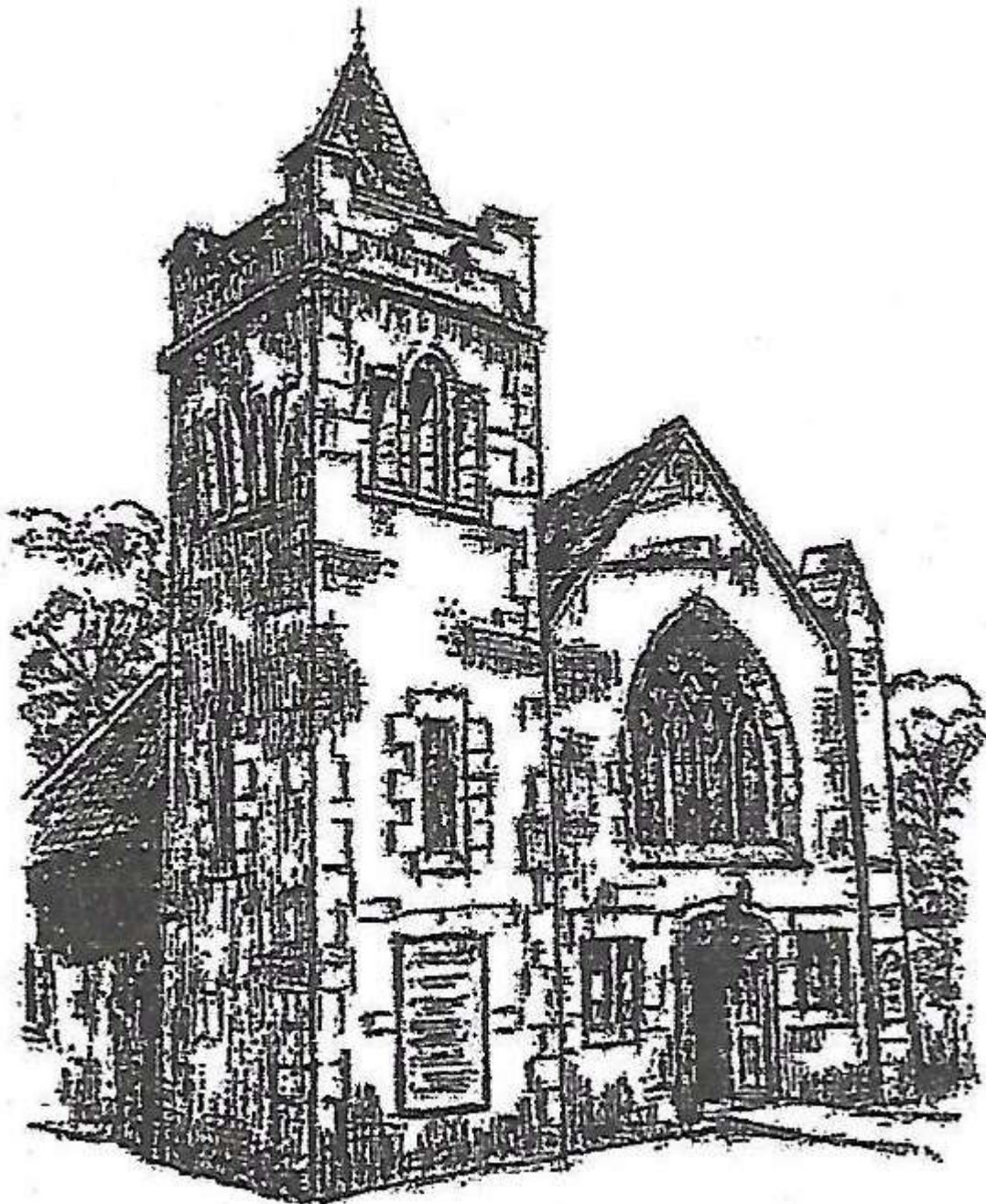


# **Brodick St Bride's Church**

## **November Newsletter**



**Autumn 2023**

Scottish Charity No. SC012017 [www.brodickchurch.org](http://www.brodickchurch.org)

## In the right place at the right time?

So much of life's positive outcomes seem to depend on being in the right place at the right time. We've all experienced this, even in small ways. On a recent visit to Cornwall, we enjoyed lovely sunny days, but one day, in Padstow, there was a shower - and suddenly a brilliant rainbow appeared arching over the seaside harbour. We were in the right place.....

Someone whom we know, who had just moved to a new town, told us about an occasion when she lost her way simply by coming out of the station in time to catch a bus, but on the wrong side of the road. The bus took her in the opposite direction to where she wanted to go, resulting in a long tour round the neighbourhood before she realised her mistake. Right time but wrong place!

I suppose many of you may be wondering if we are 'in the right place at the right time' just now and perhaps you would rather be somewhere else!

With all that's happening just now in the Arran churches, there is a great deal of uncertainty and perhaps anxiety. We may well ask ourselves, as I have, are we in the right place at the right time? Recently I have found it difficult, being remote from the scene, to second-guess what's going on in folks' minds regarding the changes taking place. Liz Clarke and myself are fielding questions and correcting misinformation on a daily basis.

We have been going through a process of change which not everyone understands. I expect your elder has been trying to keep you up to date on what is happening.

So where do we stand right now? Having been through the stages of the Presbytery Mission Plan and agreed the Basis of Union, we have marked our newly formed Union at the service on the 1<sup>st</sup> October. I think most people would agree that it was an important milestone on our journey forward. We must continue to pray for and encourage our fellow members whose buildings are closing.

The new Kirk Session has met twice and is involved in forming working teams – Mission and Discipleship, Young People and Families, Pastoral Care, Safeguarding, Finance and Property – which will carry out the essential tasks along with the new minister and support worker. This is a work in progress and will take time to develop. With the unitary constitution of the Kirk Session, former Board members and Deacons, as well as members, are invited to join one of these teams to help the future mission of the congregation and parish. That could be you! With the gifts and talents that God has given you – your church needs you!

Are you in the right place at the right time?

At this time, the Kirk Session as a body is seeking to ensure that your name is on the electoral roll of the new congregation. Once this is authenticated by the Presbytery then a Nominating Committee will be elected by you, the members of the congregation. This committee will then seek for a minister on your behalf. That person will, God willing, be in the right place, at the right time.

Whether we are thinking of helping in a team, looking for new opportunities in our Christian life or waiting to meet someone special, it is important to be in the right place at the right time. Perhaps we sometimes envy the friends of Jesus born in his time and place, but one of the wonders of our God is that his love spans time and space. So, we can be sure that in his presence the right place is where we are, and the right time is now.

Wishing you many blessings.

Tom Macintyre – Interim Moderator

### Annual Food Bank Totals 2018/19 onwards

Item/Date	2018-19	2019-20	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23
Pasta	269	515	472	246	438
Rice/Noodles	203	346	889	627	691
Pasta/Rice Sauce	292	719	832	637	618
Beans/Spaghetti	624	1270	1225	1155	1193
Soup	645	1152	1422	1286	1662
Tinned Fish	791	1556	2049	1137	1001
Tinned Meat	1352	2123	2288	1649	2931
Tinned Vegetables	816	1642	1354	838	1713
Tinned Fruit	501	730	669	542	1666
Custard/Rice	537	779	598	573	1022
Cereals	278	575	484	409	657
Tea	221	304	300	215	275
Coffee	203	382	265	176	248
Long Life Milk	361	705	702	549	682
Juice	189	333	121	145	93
Sugar	74	201	126	33	76
Biscuits/Treats	942	1883	1619	829	931
Jam	258	305	398	385	412
Toiletries	874	917	569	519	658
Condiments	418	501	499	470	376
Sanitary Products	93	229	233	175	96
Baby-(Nappies/Milk)	21	178	222	243	115
Household Cleaning	167	175	75	79	91
Toilet Rolls	646	1376	812	147	92
Bread/Rolls	64	71	7	4	3
Dog/Cat Food	233	207	100	23	118
Frozen Foods		1664	260	38	0
Total	11072	20838	18590	13129	17858

## **Arran Churches Together Foodbank**

The Foodbank Team really appreciate all the kind donations of both food and money over the year. However, due to the cost of living crisis, we have found that there are fewer donations of food in the Co-op collection box and that the monetary donations are not buying as much food as previously. As a result, we have had to reduce the number of items which we put out in the vestibule on a daily basis. We also no longer buy all the items in the table below but only put out an item if it is donated. e.g. Household cleaning. Toilet rolls, Dog/Cat food etc. and are prioritising which food items we purchase.

The table opposite represents the number of items taken over the past year – up from last year but less than 2020-21. Numbers in red are where we have run out of stock of that particular item. The most popular items are Meat, Vegetables, Soup & Fruit.

Many thanks to you all for your continued support of the Arran Churches Together Foodbank.

## **Treasurer's Update**

On the 1<sup>st</sup> September 2023, when the union of Isle of Arran Church of Scotland came into effect, the finances of all the churches in the union were combined. We were also required to open a new bank account and over the next few months all bank accounts held in the names of Brodick, Corrie, Kilmory, Lamlash, Lochranza & Pirnmill, Shiskine and Whiting Bay Churches will be closed. A new bank account with the Co-operative Bank is now operating. Can I therefore ask those who make their offerings directly into any of the bank accounts that are due to close to change their instructions with their own banks with the following details.

**Account name: Isle of Arran Church of Scotland**

**Sort code: 08-92-99      Account number: 67313455**

For those who give by cheque would you please now make these out to - 'Isle of Arran Church of Scotland'

I have been appointed by the Kirk Session as Treasurer and a Finance Team has been formed consisting of myself, Eric Borland, Alison Burnett, Robert McLean, Fiona Henderson and Mairi Farquhar.

As it will take some time to bring the accounts together and I am unable to give you a financial update at the moment, if you have any questions regarding the finances of the Church, please do not hesitate to contact me or any member of the finance team.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank you all for your continued support.

Sylvia Alison Tel: 302613

## **St Bride's Ladies Club**

Meetings are held fortnightly from October to March at 2pm in Brodick St Bride's War Memorial Hall, to which we extend a warm welcome to both Ladies and Gentlemen.

The dates of our fortnightly meetings for 2023 -----

30<sup>th</sup> October and 13<sup>th</sup> November - at both of which we will have a speaker.

27<sup>th</sup> November the Montrose Ceilidh Group will entertain us at a St Andrews Afternoon.

On Saturday 10<sup>th</sup> December we will hold our ever-popular Christmas Fayre.

We will finish off the year with a Christmas Lunch at the Brodick Golf Club

Copies of the syllabus for the full 23-24 session are available in the church vestibule.

Sylvia Alison, President

## **Property Report**

We have had a problem with wasps which appear to have a nest somewhere in the balcony. The area has been treated and with winter approaching we hope this problem has been rectified.

There were also a few opportunistic mice who took advantage of some food at the food bank, however this would also appear to be resolved.

We had our first repair to the new manse when the strong winds dislodged a slate. For the future the Property Committee will have to look into providing storage at the manse for garden tools, logs etc and look into upgrading the heating systems in both the church hall and the church

Colin MacKenzie

## **Some information on where we are with the new parish of the Isle of Arran Church of Scotland**

The parish will be served by 4 worship centres which will be known as, Brodick St Bride's, St Molios Shiskine, Whiting Bay St Donans and St Bride's Lochranza all working together to serve the Lord here on Arran.

The Kirk Session has begun the nucleus of teams to cover many aspects of the running and mission of the parish and more information on these will be forthcoming over the next weeks.

Sylvia Alison has been appointed by the Kirk Session as the Treasurer of the Isle of Arran Church of Scotland. There is also a finance team in place to oversee the churches finances.

A property team is also up and running, the Property Convenor is Alan Burnett and your contact person here at Brodick St Bride's will still be Colin McKenzie.

There will be a contact person for each of the 4 worship centres and your contact person here at St Bride's for all other matters is Shona Hume.

John Kerr has been appointed by the Kirk Session as the Roll Keeper.

The Kirk Session has appointed Sharon MacLeod as the Session Clerk and Shona Hume as deputy Session Clerk.

Working toward filling the vacancy began with the reading on the 15<sup>th</sup> October of Schedule E- Confirmation of the Electoral Register, this will be completed by the next Kirk Session meeting.

Those named on the Electoral Register will be able to nominate candidates for, and also vote in the election of a Nominating Committee – the people tasked to look for a new minister.

The roll will also be required when the congregation vote for a minister.

The next Kirk Session meeting is on the 4<sup>th</sup> November at 11am in St Bride's Brodick Hall to which all who were members of the board of Brodick Church before the union are invited. At this meeting the Presbytery Advisory Committee will attend to guide us through the next steps towards filling the vacancy.

Kirk Session meetings are open meetings for anyone to attend, you do not need to be invited. You can ask questions but only the members of the Kirk Session are allowed to vote on matters arising.

So do come along and keep up to date with what's going on in the parish, have your questions answered, and find out more about the Teams being formed.

## **Church Notices- Autumn 2023**

<b>Deaths</b>	Lindsay Keir	Brodick	30th July
	John Corbett	Brodick	2nd August
	Dolly Thomson	Lamlash	16th August
	John Lauder.	Brodick	25th August
	Grace Sillars	Brodick	12th September
	Jean Bowden	Lamlash	18th October

## **Dates for your Diary**

- 4th Nov     Session Meeting Saturday 11am in Brodick Church Hall.  
Board members are also welcome to attend.
- 12th Nov    Sunday Armistice Service Brodick War Memorial at 10am.
- 19<sup>th</sup> Nov     Sunday Services will now start at 11.30am.  
Teas and coffees will now be served in the church hall before  
the service starting at 10.30am.
- 19th Dec    Baptist Church Carol Concert in Brodick Hall at 7.30pm.