



Girvan



Festival

2022

June 11th - 12th



Hi!

Girvan is full of artists: musicians, poets, authors, playwrights, sculptors and visual artists. Girvan is also full of beauty: the natural scenery is sublime!

I want to involve the community in welcoming visitors, for as long as they want to stay. The weekend of June 11th & 12th is an ideal time to visit, as the first Girvan Arts Festival is ON!

The programme sees local celebrities, some from further afield, give their points of view. The festival is based at the Girvan Community Garden, which will be offering scrumptious food throughout the day. Dainty Doilys are offering cream-teas in a vintage setting at nearby South Parish Church Hall. The Festival Art Exhibition will be around the corner, at the Wee School Art Space.

I want to thank two friends, Derek Hall and Brian Neve, for believing in me, and my idea of an arts festival in Girvan, and for financing the entire event. Thank you.

Come, enjoy, and plan a return visit next year...look at our website girvanartsfesival.com for the latest exciting news on this year's programme.

Helen DW Humphries, Poet
Festival Director



Dear All,

Welcome to the inaugural Girvan Arts Festival, 2022. I'm honoured and thrilled to be a patron of what promises to be an exciting addition to the cultural calendar.

Growing up in Girvan has inspired all of my work. It's a place which produces writers, musicians, artists, designers, makers and enthusiastic, knowledgeable audiences. A festival which brings all of those strands together is a wonderful thing.

My hometown is a special place for a visit any time, but with such a varied programme spread across the weekend, there's no better time to take a trip down the beautiful Ayrshire coast, and get a taste of that inspiration for yourself.

Douglas Maxwell, Playwright
Patron of the Girvan Arts Festival

Saturday, June 11th

12:30 - 1:15pm
Dr Tom Smith



This festival is about the spirit of place, and I'm privileged to be asked to open it. Place is about the people in it, and how they interact and live happily together. As for my personal continuity here, there can't be many doctors who can say that they delivered the granddaughter of a baby they delivered 40 years before! I'm in awe of the humanity, the resilience and the sense of belonging that lie deep in the hearts of the people of the nearby Stinchar Valley. There's more to be said, not just by me, but by all of the speakers. Please come, listen and join in our conversations!

1:45-2:30pm
Des Dillon



Des Dillon is an award-winning poet, writer, dramatist, and scriptwriter whose work has been published and performed across Europe and America. His writing is critically acclaimed, popular and sometimes controversial, often addressing the elitism that creates under-classes. He wrote *Singing I'm No a Billy He's a Tim*, considered Scottish Theatre's most successful contemporary play. A product of the Coatbridge Irish, he is a natural storyteller, as is evident in his classic novel *Me and My Gal*.



The Girvan Community Garden

The day-time performances of this festival will all take place in The Dome, at the Girvan Community Garden. The Garden provides an outdoor space for the community, which creates volunteering opportunities for everyone, to engage in horticultural sessions and community events throughout the year. It provides a positive, safe and welcoming environment that helps people to improve their health and well-being, broaden their knowledge of gardening and help create a vibrant, inclusive and multi-generational community.

The Dome is a relatively recent addition to the Garden, and we are delighted to be able to have our performances there. Hot food and refreshments will be available to purchase throughout the day, and the Garden is a lovely place to sit and reflect in between sessions.

The Festival Shop is also located in the Garden.

3:00-3:45pm
Audrey Keenan



Audrey is a world-renowned international artist from W. Lothian. She began painting angels in 2014, since when she has received 16 international awards, including the coveted Leonardo da Vinci Golden World Cup. She has designed her own range with a top Italian Fashion House, exhibited her work in many countries and this year has a solo exhibition at Whitespace Gallery in Edinburgh.

4:15-5:00pm
Heather Close



Heather's background is in engineering, but she moved back to Scotland 3 years ago to run Littleton Farm, near Turnberry-marketing as Balsar Glen-with her father, Philip. They raise native breed cattle on the farm, hardy creatures who have evolved to thrive in our climate. Heather and her father are part of a small, but growing band of regenerative farmers in the UK, who work to understand and support nature's contribution to their farm health.

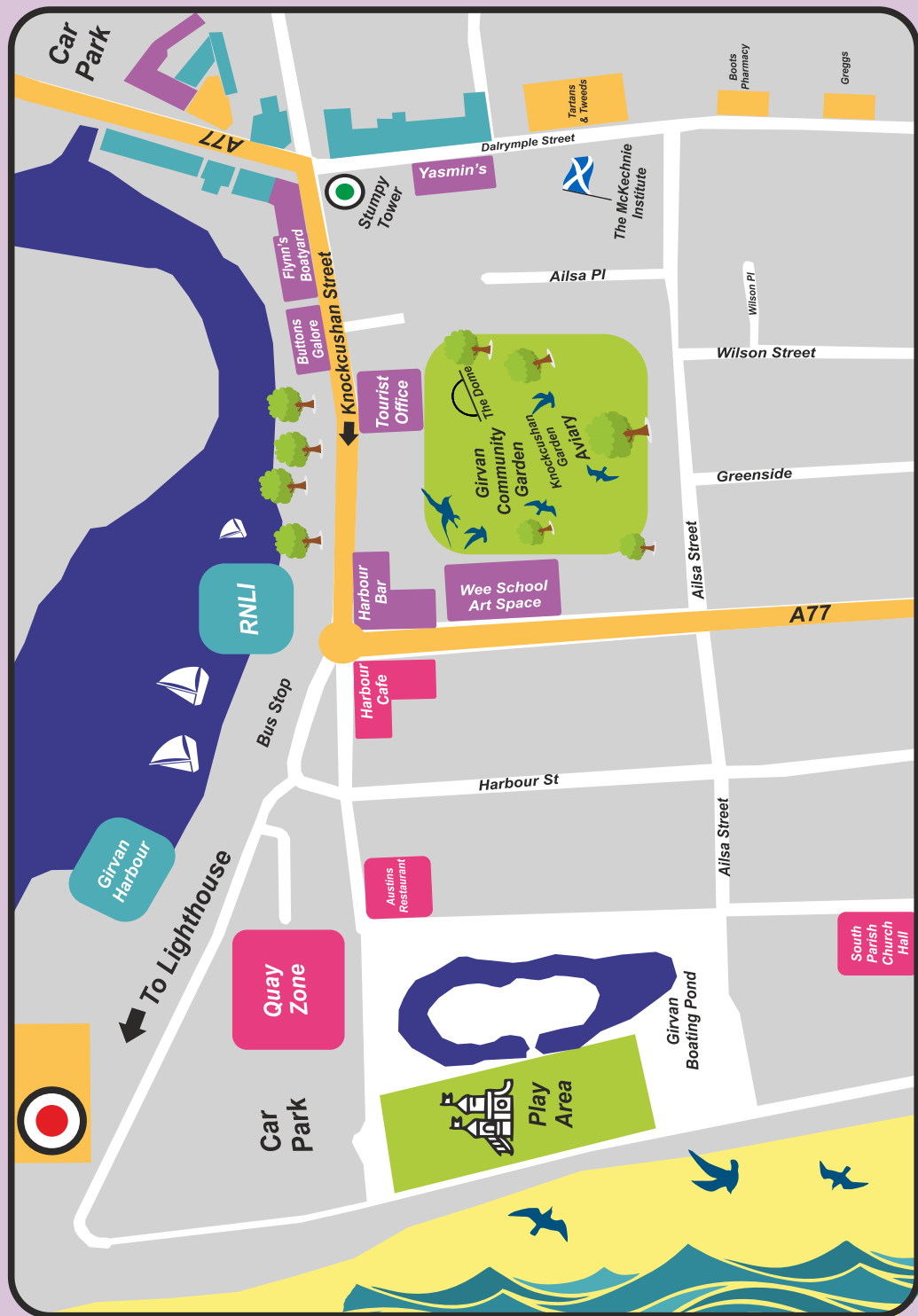
5:30-6:15pm
Gilbert Browne

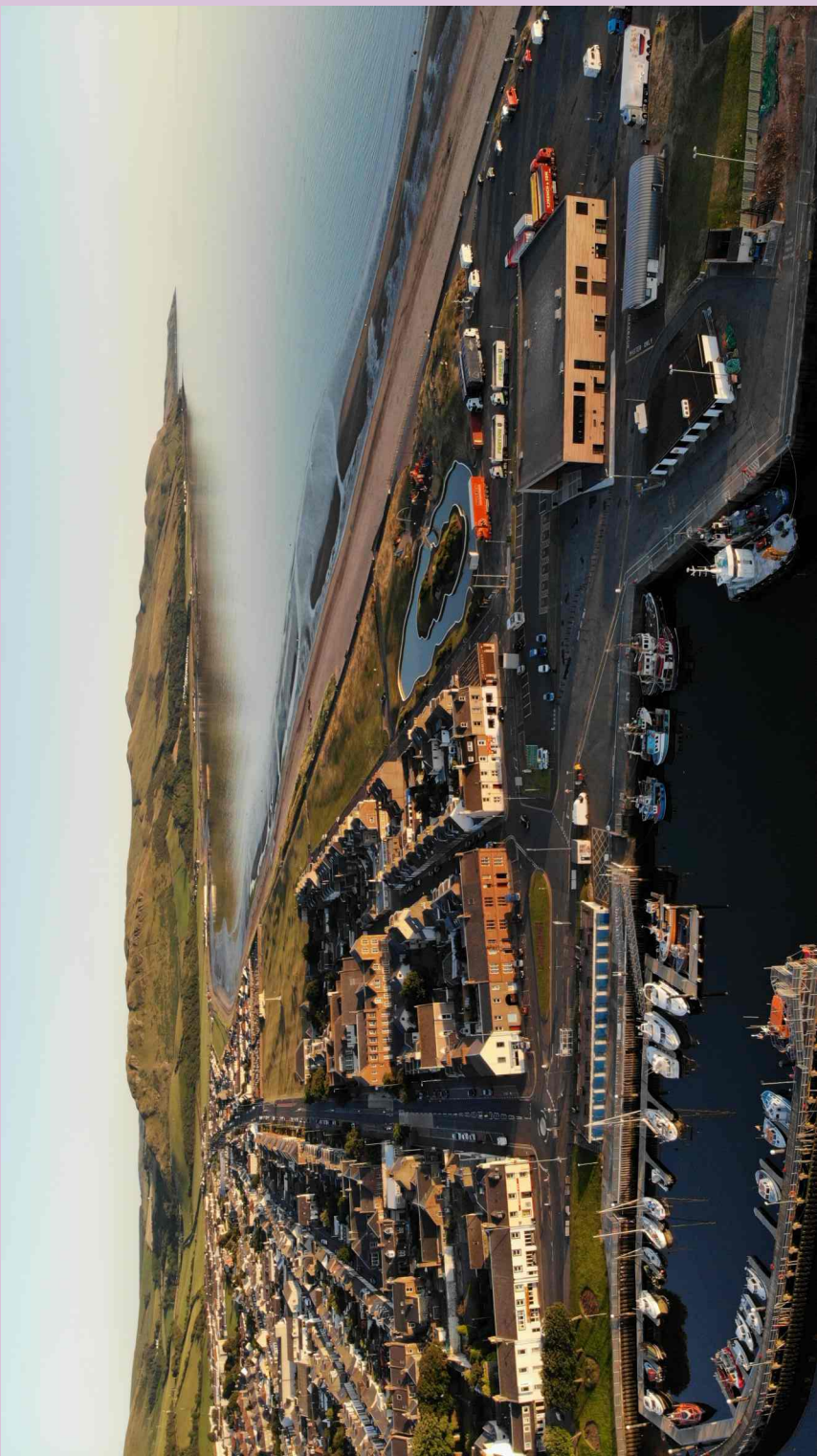


Born in Girvan, Gilbert Browne is an artist, and an angler. He has travelled extensively and lived in London and Istanbul. His passionate approach to life has resulted in an overlap of his art and his angling: the two have produced a philosophy on the environment and he is a dedicated conservationist. He has exhibited at the RA Summer Show, and his work has been exhibited in the USA, Japan, and countless other places. His work will also be on display at our art exhibition at the Wee School Art Space.



7.00-10.00pm
Festival Party at The Lounge Bar at The Harbour Bar
Come along and enjoy the party!





Sunday, June 12th

12:30 - 1:15

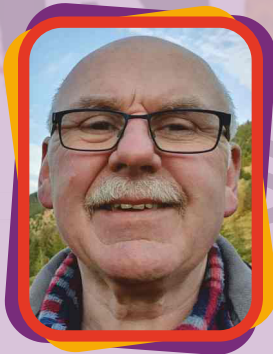
Ralph Brookfield



Ralph is a writer and musician from Ealing, West London. He combines performing with promoting local grassroots music. Ralph is the author of *On the Trail of Americana Music*, a walk through the history and diaspora of American roots music. He introduces a special anthology for 2022, *Rock's Diamond Year*, celebrating the 60th anniversary of the birth of British blues rock, and the locations that nurtured it.

1:45-2:30

Rory McAdam



Rory is an enthusiastic, amateur photographer, and has been a member of the Girvan Camera Club for many years. His favourite subject is landscape, although he will try most subjects. He loves photographing Scotland in particular. His work on Girvan and its surrounding environment will be known by many.

3:00-3:45pm
Jacquelyn Rixon

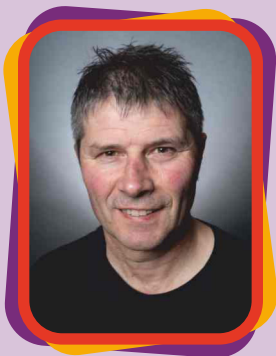


Jacquelyn graduated with a BA(Hons) from Gray's School of Art in 1996. Her artistic work revolves around issues of the feminine. She tends towards the use of detritus in her work: the often overlooked and discarded ephemera of life, like soap, blood, hair and dead flowers. The language of her work is essentially domestic, and has roots in the philosophy of Feminism and the Victorian obsession with Memento Mori. She is currently investigating ageing, specifically the Alzheimer's which her mother had.

4:15-5:00pm
Brian Young,
Holmes Farm Plants



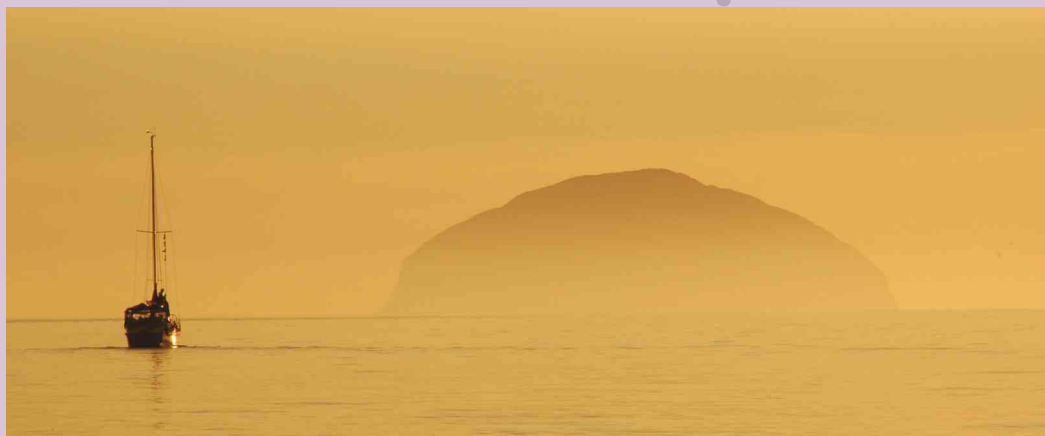
Brian is a confirmed "Plantaholic", who was a textile designer, and who retired from his own textiles company at the age of 31 to run his own plant nursery. The nursery is based on the family farm, Holmes Farm, at Drybridge in Ayrshire. Holmes Farm Plants opened in 2006, specialising in unusual perennials, alpine and shrubs. The garden is the working stock beds and display area for his private collection of plants. He is best known for his Iris collection, which number over 400. He is always happy to share advice and growing tips to get the best effect for your garden.



5:30-6:15pm
Alan Jeans

Recently retired Girvan vet, Alan Jeans writes books under the pen-name Alan Jones. Born and raised in Glasgow, Alan has lived and worked in Girvan since 1987. He has been writing for the last ten years or so, and has published crime novels, *The Cabinetmaker*, *Blue Wicked* and *Bloq*. He has also recently published *The Sturmtaucher Trilogy*, a historical Holocaust fiction trilogy. He is a volunteer with the Girvan RNLI.

ARTS
Festival





7:30-9:00pm

South Parish Church Hall

Concert: Strathclyde University Chamber Choir

The choir was formed in 1980, and has a repertoire ranging from plainsong and renaissance music to the a cappella staples of the 20th century and more contemporary work. The choir is self-funding, and performs regularly at Durham and York Minsters. They have toured widely abroad, recorded for BBC Radio 2,3, and 4, and have released a CD of Scottish part songs. The choir has been led by its Musical Director, Alan Tavener, BEM since its foundation, and is assisted by the associate conductor, Michael Graham.

This concert will be principally Scottish: choral settings of renaissance Scottish poets and of Robert Burns, plus some new works with words by Alexander McCall Smith, of No 1 Ladies Detective Agency fame.



Saturday 11th, and Sunday 12th June
South Parish Church Hall
12:30 - 6:00pm
"Dainty Doily" Teas

Recently formed by our Community Co-ordinator, Mary Corbey, "Dainty Doily" offers the chance to take the weight off your feet and enjoy a delicious, home-baked scone (or two). The "Dainty Doily" staff will provide cream teas--all in traditional waitress wear, with the background of some vintage music.

See the website for all the Community Festival Activities, which are taking place over the two days.
girvanartsfestival.com

TICKET INFORMATION

The festival performances are ticket-only, and all tickets can be purchased from our website, which is girvanartsfestival.com, and are £10.00, except for the Dainty Doily cream tea, which is £5.00 per person.

A massive 50% discount is available for a weekend ticket-allowing you access to all events-at £50.

Tickets also available at the door.



The Art Exhibition will be at the Wee School Art Space on both days, from 12-6pm.
Admission to this is free,
and all the art works will be for sale.



Thank you to Derek Hall and Brian Neve
for financing this event.

Thank you to Rory McAdam and Bill Arnott
for their photography.



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