

CHURCH NOTICES-Autumn 2022

Deaths Elizabeth McKellar Brodick 7th September 2022
George Finlay Brodick 1st October 2022

DATES for your Diary

Board and Session Meeting Saturday 5th November 2.30pm

Brodick Church

Sacrament of Holy Communion Sunday 6th November 11am

Lochranza. Please let your elder know if you require transport.

World Vision Coffee morning will be held at 10.30am on Wednesday

26th October and 30th November to support our two children

Prayers for Health and Healing will be held in the Transept at noon

on 26th October 30th November

St Bride's Ladies 31st October, 14th November, 28th November, 6th

February, 20th February, 6th March, all at 2pm

Christmas Fayre 3rd December 2pm

Christmas Lunch 19th December 12 for 12.30pm

Scots Afternoon 23rd January 2023 @ 2pm

AGM 20th March 2023 @ 2 pm

Spring Fayre 1st April 2023 @ 2pm

All are welcome at every meeting.

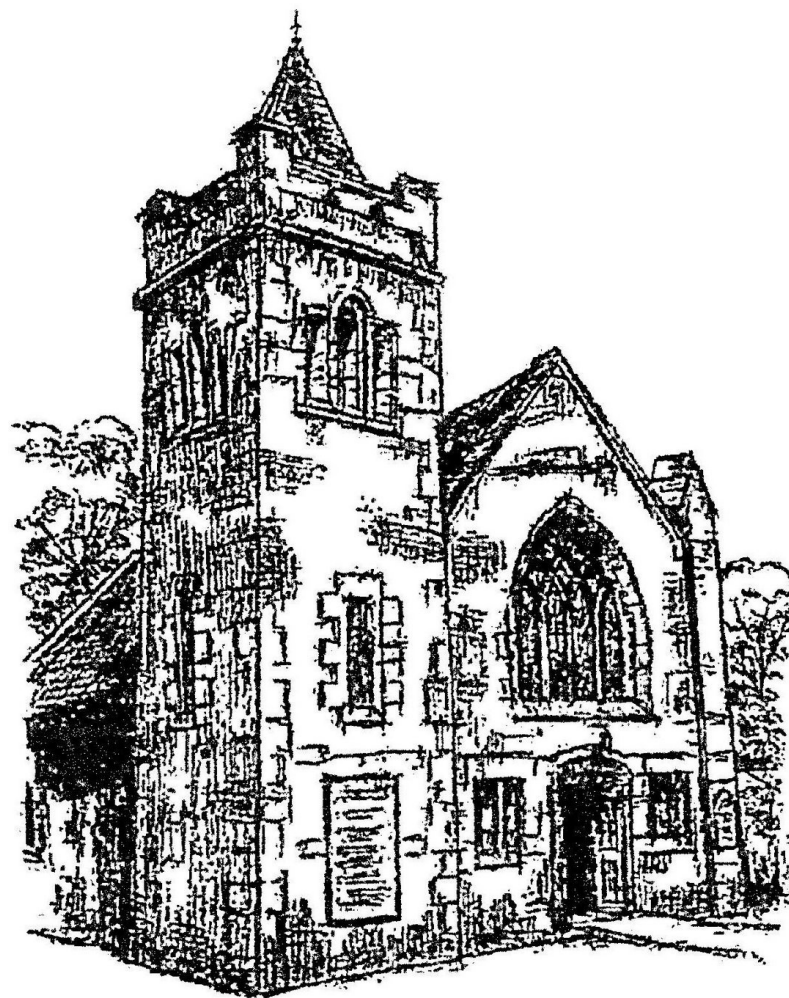
St Andrew's Service Arran Churches Together

30th November 6.30pm in St Bride's Church Brodick.

Followed by a Family Ceilidh in the Church Hall at 7pm

St Bride's Church Brodick

November Newsletter



Autumn 2022

Scottish Charity No. SC012017



Safely Gathered In

Wow! What an amazing Harvest Thanksgiving service we had in Corrie Church! What a buzz – with folks from all the congregations singing their praise and enjoying real warm fellowship at lunch!

I just love harvest and since I am a grower of vegetables, I love to see the garden produce on the communion table. What really caught my eye was a lovely basket of apples!

At the community allotments in Ardrossan, where I grow my vegetables, there is a long apple hedge...and we were permitted to take the windfall apples. The grower of the hedge said: ‘They’re only windfalls. But do the best you can with them’

They didn’t look up to much, if truth be told - an ill-assorted collection – some battered and bruised with discoloured skins; some worm-eaten or pecked by the birds; some shrivelled and mostly pips and core – or so we thought!

Then, feeling guilty at having rejected some of them, Marian set to work. Peeled and trimmed, the bruised bits removed, sliced and sugared and gently simmered, they took on a new appearance. The kitchen was soon filled with the fragrant smell of cooking fruit... and I began to have visions of golden-crust ed apple tarts, apple sauce, Eve’s puddings, and crumbles.

There are lots of ‘human windfalls’ in our world today – people who are bruised or broken by the winds of change, by lack of money or jobs, or shaken by natural disaster or tragedy. It is all too easy for us to reject or...

A ...ignore them. Marginalised, ignored, even rejected by our society, the ‘human windfalls’ are often ‘written out’ of the series, or consigned to the sidelines of A life.

s It was the same in Bible times. The lepers, the beggars, the mentally ill, the r refugees and even the tax collectors were outcasts.

c Then along came Jesus to restore them to their rightful place in the community.

h Jesus, who recognised the potential behind the outwardly damaged facades.

O For in God’s sight, there are **no** rejects or second-class citizens. All have a u unique contribution to make in the building of his kingdom.

l So...take a basket of ‘windfalls’ and, with love and care, use them to make a p feast! What does that mean? In our churches we have constantly to look out for F the people who need our love, care and compassion. They are all around us. It v is only then that the Harvest will be safely gathered in and complete.

d Wow! Wouldn’t that be great!

N
F Tom MacIntyre

r
F Editor’s Remarks

b Autumn, a season of change, is once again upon us with the temperatures v falling, the evenings drawing in and trees all beginning to drop their leaves.

l Lately, change is something we have had to adjust to in our daily life as well as r the life of our congregation and there are a number of further changes r happening here in the near future.

t Ann Lauder has decided to step down from her post as Flower Convener at the i end of the year and we thank her for her many years of service. Ann MacKay is ‘l moving to the mainland and will be missed by all. We are very much missing t Ruth Thompson, our organist, and send her our best wishes as she is being c cared for in Crosshouse hospital.

s John Lauder, after a recent health scare, has also decided to take things a bit easier and will no longer be at my side preparing the magazine ready for £ distribution to the congregation. Many, many thanks to John for all his help and support during my time as editor.

‘ As always, my thanks to all those who have contributed to this edition of the l magazine.

‘ I can be contacted on 01770 303579 or sheenamcl4@gmail.com

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Hello folks,

The long days and evenings when it was daylight until near midnight are gone once again. Its time to “batten down the hatches” and prepare for winter as this year of 2022 draws to a close. It most certainly has been an eventful year so far, exposing us to war, natural disasters and man-made disasters but, every now and again, giving us some good news to give us a lift – to keep us going. This last quarter of the year is a busy time in the Christian calendar. We have just had an incredibly successful all-Arran Harvest Thanksgiving: an uplifting service with incredible singing and much fellowship and a lovely lunch shared after the service. In case you didn't hear, all the food donations went to the foodbank and the collection of £574 (and 8p) was given to the fuel fund. Both these facilities will, I suspect, be in much demand over the winter.

The next significant date in the N Arran calendar is the joint Communion service in Lochranza on 6 Nov, led by our Interim Moderator, Rev Tom Macintyre. This is followed by Remembrance Sunday on 13 Nov. Rev Dr Ian Macleod will conduct the services at the war memorials and churches in Brodick and Corrie. I will be at war memorials and services in Pirnmill and Shiskine. This is always an emotive time since most of us of a “certain age” have family stories of war or were involved directly in some way. For me, it is heartening that many of our younger people in this country have no experience whatsoever of war or conflict of any kind. However, this time of remembrance is an opportunity to alert them to the consequences of armed conflict, both on individuals and countries. This year the 27 Nov is the first Sunday in Advent. The four Sundays before Christmas take us slowly through the Bible story and remind us of how we got into this pickle we have come to call life and how God's plan to join us in it and raise us out of it came to pass. In Advent the prophets call us to a new way of living in preparation for the coming of our Saviour, the kind of living worthy of what Jesus called the Kingdom of heaven, a living that will transform us into active assets for bringing in that Kingdom, full of the life of Christ himself with the promise that he will be with us every step of the way. So, four Sundays, four themes and sets of readings, four candles to light to speak of justice, peace, faith, and love.

And then, finally, after the anticipation, the build-up, comes Christmas day – which falls on a Sunday this year. I hope you manage the secular side of the Christmas preparations and arrive at the day feeling full of genuine Christmas spirit.

Every blessing for this coming season. May it truly be a peaceful, joyful celebration of the birth of our friend and Saviour, Jesus Christ.

Liz

Coffee Mornings

We have noticed that since the lockdown time ended, the Wednesday coffee mornings in support of the two children through World Vision, have not been well attended. Therefore, after some discussion it was felt we should try a different way. We are now going to use the last Sunday of the month at the after church service coffee and tea meeting time, as the dedicated day when the money will go to World Vision. Those on duty, will hopefully provide a little extra treat and the charge will be £3 which is the amount usually taken on a Wednesday. Perhaps those who do not usually come in for coffee after the service, might do so on the last Sunday of the month, or even give the £3 as a donation. This will be for a trial period only and after a few months there will be another review. If this works well it could be extended and if not, another format will be tried.

As we know, the church services are going to change in the near future, so this may have an impact. I hope the congregation will approve of this change.

Margaret Bryce.

Property Report

The new manse garden has now been cleared and all the overgrown bushes and trees cut back. Grass seed has been sown and we wait for the grass to appear. The other fence between the manse and an adjoining property, which was weakened by the overgrown bushes and finally the wind blew it over, has been replaced.

The church and hall is in the process of being painted and areas where we have damp have been repaired where possible. There are however some areas that may have to be inspected by a company that has experience in stone buildings.

Colin MacKenzie

Annual Food Bank Totals 2018/19 onwards

Item/Date	2018-19	2019-20	2020-21	2021-22
Pasta	269	515	472	246
Rice/Noodles	203	346	889	627
Pasta/Rice Sauce	292	719	832	637
Beans/Spaghetti	624	1270	1225	1155
Soup	645	1152	1422	1286
Tinned Fish	791	1556	2049	1137
Tinned Meat	1352	2123	2288	1649
Tinned Vegetables	816	1642	1354	838
Tinned Fruit	501	730	669	542
Custard/Rice			598	573
Cereals		575	484	409
Tea		304	300	215
Coffee		382	265	176
Long Life Milk	361	705	702	549
Juice				
Sugar				
Biscuits/Treats		1883	1619	829
Jam				385
Toiletries		917	569	519
Condiments		501	499	470
Sanitary Products	93	229	233	175
Baby-(Nappies/Milk)			222	243
Household Cleaning				
Toilet Rolls		1376		
Bread/Rolls				
Dog/Cat Food				
Frozen Foods				
Total	11072	20838	18590	13129

Arran Churches Together Foodbank

Another year has passed since our last annual report and unfortunately, as seen by the number of items used, there is still a great need for the continuation of the Foodbank.

In recent months the number of items taken has gradually increased with over 1400 items in September. With the cost of living crisis, this was not unexpected and is only likely to get worse. The total annual figure of 13,129 items is less than the previous two years when we had the pandemic, but more than pre-pandemic totals in 2018-2019. Frozen foods are available at the Co-op so we no longer supply them and, whilst we bought toilet rolls during the pandemic, we now purely rely on donations.

Many thanks to everyone who donated food and money (£574.08) for the Foodbank at the Harvest Thanksgiving service at Corrie. What a great response!

Presently, we have a lot of tinned tomatoes, tinned chickpeas/kidney beans and long-life milk. Donations of any of the other listed items would be much appreciated.

In December, Social Work will let us know how many of their clients in need should be given a Christmas Bag of essentials and treats. We would really appreciate donations of food and Christmas treats in order to fill these bags. Donations of money to the Foodbank not only buys food but is also used to supply fuel to those in fuel poverty. Catherine Jenks, Treasurer of Arran Churches Together, is now in charge of supporting those in need.

Once again, the Foodbank Team wish to thank all of you who have supported the Foodbank over the past year and who have given so generously.

Church Flowers

Alison Bilsland is taking over from me as Flower Convener from the beginning of next year. I would like to thank all of you who have supported me over the years, either by supplying flowers, or by arranging them, or by donations. Alison's telephone number is 303505.

Ann Lauder