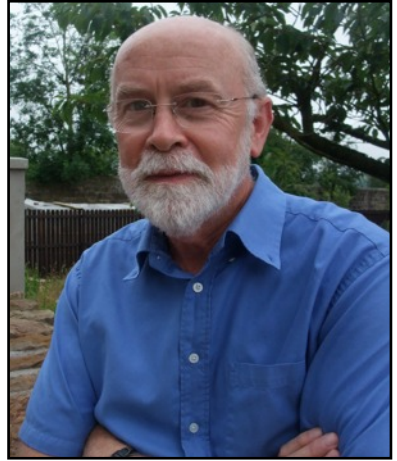
Autumn 2012



View from the Chair

It has been very pleasing to watch the progress being made at A' the Airts over the last few months. We are becoming better known - more people are visiting us, attending events, groups or classes, which, happily, means that the word is spreading about all the great things that are happening in the centre. We have certainly found that the best form of advertising is word of mouth and, hopefully, things like this newsletter you are reading now. If you have not been in the building yet then do make a point of popping in when you next are passing or have some free time. You will always be very welcome and it costs nothing to have a wander around to get an idea of what is happening. You may well find something is going on that interests you, or you can always make a suggestion which will help us to plan future activities for the community. Café Airtisans is becoming a popular meeting place and is a friendly environment to relax and contemplate what is happening in the centre.

I am glad to say we have been recently successful in acquiring some new funding for next year.



Without this we could not continue to operate, and identifying funders and making applications is always necessary in an enterprise like ours. We are also always having to constantly improve the facilities in the building (for example our recently fitted new film screen and better ventilation in the café), which will allow people of all ages in our community to enjoy and take part in our various activities. Have you checked out the 'What's On' section yet? If not, please have a look. We have lots of great things lined up! I hope you enjoy our Newsletter and I look forward to seeing you at A' the Airts.

Iain Baker

Chair, Upper Nithsdale Arts and Crafts Community Initiative.



A' the Airts

Your Community!

Your Arts Centre!

MANAGER'S UPDATE

Hello everyone. For those who don't already know me, my name is Anne Foley and I am the Manager here at A' the Airts. I do hope that all of you will take some time to read our new Spring/Summer newsletter. We now hope to circulate one of these twice a year to let the communities of Upper Nithsdale and surrounding areas know what has been going on at A' the Airts and what we have planned for you. If you haven't visited A' the Airts before, please pop in and have a coffee in Café Airtisans or have a look around our shop or our gallery on the top floor. Personally, I am really pleased to see that our Arts and Crafts Groups which we started earlier this year are proving to be a fantastic success (see our item about them!). The growing popularity of these groups and the diverse range of local people of all ages that they are attracting is most encouraging. I have also been really heartened recently to see more young people approaching us to ask about volunteering. They all seem to be really enthusiastic! We would like more young people to use the facilities in the centre, so please pop in to see us if you have any ideas about what we can do for you.

I would like to say a heartfelt thanks to everyone who has supported A' the Airts

over the last few months – particularly our committed team of volunteers, who have provided Catriona Dickie and me with invaluable support with the day to day running of the Centre, our Board members for their advice and guidance and our faithful customers and audiences. We couldn't manage without you.

I would also like to express my appreciation to all the local businesses who have agreed to advertise in this publication or to provide sponsorship, helping to make this newsletter a reality. Please remember that A' the Airts is **YOUR** community arts centre and we would like to hear from people from all sections of the community, young or old, about what you would like to see going on here. We depend on your support and input.

Finally, for all you internet users, don't forget to keep up to date with everything that's going on by visiting our website - www.all-the-airts.com - add it to your "favourites" toolbar! If you have a smart phone, the new QR code on the front page will take you directly to the site. Hope you enjoy reading our newsletter!

Anne Foley, Manager, A' the Airts

Nita's Legacy to A' the Airts



A' the Airts recently became the proud owner of a beautiful quilted collage, which is now on display in the centre's craft shop. The wall hanging was kindly donated by the family of the late Nita Richmond, who sadly died a few years ago. Nita was a skilled artist who lived and worked in Upper Nithsdale and was highly regarded throughout Dumfries and Galloway.

Her family believe that Nita was creating the collage for the planned new arts centre before it opened, and the work was subsequently passed on to Alison Thomson, one of the co-founders of A' the Airts, who made arrangements for

local craftswoman Dorothy Dennis to complete a few unfinished parts.

There has been considerable debate about the theme of this intriguing work of art, particularly regarding the central "harlequinesque" character, but it is widely believed that it is supposed to encapsulate the very essence of A' the Airts, incorporating art, crafts, performance and entertainment alongside references to the Upper Nithsdale landscapes and (perhaps) the local passion for horse riding – very apt!

Please pop into the shop and have a proper look at it.

NEW ARTS AND CRAFTS GROUPS AT A' THE AIRTS!

From January, we have added to our programme of Arts and Crafts groups for the local community. These are social, self-supporting groups where people with similar interests can meet and share ideas. Each 2 hour session costs £2.00 and you don't have to commit to coming every time. Please telephone 01659 50514 for more details and to find out availability of places.



ART GROUP:

Our new art group, uses a range of mediums, and takes place on Thursdays, 1.30 - 3.30 pm. It is suitable for complete beginners who

want to learn from others and more experienced artists who want to paint with others and share ideas.

The Thursday Art Group comprises people of all ages with a wide range of abilities. This group is led by one of our volunteers, Heather Sweetland, who is a retired art teacher and provides the group with valuable guidance. There are some members of the Group who have painted for many years and others who have not painted since they were at school. Many are enjoying painting in watercolour, learning the skills to produce competent and exciting paintings; others are pursuing their own interests using oils, gouache, felt tip and pencil.

Due its popularity, this group is currently full, but if there is enough interest we can arrange to have more day-time sessions.



SANQUHAR POETRY GROUP:

This well-established poetry group, which covers the whole of Upper Nithsdale, now meets in A' the Airts on the first Tuesday of every month at 7.00 pm. Most of members are keen amateurs, so if you are interested in either reading or writing poetry, please come and join us! If you want more information, please telephone Sandra on 01659 50891

DRAMA GROUP:

Every second Tuesday night, the Airts is the base for the fantastic young and not so young actors of Upper Nithsdale to express their talent. Through games and workshops, we help the development of their acting skills. We explore acting technique in a fun and exciting way. Our goal is to produce a piece which will retell the best stories Sanquhar has to offer. If you are interested just come along at 7 every second Tuesday. For further information, contact **Tel: 01659 50514**



"FIRST PAINT YOUR SKY"

**COBALT BLUE – BURNT SIENNA – YELLOW OCHRE;
A JAMJAR FULL OF CLEAN WATER;
A BRUSH; AND A SHEET OF BLANK PAPER.
MIX THE PAINTS AND APPLY.
MAGIC!**

JC, 2012



KNITTING GROUP:

Our knitting group, which meets on Mondays from 2.00 to 4.00 pm is now well established but new members are always welcome. Bring along what you're working on, have a chat and a cup of tea or coffee and share tips and ideas!



NEW ARTS AND CRAFTS GROUPS AT A' THE AIRTS!

Cont from page 5



PHOTOGRAPHY GROUP:

Ever fancied the idea of improving your photography skills, in an enjoyable setting? The A' the Airts photography group meets every second Monday evening 6.30-8.30. It's not a taught group – but we do share what expertise we have – and sometimes we have guest speakers. Each time we set “homework” on a particular theme – pop in to the centre and see our photos of buildings and trees. One week for example we did running water, using different speeds, as part of learning the basics of manual settings. We are keen to attract new members, and may have to split into more than one group, so if you can't manage a Monday evening, enquire anyway.

CREATIVE WRITING GROUP:

We are a group with different levels of writing experience, and we're keen to have new members of all ages. It's not a class, though different members may lead exercises on particular topics, like beginnings and endings, and how to make your writing more exciting. Mostly people are writing fiction – short stories and novels – but members write other things as well. One project we are engaged in at the moment, in collaboration with the photography group, is a book about Sanquhar, with photos of Ted the Shetland pony in different locations. Come along – it's every second Wednesday, 7-9 PM. ➡



Open Monday to Sat 10.30am to 9pm (last orders 8.30pm)

Sunday 10.30am to 6pm

High teas served from 4pm to 6pm

The Green Tearoom

High Street

Moniaive

Tel 01848 200900



Great food using local ingredients

NEW ARTS AND CRAFTS GROUPS AT A' THE AIRTS!

Cont from page 6



POTTERY GROUP:

Have you ever wanted to have a go on a potter's wheel or work with clay?

Well now you can at

(2nd-5th June), Anthea will be holding Raku firing demonstrations at her studio near Drumlanrig Castle, with the opportunity for visitors to glaze a pot to take home. We hope to take a group along and you are welcome to join in with us.

A' the Airts!

You may recall that we were very grateful for the permanent loan of a pottery kiln by the Wanlockhead Arts Group, followed by a most generous donation from the Drumlanrig Stableyard Events Group, enabling us to buy clay and glazes. Now, at long last, we've managed to acquire a potter's wheel (many thanks to David and Dominic from Sunnyside for transporting it all the way from Edinburgh!).

We meet every Tuesday morning from 10am to 12noon. Either throw on the potter's wheel (great fun and a bit messy!) or hand build some great slab or coil pottery creations. The cost of your finished pot, after kiln firing and glazing, won't break the bank either! For example, a cup will be around £1.50 and a cereal bowl only £1.80.

If you'd like to join us, just pop along on a Monday morning or ring us on 01659 50514. Why not bring a friend? We're all learning as we go, with a good sprinkling of disasters along the way - but plenty of laughs! You may, however, prefer a more structured approach to pottery. If so, you could leave your name and a contact number with us and as soon as we have a viable number we will contact Anthea Summers, a professional potter, who ran a highly successful course of six sessions for us at the end of 2011.

In case anyone is interested, on each afternoon of the Spring Fling weekend



Music Lessons

We hope to be able to offer music lessons in the very near future.

If you are a music teacher, or somebody who wishes to learn to play an instrument, or learn to sing, please leave a message for Anne or Catriona, and we will do our very best to help.

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Our Theatre and Community Cinema:

We have had some really exciting performers on in our theatre recently – from the beautiful, haunting traditional Irish music of Robert Doyle to the accomplished country folk music of Gerry Creen - and we are trying provide you with a range of varied entertainment over the next few months, which will suit all tastes and ages. Coming soon, the welcome return of the Twa Dugs Theatre Company in their production of 'Fetch' starring 'local lad' Joe Johnson. We are also pleased to have been approached, once again, to host quality acts brought by the Dumfries and Galloway Arts Festival.

Oh! - and don't miss the opportunity to watch the first Sanquhar screening of Oscar winning film "The Artist" on 8th June!

Please have a look at our What's On section of the newsletter for a full programme. Evening events at A' the Airts always turn into great social evenings and we generally have a licensed bar which is open before the performances and during the intervals – don't miss out!



Community Learning and Development Service (Nithsdale)



Learning for Life

In Nithsdale, Dumfries and Galloway Council offers lifelong learning for adults through its Community Learning & Development Service. You can find out about what's available from CLD in our 'Learning for Life' brochure. The booklet contains details of the wide range of community based adult learning opportunities we provide. "Whether you are looking to brush up on skills, gain a new skill or a qualification I'm sure you will find something of interest" says Justin Tracy, Director of Community and Customer Services.

Among the courses on offer you can get help with reading, writing and spelling, English for Speakers of Other languages, First Steps into ICT Literacies, First Aid, and a 50plus programme. All courses are **free** of charge. The booklet is available from Sanquhar Community Centre, Kirkconnel Resource Base in Upper Nithsdale and North West Resource Centre, Municipal Chambers, Oasis Youth Centre in Dumfries and at public libraries and online at www.dumgal.gov.uk.

Thornhill's Resourceful ESOL Learners

Three Polish learners living in Mid Nithsdale are benefiting from support from Community Learning and Development staff to help them improve their English language skills with English for Speakers of Other Languages (ESOL) tuition. Their new abilities help them in all aspects of their lives; says Antoni; 'I like very much the lessons; I have more Scottish words now and I know

what my boss says'. Before beginning the sessions Krystyna didn't have the confidence to even say hello to the other parents and teachers when taking her daughter to school, now she is able to make conversation with them.

The things most of us take for granted become a challenge when language skills need development and little events become triumphs. At one session Antoni came in beaming and told the tutor that his wife had ordered at McDonalds for the first time, asking for two large chips.

For more information on Lifelong Learning & ESOL please contact Sanquhar: 01659 50426, Kirkconnel: 01659 66279, Dumfries: 01387 279279 or email adult.learning@dumgal.gov.uk



Shopping at A' the Airts

One of the main aims of A' the Airts is to showcase local talent and this doesn't only apply to performers. We have a small retail outlet, which sells a wide range of crafts and artwork by local people, mainly from Upper Nithsdale, including a range of items featuring the Sanquhar Pattern.

Books by local poets and authors and CDs of songs and music by local musicians are also available, as well as delicious, locally produced jam and honey. We can even arrange gift vouchers for you. There is something to suit all pockets - from small items for children starting around £1 to higher

Pauline).

We currently have around 60 local suppliers, but we are always keen to increase our stock and provide more choice of crafts. Most of the items we sell are on a sale or return basis. If you are in the business of producing arts and crafts, or if you would like to earn a little income from an existing hobby, please contact us and we will be pleased to look at what you have to offer with a view to stocking your work.

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Manager Anne Foley with Catriona Dickie and 'friend' modelling some Sanquhar Knitwear

priced quality pieces. It's definitely worth coming in to have a look if you're looking for a special present - or just to treat yourself! We also stock a wide range of very reasonably priced hand-crafted greetings cards to suit all tastes and Pauline Copeland, one of our volunteers will also make lovely customised cards for a special someone or occasion, which can be ordered through the shop (see interview with



FRAMING SERVICE

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OPEN

Tuesday 10:30 to 13:00 & 14:00 to 16:30 hours

Wednesday 10:30 to 13:00 hours

Thursday 10:30 to 13:00 & 14:00 to 16:30 hours

Outside of these hours, please telephone 01659 50394

Golden Oldies

Our "Golden Oldies" Social Club, for those aged 50 and over, has built up a considerable membership over the last year. Members are now treated to a film screening in our theatre every second Tuesday afternoon, followed by afternoon tea in Café Airtisans. We try to show a variety of different films which we think will be enjoyed by members, from some of the older classics to more recent releases as soon as they become available. Some of the films we have shown recently include *Jane Eyre*, *Casablanca*, *Easter Parade* and *Whisky Galore*. Others lined up include *The Iron Lady* (with an Oscar winning performance by Meryl Streep as Margaret Thatcher) and *My Week with Marilyn*, based on a true story about the making of "The Prince and the Showgirl", which famously united Sir Laurence Olivier (played by Kenneth Branagh) and Marilyn Munro (Michelle Williams). We also have a special screening of "The Queen" lined up for the Royal Jubilee week and "The Flying Scotsman" (the true story of champion Scottish cyclist Graeme Obree) in the lead up to the Olympics.

Following a recent survey of members, we have decided to change the membership

arrangements for Golden Oldies from this July. Instead of the current £5.00 entry fee to each event (which covered the afternoon tea and film), we will be charging an annual fee of £25 (or two instalments of £13). This will entitle members to see up to 24 films. Guest tickets will also be available at £3.00 if members would like to bring along a friend occasionally. Refreshments will be optional and available in the café afterwards for those who want to socialise after the films. We hope that this new arrangement will prove popular. Please spread the word!

We would also like to arrange other social events for members, so please let us know if you have any ideas. Anything from sing-a-longs to beetle

*Whoever dreamt one day in Sanquhar
We'd be watching "Casablanca"?*
*Or that "The Iron Lady's" spleen
Would glower at us from the screen?
Even if the subject's hateful
Some of us are truly grateful!
"Easter Parade", "Whisky Galore"
Please, "A' the Airts", let's have some more!*
JC. 2012

2013 CALENDAR PHOTO COMPETITION:

We are delighted to announce advance notice of our competition this year for the A' the Airts 2013 calendar. We will be looking for a spread of photos depicting all parts of Upper Nithsdale, across the four seasons. Further details available from A' the Airts. **Closing date 30 September 2012.**

Right: the winning entry for the 2012 calendar -

'Glenairlie Autumn' by Chris Burton.



Spotlight on our Volunteers

In this issue: An interview with Pauline Copeland



When did you come to this area?

I first came in the 60s after I met my husband Jimmy at Jordanhill in Glasgow. We married in 1965 and lived abroad until 1980 when we came to live in Upper Nithsdale with our three children.

How long have you been involved with A' the Airts?

I became involved when the idea of having a local community arts facility was first suggested many years ago. I always knew that should an Arts Centre be created in Upper Nithsdale I would want to be connected with it. I was a member of the Friends of A' the Airts which helped keep the idea of a Centre alive until the building opened.

Since A' the Airts opened in Nov 2010 how have you been contributing to it?

I became a volunteer almost immediately by helping in the shop. I enjoy this

immensely as I get the chance to meet people as they come in and out.

You also contribute to the stock on sale in the shop. How did that happen?

Soon after the shop opened we realised that there was a need for more locally produced items for sale. I showed Anne Foley, the Manager, some of my home made cards and she felt they could be sold in the shop on a sale or return basis.

Most of your items for sale are associated with Sanquhar, aren't they?

One of the aspects of the shop which needed developing was producing goods incorporating the Sanquhar Pattern. I started by making magnetic bookmarks with the Sanquhar Pattern on them. This led quickly to producing fridge magnets, pens, key rings, postcards, etc. using the Sanquhar Pattern and many of my own photos of the area.



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What are the benefits do you gain from doing this?

I have always enjoyed producing crafts and selling goods in the shop gives me a good excuse for spending time crafting. I could never earn enough to cover the time I spend doing it but the satisfaction of seeing items sell and the positive comments I receive gives me a lot of satisfaction.

How would you like to see the A' the Airts develop?

Over a year after it has opened we are seeing more and more local people come through the doors. However, I would love

to see more people attend the various activities and entertainment provided by the centre. The facility is primarily to provide for the people of Upper Nithsdale and is their Centre. I would like to see it used more.

Will you continue with volunteering and producing products for sale?

Yes, for the foreseeable future I hope I can continue to volunteer and contribute to the shop. I am enjoying it and would certainly ask that anyone who feels they have something to offer to come forward. Alternatively, just come and enjoy your facility.

A Mystery Solved!



Some of us at A' the Airts have always wanted to find out more about the unusual sculptural monument on the corner between us and the Tolbooth Museum. Iain A. Rogers, a Dumfries-based artist who specialises in pen and ink architectural drawings and water colours of historic buildings, recently visited us while he was sketching the Tolbooth for a new piece of work he will be preparing for an exhibition of his work at A' the Airts later in the year. He too was interested in finding out about the origins of the monument. He did a bit of research and discovered that it is called "From Bedrock to Sunset" and was completed in 1998 by an artist called Sibylle von Halem during an eight month "artist in residency" project in Sanquhar. Apparently it was part of a planned series of public art works created for the Sanquhar Heritage Trail. The unusual solar-energy powered sculpture is intended to represent the industrial heritage of the Sanquhar area, which exploited the local geology and gave rise to coal-mining and brick-making. However, it looks like the solar-powered feature of the monument has stopped working! We would love to hear from anyone who can tell us more about the monument's background.

Facilities at A' The Airts

Our three storey building is completely wheel-chair accessible and has a lift servicing all floors. It has also been designed to the highest standards of energy efficiency.

Shop

Our shop is a fantastic outlet for locally-made arts and crafts, great for gifts that are just that bit different. Artists and craftspeople are encouraged to submit work for consideration at any time. Open 10.00 am - 4.00 pm Monday – Saturday and 11.00 am – 4.00 pm Sunday.

Theatre

We have a 50-seat theatre with very good acoustics, suitable for any type of performance (up to a certain size). It is also equipped with digital cinema equipment. We have a range of events in our programme, and also welcome companies to use A' the Airts as a venue. The seats are retractable, so that we can also use the theatre as a performance space, conference room etc. One of the craft rooms can be used as a bar or meal area (as well as the café).

Gallery/Exhibition Space

Our theatre also doubles as a gallery and we have further exhibition space throughout the building. We have rolling exhibitions of paintings and other artwork by local artists (both amateur and professional) throughout the year and would be pleased to hear from art groups or individuals who would like to consider future exhibitions.

Craft rooms

We have two craft rooms, one larger than the other, for both wet and dry crafts, and including a small electric kiln. And a potter's wheel. We are happy to receive suggestions about other courses, workshops and classes people would like to see, and also welcome approaches from people who would like to run classes. These rooms are also available to hire for meetings etc. Café

Café Airtisans, run independently from A' the Airts, specialises in great coffee and high-quality snacks, soup and cakes. It also has a small but pleasant outdoor seating area which is open during the Summer months. The café is also open 10.00 am - 4.00 pm Monday – Saturday and 11.00 am – 4.00 pm Sunday.

Venue Hire Costs:

Local community groups: Any room - £10 per hr
Non-local, statutory and commercial groups: Craft Rooms - £15 per hr; Theatre - £20 per hr
Performing companies wishing to stage events: £25 for the theatre

Catering can also be arranged through Café Airtisans.

Your Community!

Your Arts Centre!



A' the Airts

Accommodation needed for visitors?

2 adjoining farm cottages [sleep 5 & 6]

Short breaks Nov–end March [excl
Chr/NY/Easter]

Off road parking 1 mile outside Sanquhar

Peaceful location

Magnificent views



01659 50193 www.lochsidefarm.co.uk

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What's On

"Springboard" - Sanquhar Academy's very own Spring Fling

28th May - 6th June Free Admission

The majority of the work will be a photographic exhibition by pupils undertaking the Higher Photographic course as well as contributions from staff and S1 and S2 pupils. This is a rare chance to see the pupil's work in a gallery environment - one not to be missed!

Wizz Jones:

7.30 pm, Thursday 31st May

Legendary performer with a unique guitar style and an eclectic repertoire continues to tour on the acoustic folk and blues circuit - his only 2012 gig in the South of Scotland!

Fetch (Twa Dugs Theatre Company):

7.30 pm, Tuesday 5th June

Two young Scottish actors play with puppets and deliver the works of Rabbin Burns with a gusto that would have made the Bard proud! Brought to you by Dumfries & Galloway Arts Festival.

The Artist:

7.00 pm, Friday, 8th June

A chance to see this year's Oscar winning movie. Hollywood, 1927: As silent movie star George Valentin wonders if the arrival of talking pictures will cause him to fade into oblivion, he sparks with Peppy Miller, a young dancer set for a big break.

New Faces - Dumfries & District Embroiderers' Guild

9th June - 4th July Free Admission

A unique opportunity to see a wide variety of masks, stitched and embroidered by members of the Guild. Everything from Sponge Bob Squarepants to exquisite Venetian and tribal masks.

The Sun, The Moon & A Boy Called River: 7.00 pm Friday 15th June.

Sanquhar Town Hall

A magical evening for the whole family from Wee Stories Theatre Company - unique story-telling theatre style, with evocative live music!

Dave Gibb - Under the Covers!

7.30 pm, Friday 29th June

Local troubadour Dave will entertain you to an evening of covers by The Beatles, The Monkees, Bob Dylan, John Denver, Simon and Garfunkel, Johnny Cash and many more!

Allotments and Gardens

6th July - 31st July

Free admission

Pamela Grace's exquisite work - realised in pen and ink wash, etchings and solar-plate etchings reveals hidden micro-landscapes, glimpses of corners of gardens, allotments, and forgotten greenhouses.

Simon Kempston:

7.30 pm, Friday 21st July

Edinburgh based singer-songwriter and acoustic fingerstyle guitarist performing original and contemporary acoustic music.

Why not make a night of it! We have licensed bars at most of our performances, which open half an hour before performance start time.





What's On

*Your Community!
Your Arts Centre!*

Ayr Art Circle
3rd August - 29th August
Free admission

Ayr Art Circle was formed in 1944 and is unique among local clubs in owning its own premises. Members paint in different media and have varied styles from careful watercolours to bold acrylic abstracts.

Claude Bourbon:
7.30 pm, Friday 17th August

A formidable international performer, Claude's roots are in the blues, but he is inspired by music and song from all around the world, weaving them into a performance of blues, rock, jazz, songs and melodies that defy a label.

Steve Hicks & Lynn Goulbourn:
7.30 pm, Saturday 25th August

One of the world's finest exponents of fingerstyle guitar, Steve is joined by outstanding vocalist Lynn Goulbourn - traditional songs or jazz standards to the gentlest of lullabies!

A Keek up the Close
31st August - 26th September
Free admission

An exhibition by Iain A. Rogers, a renowned Dumfries-based artist who specialises in pen and ink architectural drawings, and watercolours of Sanquhar and its surroundings.

Transformation (Gemskii):
7.30 pm, Saturday 8th September

One woman's moving story of her struggle to overcome abuse and transform her life is performed with humour and warmth. The show gets standing ovations wherever it goes.

Ivan Drever:
7.30 pm, Friday 14th September

Acclaimed Orcadian singer/songwriter and former Wolfstone frontman makes a welcome return to A' the Airts.

Josienne Clarke and Ben Walker:
7.30 pm, Friday 5th October

Josienne and Ben are leading lights of the London folk scene. Both classically trained, Josienne's voice and style has been compared to June Tabor and Ben's subtle artistry with guitar and mandolin makes him worth seeing in his own right!

We are constantly adding to our programme. Please check the What's On pages of our website for more information and to keep up to date:

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EVER THOUGHT ABOUT VOLUNTEERING?

A' the Airts is Upper Nithsdale's own Community Arts Centre and we would like to involve as many local residents in the day to day running of the Centre as we can.

We are always looking for local volunteers of all ages and offer a range of different opportunities, including:

- Looking after the shop for a few hours a week (no regular commitment required)
- Helping out at occasional evening events
- Assisting less advantaged people at our arts and crafts groups
- Helping to promote A' the Airts throughout the community, which might include distributing leaflets or assisting with the design of marketing materials
- IT and website maintenance
- Practical help - we particularly need volunteers to help out occasionally with DIY/maintenance

- Volunteer instructors for arts and crafts workshops and help with our drama group

By volunteering at A' the Airts, you will meet new people and acquire new skills. This is your community arts project - please support us.

Contact Anne Foley or Catriona Dickie for further information:

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CAFE



Airtisans

...the art of good coffee



Cafe Airtisans offers, exclusively, fresh ground espresso coffee from 'PURO' fairtrade, tasty deli snacks, delicious soups and mouthwatering cakes and bakery items at very affordable prices.

Find us within A' the Airts, 8 - 12 High Street, Sanquhar, where you'll be greeted by our friendly staff. Pop in, or book a table. Telephone 01659 50514 and ask for the café.

Open 7 days, 10.00 am to 4.00 pm (Sun 11am - 4pm)