

Autumn 2026

The Review®

STEWARTON'S FREE QUARTERLY MAGAZINE

ISSUE FIFTY ONE

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DON'T BE SHY...

Do you have news to share? Maybe you fancy yourself as a writer and have a hot topic to cover. We LOVE to receive stories of public interest so don't be afraid to get in touch! The Review, The Business Centre, 11 Standalane, Stewarton KA3 5BG. Tel: 01560 428031 or call Colin Crawford on 07931 850038 Email: inbox@thereviewstewarton.com

WELCOME TO OUR AUTUMN EDITION!

The nights are beginning to draw in and autumn has arrived in Stewarton after a summer that brought just about every type of weather imaginable. Although Scotland's time at the World Cup came to an earlier end than we'd all hoped, it was great to see everyone getting behind the team. This edition of The Stewarton Review celebrates the fantastic local businesses and strong community spirit that continue to make the town such a special place. Thank you, as always, for your support. We hope you enjoy reading this issue.



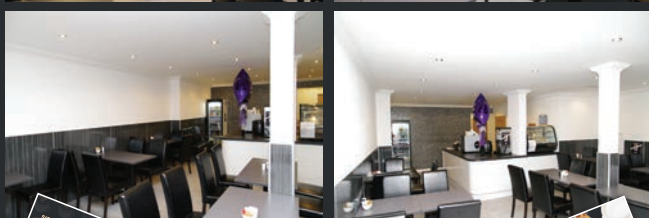
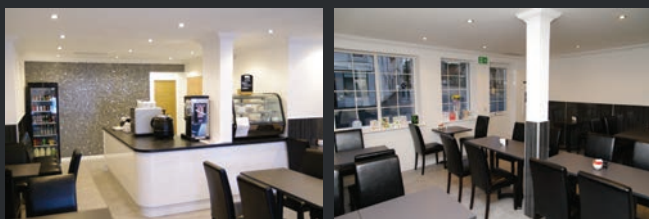
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Bonnet Guild Festival Week 23rd – 30th August 2026

Gala Day & Coronation

Saturday 29th August 2026



Please donate to Stewarton Bonnet Guild, simply scan this QR code.



Full Court Bonnet Court 2026. Back row (l to r): Sceptre Bearer Arthur Dyer, Herald Toby McClue, 2nd Courtier Fraser McLeod, First Courtier Andrew McLaughlin, Crown Bearer is now Harry Blackwood (Harris Steven is in this photograph but no longer available), Sword Bearer Callum Young, Queen's Highlander Struan Scott.

Middle Row (l to r) 3rd Maid Erin Paterson, 2nd Maid Evie Shiel, 1st Maid Lily Price, Corsehills Queen Elect Isla Logie, 4th Maid Robyn Paterson, 5th Maid Hannah Fenton and 6th Maid Orla Burrett.

(Please note unfortunately Harris Steven (pictured in main photo) is no longer available and a new Crown Bearer, Harry Blackwood has been appointed – see inset picture above.

Preparations are well underway for this year's Bonnet Guild week which takes place slightly later than usual from 23rd – 30th August 2026! With a full itinerary of fun events and activities still planned, there's something for everyone so make sure to check your calendars and join in the fun! Choose from:

Sunday – 23rd August

8.30am - Bonnet Guild Golf Competition at Caprington Golf Course (for Stewarton Golf Club members)

12pm - Duck Race - Meet at Springwell Park at 12pm for 12.30pm start and to be advised of exact start and finish points (dependent on water levels)

3-7pm - Sunday Funday Karaoke with Jim Marshall at the Stewarton Arms

Monday – 24th August

6.15pm prompt - Junior Football Rose Reilly Sports Centre, Teams to be ready by 6pm

Tuesday – 25th August

5.30pm - Bonnet Guild Tennis Competition, Stewarton Tennis and Sports Club, Corsehillsbank Street

6.30pm - Family Walking Treasure Hunt - meet at the Scout Hall, Corsehillsbank Street

6.30pm - Car Treasure Hunt, New Area Centre Car Park, first car leaves car park at 6.30pm.

Court Pictures by David Gilbert Photography



First Courtier Andrew McLaughlin and Corsehill Queen Elect Isla Logie.

Wednesday – 26th August

6.30pm - Junior & Senior Trail Runs, Lainshaw Woods clearing, registration 6 - 6.30pm for 7pm start
7pm - Quiz of Two Halves, The Smugglers Inn, 7pm for 7.30pm start
7pm - Pool Competition, Stewarton Arms, 7pm for 7.30pm prompt start

Thursday – 27th August

7pm - Scottish Fire and Rescue Open Day, Stewarton Fire Station
7pm - Bowling Competition Final, Stewarton Bowling Club
7pm - Darts Competition, The Smugglers Inn, 7pm for 7.30pm start

Friday – 28th August

6.45pm - Fancy Dress Parade, Lainshaw Primary School grounds, judging at 6.45pm, parade at 7.30pm

Saturday – 29th August

12pm - Small Bore Rifle Shooting, Stewarton District Rifle Club range, 12-4pm
11.30am start in Avenue Square - Presentation of Colours, Crowning of Corsehill Queen followed by parade
1.30pm - Gala Day, Lainshaw Primary School grounds, from 1.30pm

Sunday – 30th August

5.45pm - Parade and Divine Service, Assemble at Avenue Square for Parade at 5.45pm. Service follows at St. Columba's Church at 6.30pm – all welcome.

This year is the 93rd anniversary of Bonnet Guild week with the highlight of the week, the crowning of the Corsehill Queen, taking place on Gala Day, Saturday, 29 August in Avenue Square, Stewarton. This year's Guard of Honour will be formed by the Scouts. The Corsehill Queen and her court for 2026 (as selected by Stewarton Academy, Nether Robertland Primary School and Lainshaw Primary School) are as follows:

Corsehill Queen Elect Isla Logie, 1st Maid Lily Price, 2nd Maid Evie Shiel, Maids: Erin Paterson, Robyn Paterson, Hannah Fenton and Orla Burrett. First Courtier Andrew McLaughlin, 2nd Courtier Fraser McLeod, Herald Toby McClue, Sword Bearer Callum Young, Crown Bearer Harry Blackwood, Sceptre Bearer Arthur Dyer, Queen's Highlander Struan Scott (from Lainshaw Primary School), Pages – Max McKie and Joe Coyle (from Nether Robertland Primary School).

Jim Gordon, President of Stewarton Bonnet Guild said: "My huge congratulations to this year's Corsehill Queen and Court on what will be the 93rd anniversary of Bonnet Guild week. We are looking forward to the forthcoming festivities week very much! Preparations are well underway and celebrations will commence with traditional bunting being hung along the main streets of Stewarton on Friday 21st

August (weather permitting), and will finish with the parade to the war memorial and Divine Service in St Columba's Church on Sunday 30th August. "What a summer!" is the theme for the float parade on Saturday 29 August; my thanks to those organisations that are able to participate this year and to the local community, local traders, members and volunteers for their support throughout the week! Special mention to Garnock Hockey Club who also hosted their Bonnet Guild Hockey Taster Session earlier in the month too! My thanks to all."

For full details of all Bonnet Guild week events, dates and times please see Bonnet Guild Souvenir Programme available now or visit www.facebook.com/bonnetguild! Our huge thanks go to local traders for supporting adverts and sponsorship – it is hugely appreciated.

The Bonnet Guild festival began in 1933 and was originally created by local businessmen in Stewarton to provide a summer gala day for local families. Today, it is a week-long community festival, run by volunteer members of the Bonnet Guild – a non-profit organisation. All proceeds raised from this year's festival will go towards ensuring the local festival will return next year for the whole community to enjoy once again.

Anyone interested in helping, sponsoring, supporting or donating to this year's Festival should contact President Jim Gordon via email: info@stewartonbonnetguild.org For further information you can also visit www.facebook.com/bonnetguild



Stewarton Beer Fest 2026 Brings the Community Together



Stewarton Beer Fest 2026 proved to be another outstanding success, bringing together the local community for a day filled with great entertainment, fantastic food and drink, and plenty of community spirit. The event was enjoyed by hundreds of visitors, and organisers have expressed their heartfelt thanks to everyone who attended and helped make the day such a memorable occasion.



As always, the festival was about more than just enjoying a great day out. Every pound raised will go directly towards supporting the running of Stewarton Annick Amateur Football Club, helping the club continue to provide opportunities for grassroots football within the local community.

Behind every successful event is an army of people and businesses working tirelessly behind the scenes, and this year's festival was no exception. The club would like to extend its sincere gratitude to Tom Blackwood of Magbiehill Properties for once again allowing the event to be held at Magbiehill Park. Thanks also go to The Solutions on Demand Group for sponsoring the festival, Universal Composite Doors for sponsoring the

event cups, Window Supply Company for sponsoring the marquee, and Billy Bowie Special Projects Limited for their continued support. Appreciation is also extended to Stuart from The Mill House for acting as the event's license holder, while Stewarton Bonnet Guild once again provided invaluable assistance with market stalls, tables and fire extinguishers. Up4 Loo Hire ensured visitors had excellent facilities throughout the day, Speirs Security helped keep everyone safe, Fleming's Marquees supplied the impressive dance tent, and our dedicated sound engineer kept the music sounding fantastic from start to finish.



The entertainment throughout the day was exceptional, with Brian Ovens delighting festival-goers with his magical performances, while Kiera Marks Music, Roughcut Live Band, Sonorous and The Goalie from Wilson Windows kept the crowds entertained well into the evening.

The festival also showcased an excellent selection of local breweries, food vendors and independent businesses. Visitors were able to enjoy drinks from Ayrshire Riviera Cider, Ellis Gin, Five Kingdoms Brewery, Two Towns

Down Brewing, Up Front Brewing, WEST Beer and Sulwath Brewery, alongside delicious offerings from More Cocktails & Street Food, Enjoy Pizza Scotland, Cone of Pakora, The Little Margarita Truck, The Mill House, Smokin' Delights, Island Slice and many more. Thrive Stewarton and SLOPE meister also helped make the event such a vibrant success.

The ever-popular Hidden Team competition once again created plenty of excitement throughout the day, with Michele Allan successfully uncovering the winning Hidden Team to claim the £375 prize.

While every effort has been made to thank everyone involved, the organisers acknowledge that someone may have been unintentionally missed. If so, please accept their sincere apologies and heartfelt thanks, as every contribution played an important part in making the festival such a success.

Stewarton Beer Fest continues to go from strength to strength, and this year's event was another wonderful example of what can be achieved when a community comes together. On behalf of Stewarton Annick Amateur Football Club, thank you to everyone who attended, volunteered, sponsored, performed or supported the festival in any way. Your generosity and enthusiasm helped create a fantastic day for everyone involved, and the club looks forward to welcoming you all back for another unforgettable Beer Fest next year.

In the meantime, keep an eye on the festival's social media pages, where photographs from the day will be shared over the coming days, allowing everyone to relive another brilliant Stewarton Beer Fest.



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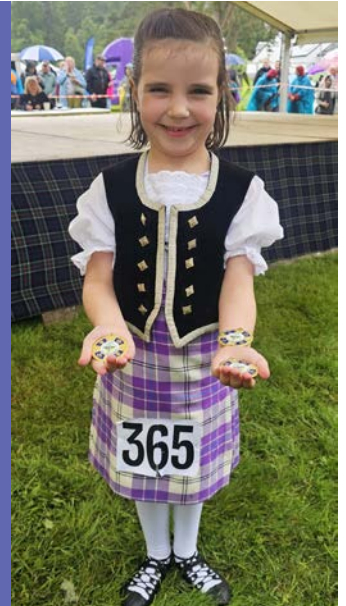
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Steps, Sunshine and Success: A Big Summer for FitzPatrick Highland Dancers



Maisie Haddow with Medals



Kilmaurs Gala day



Seniors at Dean Castle

While many activities pause for the holidays, the FitzPatrick School of Highland Dancing has been full of energy all summer, with dancers enjoying classes, performances and Highland Games across Scotland.

Keeping Skills Sharp Through Summer

Summer classes have run throughout the holidays, helping dancers stay fit, learn new steps and refine their technique. The programme will finish with a lively Day of Dance — a chance to try something new, enjoy time with friends and head into the new term refreshed and ready for another exciting year.

Sharing Scotland's Living Heritage

This summer brought wonderful opportunities to showcase Scottish culture. Senior dancers performed at Dean Castle as part of an Outlander-inspired event celebrating Scottish history and tradition. Younger dancers shone at Kilmaurs Gala Day, many performing on stage for the very first time. Their confidence, courage and huge smiles made it a day to remember.

A special mention goes to Iona Higgins, who joined the performance after only a few weeks of classes — a brilliant achievement.

Highland Games Highlights

FitzPatrick dancers have also been busy on the Highland Games circuit. One standout moment came from five year old Maisie Haddow, who made her competition debut and won all three of her dances, against a competitive field — an extraordinary first outing.

Throughout August, dancers will continue competing at Games including Dundonald, Stirling, Edinburgh and Benderloch, gaining valuable experience while proudly representing both the school and the local community.

For advanced dancers Anna Pennington, Georgia Neil and Ineke Yates, focus now turns to the Scottish Championships at the Cowal Gathering — the qualifying event for the World Championships and the highlight of the Highland dancing calendar.

Principal teacher Helen FitzPatrick, herself the Adult World Highland Dancing Champion in 1983, knows the dedication required to reach this level. She believes the real rewards of dancing come from discipline, resilience and lifelong friendships.

Opportunities Beyond Competition

Highland dancing can open doors far beyond the competition stage. Assistant teacher Rachel Ferrie experienced this first-hand when she performed in the Commonwealth Games Opening Ceremony — a reminder of where commitment to dancing can lead.

“Highland dancing is about so much more than learning steps. It’s about building confidence, making lifelong friendships, embracing Scottish culture and discovering what you’re capable of.” — Helen FitzPatrick

Join Our Highland Dancing Family

The next session begins Wednesday 19 August, and our first Beginners class has only a few spaces available. If you would like to secure one of these places, simply email or message Helen — it’s the perfect time to start your Highland dancing journey. Whether you’re interested in fun, fitness, performance or competition, there’s a place for everyone, and you’ll be helping to keep one of Scotland’s greatest traditions thriving for the next generation.

Free trial classes available Email: FitzpatrickHDS@gmail.com

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Amazing news, WE WON!!!

A Win That Means More Than £90,000

Last month, Geco Connect® was announced as one of the winners of Scottish EDGE, securing £90,000 of investment to help us scale the business. However, my daughters were more excited about the award than I was.

They don't fully understand what Scottish EDGE is. They don't know that 383 businesses applied, how difficult it is to reach the final, or what £90,000 of investment means.

What they do know is that Dad has been working late. They know I've spent countless evenings talking about Geco Connect. And they know it's about helping children.

What My Daughters Understand

As parents, we worry about our children every day. We want them to be safe, feel loved and have people around them who care.

Now imagine your child didn't have that. Imagine they had experienced trauma, been neglected, or been abandoned by the very people who were supposed to protect them.

For thousands of children and young people in care, that isn't something they have to imagine. It's their reality.

The Problem We Set Out to Solve

Despite the incredible commitment of care workers, teachers, residential staff and support teams, many spend more time completing paperwork and administration than they do with the children who need them most.

That's the problem we set out to solve.

We created Geco Connect because every minute spent duplicating reports, chasing information or completing administration is a minute that could have been spent supporting a young person. When time is taken away from care, something is taken away from a child.



Scottish EDGE recognised that vision and awarded Geco Connect £90,000 to help us scale. Out of 383 applications from across Scotland, we were incredibly proud to be selected as one of the winners.

But the award isn't the achievement I'm most proud of. It's that people are starting to believe what we believe: that technology can give time back to the people who care, and that better systems can create better outcomes.

Why Time Matters

This challenge doesn't stop at Scotland's borders. Millions of children around the world rely on care and education services every day. If we can continue building what we've started, the impact could reach far beyond what we imagined.

Winning Scottish EDGE has given us confidence that we're building something the sector genuinely needs. But the real question is whether the systems you're relying on today are giving your staff enough time with children, providing leaders with the oversight they need and producing the evidence regulators increasingly expect. If the answer is anything less than a confident yes, perhaps the conversation isn't about changing software at all. Perhaps it's about changing outcomes.

We'd love to show you what's possible with Geco Connect. Even if it isn't the right fit for your organisation, we hope you'll leave the conversation with new ideas that help you spend less time on paperwork and more time doing what matters most — improving the lives of children and young people.

Ultimately, this isn't about winning an award. It's about what we can do with the opportunity it gives us. Somewhere tonight, there is a young person who simply needs more time from the adults trying to help them. Together, we can help make sure they get it.



Stewarton Allotments OPEN DAY

The weather forecast for Stewarton Allotments Society's Open Day was horrible. It was meant to rain all day.

But just like on every other Open Day for the past 14 years the gardening gods were kind. The clouds rolled away, the crowds rolled up and a good time was had by all.



All systems grow....Stewarton Allotments Society members get ready to welcome guests to their Open Day

The Open Day has become one of the most popular events of Stewarton's summer and visitors were queuing up long before the gates opened. Once they were inside they headed straight for the stalls where all the usual goodies were on sale: fresh fruit and vegetables straight out the ground; home baking; jams; plants and cut flowers. The raffle and tombola, with great prizes, were very popular. The tea tent was packed and the burger stall did a roaring trade.

Then it was time for a walk around the allotments site to admire the plots and to chat to the ploholders who love talking about what they've grown and enjoy passing on advice.

"It was one of our most successful Open Days and once again we were so lucky with the weather," said Allotments Society chair, Brian Slaughter.

"It was all down to the huge amount of hard work done by our members. The week building up to the Open Day is busy, but the work goes on all through the year.



Sunsational....Eileen Stewart with her prize-winning plant

"I'd like to thank our members for their amazing efforts, the businesses who donate such wonderful prizes and of course the people of Stewarton who support us every year without fail."

There's also a competitive edge to the Open Day and Eileen Stewart was over the moon when her giant sunflower was the star of this year's show. Her huge plant measured just under 12 feet and towered over its rivals. Gardeners who've seen some impressive entries in the sunflower competitions over the last 14 years reckoned Eileen's could be the tallest ever. But it was lucky it reached its dizzy heights.

"I sowed the seeds in a seed tray and potted them on twice before I planted two in the ground. One broke in the wind but the other managed to survive," said Eileen. It's the first thing I've won and it's going to inspire me to work even harder on my plot."

And there's good news for her fellow plot holders who want to challenge Eileen next year: "I'll keep the seeds and I could share them around". And what is the sunflower called....High Hopes. It certainly lived up to its name!

Eileen's had her plot for five years and she sums up perfectly the pleasure to be had from allotment gardening: "It's the peace and joy you get from sowing seeds, watching them grow and then, of course, eating your produce."

Other competition winners were: Best plot, Steve and Fran Wolstencroft; Heaviest tattie bag (and Tom Howie Trophy), Roddy Montgomery; Newcomer's plot, Craig Gordon; Polytunnel bed, Carol Nixon; Vase of flowers Isobel Gray; Single dahlia and single gladiolus, Robert Dickinson.



Winners... Roddy Montgomery, Isobel Gray, Eileen Stewart, Steve Wolstencroft, Carol Nixon, Robert Dickinson

Stewarton Community Allotments Society would like to thank the following for their help, donations and support.

The National Lottery Community Fund for the grant which paid for a new marquee plus new tables and chairs.

The local businesses who donated raffle prizes: Fulshaw Mill Holidays, Stewarton; Idle Hands, Dunlop; The Torryanard Indian Restaurant; Kick@26 Hairdresser, Stewarton; No1 Gents Hairdresser, Kilmarnock; Burns Nursery, Stewarton; Dunlop Dairy, Stewarton; Struthers Farmhouse Cade, Dunlop; ELF Bothy, Burnhouse; McLaren's Nursery, Uplawmoor; TRIZIO, Stewarton; The Sheep Game, Stewarton; The Cup and Saucer, Stewarton; Update Boutique, Stewarton; Allan & Son Butchers, Stewarton; Village Balti House, Stewarton; Limetree Lifestyle, Stewarton; Meena's Fine Indian Restaurant, Stewarton; Past and Present, Stewarton; TTD Detailing, Stewarton; Buns and Guns Gym, Stewarton; Forgotten Worlds, Stewarton; The Mill House, Stewarton; West Coast Wonderland, Stewarton; The Coffee Pot, Stewarton; Dunlop Post Office; Specially For You, Stewarton; Rootz Hair Salon, Stewarton; The Big Dawg BBQ, Stewarton; Stewarton Pharmacy; Kilmarnock Football Club; Weston Tavern, Kilmarnock; The Book Nook, Stewarton; The Co-op, Stewarton; Sainsbury's Stewarton; Joan Scott Hairdressing, Stewarton.

Mr and Mrs Borland for use of their field for car parking.

The Howie Family for their continued support and encouragement.

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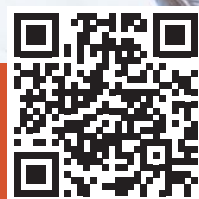
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An invitation from Kilmaurs Photographic Club.

Are you interested in photography? Maybe you would like to improve your photographs by getting the most out of your camera or mobile phone. Perhaps you just enjoy looking at great photos.

Whether you are a beginner, an improver, or an experienced photographer looking for new challenges why not come along to Kilmaurs Photographic Club?

We have a varied programme, including tuition and advice, as well as presentations and competitions, and pride ourselves on being welcoming, instructive, and challenging. You are welcome to come along without commitment to join. The tuition sessions will include very basic photography advice as well as more advanced tutorials as requested by the members.

We begin our autumn session on Monday 14th September, 2026. The club meets once a week in Kilmaurs Masonic Lodge Halls (KA3 2RQ) at 7.30pm.

We have had a great summer this year with several informal outings, including visits to take photographs at: Tartan Warrior cross-country obstacle races; Pinkston Watersports' Centre; Glasgow Tigers Speedway; the birdlife on the Isle of May and around Ailsa Craig; and Paisley Abbey and Water Mill.

Opposite are some members' images taken recently.

Further information from

www.kilmaursphotographicclub.co.uk

Email: secretary.kilmaurspc@gmail.com

Or simply contact 07720 416427.



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To learn more, contact
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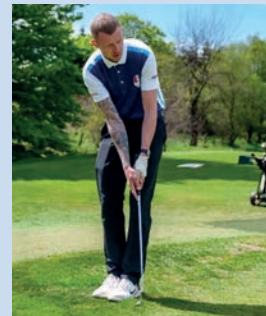
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- A true community club – with friendly members, popular events, and a warm atmosphere for golfers of all ages.
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Visit our website, call the office, or drop by the clubhouse to get started.

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We're proud to support the next generation of golfers with competitive junior membership pricing, an engaging summer coaching programme, and regular competitions to develop skills in a fun and friendly setting. Whether your child is picking up a club for the first time or already loves the game, Caldwell offers a brilliant foundation. For more details, reach out to proshop@caldwellgolfclub.net Caldwell Golf Club – with a 97.5 on Golf Now and first in the County, come and find out why we are the course everyone is talking about and what keeps bringing them back. *Where everyone belongs, and every round feels like coming home.*



Events & Functions

From funeral teas and birthday celebrations to private parties and gatherings, our newly refurbished function suite offers a beautiful, adaptable setting. Need transport? Ask about our bus package for a stress-free journey home.



For clubhouse and event enquiries, contact Elaine at 01505 850366



Cameron Fair, combining a career in motorsport and seafood.



Stewarton's Cameron Fair has emerged as one of Scotland's most respected rally co-drivers, combining a growing motorsport career with life as a seafood businessman on the Isle of Mull. Fair's passion for rallying began in childhood, inspired by his father Russell, a former navigator and motorsport official who competed in Scottish championships throughout the 1980s and 1990s.

"He never pushed me to rallying, but when I showed an interest, he would take time to explain to me what rallying was about," said Fair.



An early ride in a rally car at Glentroot in Galloway Forest left a lasting impression. "I was maybe nine years old or something, and I couldn't see over the dashboard... and just remember the noise of the stones hitting the underside of the car, the engine revving and the car moving around as we went for a spin."

At 16, Fair began competing with East Ayrshire Car Club in a borrowed Vauxhall Nova. His talent soon attracted attention. "When an onboard was posted on YouTube my dad got an email from Dave Weston, which said that what I was doing was really good and I should be navigating at a higher level."

That encouragement helped launch a career which included guiding Sam Bilham to the Fiesta ST Trophy in 2017 and winning the Scottish Rally Championship alongside Clare



Mole. After becoming a father, Fair planned to step back from rallying.

"I didn't plan to rally at all in 2023 because we had our hands full with Nora and Zander," he recalled. However, a call from Irish driver Jon Armstrong opened the door to the Junior European Championship.

"When that call came asking if I could compete with Jon in the Junior European Championship Ruth and I knew it was a huge opportunity,



and she said, 'go for it'." That opportunity led to international success, a place in the FIA Rally Star programme and a Junior WRC campaign. Another call soon followed.

"I'd got a call from Alister McRae asking if I would sit with Max for a rally at the tail end of 2023... Alister then asked if I would do the Junior European and selected British rounds with Max in 2024. Being Scottish, the McRaes were heroes growing up so when they start calling you it's quite easy to say 'yes'."

Reflecting on a whirlwind period, Fair said: "From planning to take a step back in 2023, suddenly I found myself doing the junior WRC with Max Smart and the junior ERC with Max McRae the next year!"



Now targeting further success in the British Rally Championship, Fair is also excited by the prospect of world-level rallying returning to Scotland.

"For the world's best rallying drivers and teams to come to Scotland is the stuff of dreams. I was too young to compete when the last international rally was held in Scotland."

"If we do well in the BRC this year, hopefully, we can get the power and the force of the British public and sponsors behind us, and with that I know we can go to the highest level and compete around the world. That's a pretty cool thing to think about."

Calder Moore Funeral Directors is a local (Magbiehill Park, Stewarton) family-owned and operated funeral company committed to looking after all those entrusted to us with sensitivity and respect.

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Being independent means we are not part of a conglomerate. We are free from third-party profit seekers and also the constraints of corporate structures. Having worked in the funeral profession for a multi-branch organisation, successfully conducting hundreds of funerals over the years, we made the decision to set our own course in order to be in control and enabling us to provide a more personal approach putting **continuity of care** at the heart of all our services, whilst keeping **funeral costs** affordable.

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Stewarton Annick FC 50th Anniversary



The last year has been a significant one for Stewarton Annick, with everyone across the Club and community celebrating our 50th anniversary. There has been an extensive programme of activity which has focussed on the past, present and future of the Club:



Commemorate the Past

Reinstated the Club Trophy Room

- Exhibited our archive of photos, trophies and memorabilia from the past 50 years to the local community
- Showcased the historical relationship between Stewarton and Hamburg
- Encouraged players and coaches from the past to share their memories (including Honorary President George Moncur whose support in the last year has been hugely appreciated)
- Recognised our amazing Club Ambassadors (Rose Reilly and Steven Naismith, who each has their place in the new changing room style Trophy Room)

Introduced Volunteer of the Year Award

- Created a new tradition in memory of former Coach Graeme Muir (with the first deserving winner being Lisa Millar)



Celebrate the Present

Redesigned the Club Badge

- Procured branded Club equipment (e.g. Club gazebo, flags, banners etc.)
- Revamped the Direct Soccer Club Shop (18 to 24-month transition)
- Partnered with Club Legends for photoshoots, trophies and awards

Maintained Club Event Calendar

- Supported festivals/events/legends games run by individual Teams
- Arranged a Club social night to commence celebrations (April 2025)
- Arranged a formal Club dinner to celebrate Club (November 2025)
- Arranged Awards nights with 50th theme (May 2025 and January 2026) where every current player was awarded with a commemorative medal as a legacy from the 50th year
- Supported international football trips for individual Teams

Documented/photographed our activities and success on the field

- March 2025 – Mitchell Jardine selected to train with the SYFA Scotland team in Spain
- May 2025 – Former Player Jack Lavery signed his first professional contract with St Mirren for 3 years (followed by a debut for the Scotland u17 team in February 2026)
- June 2025 – u16s Girls won the Kilwinning Rangers Festival Trophy
- August 2025 – 2009s won the Kilwinning Rangers Festival Trophy
- August 2025 – 2013s won the Kilwinning Rangers Festival Cup
- August 2025 – 2009s won the Broxburn Athletic Colts 50th Anniversary Cup
- November 2025 – 2013s won the Ayrshire Youth Football League Championship
- November 2025 – Lisa Millar won Volunteer of the Year at the Scottish Women's Football Awards
- June 2026 – 2009s won the Mill United Plate
- June 2026 – 2014s won the Linwood Rangers Alex Stephen Tournament



- General – a number of Stewarton Annick players (girls and boys) represented their schools (winning trophies) and some went on to represent East Ayrshire Schools at District level.
- General – opportunities facilitated for Players to train with professional football Clubs

Consolidate the Future

Galvanised 4-in-1 Club structure (Girls, Boys, Women, Men)

- Brought together the 4 footballing bodies within Stewarton under the umbrella of Stewarton Annick FC to provide football for all
- Provided opportunities for girls and boys to play with the women's and men's teams



Upskilled our adult volunteers

- Worked with AD Training and Development to facilitate our own First Aid Course (with 40 attendees)
- Supported Coaches to undertake UEFA C Licence qualification

Developed our youth players

- Created opportunities in football for our young people (7 Team Helpers, 6 First Aiders, 7 Referees, 1 Coach (to SFA level 1.2))

Collaborated with other organisations/clubs

- Football Fun Factory (in Stewarton)
- East Ayrshire Vibrant Communities (to support community action plan for Stewarton)
- The Killie Community (to create opportunities for our young people)
- Broxburn Athletics Colts (who were also formed in 1975)

Played our part in the broader community

- Sent kits to underprivileged countries (through KitAid) - 6 full bags and 1 very large box of kit
- Facilitated other volunteering requirements for our young people (e.g. Duke of Edinburgh, Boys Brigade etc.)

Continued to drive forward future plans

- Progress the community asset transfer of Cocklebie Park
- Focus on maximising the use of facilities within Stewarton (e.g. weekend opening times at Rose Reilly Sports Centre)
- Appointment of former Player, Jack Lavery, as our first ever SAFC Youth Ambassador, with a view to establishing the SAFC Youth Council



With so much happening across the Club, and a heavy reliance on volunteers, the Club is always seeking additional help. This is not simply focused on coaching football, as a range of skills are required off the park, from media skills, finance, governance and management, event planning and others. Anyone willing or able to help the Club can get in contact with any coach or committee member via Facebook for more information.

The Club Chairperson, Ewen Logie, would like to acknowledge and extend thanks to all the hardworking coaches and volunteers, without whom there would be no community football club. The amount of work that is required often goes unseen and for a club to have run solely on volunteers for 50 years, selflessly giving up their own time, is an incredible thing. Last, but certainly not least, everyone at Stewarton Annick would like to give a massive thanks to the local community for all levels of support from sponsorship, to attending fund raisers or to the many parents or relatives who stand in the cold and wet to cheer on our teams. This is gratefully appreciated by all SAFC players, coaches and committee members.

Kein Stewarton, Keine Party!

In 1976, Stewarton Annick FC made a connection with the German sports club Hamburger Turnerschaft von 1816, said to be the oldest sports club in the world. The football friendship lasted for a number of years, with many Stewarton players through the ages having visited the German city and vice versa. Although the exchange visits ceased some time ago, many lasting friendships were made.

To celebrate 50 years since the initial trip to Hamburg, our oldest youth age group, the Stewarton Annick FC 2009s will be making a football pilgrimage to Hamburg in October 2026, to experience the culture of our German friends for themselves.

A number of the senior players and coaches, many of whom have been with Stewarton Annick for over 10 years, started raising funds when they took part in the Roon the Toon 10k in Kilmarnock on Sunday 7 June 2026.

They would really appreciate your continued support to enable the boys to travel to Germany and make some new footballing memories of their own.

<https://www.gofundme.com/f/stewarton-and-hamburg-50-years-of-friendship-and-football>

Jam Street News - Celebrating All Things Dance!

Stewarton Stars Shine at Centrestage

Our Stewarton girls lit up the stage at Centrestage, Kilmarnock with an unforgettable performance. Their passion, teamwork and sheer joy radiated through every moment, earning huge applause from the audience.



Fenwick Gala Day Fun – Rain Didn't Stop the Rhythm

Despite the unpredictable Scottish weather, our young dancers brought colour, energy and smiles to Fenwick Gala Day. Their enthusiasm was infectious, proving once again that Jam Street dancers rise to any occasion.



A Fond Farewell to Lucy & Murrin

This season brings a bittersweet goodbye as long time pupils Lucy and Murrin take their next steps into professional training. Lucy heads to Italia Conti in London, while Murrin begins her journey at Performers College in Essex. Both have grown up within Jam Street's walls, and we couldn't be prouder of the futures they're building.



Teachers Support Skyla in Liverpool Graduation

Our teaching team travelled to Liverpool to cheer on former pupil Skyla Kelly as she took centre stage in her Jelli Studios graduation show. Watching Skyla shine was a powerful reminder of what dedication and resilience can achieve.



A Special Moment with Jennifer Ellison

A standout highlight was capturing a wonderful photo of the incredible Jennifer Ellison alongside Skyla and Jam Street owner Susan Kelly, a celebration of mentorship, legacy and the next generation of performers.



NPA 4 & NAT 5 Students Deliver Their First Showcase

Our accredited dancers stepped confidently into the spotlight for their first NPA 4 and National 5 showcase. Every student successfully passed their SQA exams — a testament to their hard work and the high standards upheld across Jam Street and DanceTech UK. With the next intake approaching, excitement is building for another year of qualifications. Thank you to the staff from Take a Bow who generously let us take over their stage for the night!



Welcome to the World, Baby Lana

The Jam Street family has grown once again. We are thrilled to welcome baby Lana, the newest little dancer in the making. Huge congratulations to teacher Lizzie on the arrival of her beautiful daughter, the perfect end to a season filled with achievement, fun and lots of laughs

Classes Restart Monday 17th August – Come Join Us

All Jam Street classes return from Monday 17th August, and we're excited to welcome new dancers into our growing school. Whether your child is brand new to dance or already loves performing, Jam Street offers fun, friendly and confidence building classes for all ages. With amazing teachers, performance opportunities and a supportive atmosphere, it's the perfect place to start your dance journey.

Come join the Jam Street family this August and see what your dancer can achieve.
www.jamstreetschoolofdance.com





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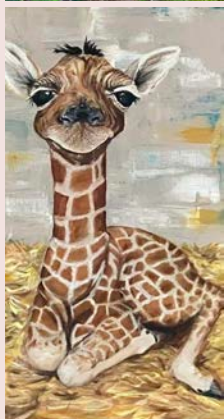
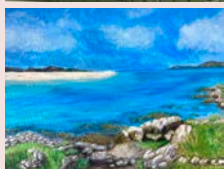
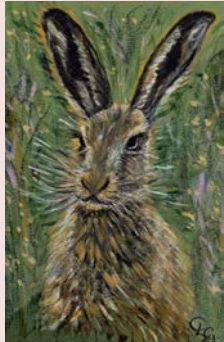


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Stewarton Art & Chat



For more than two decades, Stewarton Art and Chat has been a vibrant hub for creativity, bringing together a diverse community of amateur artists. Meeting every Wednesday evening from 7 p.m. to 9 p.m. during term time at Stewarton Academy. The group welcomes individuals of all ages, abilities, and artistic styles in a relaxed and supportive environment.

In addition to regular sessions, the group occasionally hosts guest art tutors, offering members the opportunity to learn new techniques and gain fresh inspiration.

Recent months have been particularly busy for Stewarton Art and Chat, with members showcasing their work across a range of venues. As well as the annual exhibition in Dunlop conservatory cafe, several members have also been showcasing their art at Studio 44 in Largs, The Little Art Factory in Kilmarnock, The Joughs in Kilmaurs, Portencross Castle, and the North Ayrshire Art Exhibition. These exhibitions have been met with great success, with many pieces finding new homes.

Currently, several members are exhibiting at The New Cunninghame Open Art Exhibition in West Kilbride, running until 14 August. This will be followed by participation in the Big Art Show at 9–11 Causeyside Street, Paisley, from 29 August to 14 November.

The group is also proud to be collaborating with the Stewarton Woodland Action Trust SWAT, donating artwork for its annual calendar. Original paintings featured in the calendar will be available for purchase, with all proceeds supporting the work of SWAT.

Stewarton Art and Chat prides itself on being a welcoming and encouraging group, always eager to connect with the wider community. The group is actively seeking new opportunities to exhibit locally and would be delighted to hear from anyone with suitable display space for members' artwork.

For those interested in joining, the first session is free. Subsequent sessions are priced at £30 for a block of five or £7 for individual attendance. To learn more or get in touch, visit the Stewarton Art and Chat Facebook page.

Is Your Home Electrically Safe?

Most homeowners wouldn't drive a car for years without an MOT, yet many people live in homes with electrical installations that haven't been inspected for decades. Your home's wiring works hard every single day, powering everything from your lights and heating to your kitchen appliances and entertainment systems. Over time, electrical installations naturally deteriorate, making regular testing essential for your family's safety.

In Scotland, it is recommended that owner-occupied homes have an Electrical Installation Condition Report (EICR) carried out every 10 years, or whenever you buy a property. This detailed inspection checks the condition of your wiring, consumer unit, sockets, switches and protective devices to ensure they continue to meet current safety standards.

Many electrical faults develop gradually and remain hidden behind walls, under floors or inside your consumer unit. Damaged cables, loose connections, overloaded circuits, worn accessories and ageing fuse boards often show no obvious warning signs until something goes wrong. Unfortunately, by the time you notice flickering lights, tripping circuits or burning smells, the fault may already pose a significant risk.

Failing to have your home's electrics tested could lead to electric shock, serious injury or even fire. Electrical faults remain one of the leading causes of accidental house fires across the UK. A single loose connection can generate excessive heat for

months before eventually igniting surrounding materials, putting your family, pets and home at risk.

There is also the financial cost to consider. Small electrical faults that could have been identified during a routine inspection often become much larger and more expensive repairs if left unchecked. Replacing damaged wiring after a fire, repairing smoke damage, replacing appliances or dealing with insurance claims can cost thousands of pounds. In many cases, preventative maintenance is far less expensive than emergency repairs.

An EICR provides peace of mind by identifying hidden defects before they become dangerous. It also gives homeowners confidence that their electrical installation is safe, reliable and capable of coping with the demands of modern living.

Electrical safety isn't just about protecting your property—it's about protecting the people who matter most. Regular testing helps ensure your home remains a safe place for your family today and for many years to come.

Don't wait until a fault becomes an emergency. If your home hasn't had an electrical inspection in the last 10 years, or you're unsure when it was last tested, now is the time to act.

Call Nicholas at NHM Electrical on 01563 489011 today to book your Electrical Installation Condition Report and keep your home and family safe.

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1st Stewarton Boys' Brigade



In May we held our Annual Display & Parents Night at The Centre in Standalane where all Sections attended with parents & friends of the Company. It was a good night with boys taking part in marching, games and sketches. It finished with our Annual presentation of awards, by Stewarton Academy Head Teacher and Officer in 1st Glasgow BB, John Stuart.

Anchor Boys – David Welsh was named Best Recruit, while the Cauldhame Trophy was awarded to Samuel Tomlinson. The Dodge Ball Trophy went to Finlay Smith. Best Team went to Team 2 and the Best Boy award was presented to Jacob Tomlinson

Promotion Certificates

(From Anchors to Juniors) -

Congratulations to Andrii Varvchuk, Arran Kyle, Blair Smith, Finlay Smith, Jacob Tomlinson, Luke O'Neill & Tom Keary.

Junior Section – Oliver Landon was named Best Recruit, Magnus Tomlinson received the Christian Education award, Hugo Montgomery won the Cauldhame Trophy, Lyle Nairn was recognised for Best 125 Uniform, Group 1 for Best Group, and Mitchell Aird was awarded Best Boy.

Promotion Cert.

from Juniors to Company Section – Aaron Boyle, Hugo Montgomery, Liam Dolan, Lyle Nairn, Magnus Tomlinson and Mitchell Aird.

Company Section – Adam McAllister was named best recruit, while David Bruce received the award for best drill. Best uniform went to Ethan Stuart, and the Christian Cup was presented to Mark Stewart. The Cauldhame Cup was awarded to Cayden Halliday. Squad 4 was recognised as best squad, Andrew McLaughlin was named best Company Section boy, and the Senior award went to Connor Sloan.

We also presented 50 attendance medals across the 4 Sections (Gold for perfect, silver for missing 1 night or Parade and bronze for missing up to 4)

The President's Award (2nd Highest award a boy can work) went the following boys who now start work on their Kings Award and join 6 boys who are halfway through their journey



for completion next year - Aaron McKenzie, Cameron Nelson, Cameron O'Brien, Carter Beaton, Cayden Halliday, Dylan Hine, Finlay Livingstone, Finlay Stuart, Grant Goldie, James Bingham, James Dawson, Lewis Madine, Luke Baird, Matthew Wilson, Max Callander, Ragnar Smith, Ruairi Matheson and Thomas Jones.

The last presentation was for Kings awards (Kings is highest award a boy can work for in the BB) which was presented to Angus Menzies, Connor Sloan, Jack Matheson, Lewis O'Brien, and Lewis Simpson. The Kings Award takes 2 years of work for. To gain this award as well as service within the Company, the boys also have to volunteer out with the Company (Combined minimum 60 hours volunteering). They also have to complete a skills activity and also a physical activity. They must complete a residential course at the end of the badge, with the final Completion course basically earning them the award and the right to be called "Kings Men". This award not only is a great achievement but is also an achievement which helps them as they go to not their next Chapter in life, whether work, college or university.



Both Parents, staff & boys had an enjoyable night. The boys & officers would like to extend their gratitude and thanks to everyone who helped in any way to make the night a success.

Plans for our next session are now in place with dates and activities arranged for all Sections.

We have now just started our new session, and in the early stages of preparing our new session ahead.

Anchors – As well as our usual weekly programme, during the session the boys will join boys from rest of East Ayrshire Battalion, which include park visits, soft play as well as our joint summer trip with the Juniors in June. Over and above that this year we will be joining other Ayrshire Battalion for joint activities – Main thing being 2 fun days that both Battalions run early next year.



Juniors – This session we will continue our monthly swimming visits as well as Battalion activities which include Treasure Hunt, Sleepover, Skate park, Ten Pin, Bounce Station, Supergroup, Quiz and visit to Newmilns for tubing. We will also be doing a residential for the boys in May, which is always a good experience for them.

Company & Senior Section – We have already started our session with an Adventure weekend away at PGL in Dalguise. 20 boys and staff took part in a weekend of fellowship and a full programme of Adventure activities. Our Battalion activities will include Assault course, paint balling, Watersports, archery, drill, Flip out & Pool for Seniors. Our major awards scheme this year includes 6 boys in last year of their Kings Award, 17 starting out in Year 1 as well as over 3 boys who are looking at their President Badge this session, which is the prerequisite to the Kings Award.

All in all a busy session, and we look forward to welcoming our existing members, but always on the look out for boys to try the BB Experience. If you require any information please contact Willie Campbell 07932 540097.



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- 11th October** Craft Market
- 1st November** Preloved Market
- 13th December** Christmas Market & Mini Makers Market



COMING THIS AUTUMN



EMERGENCY LIFE SUPPORT TRAINING

Saturday 5 September
1:00pm – 2:00pm



GLOBAL DANCE CLASSES (ADULTS)

1:00pm – 2:00pm Thursdays
24 Sept • 1 Oct • 8 Oct • 15 Oct



GLOBAL DANCE CLASSES (ADULT & CHILD)

6:45pm – 7:45pm Thursdays
24 Sept • 1 Oct • 8 Oct • 15 Oct



ART FOR BEGINNERS

Tuesdays • 10:00am – 12:00pm
29 Sept • 6 Oct • 20 Oct • 27 Oct



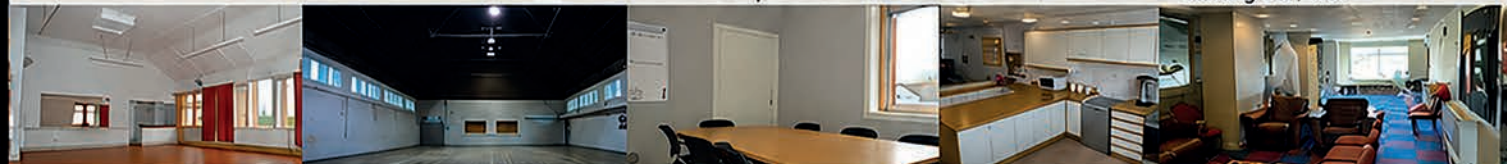
ADULT & CHILD ART CLASSES

10:00am – 12:00pm
Tuesdays
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Parkinson's Support Group (Stewarton)



The Monday morning coffee at the Hub in Stewarton has been busy as usual. The group has been officially established and has a more structured approach. This will enable us to progress and raise awareness while providing the necessary support. The process has been challenging but we have successfully launched the group.

Scientific Focus & Research Updates

The group's objective of attending the World Parkinson's Congress in Phoenix, Arizona, has been achieved successfully. Isaac volunteered at the event assisting the organisers. This unique congress brings together doctors, researchers, patients and technology innovators from around the world.

The congress is expected to provide news on technology and medication to prevent or even stop Parkinson's disease. One of the highlights was a visit to the Muhammad Ali Parkinson's Centre (Barrow Neurological Institute). The centre is a state-of-the-art facility with over 60 neurologists, 30 neurosurgeons and 45 neuroscientists, as well as 467 Parkinson's nurses.

There are approximately 80-90 consultant neurologists currently practising across Scotland. Isaac's next engagement is volunteering at the Young Parkinson's event in Stirling.



Activities & Wellbeing

Table tennis sessions at the Rose Reilly remain popular with increasing attendance every Friday from 3:00-5:00pm.

Karate sessions are currently held on Thursdays from 11:30 to 12:30. The sessions are planned to continue but we require more willing participants. We welcome anyone interested in joining us to combat apathy.

We attended the Dunlop Gala Day where we raised awareness about our organisation and its current status. The walking football team also won the Parkinson's Scottish Cup, which was presented to us by our local celebrity Rose Reilly.



We are also planning to attend the Gala Day in Stewarton where we will have a gazebo to raise awareness about Parkinson's.

Recently the table tennis group, many of whom are members of our organisation, went bowling and had a meal in Kilmarnock. We also had the opportunity to have our local Parkinson's nurse Paula Hewat answer questions about Parkinson's. Unfortunately, she is retiring early next year.



Technology & Innovation

Strydar glasses, designed to assist walking for people with Parkinson's, are currently under development. For more information please contact me directly or visit the Strydar Parkinson's Walking Glasses Facebook page.

If you wish to try them please ask Isaac who will provide you with a pair at no cost.

Community Funding & Support

We are actively seeking support from local businesses to help sustain and grow our initiatives. Without this backing the Monday coffee sessions would not be possible.

Support Is Available

A Parkinson's diagnosis can mean facing an uncertain and challenging future, but you are not alone. Everyone's journey is different and support is available.

You are welcome to visit the Community Hub in Stewarton on Mondays from 11:00 am to 12:00 pm, or contact me directly:

Email: escoces177@gmail.com

Tel: 07731 770086



Average Arnie's

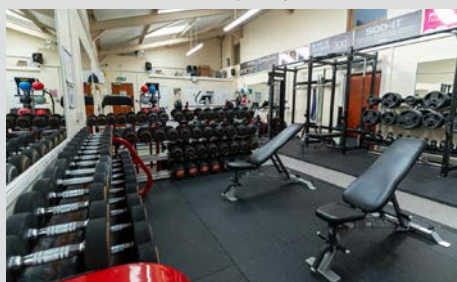
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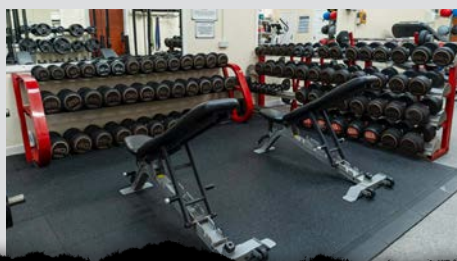


We currently have four membership spots available!

At Average Arnie's Gym, we know that life doesn't always fit into a 9-to-5 schedule, and your workouts shouldn't have to either. That's why our doors are always open.



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Whether you're an early riser or a night owl, Arnie's Gym is here to support your journey. Our private members' gym is a close-knit community where like-minded individuals come together to better themselves.



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Same bookshop, new home, even more happening!

I hope many of you have been along to visit the Book Nook Stewarton since we took up residence within Stewarton Area Centre!



We still have the same range of books so no change there, but the big benefit has been the flexibility to use the Library space. The Book Nook tables and chairs are situated in our 'engagement area' just in front of the shop, so customers enjoy sitting with a coffee there.

All our book clubs take place in the main library area, which is great as we definitely need the larger space. Tales for Tinies is not a tiny group at all, and has grown since we moved here. Babies to pre-schoolers enjoy the storytime and the introduction of musical instruments for the children to accompany some of the stories has been very popular. The

Junior Book Nook Club also enjoys the bigger space for our book-themed craft activities. The BookNookers Club for adults has been thriving in our new space and we are always happy to welcome new members.

The Book Nook events programme has been particularly strong this year and we have been delighted to be able to offer people the opportunity to hear and meet wonderful authors including Chris Brookmyre, Mark Billingham, Douglas Skelton, Nussaibah Younis, Jane Harper, Denise Mina and Callum McSorley. Still to come in August are Adele Parks, one of the biggest women's fiction writers in the UK and Lin Anderson, an icon of Scottish crime writing! The autumn will see us welcoming Paul Hardisty, Peter James, The Hebridean Baker, and Sir Ian Rankin.

I am very proud to announce that The Book Nook was one of only 43 independent bookshops successful in being awarded a Penguin Children's Bookshop Grant! This funding will enable us to run a series of author events and workshops for children and young people, with priority given to those who are care experienced, a group we have engaged with in previous years too. The Book



Nook is working with East Ayrshire Health and Social Care Partnership and the lead teachers for care experienced children to hold events with well-known authors in various East Ayrshire locations.

We are pleased to collaborate with Ayrshire360 and in particular, Stewarton Library to run a joint summer reading initiative which enabled children to participate whether they were buying books at The Book Nook or borrowing from the library. Badges, book logs, wristbands and certificates helped encourage children's reading over the summer.

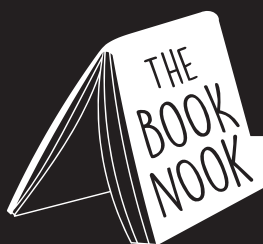
We will celebrate children's reading with a free event for all primary school children on Saturday 22nd August at 4pm, with our special guest being children's author Martin Stewart. Martin previously did a children's event with The Book Nook at Nether Robertland PS, which the children loved!

Please continue to support your local independent community bookshop, and check the website to make sure you don't miss anything! www.booknookstewarton.co.uk

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Cyber Essentials: Why it matters to UK businesses



John Bourne
IT Director

A practical introduction for business owners, directors and senior managers.

Cyber security is now part of everyday business life. It is no longer only a concern for large organisations or specialist IT teams.

For businesses of every size, protecting systems, data, customers and suppliers has become a core part of good governance, commercial credibility and day-to-day resilience.

One of the clearest ways to show that the basics are in place is through Cyber Essentials: a UK Government-backed certification scheme designed to help organisations protect themselves against the most common cyber threats.

What is Cyber Essentials?

Cyber Essentials focuses on five practical technical controls: firewalls, secure configuration, security update management, user access control and malware protection.

These controls help reduce the likelihood of common attacks, such as criminals exploiting known vulnerabilities, weak passwords, poorly configured devices or unpatched software.

Launched in 2014, the scheme was created after analysis showed that many successful cyber attacks could have been prevented,

or significantly limited, by a small number of basic security measures. Today, Cyber Essentials is widely recognised as a baseline standard for cyber security across the UK.

Cyber Essentials is a UK Government-backed scheme led by the National Cyber Security Centre, with IASME serving as its official delivery partner.

Why it matters today

For many organisations, Cyber Essentials is no longer simply a "nice to have". It is increasingly becoming part of how businesses prove they are a safe and credible organisation to work with.

Government departments, public bodies and larger commercial organisations increasingly consider cyber security certification as part of procurement and supplier assurance.

In some sectors, holding a valid Cyber Essentials certificate can determine whether an organisation is eligible to tender for certain contracts.

This reflects a wider understanding of cyber risk. A weakness in one supplier, contractor or service provider can create risk for everyone connected to them.

As a result, many tier 1 and tier 2 organisations are looking more closely at their supply chains and asking suppliers to demonstrate that they meet a recognised cyber security baseline.

For small and medium-sized businesses, this creates both a challenge and an opportunity. Certification can reduce risk, improve internal processes and provide reassurance to customers, insurers, partners and procurement teams.

Cyber resilience is moving up the agenda

The UK's approach to cyber resilience is continuing to evolve, and the message to business leaders is clear: cyber security is becoming a board-level issue, not just an IT concern.

The Cyber Security and Resilience Bill, currently progressing through Parliament, is intended to strengthen the UK's defences against cyber attacks and modernise the existing regulatory framework.

While the full impact will depend on the final legislation and guidance, the direction of travel is important. Organisations that act early are likely to be better prepared for future procurement expectations, customer assurance requests and regulatory scrutiny.

Cyber Essentials provides a practical starting point because it focuses on the fundamental controls that every organisation should understand, apply and maintain.

How SOD-IT can help

Here at SOD-IT, we work with organisations across the UK to achieve and maintain their Cyber Essentials certification.

We understand that, for many businesses, the process can feel technical or time-consuming at first. Our role is to make it clear, practical and manageable.

We help organisations understand what is required, identify any gaps, make the necessary improvements and maintain compliance over time.

Whether you are responding to a tender, reviewing supply-chain requirements, improving your internal cyber posture or preparing for future assurance demands,

Talk to our team: support@sod-it.co.uk

Cyber Essentials is a sensible and recognised step forward.

If you would like to understand Cyber Essentials in more detail, and how it may impact your business or organisation, our SOD-IT team can assess where your organisation currently stands, identify any gaps and explain what would be required to achieve Cyber Essentials certification.



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Karate at 45 - From First Timer to Double Medallist



Never in my wildest dreams did I think I'd be representing the British Army in sport at 45 years old, especially in Karate. It just goes to show that you're never too old to try something new, develop a passion, and challenge yourself.

Colin Kirkwood, a local Stewarton man who has proudly served in the British Army for 25 years, recently had the honour of competing for the British Army Karate Team at the Inter-Service Championships. The team put in a tremendous performance and were crowned overall champions after overcoming strong opposition from across the Armed Forces.

For Colin, it was an unforgettable experience. Competing in his first Inter-Service Championships, he secured gold in Kata and silver in Kumite, an achievement that exceeded all expectations when he first stepped onto the mat. It was a proud moment to contribute to the

team's success and see the rewards of years of dedication and training.



Of course, Karate isn't without its hazards. A swift kick to the head left Colin with a tidy cut and a sizeable lump just in time for leave. Not quite the souvenir he had in mind, but all part of the experience!

A fantastic event, great teammates, team victory, and proof that age is no barrier to achievement. Colin's success is a reminder that it's never too late to discover a new passion and push yourself beyond what you thought possible.



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Stewarton Bowling Club

Despite being a few teams short yesterday, it still turned out to be a fantastic day, proudly sponsored by bauen DESIGN.



A massive thank you goes to everyone who took part in our Invitation Triples competition. The day was played in great spirit from start to finish, with plenty of competitive bowling, laughter and camaraderie both on and off the green.

Special thanks must go to our games committee members Clive, Kevin, Stuart and Davy, whose hard work behind the scenes ensured everything ran smoothly and the day stayed on schedule. Events like these don't happen by themselves, and their efforts are greatly appreciated.

A special mention also goes to Ally, Neil, Mikey and the two Stuarts for getting the day off to the perfect start by organising the morning rolls, teas and coffees. It was a much-appreciated

touch and helped set the tone for another excellent club event.

Huge thanks to Moira, Joan, Irene and Joanne for providing a wonderful lunch. The food was exceptional and enjoyed by everyone, giving players and spectators the chance to relax and recharge before the afternoon's action.

A big shoutout as well to Kiera and Heather behind the bar for keeping everyone well hydrated throughout the day. We would also like to thank all the voluntary bar staff who assisted during the event. Your hard work and dedication helped create a welcoming atmosphere and ensured everyone was looked after.



Congratulations to the winners of the Invitation Triples, Mikey Johnstone, Sal Fulton and Neil Campbell, who emerged victorious after a highly competitive day. They defeated Ali Gilbert, Bruce Dunbar and David Bentley in

a very closely contested final that was enjoyed by all who watched. Commiserations to the runners-up, who played brilliantly throughout the competition.

Finally, thank you once again to everyone who participated, volunteered, supported and contributed to making the day such a success. From the organisation and catering to the bowling and socialising, the day was a great example of what makes our club so special. Well done to everyone involved. It was a brilliant day and one that will be remembered for all the right reasons.



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BoozéBingo is Back with a Country Special!

Forget Montana, because The Centre Ranch is coming to Stewarton! Dust off your cowboy boots and hats and get ready for an unforgettable night as the BoozéBrunch team brings their popular Country Special to town.

Hosted by Go Radio's Stevie Lennon, Now Ayrshire Radio's Michael Smith, and DJ Fergi, this high-energy event will feature Country Anthems, Wild West Bingo, fantastic prizes, line dancing, a best-dressed competition,

and plenty of surprises along the way. The BoozéBrunch team has already helped Stewarton Annick Girls Football Club raise valuable funds for match-day kits and training equipment, making a real difference to players across the club. Now they're aiming for an even bigger goal.

Funds raised from this event will help support an exciting trip to Rome, Italy, giving the girls a fantastic opportunity to experience football on an international stage. The trip will also pay tribute to club ambassador and Scottish football legend Rose Reilly, with the hope of visiting her former club, AS Roma, and celebrating her incredible contribution to the game.

So, grab your friends, pull on your best country outfit and join us for a night of music, laughter, dancing and fundraising, all in support of a fantastic cause.

Yeehaw! It promises to be a great night and one not to be missed.



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Thrive Thank you Stewarton Beer Festival!



What a great afternoon we had (when the sun came out!) sampling the beers and having great conversations about our activities supporting health and wellbeing. And we shifted a load of Stewarton Beer Festival beer coasters and other wooden items made at the Shed!



Hey dads! Get booked in for the next **WHO LET THE DADS OUT** on the first Saturday of the month at John Knox church in High Street. It's designed to provide dads, father figures, and their children with opportunities to spend quality time together, engage in fun craft activities, and build supportive relationships. Last month our dads and

kids made minions and robots with moving arms and legs out of blocks of wood. Scott says, "I love time just to spend with the kids doing something a bit different and meeting other dads." 9.30am – 11am. thrivestewarton.org/dads

BABY BEATS and THRIVE TOTS – another block has kicked off – a fun-filled drop in session with music and wiggles for parents & carers with babies up to 18 months old.

THRIVE ALLSTARS! – play, crafts and sports for families with kids age 3 – 10 – an afterschool drop-in every Tuesday 3.15 – 4.14pm. Children must be supervised by an adult.

JOURNEY TOGETHER – for parents with children with neurodivergent needs and siblings to come together in a judgement-free space for some Friday after-school fun! Art, crafts, free play, parachute, games and more. Snacks are provided. Thank you to the firefighters from Stewarton Community Fire Station for paying us a visit! We also hold a monthly peer support group. "This is a no judgement space to chill at the end of the week."

WALK AND TALK – our buggy friendly 45-minute health walk with a cuppa at the end. We meet outside the Cottage in John Knox church car park in the High Street on Fridays just after 10am to set off at 10.10am. There's no need

to book, just come along and introduce yourself to the hosts.

BREASTFEEDING SUPPORT DROP-IN

– bring your wee one and join other mums and peer supporters for chat about all things parenting. Fridays, 12.30pm – 2pm in the church.

ROOTS & SHOOTS is an exciting wee growing project caring for creation beside the Area Centre car park behind JK Church meeting every Thursday 10am till 12noon. We also keep an eye on the planters in Avenue Square.

STEWARTON COMMUNITY SHED – connection, conversation and creation – that's what joining a Shed is all about. Sheds encourage people to come together to work on their own items and support projects in the local community. Open Thursday mornings with evening groups too.

Thrive Stewarton is an initiative of John Knox Parish Church and the South West Presbytery to reach out and serve our community. Our thanks to the organisations and individuals that help us keep activities free so everyone can take part.

If you would like to support us financially with a one off gift or standing order please see www.thrivestewarton.org/giving. Be sure to follow us @thrivestewarton for all the latest.

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Introducing JM Studio

Hi, I'm Jill, and I'm excited to introduce my new business, JM Studio, specialising in semi-permanent makeup treatments.

After 20 years working in commercial interior design, I decided I wanted to apply my creativity in a different way. Although I don't intend to leave the design world completely behind, it's exciting to be able to do both.

My background in design has given me an eye for detail, proportion and balance, and I'm enjoying applying those same principles in my approach to semi-permanent makeup.

JM Studio focuses on subtle definition and balance, enhancing your natural features with considered, personalised results. It isn't about changing how you look; it's about enhancing what you already have.

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Instagram [jmstudio_ayrshire](https://www.instagram.com/jmstudio_ayrshire)
Website www.jmstudioayrshire.co.uk

JM
STUDIO

KILMAURS JOUGS

Kilmaurs Joug is the focal point of the village of Kilmaurs, but until recently was very little used. Many villagers had never seen inside it, even though it had undergone substantial refurbishment, both inside and outside between 2016-2018, instigated by Kilmaurs Community Council. Internally, the floor was sanded, and the interior tastefully redecorated, restoring the Joug to a condition reflecting its place as a valued part of the village heritage. While the building was now in good order, it proved difficult to have it used to its full potential.

In May 2025 East Ayrshire Leisure decided to create a historical exhibition of Kilmaurs and surrounding area inside the Joug. To allow public access to the building, a group of Kilmaurs Joug 'Volunteers' was formed and in June 2025 the doors of the Joug were once again opened to the public. This was initially on a Wednesday afternoon, but a Saturday afternoon was soon added, along with 'Special'

days, like Kilmaurs Gala Day and Weston Christmas Fair.

In the last year, over 1000 visitors, both local and from around the world, have been warmly welcomed into the building by our volunteers. They have seen the initial local history display, and also several exhibitions of the work by both Kilmaurs and Stewarton artists, a photographic exhibition, History of Kilmaurs projects by Kilmaurs Primary 7 students and a wooden house design competition. There have been many interesting chats between volunteers and visitors about Kilmaurs past and present.

Stewarton Men's Shed have built us lovely storage boxes, and also a donation box which has been skillfully decorated by one of our volunteers.

This friendly group is delighted to welcome new volunteers. Come along on a Wednesday or Saturday afternoon between 1pm-4pm, or contact us through Facebook- 'Kilmaurs Joug'.



Stewarton Woodlands Action Trust (aka SWAT)

We have had another busy season, especially as the weather has been so topsy turvy. We don't normally need to do leaf blowing during the summer months, but what with high winds, drought, and heavy rain, it has been an unusual, unexpected pattern. Our planned trawl of the river when it was very low had to be postponed due to a sudden deluge the day before our workday. Fortunately, there's always something to keep us busy eg cutting back overhanging branches, filling in ruts in the paths, sweeping the Fisherman's Steps, emptying the overflowing poo bin! What does upset us, is the amount of litter that has to be collected along David Dale Avenue and within the woods there.

This year we have had another member trained up to deal with the invasive weeds (Giant Hogweed and Japanese Knotweed) and we have purchased several pieces of equipment to replace those which are getting old and past it. Work has been taking place to make our containers and compound more secure and user friendly. All of this eats away at our funds, so please consider helping us by buying a 2027

calendar, which we have done in conjunction with the Stewarton Art and Chat group that meets in Stewarton Academy on a Wednesday evening from 7 till 9 during term time. Copies of the calendar can be purchased soon by emailing stewartonwoodlands@gmail.com or asking on our Facebook page. We are happy to deliver to local addresses. We'll have plenty on sale at Yuletide Night, and maybe the odd event before then too. This year the cost will be £7.

As ever, thanks to those who do support us, and also to those who bring important points to our attention from time to time. The woods are for all to enjoy and we try our best to make using them a pleasant experience.



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Stewarton's Music Weekender



Venues across Stewarton got down to the beat during the town's first ever Music Weekender.

Organised by Stewarton Initiatives, the three-day event from July 24-26 involved a host of pubs, organisations and centres across the Bonnet Toun.

The weekender started off with a well-attended kids' disco called Bounce to the Beat in the Annick Centre on the Friday night, complete with a bouncy castle and tuck shop.

A few hours later there was a good crowd in



The Mill House bar as DJ Stan got everyone in the weekend mood.

The following day, it was back to the Annick Centre for Music & Memories, with some great singing by Sharon Day.

Those in attendance also enjoyed a delicious afternoon tea prepared by The Coffee Pot.

Saturday night saw four DJs blasting tunes in The Smugglers; Mark Kincaid, Cavan Loney, Jimmy Reid and Fronk.

Then it was on to The Stewarton Arms for a wonderful live set by the talented Lucky



Picks duo.

The weekend was rounded off by Stewarton Bowling Club's annual gala day, which involved some karaoke for those willing.

Planning is well underway for next year's event, and if you would like to get involved just get in touch in the coming months.

We are also in the final phase of planning for this year's Yuletide evening, which will take place on the 19th November, so save the date!

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Taking the Stress Out of Going Back to School



The return to school can bring a mixture of emotions. Children may feel excited about seeing their friends, while also worrying about new teachers, different routines or whether they will manage the work. Parents can feel it too – especially when mornings become busier and everyone has somewhere to be.

A little preparation can make the transition feel much calmer for the whole family.

Start by noticing the language being used at home. Questions such as “Are you worried about going back?” can unintentionally encourage a child to search for reasons to feel anxious. Instead, try asking, “What are you looking forward to?” or “What would help the first morning feel easier?” This acknowledges their feelings while gently directing their attention towards solutions.

It can also help to mentally rehearse the first day. Encourage your child to imagine getting ready, arriving at school and settling into the classroom. Ask them to picture something going well – perhaps finding a friend, enjoying a favourite subject or knowing where to go. Our minds often rehearse what might go wrong, so practising a more positive possibility can help make the situation feel familiar and manageable.

Finally, begin returning to familiar routines a few days before school starts. Gradually adjust bedtimes, prepare bags and uniforms, and agree what breakfast or transport arrangements will look like. Small decisions made in advance can prevent unnecessary pressure on the first morning.

Some nerves are completely natural whenever we face change. The aim isn't to pretend they aren't there, but to help children understand that they can feel nervous and still cope.

A calm start doesn't require a perfect morning. It simply begins with preparation, reassuring conversations and the belief that everyone will find their normal routine again.

Author: Fiona Campbell Arrand, Coach, Clinical Hypnotherapist and author of Working with Trust

fiona@theprofessionalgrowthcompany.com www.fionacampbellhypnotherapy.co.uk

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Adventure, Skills and Fun at 20th Ayrshire (Stewarton) Scout Group

It has been another action-packed few months for the young people at 20th Ayrshire (Stewarton) Scout Group, with Beavers, Cubs and Scouts enjoying a wide range of activities while building confidence, teamwork and skills for life.

Our Beavers (ages 6–8) have worked towards a variety of badges, including Emergency Aid, Healthy Eating and Outdoor Challenge. They have explored Cunningham Watt Park, visited Stewarton Fire Station, welcomed special visitors, learned about first aid and fire safety, enjoyed outdoor cooking, games and crafts, and celebrated Bronze Awards and swim-ups to Cubs.

Our Cubs (ages 8–10½) have combined adventure with learning through District Camp at Lapwing Lodge, where they experienced



kayaking, climbing, campfire cooking and campsite management. They have also developed practical skills in knot tying, first aid, pioneering and countryside awareness, alongside plenty of fun challenges and games. They are now eagerly looking forward to their September camp at Lochgoilhead, where they will enjoy an exciting programme of outdoor activities, adventure and unforgettable experiences.



Our Scouts (ages 10½–14) have continued to develop their outdoor and survival skills by making tin can stoves, lighting fires without matches, building shelters, cooking bannock bread, completing navigation challenges and learning to use tools safely, with teamwork at the heart of every activity.

All three sections also came together for a fantastic floor curling event, bringing young people, leaders and parents together for a day of fun and friendly competition.

Looking ahead, we're excited to welcome Santa back to the streets of Stewarton for our annual Santa Run in December, spreading festive cheer while raising funds to support the Scout Group.

None of this would be possible without our dedicated volunteer leaders, who give their time each week to create these opportunities for local young people.

We currently have places available in all sections. If your child enjoys adventure, making new friends and learning new skills while having fun, we'd love to welcome them.

To find out more about joining Beavers, Cubs or Scouts at 20th Ayrshire (Stewarton) Scout Group, please get in touch via our Facebook page or email sandra.kerr@aescouts.org.uk

Stewarton and District Historical Society



It's been a busy time for the Museum this summer as we have had a number of visitors from far flung countries including, New Zealand, Australia, and the U.S.A. All wanting us to assist in their Genealogy research in connection with their relatives from our district. We are also gearing up for our monthly talk series which begins on 1st September all as per the following syllabus.

Our Monthly Talks are held on the 1st Tuesday of the Month (dates may vary during holiday seasons) in the Lesser Hall, Stewarton Area Centre, Avenue Street, Stewarton, KA3 5AP

Members £1 - Non Members £4

Syllabus 2026/27

- 1 Sept at 7.00 pm The Stewarton Beehive by Stuart Campbell
- 6 Oct at 7.00 pm Thomas Telford – the Scot who built Britain by David Dewar
- 3 Nov at 2.00 pm Witness to War by Colin Turbett
- 1 Dec at 2.00 pm UFO's in Scotland – a down to earth history by Dr. Gavin Miller
- 11 Jan at 2.00 pm The Great Burns Festival of 1884 by Tom Barclay
- 2 Feb at 2.00 pm The Rise, Fall and Rebirth of Glasgow by Fred Dinning
- 2 Mar at 7.00 pm History of Stewarton Curling Club by Robert Whiteford
- 13 April at 7.00 pm The History of Wemyss Bay Railway Station by Greg Beecroft

Refreshments are served at the conclusion of each talk.

Copies of the full syllabus booklet including what's included in each talk are available from the Museum or you can pick up a copy on our stall at the Bonnet Guild Gala Day on 29th August.

NEW for 2026/2027

Step into history with our Bespoke Guided Tours Total Distance 3 miles with stops at 14 points of interest – time 1.5 hrs

For further info and to book - email: stewwalk.sdhs@outlook.com



Stewarton Tennis Club

The past few months have been a very busy few up at the tennis clubs on Corsehillbank Street. The new Clubhouse is taking real shape rising up from the rubble of the previous 100 year old wooden clubhouse is a modern sleek version to take tennis forwards within the town for the next 100 years. Ecobrix have been working hard and the project is reaching an exciting stage where we can see the finish line ahead. Everyone at the club is excited with the project and appreciate all the hardwork that everyone involved in the project has put in to get this to this stage



Stewarton Tennis Club Open Day 1925

Stewarton Tennis Club has had a successful season in the annual Tennis Ayrshire Summer



Leagues. This year saw the club enter 3 ladies and 3 gents teams into the leagues to compete against the other tennis clubs around Ayrshire. A massive well done has to be given to all the players who represented the club. This year saw great success on the ladies side with both the Ladies first and third teams winning their divisions and gaining promotion. This will see the Ladies first team now go onto compete in the Forst division next season. The gents also had successful seasons with consolidation of both the second and third teams in their divisions and the gents first team in a playoff for a place in the 1 st division coming up against Prestwick in the next few weeks.

For the first time in a number of years the club has also entered 2 teams into the Ayrshire Mixed doubles tournament which is a knock out competition which has started this week. The 1st team has come through against the Coyton 2nd team however the Stewarton 2nd team were defeated by a very strong Kilmarnock 1st team. Over the next few weeks we'll also see the STC Masters team

start to compete in the leagues, this is a league campaign for the over 45s which we hope to do well in.

As ever the coaching programme has also gone from strength to strength with Louise and Brian from BL Tennis running a series of Summer Camps over the school holidays which have been extremely popular. Luckily the weather has been good and not disturbed too many of the days. BL tennis are also excited to be launching another round of Tennis Xpress starting at the end of August for new adult players interested in taking up tennis. This has been very successful in previous years and also links up well with the clubs rusty rackets session that runs on a Saturday morning from 10:30am for anyone who wishes to take part.

The members have also recently enjoyed a number of social tournaments with a recent World Cup themed social doubles tournament held on the same day as the World Cup, with an impressive win by team Scotland on the day. There is also to be Wimbledon themed event over the next few weeks which will be a great social event for all the members. We are hoping over the next few months to continue with more social tournaments as well as hosting the Clubs annual Club Championships.

If you would like more information around the tennis club please don't hesitate to get in contact at stewartontennis@gmail.com

THIS AUTUMN AT THE MILL HOUSE

With crisp mornings, golden leaves and cosy evenings drawing in, there's no better time to make the most of The Mill House.

From hearty lunches and family get-togethers to after-work drinks, weekend coffees and catch-ups by the fire, we're here with fresh seasonal dishes, warming drinks and a warm welcome.

And now, there's even more reason to stay a little longer, as we introduce our brand new bedrooms at The Mill House!

Thoughtfully styled with soft interiors, cosy beds, and all the touches you need to switch off and settle in.

Whether you're here for a night away or simply extending your evening, we hope you feel right at home.

Here's to good food, golden days and plenty of reasons to pop in, settle in, and stay awhile.



BOOK A TABLE



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WHAT'S BEEN HAPPENING AT ST COLUMBA'S

SUNDAYS

A warm welcome awaits anyone joining us for morning worship at 11.00am & for Café Time after the service in the Church Hall. Children take part in the first part of the service then leave to join their own groups at the Sunday Club in the Church Hall.

FELLOWSHIP

Sunday 23rd August 2026 - Family Service & Barbecue. Service starts at 11.00am followed by a family barbecue. All welcome.

COMMUNION

Communion will take place in the Church on Sun 25th Oct 2026.

MESSY CHURCH

Messy Church meets in the Church Hall one Saturday a month from 3.30 – 5.00pm, nursery and primary aged children are welcome, but must be accompanied by an adult. The first Messy Church will be on Saturday 26th September 2026, thereafter 31st October & 28th November.

BIBLE STUDY & PRAYER GROUP

The Bible Study & Prayer Group meets in the Church Hall on Monday afternoons at 1.30 – 3pm. Please do give this some thought as a warm welcome will be given to all. The group resumes on Monday 7th September 2026.

FRIENDSHIP & FAITH

Held on the last Tuesday of each month in the Church Hall 2.00 – 3.30pm. Friendship & Faith resumes on Tuesday 25th August 2026. All adults are welcome to join us for knitting projects (much needed items for hospitals, nursing homes and children) table games, quizzes, arts & crafts and refreshments, the chance to meet up with friends old and new. (You do not need to be a member of the Church to join in the group).

THE GUILD

St Columba's Guild meets in the Church Hall on Tuesday afternoons at 2.00pm (fortnightly), it's a very friendly, active group for women & men with worship, fellowship, speakers & entertainment with light-hearted subjects as well as more serious topics. 2026 Syllabus:

8th September – 'Favourite hymns with a twist' with Joe Auld
22nd Sept – Kilwinning Abbey with Kinnear McCallum
6th Oct – "What did our ancestors eat" with June Wiggins
20th Oct – "My time in the ministry" with Rev Liz Henderson.

TODDLERS GROUP

The Toddlers Group meet in the Church Hall on Thursday mornings from 10.00–11.30am and is open to children under nursery age. Everyone is welcome, parent, grandparent or guardian. The cost of each session is £1.50. For further information contact Margaret Smith on 01560 483266. The Toddler Group resumes on Thursday 20th August 2026.

BADMINTON

The badminton group meets in the Church Hall on Wednesday afternoons from 2.00 – 4.00pm. Come along and enjoy an afternoon of badminton and friendly chat, all abilities will be welcome, for both ladies and gentlemen. The new session will begin on Wednesday 2nd September 2026.

SHOEBOX APPEAL

The Christmas Shoebox appeal collects gifts for vulnerable children, families, and elderly people overseas and in the UK. Allowed Items: Toys, hats, scarves, stationery, hairbrushes, kitchen tools and non-liquid personal care items. Prohibited Items: No food, sweets, chocolate, used items, war toys, or liquids/lotions. The shoe boxes will be collected in November.

FOOD BANK

Open Tuesday 12noon–1.30pm & Friday 6–7.30pm in the Community Centre, Standlane. Donations can be handed in at the Community Centre, boxes in the Church, or Sainsbury's, Co-op & Aldi. Always needed are milk, toilet rolls, tins of vegetables, soup and meat, juice & coffee, but all donations are welcome.

HALL LETTING

Our Church Hall is available to let for community organisations, group meetings and birthday parties (a large bouncy castle fits in the hall), it is wheelchair friendly, has accessible disabled toilets & baby changing facilities & kitchen facilities. Please contact laurenhussain3480@gmail.com for availability.

For further information visit www.stewartonstcolumbas.org

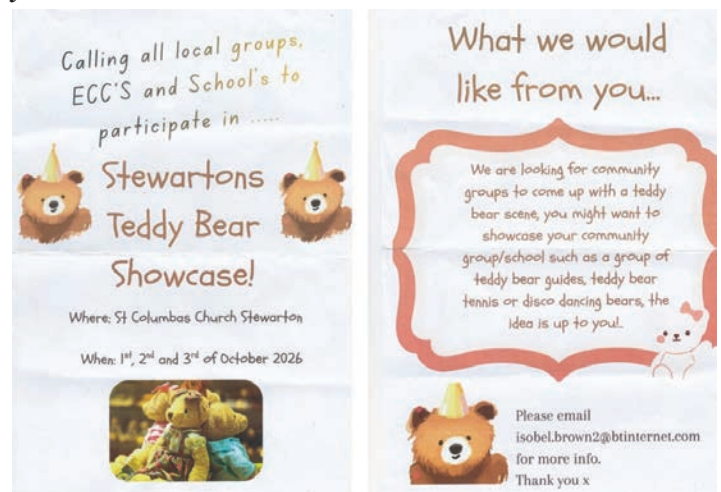
ST COLUMBA'S ROUND UP

ECO CHURCH

As a church we have become a member of Eco-Congregation Scotland. This is a Christian environmental charity addressing climate change and conservation. At the moment we are working toward the Bronze Award. St Columba's have already introduced recycling and are looking at various projects in all areas ranging from Sunday club, Messy Church, World Church to involvement with Fair Trade and local environmental groups along with community and global engagement.

It is early days and there will be opportunities for all members to be involved in some capacity as the project builds up.

JOIN IN OUR TEDDY BEAR SHOWCASE



ST COLUMBA'S KNITTING GROUP

This year we have donated:

547 Items (including blankets, hats, cannula sleeves) to Maternity Hospitals
70 items (including trauma teddies and pairs of hearts) to Hospital Critical care units.
40 syringe bags to the Beatson
20 boobies to Breastfeeding Network
9 items to local recipients
140 items and 2 displays to St Columba's Church

We are a group of like-minded people who are making a difference to so many people and I would like to say a huge thank you to everyone who has contributed in any way. We are always looking for any projects we can help with.



SUPPORTING THE WORLD CUP

They make us smile with every new scene!
Thank you we can't wait for the next celebration.



CHURCH



ST COLUMBA'S HOLIDAY CLUB

This year's holiday club held in the church hall between 3rd & 7th August was a great success with over 170 children attending over the 5 days.



Each day the children heard a bible story and learned a song relating to the theme of the day with action games telling bible stories such as the wise man and foolish man, feeding of the 5000 and Jesus calming the storm they even made fish from clay and put them in nets. There were games played in teams with much hilarity including the parachute. The ever popular craft sessions brought out the creative side of the children using Play-Doh for the younger ones and clay for the older children. Painting pebbles and making pictures from small pebbles was enjoyed by all. One of the groups made houses from spaghetti and mini marshmallows whilst the older group wove sticks, twigs and other natural items and painted their names using mashed up berries. The theme on the last day was friendship, the older groups making friendship bracelets whilst the younger ones decorated snap on bracelets. The children all enjoyed their time at the holiday club & we hope to see them all back next year.

A big thank you to Lauren and her team of helpers for their time and enthusiasm.

JK CHURCH OF SCOTLAND

CHURCH AT THE HEART OF THE COMMUNITY

GAME ON

What an awesome time at this year's holiday club which was inspired by the Summer of Sport! Our groups were named after animals with games, crafts, bible stories, messy challenges, and bad jokes, not to mention gunge the leaders! Trailblazers for primary age kids meet every Sunday, and look out for more kids activities this session!



THE COTTAGE

Down the street for the shopping? Need a blether and a cuppa? Pop into the Cottage (just behind the church in High Street), open Mondays and Fridays from 10am till 12noon for tea, coffee and friendship. Baby changing facilities and accessible toilet.

RENEW WELLBEING CAFE

Don't be isolated - our Renew at JK drop-in on Wednesdays in the church sanctuary is open for art, crafts, card making, dominoes, scrabble, jigsaws, knitting and a listening ear. With great coffee, cake and also freshly made soup served at 12.30pm, all free of charge. Just pop in. Open from 10.30am till 1.30pm.

THRIVE STEWARTON

Our Thrive teams provide a range of activities geared towards 20s to 40s but open to all that support physical, mental, emotional and spiritual health needs. Sessions include walk and talk, Roots and Shoots growing project, Stewarton Community Shed, Baby Beats and Thrive Tots, Journey peer support group for parents with children with additional support needs, Journey Together Friday after school ASN drop-in, Who Let The Dads Out monthly dad and kids get together and breastfeeding support. See our column or the website for details www.thrivestewarton.org

THE GUILD

The Guild is about fun, encouragement and fellowship which leads to providing opportunities for continuing growth in Christian faith through worship, prayer and action. We are putting together our syllabus for the season ahead. Keep an eye on the church Facebook page @jkchurch

SUNDAYS

You are welcome. A mix of contemporary and traditional worship with band and choir with teaching from the bible each week at 11.15am. Creche and groups for children and youth. Join us in the building or on livestream - live or on catch up: youtube.com/johnknoxchurch

JOINT SERVICES WITH ST COLUMBA'S

27th Sep at St Columba's at 11.00am with a St Columba's preacher leading; 22nd Nov at John Knox at 11.15am with Gavin Niven leading. There will be children's activities provided during both services. There will be no service at JK on 27th Sep, only one at St Columba's.

STEWARTON CHURCHES TOGETHER FOODBANK

The Centre, Standalane, Stewarton, KA3 5BG. The times of opening, for clients or donations, are Tuesdays - 12:00 noon to 1:30 pm and Fridays - 6:00 to 7:30 pm. Please use the boxes in Sainsburys, Co-op and Aldi to donate food.

OUR VISION

To KNOW God-reality in worship together
To REACH out to others in God-initiative
To SHARE generously God-provisions in our world

LOOK OUT FOR OTHER GROUPS AT JK...

Cottage Cycling Club - Mondays
Gardening Club - Mondays
Table Tennis - Tuesdays
Joan's Angels Pop Choir - Wednesdays
Country Dancing Group - Thursdays
Stewarton Rainbows - Thursdays

HOW CAN WE HELP?

Check out our website www.johnknox.org.uk or find us on social @jkchurch. getconnected@johnknox.org.uk

United Reformed Church Stewarton

SUNDAY SERVICES

We would like to welcome anyone who can join us for our Sunday morning service at 10am with Tea and Coffee after. Our Minister Rev Lesley Thomson is with us on the second and fourth Sunday of the month with various visiting preachers on the alternate Sundays. The Church is open for quiet time 11am-12noon on the first Wednesday of the month.

FRIENDSHIP

Our Knit & Chat restarts on Wednesday the 19th August at 1pm till 3pm - please note change of time owing to the new bus timetable. Anyone with knitting problems are welcome to join us, with Tea, Coffee and Cake being served. Nominal Charge of £1 with all Donations Welcome.

COMING UP

We are sorry the Film day on 5th August was cancelled but has been rearranged for Wednesday 7th October at 1pm. We are having an open day with the Lainshaw Lions on Monday 12th October from 11am till 3pm. Our next Craft Day has a Christmas theme on Wednesday 4th November at 1pm. Neilston Strings Ukulele Band are coming again to entertain us on Wednesday 18th November at 1pm.

Everyone is welcome to any of our activities at 22 Lainshaw Street, Stewarton.

Run Dunlop 2026

Run Dunlop returns on
Sunday 6 September!

We're back!!

RUN DUNLOP

06/09/2026

Join us for a fun, inclusive community event featuring a 5km Fun Run and 2km Family Fun Run. Whether you're a first-time runner or aiming for a new Trindlegreen PB, everyone is welcome. Tail walkers will be on hand, so nobody gets left behind.

Supporting local causes

- 90% of proceeds will support a whole-school trip for Dunlop Primary School in Summer 2027.

- 10% will be donated to 23rd Ayrshire (Dunlop) Scout Group, chosen by the Pupil Council.

All participants receive:
Medal | Water | Cake | Banana

RACE TIMES

- Registration: 12.30pm - 1.45pm (Dunlop Playing Fields)
- 2km Fun Run: 2.00pm
- 5km Fun Run: 2.30pm

ENTRY FEES

- 5km: £12 early bird / £14 standard
- 2km: £3 early bird / £4 standard
- Under 3s (2km): Free (registration required)

Limited to 250 places. Online entries close 4 September 2026.

The route follows Kirkland Road, Main Street, Stewarton Road, Newmill Road and Trindlegreen. Please note this is a self-timed event on open roads, with marshals at key points.

To enter, sponsor a runner or make a donation: <https://www.gofundme.com/f/run-dunlop>

For updates: www.facebook.com/rundunlop

Run, walk, support your community and have fun!



Stewart Residential, welcoming *you* home

We have a new member of Staff on the team Gemma, who's background is marketing, and we have added new tools to our toolbox, we can now offer staging for vacant properties along with Drone Photos, again this is an offer by the young talented local Photographer Chloe Candlish, for the sales and rental market, our 3D Interactive tour has been a massive hit with our buyers and sellers and we can offer a forever Tour, once you download it you can keep it forever.

So what's changing? well we are looking to offer support to landlords and tenants alike, (you do not need to be a tenant, or under contract is you are a landlord, of Stewarts) but we have come across some issues with paperwork and communication breakdowns between landlord and tenant, this will be free service and we will post on Facebook with times and dates.

As fully qualified letting agents who have successfully gained their LARN with the Scottish government and with continue professional development, we are now looking to become accredited with our industry. If you have experienced any problems just reach out and we can guide you as we have access to Solicitor and Housing members.

As you may have noticed this year the sales were few and far between, many people have held off placing their property on the market and there is several reasons for this, so lets hope the Budget in November does not go forward with increasing the council tax for H and G Properties' and they can do something to encourage the sales and not inhibit buyers and sellers. Check out all our properties on Instagram or Facebook and our website www.stewart-residential.com

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Dunlop Musical Memories

Dunlop Musical Memories meets on the 2nd Wednesday of every month in Dunlop Church Hall from 2–4 pm. All are welcome to come along and enjoy an afternoon of song and chat with delicious home baking at the interval.

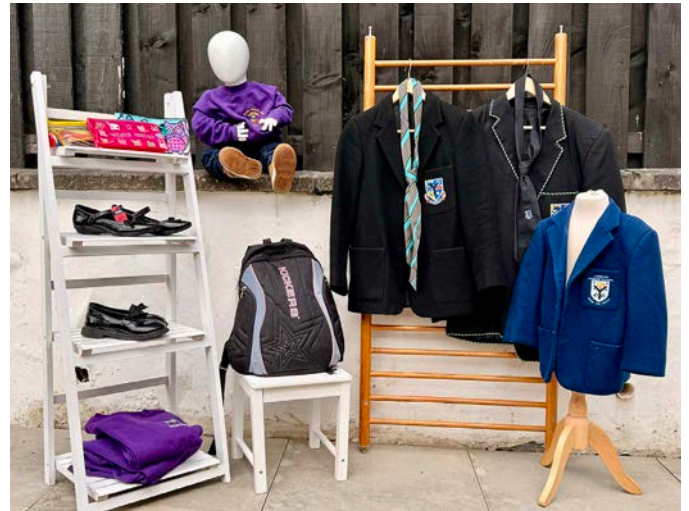
We have recently had a busy and exciting few months. We invited S.M.T.(Sheila, Mary, and Tom) from Galston to entertain us with songs and a quiz for our March meeting; and then we held an Eader after on April 8th with prizes for the best decorated Bonnets and Eggs. May 13th was our annual bus trip— this time to Garrion Bridge Garden and Antique Centre where we had a good wander round and a delicious Afternoon Tea.

We invited James Blackwood and son Robbie to entertain us with their guitar and fiddle in July. It was most enjoyable and certainly had our toes tapping along to their tunes.

As you can see, we have had a most varied and exciting few months- so why not join us and have a stimulating afternoon?



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As the only charity shop in Stewarton, we're incredibly proud of the role we play in the community. The shop is run entirely by volunteers, and because of that, every penny of profit goes straight back into supporting local good causes. When you visit us, donate to us, or spread the word about what we do, you're helping your neighbours directly.

We rely on the generosity of local families to keep our shelves stocked. If you're in a position to donate outgrown uniform items or other school essentials, we would be grateful for your support. Please ensure all donations are washed, folded, and bagged before dropping them off. Every item passed on helps another family and keeps perfectly good clothing out of landfill.

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Parkour - Urban creativity for mental clarity

The word 'parkour' has gained a very particular (and for the most part, very wrong!) reputation within modern society – 'crazy adrenaline junkies', but that couldn't be farther from the truth. In reality, many current parkour athletes (like myself) have never actually been on a rooftop, and seek a greater reward within the sport – urban creativity. Parkour (or freerunning) challenges the mind and body in a way no other sport does, transforming everyday spaces into opportunities for exploration, problem-solving and self-expression.

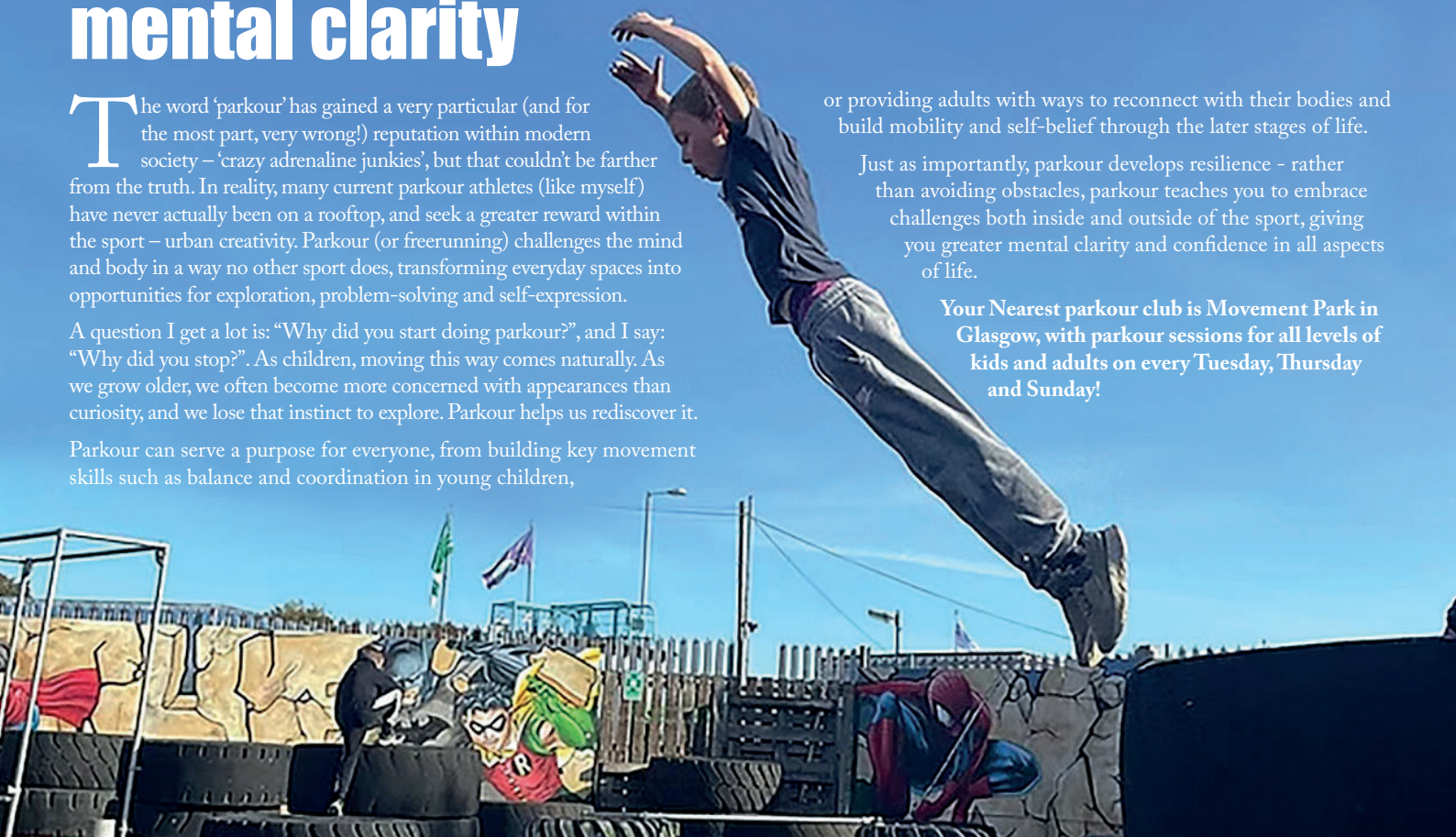
A question I get a lot is: "Why did you start doing parkour?", and I say: "Why did you stop?". As children, moving this way comes naturally. As we grow older, we often become more concerned with appearances than curiosity, and we lose that instinct to explore. Parkour helps us rediscover it.

Parkour can serve a purpose for everyone, from building key movement skills such as balance and coordination in young children,

or providing adults with ways to reconnect with their bodies and build mobility and self-belief through the later stages of life.

Just as importantly, parkour develops resilience - rather than avoiding obstacles, parkour teaches you to embrace challenges both inside and outside of the sport, giving you greater mental clarity and confidence in all aspects of life.

Your Nearest parkour club is Movement Park in Glasgow, with parkour sessions for all levels of kids and adults on every Tuesday, Thursday and Sunday!



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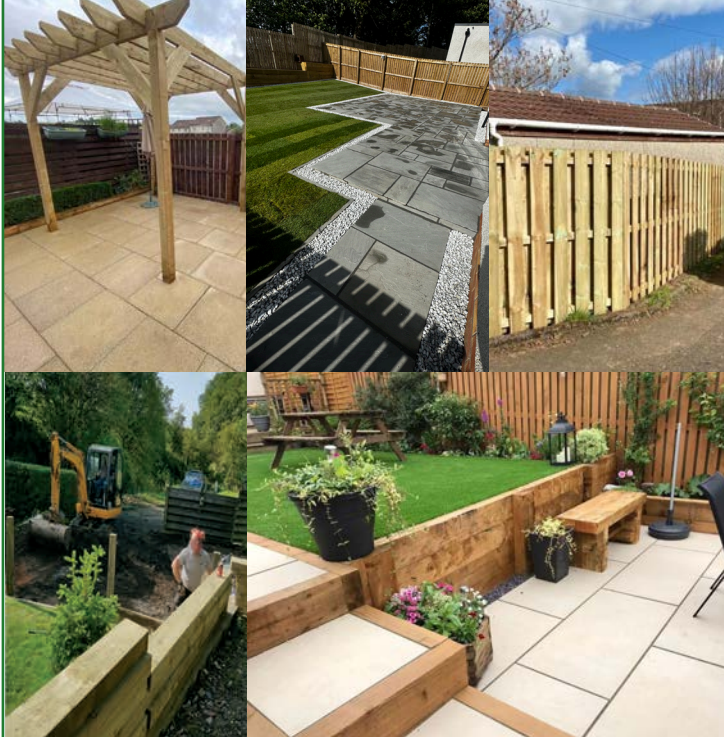
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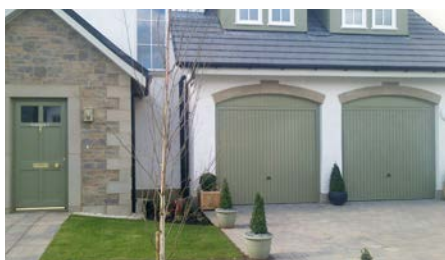


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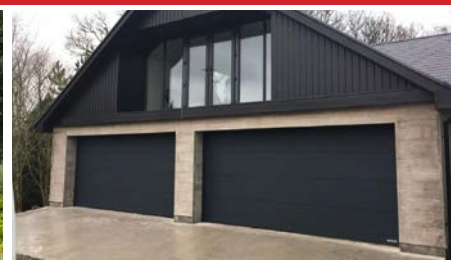


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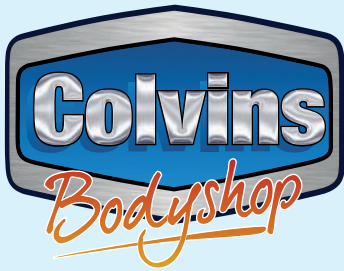
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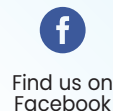
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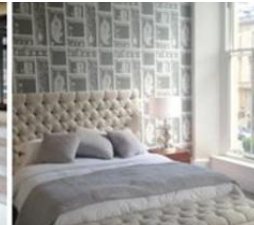


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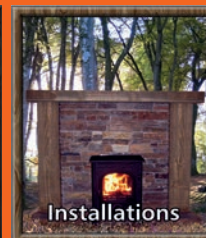
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*Warranty is subject to annual servicing of the boiler.

