



PROVOST'S REPORT

For the period covering: 4 September – 22
October 2023

The attached report gives a summary and brief details to Council, of meetings and events attended by the Provost of North Ayrshire Council, Councillor Anthea Dickson.



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Since the last meeting of the Council, I, and the Depute Provost, have taken part in many events, including:

Garnock Valley Carves, Manse Field, Beith, 9 September

On 9 September, I attended Garnock Valley Carves at Manse Field, Beith. The event now in its fifth year saw chainsaw carvers this year, from all over the UK, and Germany, descend on Beith to demonstrate their creative skills and impressive sculptures. This annual event hosts a range of community-based activities and attracts many visitors. Garnock Valley Carves is arranged by a team of volunteers, led by Norrie and Rose Brown, who put in so much of their own time to plan and organise the event for their local community and visitors to the town alike.

Barmill Jolly Beggars Burns Club, Celebration Concert, Geilsland Hall, Beith, 1 October

On 1 October, Depute Provost Sweeney attended a celebration concert hosted by Barmill Jolly Beggars Burns Club in Geilsland Hall, Beith. The concert featured Irvine and Dreghorn Brass Band and Beith Theatre Choir Group. This was an excellent afternoon of entertainment showcasing the amazing musical talent we have here in North Ayrshire. The event highlighted the vibrant communities in which we live and the outstanding work of volunteers, in this case the Barmill Jolly Beggars Club, who arranged this special event.

Kirking of the Deacon Convener of Irvine Incorporated Trades, Old Parish Church, Irvine, 8 October

On 8 October, the Depute Provost attended the traditional Kirking of the Deacon Convener of Irvine Incorporated Trades. This started with a procession from Irvine Town House to Irvine Old Parish Church where the official service took place. Many people representing various local organisations in Irvine attended the ceremony.



Auchenharvie Academy Celebrating Success Ceremony, Stevenston, 11 October

The Depute Provost attended Auchenharvie Academy's Celebrating Success Ceremony on 11 October, which took place in the school. This ceremony highlighted the skills and talents of the pupils and was a wonderful opportunity to acknowledge and celebrate their achievements.

Go Purple for the Ayrshire Hospice, 13 October

On 13 October, the Ayrshire Hospice held its annual Go Purple fundraising campaign. Many schools and local organisations took part in raising funds for the Hospice who provide exceptional care to those affected by life-limiting illness and to their families. To raise awareness of this campaign Saltcoats Town Hall and Kilwinning Abbey Tower were lit up purple.

Mrs Robina Sampson 100th Birthday, Kilbirnie, 21 October

On 21 October, I visited Mrs Robina Sampson, of Kilbirnie who was celebrating her 100th birthday. I was extremely delighted to offer my congratulations to Mrs Sampson and celebrated with her family, friends and neighbours.

Festival of Juvenile Piping, St Matthew's Academy, Saltcoats, 21 October

In the afternoon of 21 October, I had the pleasure of presenting the prizes at the annual Festival of Juvenile Piping Competition, which was held in St Matthew's Academy, Saltcoats. The event was attended by young musicians from all over Scotland who inspired us all with their ability and expertise in traditional music.

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A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Anthea Dickson". The signature is fluid and cursive.

Councillor Anthea Dickson
Provost North Ayrshire Council