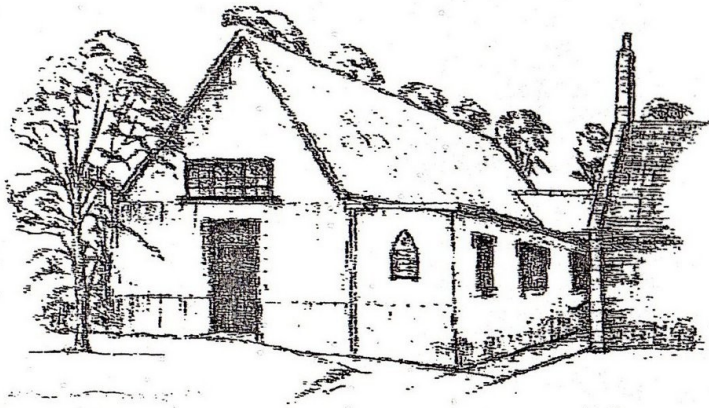
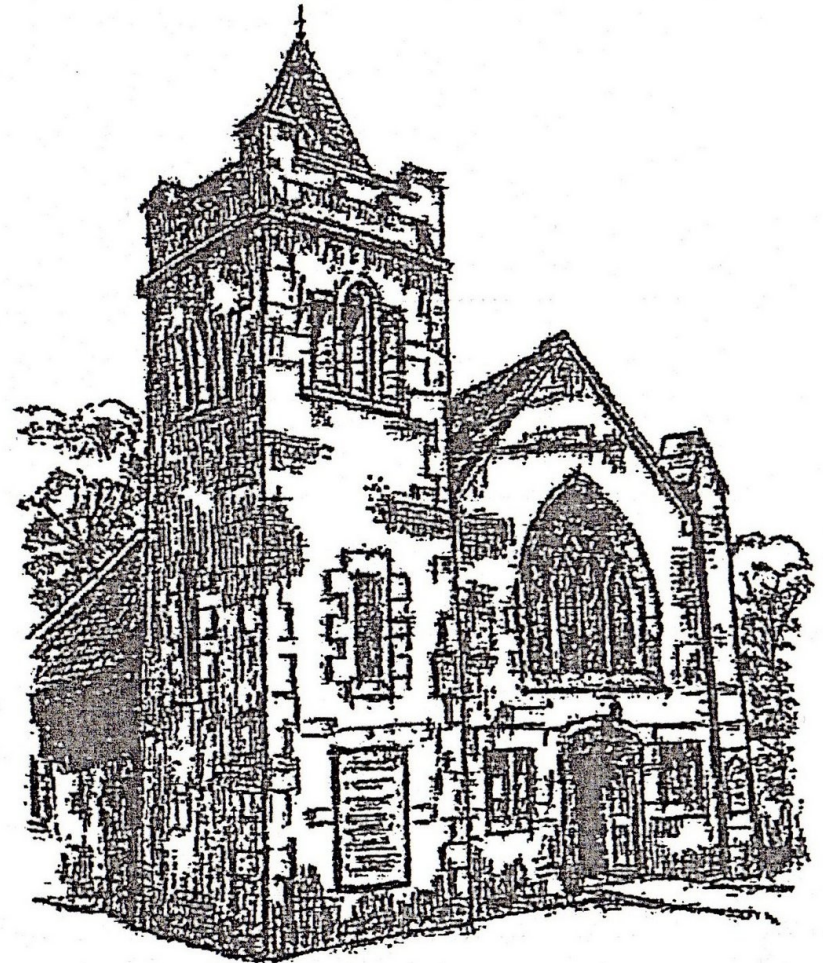


# St Bride's Church Brodick

## Newsletter



*Brodick Church War Memorial Hall*



**Spring 2017**

Then God said, 'Let us make man in our image, after our likeness; and let them have dominion over the fish of the sea, and over the birds of the air, and over the cattle, all wild animals on land, and everything that creeps on the earth' (Genesis 1: 26).

Literally translated, that means we have a God-given power of life and death over all living creatures and recently I have had cause to think a lot about that teaching from the very first page of the bible.

Back in August of last year, after almost 13 years of life, we had to have our much adored little Parson Jack Russell terrier 'Archie' put down.

I well remember T.V. Garden presenter Monty Don—another person like myself who is daft about dogs—saying on the One Show last year, accompanied at the time on screen by his faithful canine companion, a beautiful Golden Retriever, that due to their short span of years in comparison to ours, what people don't realise when they take on a dog, is that they will not only be responsible for its life, but also its death. With no prospect of betterment and certainly a terrible end if we hadn't intervened, having Archie put to sleep was the best we could do for him.

You can never ever replace a much loved pet, but being 'dog-less' for me is like having an arm missing. So, in January, after a very vigorous vetting process by the staff at the Dog's Trust Centre in West Calder, we became the owners of a black and tan cross terrier called 'Kubo', now re-named by the family 'Hugo'.

The reason for that rigorous vetting process was to ensure that, not only were we going to be good responsible and caring owners of a little five month old pup that had been previously brutalised and cruelly mistreated beyond belief, but also were able to provide the right environment to try to help him recover.

Hugo had come from a stable, where as a very young pup, it is thought he had firstly been set upon and mauled by other dogs. Then to disguise the fact he was not as advertised a Jack Russell/Chihuahua cross, taken from his mother at only a few weeks old, way too early to have developed many of the norms of dog behaviour and then sold to a couple with very young children, who got more than they bargained for. To cope they kept him shut in a cage, where he must have been tormented by the young children of the household and most certainly mistreated by the mother, for unlike most badly treated dogs, it is not men, but young women he is most

terrified of. If he hears the sound of children playing he freaks. The only plus that can be said for his previous owners is that, rather than have him destroyed, at least they gave him up to the Dogs Trust who never have any dog in their care put down other than for medical reasons.

When he arrived with them at West Calder, 'Kubo' as he was then, was utterly traumatised. Having been constantly shut in a cage he was agoraphobic and could not be coaxed to go outside. He was also a fearful, aggressive dog who was very wary of people, whom he assumed were going to hammer him into obedient submission and so terrified of other dogs that he could not be put in the kennel compound with the other forty or so dogs housed there.

To say that the staff at the Dog's Trust was utterly amazing with him would be an understatement. To save him from the stress of being too near other dogs, he was housed in the visitor centre, where, to get him used to people, he lived behind the reception desk, gradually getting to trust that not all human beings were violent and learning vital welcoming skills, such as wagging his tail. Eventually he was coaxed out into the world, but by the time we got him he still wouldn't even piddle outside if he as much as heard another dog in the distance. At the sight of another dog he would go apoplectic. Away from other dogs, he was well-trained, obedient to recall, would even drop the ball he loved to chase with the simple command of 'off'.

The reason for our rigorous vetting was that 'Kubo' would need to go somewhere rural, where he could be taken on to the next stage of recovery and to owners who could handle extremely 'problematic' terriers. He had previously been given to another family, who quickly brought him back due to not being able to cope with him. Simply, we were 'Kubo's last hope of any kind of normal life. The fear was he would end up back at West Calder to live out his days there as a permanent inmate, well and lovingly looked after for sure, but in many ways a half-life leading a far from normal canine existence.

To see him now running free and wild, leaping springbok-like among the heather in the Arran hills, welcoming, tail wagging, any visitor into the house with his ball, or for the first time in his young life, simply 'chilling out' snoozing in the sun on his favourite chair, is a joy to behold. Around us and the rest of the family Hugo is laid back, adoring, loving and giving. However, he is still terrified of other dogs and wary of any strangers he meets out in public, when the ingrained fear flicks a switch inside his head and he will often seem like an aggressive lunatic. We still have a way to go

with Hugo yet, but hopefully one day he will overcome any remaining fears he has. At still just seven months old he has a chance. So if you meet Hugo out and about, please be understanding. At home if you met him he would be a different dog. Maybe one day too, he will be able to regularly attend church at Brodick with Susan and become an honorary 'adherent' of the congregation as Archie was.

And the point of my telling you about Hugo? Well it is that, make no mistake, we have been given by God the wonderful privilege of having 'dominion' over all living creatures, but with that comes huge responsibility and rest assured we will be judged as to how we have treated them during our lives shared with them. God loves us for sure, each and every one of us as if there was only one of us to love, but for sure he also loves all his creatures, great and small, wild and domestic.

Angus

### Editor's Remarks

Spring has come around once again and with the lighter nights and warmer days we have been able to enjoy the beauty that is bursting forth from gardens and hedgerows. We are truly blessed, here on Arran, to be surrounded by so many examples of God's wonderful creation.

Our principal fund raising events of the year will soon be upon us i.e. the Church Fete and Auction and, as usual, we will be most appreciative of all and any help from as many people as possible on the day (dates to be announced shortly.)

John Lauder is stepping down from his post as Session Clerk after five years faithful service and we are grateful to Liz Laurie for agreeing to take his place with assistance from Alan Milligan as her deputy. Good luck to them both and a huge thank you to John and also to his wife Ann, who has been by his side throughout his tenure, for all their diligence and hard work over these last five years.

As always, my thanks to all those who have contributed to this magazine. If you would like to contribute to this magazine I can be contacted on 01770303579 or [sheenamcl4@gmail.com](mailto:sheenamcl4@gmail.com)

## St Bride's Ladies

The session came to an end with the A.G.M. on 27<sup>th</sup> March. The committee were sorry that Lesley Murray, our treasurer, has decided to resign. Lesley was thanked for her valuable service during her term as treasurer. As yet, no-one has been appointed to replace Lesley. Meantime, Sylvia Alison is 'holding the fort'. Otherwise the committee, including the office bearers, remains the same. In her report, Sylvia thanked her committee for their support. We'd had a successful session with some excellent speakers and a variety of topics.

As usual, after the A.G.M., Jean Hunter entertained us with an illustrated talk on her latest holiday. This was a trip to South America with a cruise round Cape Horn. It had been a fascinating experience and we all thoroughly enjoyed hearing about it.

The Spring Fayre took place on Saturday 8<sup>th</sup> April. Although successful, the beautiful day perhaps kept people away on other pursuits.

The committee are now engaged in compiling next year's syllabus and would welcome any suggestions for speakers etc. We also have two summer events to consider, the Summer Fayre and the Highland Games. We will be grateful for help and donations on these occasions. Arrangements will be made nearer the time.

## 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.

## Appreciation for John Lauder

It is usually only when someone retires from a position such as Session Clerk, that the remainder of us in the congregation suddenly realise the amount of time and effort which is given up by the Session Clerk to maintain the records of our Church, plan for future events, be the Right hand man/ women to the Minister and control the day to day running and operation of a busy Parish Church such as ours. But to do all that in a manner constantly portrayed by John on every occasion and to everyone alike, shows us the depth of John's ability and character.

John who has spent the last 5 years serving his beloved church as Session Clerk and before that as Treasurer has set the bar high for us to follow. We are all most grateful to John for the work he has done on our behalf and to know that he and Ann are still here to guide us along is a great comfort to us all. I hope in the days ahead you will all take the opportunity to thank John personally for his tremendous work for us all.

Thank you John and Ann

## Wednesday Coffee Morning Rota July-Dec. 2017

12-Jul	N.McLeod	V.Sim
26-Jul	S. Dobson	C.Smith
09-Aug	I.Rollo	E.McKellar
23-Aug	J.Robertson	A.Bilsland
06-Sep	G.Bleakley	G.Sillars
20-Sep	L.Hendry	S.Alison
04-Oct	M.MacKinlay	M.Cameron
18-Oct	A.Lauder	L.Murray
01-Nov	E.Lawrie	I.Doig
15-Nov	M.Boal	S.McLean
29-Nov	M.Bryce	A.Green
13-Dec	A.Mitchell	G.Dickson

## Friends of Montrose House Association

### Spring 2017

On January 25<sup>th</sup> the Scots Night was held in the dining room of Montrose House. The staff had decorated the room beautifully with a portrait of Robert Burns, bunting of St Andrew's flags and tartan table mats. Red roses and heather added colour to the tables. While residents and visitors gathered to be seated, Jim Arnold played a selection of Scottish songs on the accordion. John Lauder gave the Selkirk Grace and Ross Kerr piped in the haggis. Archie Cumming recited the Address to the Haggis with great gusto and gave a short Immortal Memory. Jean Bowden sang Scottish songs accompanied by Graeme McKinnon on keyboard. Jim and Graeme then played for community singing to round off a very successful evening. Thanks were given to the kitchen for a lovely meal.

On March 12<sup>th</sup>, Doreen Hodgkinson and her family organised a successful daffodil tea with raffle in aid of Marie Curie and raised over £200. Thanks again were due to the kitchen for sandwiches and delicious baking.

On April 5<sup>th</sup>, the decorating of baskets with greenery and daffodils took place in Stronach. Participants from M.H. and Stronach Daycare each received an Easter egg. Residents were later presented with a potted viola for their rooms.

On April 20<sup>th</sup>, a short ceremony took place at Montrose House to present vouchers from the Book and Card to the primary school winners of the of the Art Competition organised by the Montrose House Residents Support Group. The prizes of £25 each were donated by F.O.M.H.A. These pictures are now on display in M.H.

Thanks are also due to Wendy Kilroe for a donation of a painting and to the family of Joey Bell for three pictures. Colour has now been added to the otherwise bare walls with interesting scenes of Arran.

The Summer Fete will be held on Wednesday, 5<sup>th</sup> July at 2pm.

Finally we acknowledge the death of Jean Andrews in February.

## Property Report

### The Church

The problems we had with the organ earlier in the year were finally traced to a problem with the outside lighting. The organ and the lights were on the same circuit and this was causing the fuses to fail.

### The Church Hall

We have unfortunately had a problem in the church hall kitchen with vermin. The kitchen area has undergone a deep clean and the problem has been resolved.

I would however ask that all organisations using the kitchen keep any food items including tea, coffee and sugar in sealed containers.

### The Manse

We are again having problems with water ingress at both the church and the manse. This is at present under investigation and I am awaiting estimates for both repairs.

C.MacKenzie

## Arran Churches Together

The World Day of Prayer service was prepared this year by women in the Philippines. The service was held in Holy Cross Church Brodick on Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> March and was attended by a number of people from various churches around the island.

The Good Friday Walk of Witness on the 14th April again commenced at Holy Cross Catholic Church with a short act of worship and proceeded with the quiet walk through the village following the large wooden cross to St Bride's Church for a further act of worship. Those gathered then had an opportunity for further fellowship while enjoying tea/coffee in the War Memorial Hall.

## CHURCH NOTICES - Spring 2017

### Baptism

Katie Elizabeth Mair

9<sup>th</sup> April

### Deaths

May Milton, 7 Brathwic Place, Brodick

22<sup>nd</sup> January

Fiona Sams, 6 Alma Park, Brodick

31<sup>st</sup> January

Jean Andrews, Montrose House

3<sup>rd</sup> February

Eleanor Dalby, Ach-Na-Darach, Brodick

10<sup>th</sup> February

### DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

- 3<sup>rd</sup> May Coffee Morning in Church Hall from 10.30 to 12noon
- 7<sup>th</sup> May Pastoral Support Group meet in the transept at 10am.
- 14<sup>th</sup> May **Sacrament of the Lord's Supper at 10.30am.**
- 14<sup>th</sup> May Thanksgiving Communion service at 7pm.
- 17<sup>th</sup> May Coffee Morning in Church Hall from 10.30 to 12noon
- 22<sup>nd</sup> May Classical Guitar Concert in Church at 7.30pm.
- 31<sup>st</sup> May Coffee Morning in Church Hall from 10.30 to 12noon
- 31<sup>st</sup> May Service of Prayers for Health and Healing, Brodick at 12noon
- 4<sup>th</sup> June Pastoral Support group meet in the transept at 10am.
- 14<sup>th</sup> June Coffee Morning in Church Hall from 10.30 to 12noon
- 28<sup>th</sup> June Coffee Morning in Church Hall from 10.30 to 12noon
- 29<sup>th</sup> June Service of Prayers for Health and Healing, Shiskine at 12noon
- 2<sup>nd</sup> July Pastoral Support Group meets in the transept at 10am.
- 12<sup>th</sup> July Coffee Morning in Church Hall from 10.30 to 12noon
- 26<sup>th</sup> July Coffee Morning in Church Hall from 10.30 to 12noon
- 6<sup>th</sup> August **Sacrament of the Lord's Supper at 10.30am.**
- 9<sup>th</sup> August Coffee Morning in Church Hall from 10.30 to 12noon

## 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	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	600944
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