

MUIRKIRK NEWS

ISSUE 13 - MARCH 2018

PRINTED ON BEHALF OF MUIRKIRK COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Quiz

Questions:

- 1: Which word is used for an animal that feeds on plants rather than meat?
- 2: How many legs does a spider have?
- 3: What is a male duck called?
- 4: What is the largest bird in the world called?
- 5: Caribou is an alternative name for which animal?
- 6: What is the fastest four footed animal on earth?
- 7: Which name is given to describe a young Kangaroo ?
- 8: What type of creature is a Natterjack?

How did you do? Find the answers on page 16

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<https://www.facebook.com/muirkirkcommunitycouncil/>

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RW, Muirkirk

What are you waiting for? Don't get caught out in the cold!

Chairman's Update

We seem to have been quite lucky for a change in that we missed the worst of the so-called Beast from the East.

It has been a long winter and people are getting a bit fed up with all the snow and ice and are looking to get a glimpse of spring but it seems as far away as ever.

We continue to get a good turnout for our Community Council Meetings and we are looking to welcome representatives of the proposed Galloway National Park to the next one on the 03/04/18.

They are coming to give a Presentation with regards to their proposals so if this is something that is interest to you please come along.

One of the topic's that was raised at the last Meeting was whether we ought to have a defibrillator located in a public place. We have asked the Council if this is something they would take on board and at this time we await a response. In the meantime, we would make you aware that there are currently three of these in the village. One in the fire station, one in the school and one in the Bowling club.

We are planning to have a litter pick in the village on the 7th & 8th April from 10am until 3pm. The Meeting point will be the Games Hall on both days and if you are able to spare some time to assist it will be greatly appreciated as I am sure you will want as we do to have the village to be looking as well as it can be.

You will all be concerned with regards to the state of the local roads and in particular Muirkirk to Sorn which has deteriorated badly over the winter months. We are pleased to report that the Council have trebled their roads budget to £6 million and that the A70 & the B743 are included for extensive resurfacing works.

Muirkirk Juniors are looking at the feasibility of getting funding for upgrading their pitch to a 4 G or similar. This would allow the pitch and facilities to be used much more extensively and give rise to the possibility of forming new football teams of various age groups.

The first thing they will consider is carrying out a survey in the village to gauge public opinion.

The Community Council are looking at the possibility of setting up a Cold Calling Zone and Neighbourhood Watch Scheme and when it was discussed at the recent Community Council Meeting there was a positive response. We are aware that Muirkirk is a relatively low crime area but this proposal would also act as a deterrent to anyone looking to target the village.

Again as the Juniors the first thing we would have to do is carry out a Survey to get feedback from the Community.

We are currently looking at collating a Handout for people arriving into the village for the first time. It may also be useful for residents. This would include a list of Groups and Organisations and Important Telephone Numbers. These would please available in local shops, Hub etc.

Residents might be interested to know that there are just over twenty Groups / Organisations within the village which is a lot for a village of our size and around 50% of these are fronted by women which is also a positive for gender equality.

Finally, we take this opportunity to welcome Mrs McLean the new Head Teacher at Muirkirk Primary who took up her post on the 5th March 2018 and we also give thanks to Mrs McCulloch for her time as acting head and we wish her well on her return to her permanent position at Sorn Primary.

Written on behalf of Muirkirk community Council by David McLatchie

Muirkirk Bowling Club

At the recent AGM President, Jim McNee was elected into office for season 2018 and we would like to wish Jim a successful year.

The gents opening day will be on Saturday 31st March at 2.00pm & Ladies opening day is Saturday 7th April.

Playing membership for the year is £50 and for first year members it is £25. New members are needed but if you fancy a try before you join please contact us and arrangements will be made.

Muirkirk Cancer Support Group

Once again we had a great night at our Christmas Dinner at St Thomas's Hall. Good food good company and the odd glass of wine made for a happy group of friends. We have to thank the St Thomas's committee for making it such an enjoyable evening and to Wilma for the excellent meal.

One of the ideas for raising money for Ayrshire Cancer Support was to offer folk tubes of Smarties and ask them to fill the empty tubes with 20p's, so far we have had over £200 handed back. Thank you for all those who have given. The work ACS does driving cancer patients to their appointments and giving counselling, complementary therapies and a place for certain cancer groups to meet is unique and special for Ayrshire, as it is free. It relies on donations and Muirkirk has always been generous whenever we have fund raising for the group and our local group continue to support them by selling Calendars and Christmas cards every year.

Muirkirk Nearly New

The end of the year total this year was £8,246. We have had quite a bit of work done on Garan House to keep it in good repair. You will probably have noticed the new shelving and display rails that were bought with the money we were awarded. We also had the larger room decorated to freshen it up. The new sign and roof have made a big difference to the appearance to the building.

Thanks to all who have given items for sale and to those who have purchased them. We have had some very generous donations that enable us raise the funds for the work to be done .

A big 'Thank You' to all the ladies who give up their time every week to manage the shop and to Hugh Moorhead who looks after the building and often repairs items that we have in. Without all the help we wouldn't be able to continue, so keep up the good work helping us help the village.

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NATIONAL INDEPENDENT
FUNERAL DIRECTORS

MUIRKIRK COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Meeting held on Monday 5th February 2018 in the community rooms.

PRESENT : David McLatchie, Tom Bark, Judith Linton, Kathleen Hignett, David Agnew, Harry Murray, John Dempster, David Norman, Gordon McGuire, Lisa Macmillan.

IN ATTENDANCE: William Kirk, George Davidson(EAC), Kevin Braidwood(EAC), Maureen Drennan, Nan Beck, Jim Higgins, Billy Park, Gary Clifford, Lyn Johnstone, John Sykes, William Murray, Hayley Ward, Billy Ward, Jim Marshall, Chris Murray, Robert Smith, cllr Neil McGhee.

APOLOGIES: Ludovic Dunlop, cllr Allyson Simmons, Declan Crews, Cheryl Hynd, cllr Jim Roberts.

Ayrshire Roads Alliance: A brief outline was given regarding the gritting of roads and pathways in East Ayrshire. Priorities are given to 'A' class roads as per government regulations

There will be a full review of the winter plan for 2018/19. Feedback from public welcomed. Suggestions - to send all equipment and manpower from snow free areas to where they are needed.

A local contact for updates in conditions, more salt bins to be placed in positions agreed with community, since Underwood closed the facilities are further away from the areas needing grit etc. Have a satellite station set up eg Muirkirk , New Cumnock or Cumnock. This would save driver's time as well.

It was agreed that EAC was lax in sending the correct help quickly during the last major snowfall.

Local farmers used to fill the shortfall but due to health and safety legislation this is no longer an option. Pedestrians were having to walk on main A70 as all pavements were feet deep in snow.

The condition of the B743 to Sorn/ Mauchline was discussed. This road is in a very bad state of repair.

The re alignment of the A70 – a bidder is to be appointed – work to start in April – May 2018.

The minutes of the previous meeting were proposed by D Agnew and seconded by T Bark.

MATTERS ARISING: Retaining wall at Coach House needs extensive work. This work is out to tender at moment.

Stagecoach – no response as yet to meeting in December 2017.

Drainage of Victory Park – work to be carried out by water board and EAC.

Games Hall to remain open until 31st March 2018 between 2.30pm and 9.30 pm Monday to Friday.

POLICE REPORT: 2 reports in last month. Complaints of vehicles speeding through village. Police will report to relevant department.

COUNCILLORS: Neil McGhee reports that councillors are awaiting budget details.

MEG: Asset transfer is moving slowly, all paperwork has been sent in to EAC. The hub is possibly complete just a snagging list to complete. Lights and heating are being left on 24 hours. Directors will be inspecting gym equipment at Patna on Thursday 8th February.

KAMES CAR CLUB: Won 3rd prize in GB for club. Clubhouse renovation on going. Hoping

to have the clubhouse use-able by June 2018 for Gala day and classic car show on 9th / 10th.

PLANNING: None

TREASURER : Balance of £1947.03 . Some advertisers still to pay for Muirkirk News. Invoices have went missing in post – will re issue. Will be purchasing printer for hub with PB money.

MUIRKIRK NEWS : No issue in January. 270 copies being printed. 12 postal copies. Delivery date the 3rd March 2018.

PUBLIC INPUT: There have been no issues reported about the doctors.

It was suggested having a bouncy castle day before the final closure of the Games hall. (D McL)

Contact EAC to arrange for next week when school holidays are on.

Action Plan – what activities etc. are to be in the hub? Open to suggestions from community.

MEG will be looking for funding to run the hub to encourage people to use it.

It was suggested to have a litter pick in March- April. (D McL)

Suggestion of inviting Auchinleck Academy band to hold a concert or have them at the Gala day.

A.O.C.B. : There was a vote on where the Dux board could be placed.

Opposite entrance door – 17

This has still to be decided by Muirkirk Association.

A framed map from 1929 has been donated to the community. A discussion took place as to where it can be placed.

Opposite janitor's room – 3

Muirkirk Hub – 10

Further discussion with MEG group to get wider range of opinion.

Galloway Next National Park – have asked to give a presentation for the village, will take approx. one hour. Suggested to have them as part of next meeting. Suggested to have meeting start 30 minutes earlier. This will be confirmed at a later date. (D McL)

Castelloi village – It might not be possible to continue with the friendship agreement as this village has more financial support than Muirkirk. Contact school to see if a penpal scheme could be started instead.

PB funding (health and wellbeing) This scheme is East Ayrshire wide. Closing date is 26th February. There is £20,000 in total funding with min being £250 and max £2,000.

Voting will be held in Cumnock and Drongan. There is to be transport arranged to take voters to the venues as each community are eligible to vote. The feeling on this is that larger villages will have more votes and smaller villages will lose out. This point has been raised to organisers.

There is a student going round the village taking photographs for his thesis. He is hoping to have a book made with copies available when it is finished.

David McLatchie proposed to donate £100 to St Thomas's committee for the use of the hall for our meetings. The vote was unanimous in favour of proposal.

NEXT MEETING MONDAY 5th MARCH 2018 IN COMMUNITY ROOMS AT 7pm.

Zumba Kids – Muirkirk

Zumba Kids take place on a Monday evening every week, the kids take part in Zumba routines and games. This encourages motivation, promotes social interaction and healthy lifestyle, the kids enjoy expressing their individuality and working together as part of a team.

We are looking for funding or sponsorship to buy uniforms and equipment for the kids, this will be used weekly and also at Muirkirk Gala Day where the kids are doing a demonstration. If you would like to make a donation or sponsor the Zumba Kids please contact Sheree Mullen.

NOTE OF THANKS

Jimmy and Betty Taylor would like to thank their relatives and friends for the beautiful cards and good wishes received on the occasion of their Diamond Wedding Anniversary.
2 The Style, Muirkirk.

Photo by Craig McComb

Craig McComb is an amateur night photographer who lives in Auchinleck. Recently he's been doing a lot of night photography around the Muirkirk hills. This is one of the hundreds of images he's taken.



'IMAGES OF MUIRKIRK'

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Muirkirk Juniors FC

Once again our recent fixture v Ardeer Thistle fell foul to the weather when an early morning inspection by match referee deemed the pitch unplayable. We are now starting to have a backlog of games including 8 at home before the end of May. Can we appeal to anyone who has even a couple of hours a week spare to help our overworked groundsmen to get in touch with the Club or go over to Burnside park and offer any assistance, this would be greatly appreciated.

Lotto

10.3.18 Jackpot not won and now stands at £350. There was one person, Jim Kelly matched 3 numbers and won £60. Remember its only 50p per line so why not join now for the chance to win big money.

Muirkirk Craft Class

We currently have 23 members in our craft class with individuals learning new skills and sharing old skills with others. We knit, crochet, cross stitch, machine knit ... but anything goes. It is 30 years since we had our first meeting and we would like to take this opportunity to say a 'thank you' to past and present members for their support during this time.

We offer each other:

- our individual expertise and guidance on personal projects.
- tutorial help and assistance with machine knitting techniques.
- an opportunity to learn and develop new skills or improve on existing skills.
- a place to meet with people who share common interests and a desire to help each other.
- a limited alteration service e.g. shorten and overlock trousers and skirts. (No curtains)
- Hospitality in the form of a cuppa and a little something ... not to forget a bit of a natter.

We meet each Wednesday in the Community Rooms from 10 a.m. to 12 p.m. If you would like to join us, please contact Morag Dempster on 01290 661681 or just come along. We would be more than happy to give you a warm welcome.

Boys Brigade

The grant last year from the Co-Op community fund is being put to good use thanks to the efforts of Stuart Griffin who leads a group of friends, family and volunteers who are refurbishing the BB club Rooms. A big thanks to Stuart and co.

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KICKBACK MARTIAL ARTS

Classes starting again in
Community Centre

Fridays 5.30pm – 7.30pm

Children and adults welcome

All Physical abilities Welcome

KARATE : JUI JITSU

KUNG FU : AIKEDO

JUDO : SELF DEFENCE

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Quiz Answers

- 1 Herbivore
- 2 Eight
- 3 Drake
- 4 Ostrich
- 5 Reindeer
- 6 Cheetah
- 7 Joey
- 8 Toad

Open Studios Ayrshire

The Open Studios Ayrshire Art Trail Event is Friday 27th April to Monday 30th April 2018 and the Launch Event where new artists can be met in one place is at The Dick Institute 12th April 5.30pm - 7.30pm.

The OSA brochure is ready to be viewed online at www.openstudiosayrshire.com. It is in the process of being printed and will be distributed through Rozelle House, Ayr and The Dick Institute, Kilmarnock, where excellent exhibitions have been curated for the art loving public. Arrange your time to see these exhibitions as well as pick up your OSA brochure.

Call for Artists: This year we have artists from Muirkirk to West Kilbride, showing the reach of the OSA Art Trail. We welcome further artists to join us in this exciting journey where the general public turn out year after year to meet their favourite artists, show interest in new artists and develop their interest in the working process behind artworks they love.

This year we have more OSA Artists working from their home studio, which may be up a wee country lane or right over at the coast. Enjoy the experience of seeing what stimulates the OSA Artists and Makers in their natural surroundings. Please act responsibly and pack your car with eager art trail visitors, or arrange a wee minibus for your art group or class of art students. See who is going from your area on our Facebook page <https://www.facebook.com/OpenStudiosAyrshire/>

Paula Maughan one of our new artists had her artwork chosen for the front cover of The Open Studios Directory, we are thrilled to have her part of our community of self supporting artists. Paula works from her studio in West Kilbride. She has encouraged The Barony to get involved and is looking forward to more artists joining from her area. Paula offers her skills as our Members Secretary. We wish her well and thank her for her hard work and commitment to OSA. Best Wishes JHWinter OSA Chair.

This is Julie's third and last year as OSA Chair. As she stands down she reflects on how OSA has grown and changed and is fully supportive of Artists and Makers supporting each other through an online platform. She says 'Everyone enjoys having equal status, knowing they have a voice, a contribution to a group and a willingness to work with others'. Julie welcomes all new OSA artists and makers. She sends best wishes for a fantastic experience of sharing their work and skills with other OSA members and visitors to their studios.

We are looking forward to visitors from Ayrshire as well as a little further afield; towards the south Dumfries and Galloway and to the East Renfrewshire and Glasgow. Many of these outlying families further afield will be delighted with the subject matter of OSA as the places they remember from childhood visits are the subject of many local Ayrshire artists and makers.



Open Studios Ayrshire

27th - 30th April 2018

www.openstudiosayrshire.com

MUIRKIRK COMMUNITY COUNCIL

AGENDA

MEETING OF MUIRKIRK COMMUNITY COUNCIL TO BE HELD ON TUESDAY 3rd APRIL 2018 AT 7pm IN COMMUNITY ROOMS, BURNS AVENUE.

BUSINESS

1. WELCOME AND APOLOGIES
 2. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING
 - 2.1 MATTERS ARISING
 - 2.2 PRESENTATION BY GALLOWAY FOREST NATIONAL PARK ASSOCIATION .
 3. REPORTS
 - 3.1 POLICE
 - 3.2 LOCAL COUNCILLORS
 - 3.3 OTHER GROUPS
 4. PLANNING
 5. TREASURERS REPORT
 6. CORRESPONDENCE
 7. MUIRKIRK NEWS
 8. INPUT FROM PUBLIC
 9. A.O.C.B.
 10. DATE OF NEXT MEETING
-

Muirkirk Enterprise Group

We are very pleased to announce that the Community Asset Transfer of the old Nursery Building to MEG has been approved by East Ayrshire Council. This approval will allow MEG to commence the opening of the New Community Hub very shortly. The HUB will provide a volunteer manned library and a state of the art gym facility, membership rates will be very reasonable. The Hub will also be available for community groups to hold community meetings in and we are looking at operating some simple cooking classes as a start to wider programme of community engagement designed to tackle social isolation and promote community cohesion. MEG are pleased to be able to say that EAC approved a grant of up to £6000 to allow the purchase of gym equipment, so a big thanks from MEG to our local councillors in particular Jim Roberts who led our fight on this matter.

MEG are also pleased to announce that they are supporting the local Easter Egg hunt in the land owned by MEG.

MUIRKIRK GOLF CLUB

FIXTURE LIST ----- SEASON 2018

(All Saturday's unless otherwise stated) Tee Off Times: - 8.30am, 9.30am, 11.30am, 1.00pm and 2.30pm.

MARCH

24th Opening Day Trophy (Tee-Off 10.30am)
(Captain v Vice-Captain)(Stableford)

31st Winter League Trophy

APRIL

7th April Medal

14th Drew Cunning Trophy

15th (Sun) Wallace Cup (Stableford)

21st Moorhead Trophy (Stableford)

28th Tom Steven Trophy

29th (Sun) George Ross Trophy

MAY

5th May Medal

6th (*) (Sun) Brian Young Trophy

12th (*) Anniversary Trophy

13th (Sun) President's Cup (Stableford)

19th Captain's Day (Format to be arranged)

26th (*) Taylor Printer Trophy

JUNE

2nd June Medal

9th Centenary Cup (1st Round of 36 hole stroke play)

16th Centenary Cup (2nd Round)

23rd (*) Billy Burns Trophy

24th (Sun) John Kennedy Cup

30th 72 Hole Challenge (See notice board for details)

JULY

1st (Sun) Captain's Prize

7th July Medal

14th Ayrshire Precision Engineering Cup

21st Open Texas Scramble

28th Springhill Cup

AUGUST

4th St Thomas' Hall Invitation Day

5th August Medal

11th Denise Brown Trophy (Stableford)

12th (Sun) J & E Higgins Trophy (Over50's only)

18th Club Outing

25th Jimmy Menzies Trophy

26th (Sun) Club Championship Final

SEPTEMBER

MUIRKIRK OPEN

1st September Medal

8th Alex Walker Trophy (Stableford)

16th (Sun) Davidson Cup (Texas Scramble)

22nd Marion Casagranda Cup

29th Coach House Inn Trophy

OCTOBER

6th October Medal

13th Eleanor Miller Trophy (Closing Day)
(Including Medal's Final)

14th (Sun) Competition for Christmas Hamper
(Stableford)

20th Prize-giving & Dinner Dance

MATCH PLAY COMPETITIONS

**ALL ENTRIES TO BE IN BY SATURDAY
07/04/18**

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(Two Ball Foursomes)

50% Combined Handicap

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(Four Ball Better Ball)

90% Handicap Off Lowest Player

MAUCHLINE COLLIERIES CUP

(Singles)

Full Handicap

I.T.LOW CUP

(Singles)

Full Handicap

CLUB CHAMPIONSHIP

(Scratch Match Play)

Best Two of Four Qualifying Scores

1st Round To be played on or before: - 08/07/2018

2nd Round To be played on or before: - 29/07/2018

Semi-Final To be played on or before: - 19/08/2018

FINAL SUNDAY(Time to be arranged) **26/08/2018**

(Format for Final: -18 hole Scratch Match Play)

(*) Denotes Championship Qualifiers

ORDER of MERIT: - FRASER TROPHY

(Points awarded for competitions throughout season)

ECCLECTIC: - ANDREW DODDS TROPHY

(Scores from the seven monthly medals)

Please check notice board for updates

Almond Cake Recipe

Ingredients

175g (6oz) Bertolli Spread
200g (7oz) Caster Sugar
4 large eggs
Almond essence
70g (2 1/2 oz) Plain flour
Almonds

Method

Preheat oven at 180c (350F)

1. Cream Bertolli and sugar together.
2. Add eggs 1 at a time until smooth.
3. Fold in Flour and almond essence
4. Put into sandwich tin and sprinkle almonds on top
5. (recommended) Bake for 1hr 15.
6. Dust with icing sugar and cut into 8 slices.
7. These slices can be frozen.

From one of June Bark's recipes.

Muirkirk Community Litter Picks

For the people of Muirkirk to take pride in their village and make it a clean, green, vibrant community.

Saturday 7th April & Sunday 8th April 2018.

Volunteers required, meet at Muirkirk Games Hall @ 10am – 3pm.

Equipment provided by East Ayrshire Council, but it might be a good idea to bring along your own gloves and refreshments.



Muirkirk Gala Day Easter Egg Hunt

Sunday 1st April, details on the back cover of this newsletter.

East Ayrshire Car Club

CHANGES TO CLASSIC SHOW ANNOUNCED

East Ayrshire Car Club have announced two major changes to their Kames Classic Car Show for this year. The date of the popular gathering is being moved from August to Sunday June 10th to avoid a clash with a major event in Glasgow's SSEC and several motorsport events.

Working closely with the Muirkirk Gala Day Committee it is planned to run the village Gala Day on Saturday June 9th. As the two attractions use the same venue at Kames Motorsport Complex running both events on successive days will considerably reduce the work of erecting tents and other structures while offering stand-holders an extra day's exposure to two different groups of spectators.

The Gala Day has been held at Kames for three years and has proved a big hit with both villagers and visitors from all over the area. Around 200 vehicles are expected at the Classic Show, expected to come from as far away as Fife, Glasgow, Galloway and Durham. There are classes for Veteran and Vintage cars, Emerging Classics after 1990, Light Commercials, Military, Kit, Novelty, Custom and Competition Cars.

The Club would also like to hear from owners of all cars of note irrespective of age and this year we hope to invite owners of incomplete projects, to show the progress of their restorations to fellow enthusiasts.

Regulations are available on the website of East Ayrshire Car Club eastayrshirecc.co.uk or from John Gray: (07884 006 292)

Details of the Gala Day are available from chynd@gmail.com

The change of date has been made possible by the kind co-operation of the Hamilton Classic Car Show whose details are available at gareth.walker@hamiltonbid.org

St Thomas' Hall

After a quiet start to the New Year thanks in the main to the weather, our Spring season starts on Sunday with a Mother's Day Breakfast followed a week later with a St Patricks Day Lunch, already a sell-out

We also have a few dances pencilled in with our usual Sunday Lunches filling in when space is available

All Hall events will be advertised Locally as well as the Community News.

Newsletter

The next date for submission of articles for the March newsletter is Friday 6th April 2018. Please send any correspondence to **news@muirkirk.org.uk**

We will be glad to accept any letters for inclusion into the news, please supply your name and address on correspondence (addresses will not be printed). We would also be happy to receive photos & recipes for inclusion into the news.

Muirkirk News is available free of charge to all households within the village and outlying areas.

Muirkirk News Advertising

Classified Adverts - £5

¼ page - £10

½ page - £20

Full page - £40

Full page (back cover) - £60

Full page (inside front & back cover) - £40

We require all adverts to be submitted electronically.

Please submit all adverts to **news@muirkirk.org.uk**

Please visit our new website - **http://muirkirk.org.uk**

Muirkirk News is available online at **http://muirkirk.org.uk/newsletter**

IMPORTANT NUMBERS

Ambulance	01292 265061
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East Ayrshire Council	01563 576000
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OPEN STUDIO Victoria Braithwaite

Contemporary botanical artist
will open her home and studio
for Open Studios Ayrshire

Friday 27th to Monday 30th April
from 10am to 5pm

Original works, prints, cards and gifts available

Burnbrae Cottage, Crossflat Road,
Muirkirk, KA18 3RX
victoriabraithwaite.co.uk
openstudiosayrshire.com



MUIRKIRK GALA DAY EASTER HUNT



SUNDAY 1ST APRIL 2018
11AM TO 1PM
TICKET ENTRY £1.50

Come along to the Kirk Plantation in Muirkirk (Across from the graveyard) on Easter Sunday to take part in our 1st Easter Hunt and meet the Easter Bunny!

Every person who enters will receive an Easter treat, but who will find the egg with the golden token and win the grand prize!

For a ticket for this event please see a member of the Gala Committee or request a ticket through our Facebook Page.