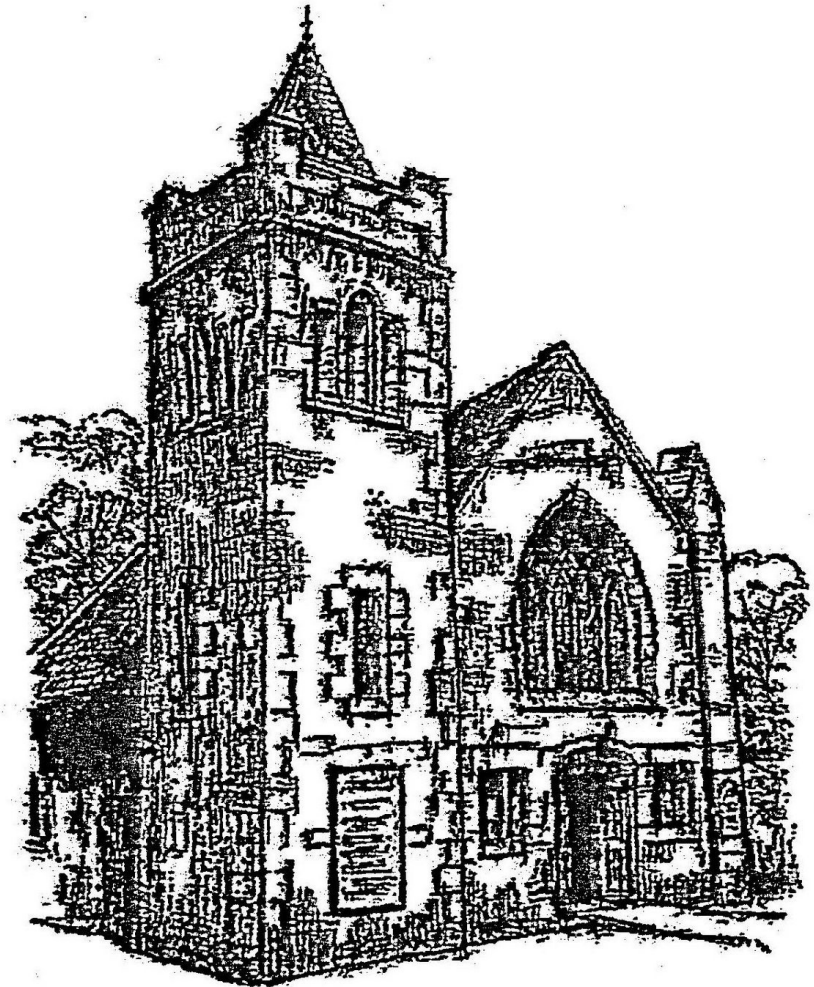


WHO'S WHO AT BRODICK CHURCH

Minister	Rev. Angus Adamson	302334
Parish Assistant	Mrs Jean Hunter	860380
Session Clerk	Mrs Elizabeth Lawrie	302782
Deputy Session Clerk	Mr Alan Milligan	303968
Clerk to the Congregational Board	Mrs Shona Hume	302625
Treasurer	Mrs Sylvia Alison	302613
Property Convener	Mr Colin MacKenzie	302329
Freewill Offering Convener	Mrs Elizabeth McKellar	302230
Presbytery Elder	Mrs Lorna MacDonald	302499
Church Magazine Editor	Mrs Sheena McLean	303579
Pastoral Support Team Conveners	Mrs Elizabeth McKellar Mrs Ann Lauder	302230 303517
Sunday School Leader	Mrs Ann MacKay	600944
Safeguarding Co-ordinator	Mrs Lorna MacDonald	302499
Hall Letting Convener	Mrs Susan Dobson	302365
Church Minibus Convener	Mrs Alison Bilsland	303505
Coffee Morning Convener	Mrs Margaret Bryce	302117
Sunday Tea Convener	Mrs Susan Dobson	302365
Church Flower Convener	Mrs Ann Lauder	303517
"Life and Work" Convener	Mrs Elise White	302387

St Bride's Church Brodick

Newsletter



Autumn 2018

Brodick Church Manse
November 2018

The busy summer round of church fetes, sales of work, concerts and auctions had just come to an end. A visitor in the queue behind me in the post office commented that having read the Banner, he realised it had been another busy time for me and for the congregations of North Arran. I agreed that it had been and that people had been very generous in their support of all our events. He then commented, that in his opinion, instead of going into church funds, he wondered if surely the money raised couldn't go to a better cause, perhaps to help the young people of Arran? The church it seemed to him was always 'rattling the collecting tin' and fund-raising for itself.

At least I was able to reassure him, that through the work of Arran Youth Foundations, of which I am chair, the young people of Arran were very well catered for nowadays in comparison to a few years back, that all the congregations on the island made monthly contributions to the work of AYF and Arran Churches Together gave it its full support. Many of the volunteers who help run AYF are also church members and many others like myself serve as Trustees and office holders.

I assured him too that all congregations, through coffee mornings and collections, also worked tirelessly throughout the year to support a huge variety of charities, among them Mary's Meals, World Vision and Christian Aid, to name but a few. Indeed, I was able to say that the Shiskine door to door collection for Christian Aid had just raised almost £1000, a truly remarkable figure from a small community.

He didn't seem very convinced. Maybe some of you reading this aren't convinced either and wonder why so much of congregational energy is taken up each summer with fund raising events.

The simple answer is that it takes a huge amount of finance to keep the doors of our beautiful but ageing churches open and the roofs watertight. I guess I could add to that, not to mention the manses. But that is another story. The local church is, I hope, also a worthy charity to support, one that through its mission and outreach strives to serve the people of its parishes and serve them well and diligently. For me testimony to that,

the wonderful support of non-church folk who not only come along, but who willingly help out at all our summer events. I always take heart that although not regular worshippers, they do appreciate and value the place of the church and its work at the heart of our island communities. For some of the smaller congregations like Corrie, without such amazing assistance, quite simply, their summer fete could not have happened at all.

To all those who helped and supported our summer events throughout North Arran this year I would like to say a huge thank you, it is never taken for granted and it is hugely appreciated.

I would like to hope too that, like me, you enjoyed them, all the concerts and fetes and auctions and sales of work, the home baking and the tablet and the cream teas and the games for the children, the book stalls and the bric-a-brac tables, not to mention the wonderful music, provided by first-class local talent. All were happy events with lots of smiling faces and I think our communities would be the poorer without them. They also provide something for the many visitors and their families to go to and enjoy each year, part and parcel of the Arran holiday experience. The fact that is so proved by the number of familiar faces of returning holiday-makers I meet each July and August. If they didn't enjoy these things, then they wouldn't come back, but they do.

I'm sure too in my own mind that the Lord also took great pleasure in seeing all the joy and laughter and fun and people getting on with each other and pulling together to support the work of his church.

All this proves that the church can be about more than mere money making, that at its heart it is about providing joy, joy in living and joy in serving the Lord. Paul says in 1 Corinthians "whatever you do, whether you eat or drink, do it all for God's glory" (1 Corinthians 10; 31). After all, doesn't the old catechism instruct us that "the chief end of man (humankind) is to glorify God and to enjoy Him forever".

Angus

Editor's Remarks

We have enjoyed a wonderful summer with many long hot dry days but already we have been battered by a number of Atlantic storms bringing high winds and heavy rain. Yes autumn is definitely with us.

This, of course, means the restart of the church organisation that meet regularly like the Sunday School and St Bride's Ladies. New members will be made most welcome.

My thanks, as always, to all those who have contributed to this edition of the magazine. If you would like to contribute to the magazine I can be contacted on 01770303579 or sheenamcl4@gmail.com

Property Report

The Hall

I have instructed the following joinery work to be carried out. Replace window in the hall and the surround to the Memorial Board on the outside wall of the hall. Now the leaves are falling off the trees I am going to arrange to have the trees round the hall trimmed back.

The Church

Bolts have been fitted to the inside doors so that we can lock off the Sanctuary if we have a coffin in the church overnight but we do not require to close the food bank.

I have again contacted the organ tuner regarding the fault with the organ. He states that it will require a complete dismantling of the organ to get to the part that is faulty. I have asked for an estimate for this work which would require to be approved by the Congregational Board before work could begin.

The heating engineer came on 8th October to carry out the heating survey on the church and hall. He will forward a report with recommendations to improve the heating in the church and hall which will then again go to the Congregational Board for consideration.

I hope to have all the lights in the church checked and working for Christmas.

C. MacKenzie

"Light up a Life"

For a number of years, in the Christmas season the fundraisers for the Ayrshire Hospice have held a concert in the Grand Hall Kilmarnock and in other places. There have been various groups and individuals of all ages taking part. In the past this has been a big fundraiser for the Hospice, a place that depends on donations from many sources to be able to run the Hospice and provide the various services that help and support families and individuals. This is not only a fundraising venture but a time for many folk to remember loved ones, friends and relatives that have passed away. Their 'Light up a Life' Christmas Concert this year, will be held on Sunday 25th November at 7.00pm in the Grand Hall, Kilmarnock.

The Christmas season is a busy time although, within that, there are many people who can be lonely or sad because they mourn the loss of a loved one, a relative, friend or neighbour. Christmas time with all its joy and festivities, can be a difficult and painful time for many. Recognising this, many churches in Ayrshire have held 'Light up a Life' services, a service of worship for those in the church and community so that those who have lost someone have the opportunity to come together in church and remember a loved one or a friend or someone else at that time of year.

This year for our North Arran Linkage and communities, there will be a 'Light up a Life Service' in Brodick Church on the afternoon of Sunday 9th December at 3.30pm. The service will consist of a few Hymns, Readings, Prayer and Reflection. There will also be an opportunity for those who would like to, to light a candle in memory of someone they have known. There will be a retiring offering which will be in aid of the Ayrshire Hospice. All are welcome to this service.

If you would like any more information on the 'Light up a Life' service to be held in Brodick Church please speak to me, Angus or any of the elders.

Every blessing

Jean Hunter.

Monthly Communion

In church circles what is the unforgiveable sin? One minster colleague when asked thought that was breaking the good Guild china. Certainly, the very thought of such a disaster brings about a sharp intake of breath! And indeed, to do so would make you unpopular at the time and probably ensure you were never allowed to forget it. Introducing change is also something that can lead to a spot of bother and is always a risky business for any minster.

Recently at Brodick, with the blessing of the Kirk Session, in introducing a monthly celebration of Communion, I have instigated a change and it has not been greeted by everyone as a welcome addition to worship.

So why do so? Well for sure not to make anyone feel uncomfortable being in church. Holy Communion is the high point of our Christian worship and instigated by our Lord for the nourishing of faith. It is the most sacred moment in our worship lives where we show, as a congregation of God's people that we are in communion with one another, all loved equally by God and saved by the precious blood of Christ our Lord. As such in the early church it was practiced every time people met to worship, as it is still every week in most other branches of the world-wide church.

That said, in Scotland at the Reformation we took a different direction and initially, largely due to a shortage of ordained ministers who could conduct the sacrament, it became the custom to take communion only infrequently. In time the norm became twice yearly in May and November, chosen I might add to avoid celebrating the sacrament at either Christmas or Easter, Roman Catholic Holy days being abolished in 1560. As a result, because Communion was celebrated so infrequently in the Church of Scotland we have a very high theology of The Lord's Supper and it is celebrated in a very formal way.

However, despite this, such infrequent celebration becoming the custom in Scotland this was never the intention of the Reformers. John Calvin and John Knox both hoped that Communion would be celebrated every Sunday and if that was not possible, at least 'frequently'.

Eventually as here in Brodick, a quarterly celebration was introduced, which fits in nicely with the Kirk Session being in the habit of meeting four times a year, January, April, July and October. Most recently an extra Maundy Thursday celebration was added during Holy Week.

Not counting the Maundy Thursday Communion, which is poorly attended and falls out with regular Sunday worship, four times a year, is still far from a frequent celebration.

Hence, we hope to have a communion monthly. The four main quarterly communions in February, May, August and November will remain the same, celebrated in a formal way with white cloths decking the church and preceded by a visit by the elders of their districts with communion cards inviting people to attend. The other communions will be very much less formal, no cloths, and a shorter liturgy, which will all fit nicely into the service after the sermon.

We realise that not everyone will want to partake of the bread and wine and to avoid embarrassment we had initially thought those wishing to take communion would be invited to come forward and sit at the front. Previous experimentation in that regard showed that this was not popular. Some members of the congregation arguing, quite rightly, that people should be entitled to take communion anywhere in the church, as indeed they should. Therefore at both the formal and informal celebrations the elements will be served assuming everyone wishes to take part. Those who do not wish to do so need simply pass the bread and wine on to their neighbours without taking it themselves. Many members who choose to make their offerings by standing order already do that with the collection plate and do so without embarrassment or awkwardness.

I hope in time all will come to feel comfortable with this change and those who so far dislike it will in time forgive me for instigating it. I also very much hope that more frequent communion will enhance the worship experience of the congregation as a whole and help nourish our faith lives together, valuing being as one in Christ's name, as he hoped when he first instigated the sacrament of the Lord's Supper in the Upper Room by saying 'This do in remembrance of me'.

By the way, if you are wondering what is the absolutely unforgiveable sin, according to Mark chapter 3 verse 29 'every slander can be forgiven; but whoever slanders the Holy Spirit can never be forgiven; they are guilty of an eternal sin'.

'The peace of Christ be with you all'.

Angus

“Jesus is Lord”

Many and varied are the troubles that beset Christians. Upset, emotions in turmoil, our world shrinks down to “Me” and “My”. But hear what Samuel Rutherford (Minister of Anwoth-on-Solway 1637) wrote: “Your heart is not the compass Christ steers by”. Because Jesus is Lord He can see the “Big Picture” – which we cannot. “God does not stop to consult us” wrote Dr. Martyn Lloyd-Jones. Through Jesus God has set His eternal purpose to work, to redeem and renew the world.

There have been mighty problems in the past, times when the earth itself was nearly knocked to pieces, times when it seemed sin and evil would destroy the human race, times when the God-lessness of kings and commoners brought strife and war, loss and death upon nations.

So what’s new?

Our world today knows earthquake and famine, flood and tsunami, thirst, sickness, war, refugees, slavery, human-trafficking, murder, greed. In the seeming tranquil countryside there is much theft of machinery and goods, animals and crops.

Drug dealing gangs are spreading evil tentacles into quiet village life, targeting young people for their evil trade. The world is drowning in plastic. The very air we breathe is polluted as more countries try to become rich in this world’s goods. Our personal world includes cancer, children’s illnesses, dementia and old age.

Because Jesus is Lord He sees through these dark clouds – that at last God’s kingdom shall come. We cannot see how it will work out, but we do believe that God’s Justice will prevail and His eternal, unconditional grace and love will make all things right.

This conclusion has been set in motion through the death and resurrection of Jesus. For us His grace is sufficient.

Another Quotation from Samuel Rutherford:

“Whoever looks on the white side of Christ’s Cross, and can take it up “eagerly” with faith and courage, shall find it such a burden as sails to a boat or wings to a bird”.

God grant us grace to live our lives in faith, hope and love.

Alan M. Thompson

St Bride’s Ladies

Once again, St. Bride’s Ladies provided the tearoom at the Highland Games on Saturday 4th August. This was a very successful event and many thanks go to the stalwart band of ladies who had a very busy day. St Bride’s Ladies’ winter session is about to commence on 26th October. The committee, as usual, has managed to compile an interesting syllabus. Jean Hunter is our guest at the first meeting when she will give an illustrated talk on her trip to Canada and Alaska---a nice reminder of summer.

This is followed on 12th November by a visit from the minister of the Free Church, Rev. Ben Van Rensburg.

Margaret Wright and Jean Glen will talk to us on 26th November about Genealogy, a popular subject with many of us nowadays.

The Christmas Fayre will take place on 8th December and we hope you will support this event. Once again we will end this half of the year on 10th December with the very popular Christmas lunch in the Golf Club. Everyone is welcome at our meetings and we would be delighted to see some more men!!

Food Bank

A huge Thank You for the generous donations for the Food Bank which were handed in for the Harvest Thanksgiving and for all the donations throughout the year. Hopefully, they will keep the Food Bank well stocked until the next big appeal at the beginning of December for Christmas Boxes. If you feel inclined to make further donations of food in the interim, could you please place items in a bag either on the floor beside the Food Bank in the transept or in the Food Bank Box in the Co-op. Please note that we have an ample supply of pasta at the moment so it would be helpful if donations, meantime, exclude this item. We are trying to keep a record of the amount of food which is going out to those in need on Arran.

Many thanks for your continued support.

The Food Bank Team

Friends of Montrose House Association
Autumn 2018

The Montrose House garden has benefitted from work funded by North Ayrshire Council and is looking much smarter. The large perimeter areas have been tidied up and there are plans to fund a permanent gardener plus a seasonal part-timer, but a small team of volunteers, mainly Minnie and Marjorie, continue to weed, trim, and plant the gardens outside the residents' rooms and the other smaller areas. At present they are painting the outdoor furniture. Primary 2 pupils from Brodick School are again working on the fairy garden and vegetable plot.

The fitting of the stick-on door panels and corridor decorations has been delayed but they should be in place soon. The old smoking room has been transformed into a part time hairdressing salon and office with several computers which can be used for staff training and for residents to Skype their families.

Winter events are the Halloween party on the evening of 31st October when local guisers will visit for their annual spooking which is always enjoyed by the residents, the staff and the children.

The Christmas Party is on Wednesday 5th December and Burns Night will be celebrated at a Scots Dinner in January.

Residents Betty Bremner and Lilian Budden have passed away in recent weeks, and Sal Bannatyne passed away peacefully on the 3rd October in her 101st year. Our deepest sympathies to all their families.

A. Keir

Wednesday Coffee Mornings

These have not been well attended in the past and after some discussion at the recent Board Meeting, it has been decided to make a few changes.

The dates remain the same for the rest of this year, then, starting in January they will take place **ONCE A MONTH** on the last Wednesday of every month. The first one will be on Wednesday 30th January.

Hopefully people will remember this regular date and make a huge effort to support them next year.

Dates to come this year:

Oct. 24th - Susan Dobson and Lorna McDonald

Nov. 7th. - Ann Lauder and Isobel Davie

Nov. 21st. - Sheena McLean and Ann Mitchell

Dec. 5th. - Margaret Bryce and Jean Robertson

M. Bryce

CHURCH NOTICES-Autumn 2018

Deaths	Allan Easdale	Montrose House	25 th April
	Betty Bremner	Montrose House	25 th July
	Mairi Turnbull	Brodick	2 nd August
	Lillian Budden	Montrose House	22 nd August
	Richard Farquhar	Brodick	30 th August
	Stewart Currie	Brodick	27 th September
	Sal Bannatyne	Montrose House	3 rd October
	Craig Hunter	Brodick/Glasgow	3 rd October

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

14 th Oct	Sacrament of the Lord's Supper (informal) at 10.30am
4 th Nov	North Arran Joint Communion in Corrie Church at 11am
4 th Nov	North Arran Joint Service of Thanksgiving in Corrie Church at 7pm
9 th Dec	Sacrament of the Lord's Supper (informal) at 10.30am
6 th Jan	Sacrament of the Lord's Supper (informal) at 10.30am
3 rd Feb	Sacrament of the Lord's Supper at 10.30am

Service of Prayers for Health and Healing in Transept at 12noon

24th Oct, 21st Nov, 30th Jan.

St Bride's Ladies in Church Hall at 2pm

29th Oct, 12th Nov, 26th Nov, 10th Dec (in Brodick Golf Club 12noon)

14th Jan, 28th Jan.

Xmas Fayre 8th Dec in Church Hall at 2pm

Pastoral Support Group meets in the Transept at 10am

28th Oct, 2nd Dec, 6th Jan.

Come to Church Sunday 16th December