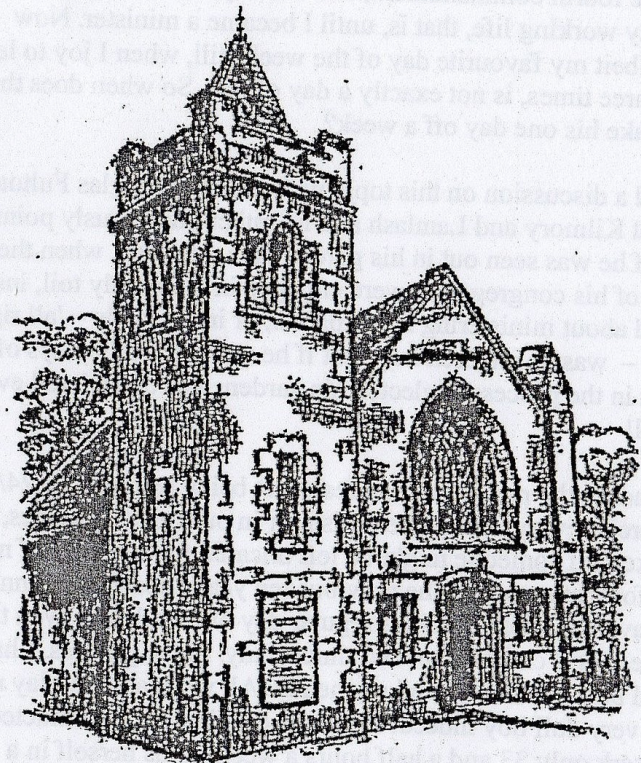


*Brodick Church War Memorial Hall*

# St Bride's Church Brodick

## Newsletter



**Spring 2016**

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

Brodick Manse  
April 2016

'Six days shalt thou labour and do all thy work: but the seventh day is the sabbath of the Lord thy God; in it thou shalt not do any work' (Exodus 20: 8- 9).

So runs the fourth commandment, one I always tried very hard to keep all my working life, that is, until I became a minister. Now Sunday, albeit my favourite day of the week still, when I joy to lead worship three times, is not exactly a day of rest. So when does the minister take his one day off a week?

I once had a discussion on this topic with the late Douglas Fulton, minister at Kilmory and Lamlash and he rather humorously pointed out, that if he was seen out in his garden on a weekday, when the members of his congregation were engaged in their daily toil, instead of out and about ministering in his parish, or in his study – 'all right for some' – was considered lazy, but if he worked all the days of the week and in the process neglected his garden, was considered even lazier still!

Compounding the problem is the fear, that being responsible 24/7 for the welfare of every soul in the parish, or in our case 5 parishes, if a day is taken off someone might be left uncared for at a time of need. Perhaps for that reason in the previous ten years, apart from annual leave I have neglected to take a regular day off at all, and even then the phone is still checked several times daily. In the process, I have neglected both my family and my health. All work and no play makes Angus a very dull boy indeed! Jean too, despite being contracted and paid to work only 33 and a half hours a week, finds herself in a similar situation.

However, in our position, there really is no need for this to be the case. There are two of us on the ground. Always, if one is on holiday, the other covers. At such times, apart from having to conduct a funeral on the mainland, or be away engaged in Presbytery business elsewhere, one of us is on hand at any given time. The same could

easily apply to time off. Thus we have decided that I will now take a Monday off each week, when Jean will cover for me and Jean will take a Saturday off, allowing her to get over to the mainland on a Friday evening to be more involved in her grand children's weekend activities.

Of course when either of us is on holiday, the other will not entirely be able to completely take a day off and will still be 'on call'. There will still be the odd week too, when something serious or extra problematic crops up. But at least for the rest of the time, we might just get a chance to recharge our batteries. And I can't help thinking, instead of often being run down and run ragged, we will be much more able to serve you all the better, which is ever first and foremost our primary concern.

Angus

### Editor's Remarks

Spring has come around again. The daffodils are in full bloom and the gorse bushes are heavy with scented blossom. We can now look forward to a busy time in our church calendar so the help and support of our members and friends, with the forthcoming events, will be greatly appreciated.

I was deeply saddened at the recent sudden loss to our congregation of Alex Lawrie. Alex was a regular contributor to this newsletter with his detailed and informative reports for the Friends of Montrose House Association as well as a number of other interesting articles on a variety of topics. He also provided me with the cover for each quarter's newsletter which was very welcome. I am extremely grateful for all the help and support he gave me over my time as editor. Alex you will be missed not only by me but by all who were lucky enough to know you. God Bless you.

My thanks, as always, to all who have contributed in any way to this newsletter.

## St Bride's Ladies

The A.G.M. on 21<sup>st</sup> March brought our winter activities to a close. President, Lavinia Hendry reported a successful session with some interesting speakers on various topics. The lunch held at Brodick Golf Club on 25<sup>th</sup> October had been very popular and will probably be repeated next session. Lavinia thanked the office bearers and committee members for their support during the year before stepping down as President. She is replaced by Sylvia Alison who thanked Lavinia for her diligent leadership. Anne Green was voted Vice President, Myrna Boal remains Secretary and Lesley Murray remains Treasurer. Committee members were re-elected.

Following the A.G.M. Mrs Jean Hunter entertained us with an illustrated talk on her visit to the Holy land and Jordan. This transported us to some fascinating places and was much enjoyed by all, bringing a pleasant end to our winter meetings.

Activities then turned to our Spring Fayre which was held on Saturday 2<sup>nd</sup> April. Once again this proved to be a successful event raising £650.00. We are now concentrating on the syllabus for next session and would welcome any suggestions.

The Highland Games remain a big event on our calendar and we will be appealing for assistance nearer the time.

## "Out of the Mouths of Babes"

The Sunday school teacher asked her class before the church service why it was important to be quiet in church. One wee girl responded: "Because people are sleeping!".

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

## Brief Encounter

The first frost of autumn covered the Lake District, and from the summit of Scafell I looked over a white and silver world beneath a clear blue sky. Reluctantly I left the summit and descended a couple of hundred feet, then stopped to look back at the view. Before starting off again I glanced down at the ground and there, on a frosted grass stalk, and frozen to it was a Red Admiral butterfly. I was surprised to see such a fragile creature in such a hostile environment, and could only think it had been blown up the fell side by the previous day's icy wind. I was sure it was dead, but hopefully I picked the stalk with butterfly attached, and laid it on the sleeve of my woolly jumper and holding my arm across my middle scrambled down about a thousand feet. The warmth from my arm gradually melted the ice and to my delight I saw that the butterfly was still alive.

It slowly crawled into the crook of my arm and clung on while I continued down for another thousand feet. I stopped, and straightening my arm, raised and lowered it a few times. The creature got the message and fluttered off into the warm sunshine.

Continuing downwards a few minutes I stopped by a stile in the wall and looking back was surprised to see the butterfly fluttering behind me. I stood still as it flew round my head a few times before darting off into the dead bracken further across the fell side.

I like to think it was the beautiful creature's way of saying "Thank you" to me for prolonging it's life and I thanked a lovely butterfly for making a morning fell walk into something rather special.

R.T.

## Arran Churches Together

The World Day of Prayer service this year was prepared this year by the women of Cuba. It was held in St. Molios Church Shiskine on Friday 4<sup>th</sup> March. Fortunately it was a sunny though windy day and was attended by a number of people from various churches around the island.

The Good Friday Walk of Witness on 25<sup>th</sup> March was also blessed with a dry day and, after listening to an address by Father Noel Colford at the Church of the Holy Cross, the congregation processed in silence behind the large wooden cross to St. Bride's Church, for a short address by Mrs Jean Hunter, before adjourning to the adjacent War Memorial Hall, for tea/coffee and another opportunity to socialise with friends from other denominations

## South American Adventure (Part 1)

*“The earth is the Lord’s, and everything in it, the world and all who live in it, for he founded it upon the seas and established it upon the waters”.*

For those of you who have travelled, you will know how vast God’s earth is. In February I travelled to South America with Elizabeth Watson. After the journey to Buenos Aires in Argentina via London then Paris, we boarded the cruise ship *Zaandam* in Buenos Aires harbour. As this was my first time on a cruise ship I didn’t know what to expect, except what others had told me.

However I have to say that I wasn’t disappointed. To me the ship was huge and I was told it was a medium sized one. The whole cruise was an amazing adventure though, one I mistakenly thought I could only dream of.

In the evening we went on a tour to one of the most iconic tango theatres in Buenos Aires for a spectacular presentation of the acclaimed, popular dance. Professionals took us on a journey through the ages of Argentina’s most celebrated dance. I for one was glad they didn’t ask the audience to join in.

The first night was spent on the ship in the harbour then next day we took a ‘Panoramic Highlights tour of Buenos Aires’. We began by visiting San Telmo and La Boca two lively and colourful areas. As Argentines are passionate about their football we were taken by a stadium, the home of their most famous football team, Boca Juniors. As my grandsons are football fanatics too I had to get them football tops.

We then travelled along the city’s widest Boulevard, 9 de Julio (9th July Avenue). It was called after the date they gained their independence. It is the widest Avenue in South America. We passed by the Presidential Palace or Pink Palace (called that because of its pink colour) from where Eva Peron, one of their history’s most famous women, gave a speech from the balcony. Another place we passed was a garden area where a clock, made in the image of London’s Big Ben, stood. The clock was gifted by the U.K. but its name was changed after the Falklands War and is not now spoken about except by tour guides.

At night we sailed down the River Plate to find ourselves waking up in the morning in Montevideo harbour, Uruguay. Our shore Excursion this day was the ‘Montevideo Highlights and Uruguayan Carnival’. There was a tour of the city sights and then to a Carnival Museum. Carnival in South America is primarily associated with Rio de Janeiro, but Uruguay, the second smallest country of South America, celebrates the longest Carnival competition in the world. At the museum we learned that Carnival in Uruguay is a mix of

European and African traditions. We saw displays of colourful costumes and were treated to a display of Candombe and Murga. The Candombe drummers and dancers played and danced to a drum-based rhythm which originated from Angola and the Congo. Murga was a mixture of song, theatre and comedy and had its origins in Cadiz in Spain. Some of our group were asked to join in and so they did, dressing up and dancing round the tables. You will be glad to know I wasn’t one of the volunteers.

After leaving Montevideo we spent the next two days at sea, enjoying the cruise and relaxing in the sunshine.

On Friday 26th February the ship arrived at the Falkland Islands. The ship anchored out in the Bay and we had to get into a small tender for the journey into Port Stanley. On the way there some folk saw the dolphins jumping out of the water but I managed to miss them. On shore we got into a coach for our tour of Stanley which is home to more than 80% of the entire population of the Falkland Islands. It was quite a moving experience being in that place. It wasn’t raining but was quite cold and damp. It reminded me of Mull although without the high hills and the forests.

There are some hills there though and the guide told us that that was where some of the battles were fought during the war with Argentina in 1982 like on Mount Tumbledown. We drove past the memorial from that war with many names on it and then outside Stanley past the local airport and Surf Bay to see the beach and minefields from that time. There are still unexploded bombs there today. A drive past Government House was next. Building work began on the house in 1845 but it was 1859 before the first Governor took up residence. A visit to the Falkland Islands Museum was very interesting with its history and exhibits before travelling along the road to the Anglican Cathedral the southernmost Cathedral in the world, featuring an arch constructed from the jawbones of two blue whales. A visit to the souvenir shop was a must, however I didn’t get time to send postcards before getting back on to the tender to get back to the ship. On looking back at Port Stanley I had to pinch myself to believe that I had been there in the Falkland Islands but I have the photos to look at and prove I was there.

On leaving the islands we sailed on towards the Magellan Straits a natural passage between the Atlantic and Pacific oceans and to more wonderful places to view more of the beauty of God’s creation.

I will let you know about that in the next instalment.

Jean Hunter

## CHURCH NOTICES – Spring 2016

### CHURCH FETE AND AUCTION.

These two events are our principal sources of funding for the church. Without them we would struggle to meet our commitments, so please give both events your enthusiastic support. You can help the fete by donating items for sale or tombola, baking for the bakery stall or tearoom, putting up marquees and setting up the displays in the morning, assisting on one of the stalls in the afternoon, etc., or just being there. Likewise good saleable items for the auction are a great help. Please mark the dates, Fete 16<sup>th</sup> July and Auction 21<sup>st</sup> July in your diary. Any help you give will be greatly appreciated.

### Brodick Church Fete Duck Egg Derby

## **WANTED**

Children or adults for Duck Suit (Duck Suit fits ALL sizes) plus Minders to accompany Duck to sell duck eggs the week on the run up to the Church Fete.

One hour only Monday 11<sup>th</sup> July – Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> morning or afternoon.

Please phone Alison (303505) and leave a message if she is not in. Your help would be very much appreciated as this contributes greatly to the amount of money raised by the Fete. Many many thanks.

### Church Coffee Rota

We are always looking for Ladies and Gentlemen to help with the teas and coffees after the Sunday service. If you are willing to help, please enter your name on the sheet in the hall or contact Anne Mitchell.

**New Member:** Mrs Willma Pirie, from Whiting Bay and Kildonan Church.

**Baptism:** Lily Mae McCartney, Langholm 17th April

**Deaths:** Ian Frame, 29 Alma Park 18th January  
Tessa Swindale, Sarnia Cottage 25th February  
Alex Lawrie, 12 Sheean Drive 27th March  
Madge Baird, Montrose House 10th April

### DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

27th April	12noon Service of Prayers for Health and Healing, Transept.
<u>1st May</u>	<b>10.30am Sacrament of the Lord's Supper.</b> Thanksgiving service, Brodick, 7pm.
4th May	10.30am Church Coffee Morning in Church Hall.
5th May	7.30pm Taize Worship in St Molios Church, Shiskine.
18th May	10.30am Church Coffee Morning in Church Hall.
26th May	12noon Service of Prayers for Health and Healing, Shiskine.
1st June	10.30am Church Coffee Morning in Church Hall. 7for 7.30pm Linkage Board and Session meeting in the Church Hall.
15th June	10.30am Church Coffee Morning in Church Hall.
29th June	10.30am Church Coffee Morning in Church Hall. 12noon Service of Prayers for Health and Healing, Transept.
13th July	10.30am Church Coffee Morning in Church Hall.
16th July	<b>2pm Church Fete.</b>
21st July	<b>8pm Church Auction, Brodick Golf Club House.</b>
27th July	10.30am Church Coffee Morning in Church Hall.
7th August	<b>10.30am Sacrament of the Lord's Supper.</b>
10th August	10.30am Church Coffee Morning in Church Hall.

## 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	Mrs Shona Hume	302625
Treasurer	Mrs Sylvia Alison	302613
Property Convener	Mr Colin MacKenzie	302329
Freewill Offering Convener	Mrs Elizabeth McKellar	302230
Presbytery Elder	Mr Hamish Mitchell	302285
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	600040
Safeguarding Co-ordinator	Mrs Lorna MacDonald	302499
Hall Letting Conveners	Mrs Joyce Buchanan Mrs Susan Dobson	600308 302365
Church Minibus Convener	Mrs Alison Bilsland	303505
Coffee Morning Convener	Mrs Margaret Bryce	302117
Sunday Tea Convener	Mrs Anne Mitchell	302285
Church Flower Convener	Mrs Ann Lauder	303517
"Life and Work" Convener	Mrs Elise White	302387



### Your Congregation needs YOU!

There are many jobs in the church which need volunteers, and a brief list is shown below. There are more openings to serve than listed, so if you have an idea or know of a job which needs help please add your suggestion in the spare provided. Please think about what you could do, tick one or more of the boxes, cut out this coupon, and leave it on the table in the vestibule.

<input type="checkbox"/>	Read lesson on Sundays
<input type="checkbox"/>	Arrange flowers for church services
<input type="checkbox"/>	Help with catering at fortnightly coffee mornings
<input type="checkbox"/>	Help with catering at Sunday after service teas and coffees
<input type="checkbox"/>	Join the pastoral support group
<input type="checkbox"/>	Join the worship team to assist in taking services
<input type="checkbox"/>	Work at church fete
<input type="checkbox"/>	Church door steward on Sundays
<input type="checkbox"/>	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Name
<input type="checkbox"/>	Address
<input type="checkbox"/>	Telephone number