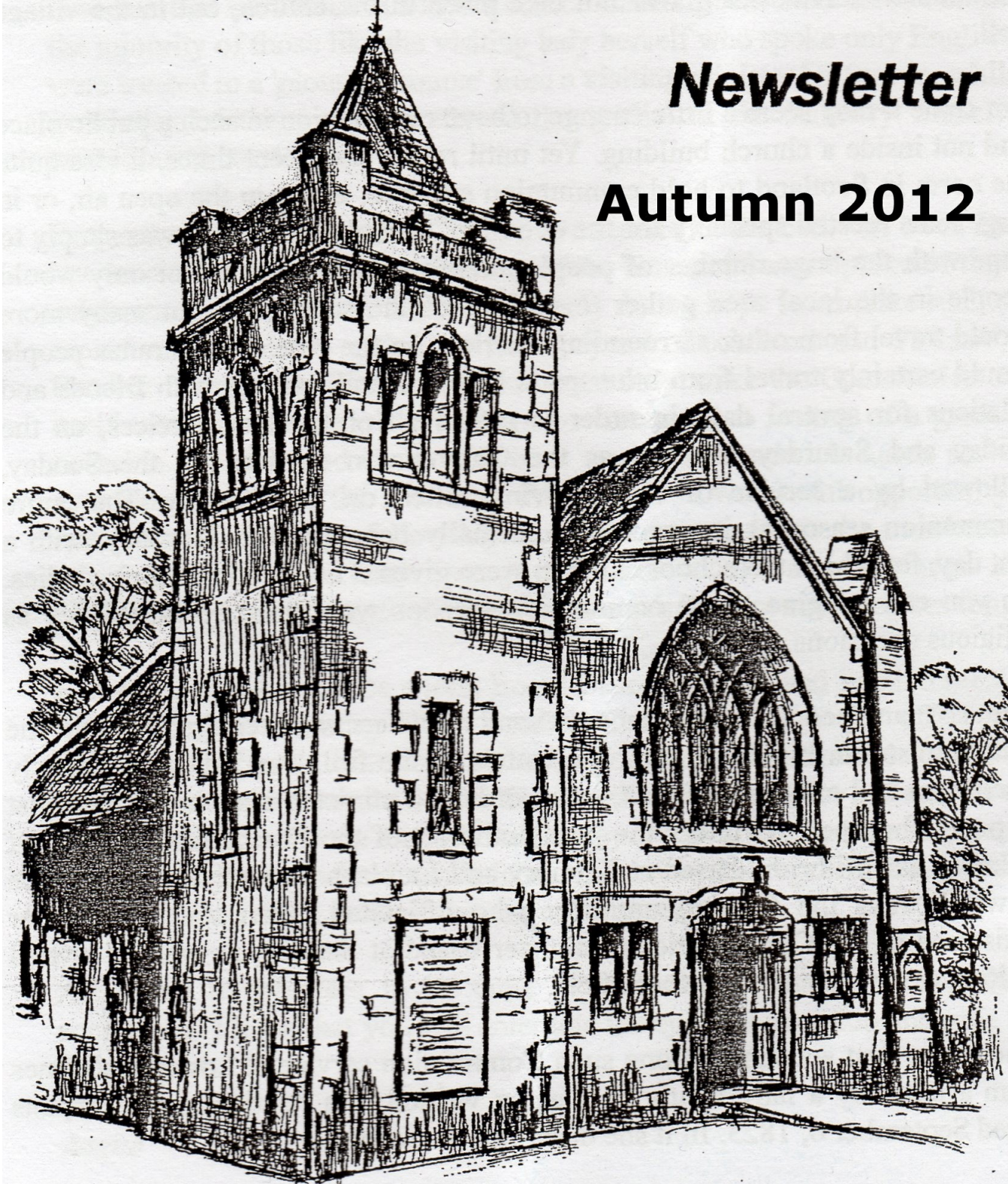


Newsletter

Autumn 2012



Brodick Manse
October 2012

For the past few years the communion service on the first Sunday of November has been a joint service for the whole linkage. Having already previously used St Molios, Shiskine and St Bride's, Brodick, this year it is the turn of Lochranza to host the event. As part of their tercentenary celebrations marking 300 years of witness in the present building, the Lochranza congregation are looking forward to hosting their four sister congregations on November 4th at 11 a.m. However, due to lack of seating for the assembled congregations, the communion service itself will not take place in the church, but in the village hall.

For some it may seem a little strange to have communion in such a public place and not inside a church building. Yet until relatively recent times, it was quite the norm in Scotland to hold communion services, either in the open air, or in large tents erected specially for the occasion. The reason for this was simply to cope with the huge number of people attending such events. Not only would people in the local area gather to partake of the sacrament, but many more would travel from other surrounding districts. In the case of Lochranza people would certainly travel from other parts of the island, staying with friends and relations for several days in order to attend all preparatory services, on the Friday and Saturday, as well as the Communion services on the Sunday, followed by a service of Thanksgiving, often on the Monday. The entire communion season as it was known, actually began on the Thursday, with a fast day, for which the school children were given a holiday from their studies. As you can imagine, these communion seasons were great social as well as religious occasions.

With so many people in attendance several ministers were required to assist the local minister in his duties over the course of the full 4 or 5 days. Previously Lochranza had only an assistant, or un-ordained minister, known as a catechist in post, who operated under the joint authority of the two parish ministers of Kilmory and Kilbride, based at Kilmory and Lamlash respectively. In practice it was always the Kilmory minister who officiated, often with the further assistance of the Congregational minister based at Sannox, as well as invited visiting clergymen from further afield.

One of the best accounts of one such Communion service at Lochranza comes from a letter by a lady visitor to Sannox written to a relative in Prestonpans dated September 6, 1823. In it she describes the scene:

The road to church exhibited to us a novel spectacle – cart after cart in thick succession conveyed the aged and those unable to walk – many were on horseback, and many on foot – all seemingly impressed with the sacredness of the day and the solemnity of the ordinance about to be celebrated. The common in front of the church was covered with vehicles, and with the horses which peacefully waited the return of their owners from the services of the day. Perhaps, two hundred horses were on the common.

It seems that on this occasion the church building was also used, but only for the minority of those like the visiting lady herself who spoke only English, who were treated to a 'pious discourse' from a visiting minister Dr Steven, whilst 'the generality of the people preferred the gaelic' of the Kilmory minister Mr. McMillan 'from the Tent'.

Fear not, on November the 4th the entire service in the hall will be in English, but we do aim to recreate something of the wonderful atmosphere of that 1823 celebration of the Lord's Supper. Not only do we hope to emulate such a large crowd of worshipers gathering from beyond Lochranza and Pirmill, from Brodick, Corrie and Shiskine, which must only make the Communion service itself more meaningful, but we hope to emulate that feeling of a great social occasion. To that end there will be a soup and sandwich lunch served for everyone present in the hall after the service. A wonderful opportunity for a special time of linkage fellowship in which to get to know the members of the other congregations better, or just to renew old acquaintances already established. A great way to share in Lochranza's Tercentenary celebrations.

Besides this, there will be a joint Board/Deacons' Court and Session meeting on the evening of Saturday 3rd at Brodick Church at 7 p.m. for office bearers, followed by a social evening with buffet priced £6.50 in Brodick Golf Club for all church members and friends. There will also be a joint linkage service of Thanksgiving in Corrie Church on Sunday 4th at 7 p.m., at the conclusion of which, a light supper of sandwiches and home baking will be served. The perfect way to end a modern day communion season.

All in all it promises to be quite a weekend of worship, fellowship and socialising. I hope that you will enter into the spirit of occasion and give it your full support.

Angus

St. Bride's Ladies

I wonder if 'summer days' are so-called because only summer good, and if, when someone refers to autumn as 'the fall' they are thinking of the rain and not the leaves? Be that as it may, we are looking forward to winter with more than a little trepidation, but don't get depressed. On the second Monday of all the dark months a light will be shining through the gloom. It comes from Brodick Church Hall where St. Bride's Ladies (and one lady in particular) will be waiting to give you a warm welcome. A visiting speaker, a cup of tea and good company and the weather will be forgotten.

The syllabus for 2012-2013 is now available and has already been handed out to regular church-goers, but for the benefit of those who have not yet received one, the programme is as follows:

Sunday 28th October	Harvest Lunch, 12noon
Monday 29th October	Passla Gautier – Tibetan Culture, 7.30pm
Monday 12th November	Charlotte Weir – Glasgow City Mission, 7.30pm
Monday 26th November	Lexie Andrade – Salvation Army, 7.30pm
Saturday 8th December	Christmas Fayre, 2pm
Monday 10th December	Christmas Party, 7.30pm
Monday 14th January	Helen Knight – New Zealand, 2.30pm
Monday 28th January	Scots Night, 6.30 for 7pm
Monday 11th February	David Shaw M.A.F., 2.30pm
Monday 25th February	Sir Kenneth Calman, 2.30pm
Monday 11th March	Helen Kerr – Trans-Siberian Railway, 2.30pm
Monday 25th March	AGM with Jean Hunter, 7.30pm
Saturday 6th April	Easter Fayre, 2pm

Old and new friends welcome!

Among the unsung people
Who grace this world of ours
Are those who give and who arrange
The church's lovely flowers
I wonder if they realise
The pleasure that they bring
To people who will gather there
To worship and to sing.

Friends of Montrose House Association – Autumn 2102 Report

As 'summer' turns to autumn it is pleasing to note that the outdoor floral displays have survived the deluge and continue to give a favourable impression of a pleasant and well-cared for establishment.

Progress on the New Build project is slow and the commence date has been delayed until March 2013. Revised plans are available for inspection and comment before formal application is made for planning permission. We have been requested to identify significant items in the gardens which could be transferred to the new site, ie. commemorative trees etc.

Funds gave benefited from a payment of £548 from the John and Betty Ure Trust which came as a pleasant surprise as we had assumed that our annual benefit from this source would automatically be discontinued following recent disbursement of funds to local churches. We have been able to fund the purchase of two new wheelchairs for in-house use.

Attendance of residents at summer events was lower than usual due partially to the weather and to the shortage of staff coupled with the increased dependence on qualified staff to meet minimum requirements. However, the revamped Corrie Church Summer Serenade artistes did come to give a performance in-house which was greatly appreciated.

After discussion with residents, plans are afoot to go ahead with the forthcoming Hallowe'en and Bonfire Night parties despite minimal participation in the recent past. Arrangements are also in hand for Christmas decoration and festivities on-house.

In contrast it is pleasing to note that attendance at weekly Sunday Services has increased recently and on several occasions the service has been taken by members of our Church Worship Group when Angus and Jean have been otherwise engaged.

Brodick Church Hall.

In accordance with the recent decision to implement the Kirk Session proposal of 1947 to formally name the Church Hall as "Brodick Church War Memorial Hall", a plaque has been commissioned, and it is proposed to formally dedicate the title as part of the forthcoming annual Memorial Church Service on Sunday 11th November 2012. The board will have a maroon background to match the paintwork of the building with gold lettering. The citation reads:

*1914 - 1918
In memory of those who served,
and in sympathy with
those who suffered.
In grateful remembrance
of those who gave their lives
1939 - 1945*

The wording is taken from a war memorial rose garden in the town of Te Amutu, near Hamilton in North Island, New Zealand.

Christmas Shoebox Appeal 2012

By the time you receive this magazine, we will be well into this year's appeal. Last year our contribution helped 120,000 gift-filled boxes to be presented to vulnerable children and adults on ten countries in Eastern Europe and South Asia.

By filling a box with a selection of items from Blythswood's list, you give a uniquely personal gift of practical aid to a stranger in need. And more often than not, you bring a smile, too, as they realise someone cares for them.

Thank you for your kindness and participation in this Appeal. Please fill a shoebox in 2102. So personal and yet so practical, your gift is sure to bring a smile to someone in need this Christmas.

Hamish Mitchell.

Arran Churches Together

The Christingle Service this year will be held in Brodick Public Hall at 7pm on Thursday 29th November. Children should be there at 6.30pm to make their Christingles. The offering will go to North Ayrshire Women's Aid.

There will be Carol Singing outside the Co-op on Saturday 15th December from 11am to 12noon, and it is hoped that a good number of people will turn up in good voice.

The Christian Unity Service is scheduled for Sunday 20th January 2013 at 12 noon in Lamash Church, and I advise you to get there early to get a good seat, as this is always a very popular service.

Friday 1st March 2013 is the date of the World Day of Prayer, which is being prepared by the women of France, and it is to be held in the Church of the Holy Cross in Brodick at 2pm

World Mission Stamp Appeal.

Thanks to so many of you who collect all your used postage stamps, leaving them in the container in the church vestibule. For several years now they have been sent to Church of Scotland World Mission.

It only takes a second or two to trim them leaving at least a quarter of an inch all round, otherwise valuable time has to be spent removing excess pieces of envelopes before they can be despatched.

Several times a year they are sent off in a large parcel. On receipt they are sorted by home-workers and sold to collectors, so administration costs are minimal. The money raised is given to a different charity each year, and for 2012 it is supporting the Joint Christian Committee for Social Services in Lebanon's Agricultural Training Centre.

Why not encourage your friends and neighbours to bring you their stamps as well, and of course companies receive regular mail deliveries so ask them to pass on their used stamps to you. Every little helps!

Property Report

The Manse.

I am pleased to report that the first floor bathroom with its ancillary tile work is now complete. Angus and Susan are delighted with the outcome. The roughcast remedial work is still ongoing, not withstanding repeated calls to the contractor. Due to the Government's grants scheme the manse insulation is being 'topped up' at no cost to the congregation.

The Church.

A new lead flashing is required to the vestry roof. Now that the new floodlighting lamps are in position showing up the stone work to the tower and front elevation, I feel it would be prudent to clean down this section of the building. Quotations will therefore be sought for the Board's approval. Fire extinguishers have had their annual check. 'Smart Water' signs have been displayed on the property as a deterrent to prevent lead theft.

The Hall.

The painting of the roof is still outstanding, but I am hopeful, weather permitting, that the work can be carried out soon. The hall was closed from Monday 8th to Wednesday 10th of October for drain investigation.

External Works.

It is the intention to ask the grass cutting contractor to rake on board as an extra the cutting back of bushes and hedges of the perimeter of the site, no more than twice a year if and when necessary.

Thanks to Brian Boal for all his help.

Norman Cuthbert

Thanks

Our editor, Mrs Mary McNicol, has been on the sick list these past few weeks. The magazine committee therefore took it upon themselves to ensure that this edition came out on time, and hope that it has gone some way to meeting Mary's high standards.

As Mary has now decided to resign as editor, we must thank her very sincerely for all her work over many years in making sure that the life of St. Bride's is reflected in these pages every quarter.

Situations Vacant

Hall Convenor. Now that Alan Milligan has taken on the office of Clerk to the Congregational Board, he would like to pass on this job to someone else. Have a word with Alan if you feel you could help the church in this way.

Worship Group. Over the past few years the same group of people have come together to help take Montrose House services when Angus or Jean are away. Others who could take this 20-30 minute service of three or four hymns, prayers and a reading with a short address, would help share the load.

Similarly the same faces appear at those church services which the group take in similar circumstances. If you feel that you could contribute by taking a prayer, childrens address, or even a sermon, please have a word in the first instance with the session clerk.

Kirk Session.

Three new elders were added to the session this summer. Shona Hume, Valerie Cross, and Frances Corbett were ordained at a moving ceremony during our last communion service on 5th August. The church is fortunate in having these ladies agreeing to join in this important part of the congregation's work.

More "Out of the Mouths of Babes":

"I know Jesus is working today. I saw his bike outside the Church!"

Corrie Church News

How glad we were to see an increase in numbers attending our summer events. The new look to our Corrie Serenade was well received and we were treated to excellent performances from Lorna Buchanan, Fraser Blain, Ian Clarke and Finlay Murchie showing a wealth of talent, with Jean Bowden and John Forgie in their usual good form. The Fete again had good weather and more visitors, and autumn brought the McLellan Festival events heralded by our service with the young soloists from the Royal Northern College, and Peter A Wilson to whom we owe many thanks for his enterprise in staging the week's Course and master classes in Corrie for the last three years.

We look forward to our Harvest events and invite all to join us at the end of October which then leads on to the Advent celebrations for Christmas, with friends and Peter A Wilson giving a concert, and special services over Yuletide and Hogmanay. We look forward also to joining with Lochranza Church in its Tercentenary year and congratulate them on its history. How fortunate we are to have such superb church buildings on Arran. Let us keep them alive.

Having had a few days in the East Neuk of Fife has given some of us the opportunity to see other fishing villages coping with changed ways of life. and introducing new ideas for their communities, whilst their museums gave a historical review of past glories.

Finance. The cost of our window repairs was not as large as was anticipated, thanks to assistance from the Property Convener who continues to keep a watchful eye, especially on the roof after heavy rains.

Diary Dates.

22nd. October - Board and Session meetings.

25th. October - 6 for 6. 30 pm, Harvest Supper.

28th. October - Noon. Corrie Church for Harvest Festival, with friends.

3rd November - Joint North Arran Board and Session meetings.

4th November Sacrament of the Lord's Supper and Thanksgiving service at 7 pm. in Corrie Church.

December - Peter Wilson Concert.

Corrie Coffee mornings. 28th September - Marie Curie nurses.

30th. October, 30th November, 28th.

December, and January - Ethiopian nurses

Please offer to help with these when you can.

BRODICK CHURCH NOTICES - Autumn 2012

- Weddings:**
- 20th June Lyn McNally to Scott Arnot, at the Big Wooden House, Brodick
- 15th September Kirsty Cattenach to Bryan Nicolson at Brodick Church
- 15th September Claire Kyle to David McFadyen at the Big Wooden House, Brodick
- 29th September Kathryn Elwiss to Stewart MacFarlane at Brodick Church
- Bereavements:**
- 9th May Mary Davis, Glen Estate, Brodick
- 20th July Mary Strang, Sheean View, Brodick
- 20th July Olive Fraser, Bearsden
- 23rd July Eileen Milligan, 4 Glen Avenue, Brodick
- 3rd August Margaret Waddingham, Cooriedoon, Whiting Bay
- 7th August Joy Elliott, Cooriedoon, Whiting Bay
- 9th August Barbara Hendry, Braeraig, Glencloy Road
- 10th August Jean Blackwood, 22 Brathwic Place, Brodick
- 14th August Dorothy Sillars, Cooriedoon, Whiting Bay
- 27th September Margaret Gillespie, Kelvin Grove, Springbank, Brodick

DATES FOR YOUR DIARIES.

- 28th October 10.30am Come to Church Sunday combined with Harvest Thanksgiving Service, followed by Soup and Sandwich Lunch
- 31st October 10.30am Coffee Morning in the Church Hall
12noon Prayers for Health and Healing Service in the Transept
- 1st November 7.30pm Taize Service, Shiskine Church
- 3rd November Linkage joint Board and Session meeting, Brodick Golf Clubhouse, then 8.30pm Linkage Supper (finger buffet)
- 4th November 11am **Linkage Communion Service**, in Lochranza Village Hall, (transport to Lochranza will be available if required)
7pm Thanksgiving Service, Corrie Church
- 11th November 10am War Memorial Service, 10.30am Armistice Day Service
- 14th November 10.30am Coffee Morning in the Church Hall
- 28th November 10.30am Coffee Morning in the Church Hall
- 29th November 12noon Prayers for Health and Healing, Shiskine Church
7pm A.C.T.S. Christingle service, Brodick Public Hall
- 2nd December 10.30am ARCO play for morning worship
- 6th December 7.30pm Taize Service, Shiskine Church
- 8th December 2pm St Bride's Ladies Christmas Fayre
- 12th December 10.30am Coffee Morning in the Church Hall
- 24th December 5pm Sacrament of Baptism
11.30pm Christmas Eve Watchnight Service.

WHO'S WHO AT BRODICK CHURCH

Minister	Rev. Angus Adamson	302334
Parish Assistant	Mrs Jean Hunter	860380
Session Clerk	Mr John Lauder	303517
Deputy Session Clerk	Mr Stewart Lambie	302304
Clerk to the Congregational Board	Mr. Alan Milligan	303968
Treasurer	Mrs Sylvia Alison	302613
Property Convenor	Mr Norman Cuthbert	303772
Freewill Offering Convenor	Mrs Elizabeth McKellar	302230
Church Magazine Editor	Mrs Mary McNicol	302335
Presbytery Elder	Mrs Evelyn Sillars	302246
Pastoral Support Team Convenor	Mrs Elizabeth McKellar	302230
Sunday School Leader	Mrs Ann MacKay	600040
Hall Letting Convenor	Mr Alan Milligan	303968
Church Minibus Rota	Mrs Alison Bilsland	303505
Church Flower Rota	Mrs Evelyn Sillars	302246
Sunday Tea Rota	Mrs Anne Mitchell	302285
"Life and Work" Convenor	Mrs Elise White	302387