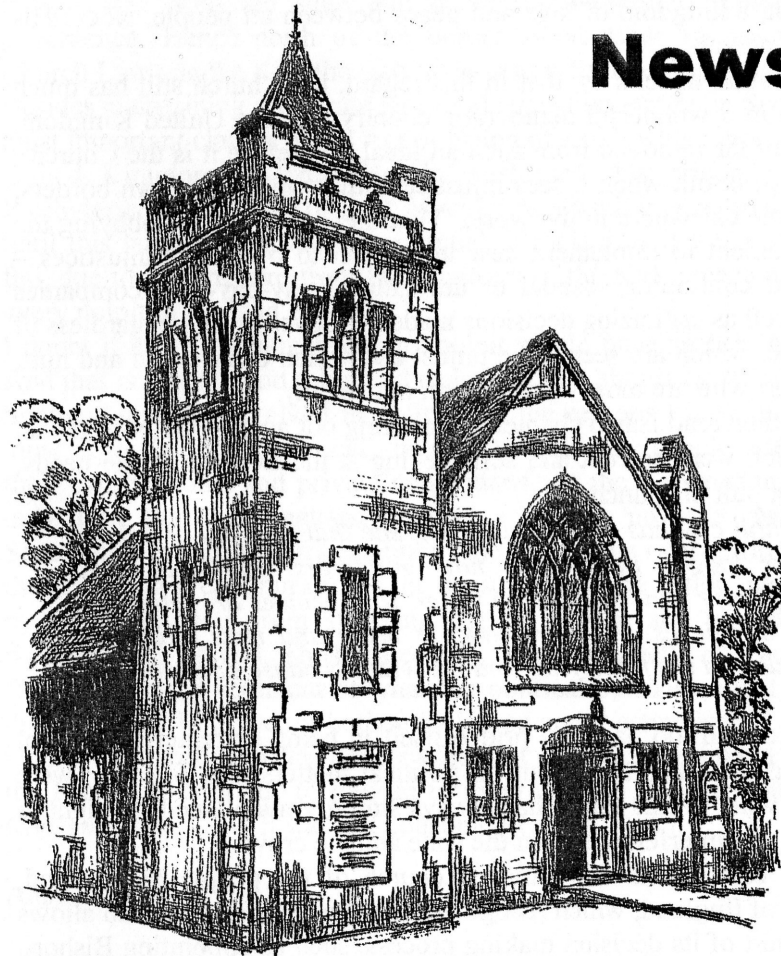


**St Bride's Church**

**Brodick**

**Summer 2014**

**Newsletter**



**Scottish Charity No SCO12017 [www.brodickchurch.org](http://www.brodickchurch.org)**

Brodict Manse  
July 2014

Perhaps it has been the heightened political awareness in the build up to the Referendum, but one question often asked in recent times has been, should the Church get involved in politics? My immediate answer is always yes ..... and no. That may sound like a typical question-dodging, avoiding-the-issue politician's answer, but let me explain.

One of the primary functions of the Church is to proclaim God's Word and following the teachings of Jesus Christ, to do all it can to establish God's 'kingdom' on earth, a kingdom of love and peace between all people, where His justice and mercy prevail.

Simply looking around us tells us, that in this regard, the Church still has much work to do. Even in a wonderful democratic country like the United Kingdom, we live in a society far removed from such an ideal. Therefore it is the Church's constant duty to speak out when it sees injustice, either within our own borders, or done in our name elsewhere in the world. That inevitably means lobbying the Government/Parliament to implement new legislation to overcome injustices – such as the recent continuing scandal of unregulated pay-day-loan companies like Wonga – as well as criticizing decisions made by Governments, regardless of political allegiance, which are seen to be unjust and which cause harm and hurt, particularly to those who are most vulnerable in our society.

If you doubt that, then read Isaiah chapter 1. Speaking out against the powers that be in his day, which were corrupt and self-seeking at the expense of the needy, the prophet did not pull his punches:

*How the faithful city has become a harlot, she that was full of justice!  
Righteousness lodged in her but now murderers. Your silver has  
become dross, your wine mixed with water. Your princes are rebels and  
companions of thieves. Everyone loves a bribe and runs after gifts.  
They do not defend the fatherless, and the widow's cause does not come  
to them.*

The Church of Scotland too has long prided itself in being extremely forthright when the need has arisen to speak out on political matters if it felt they were contrary to God's will. To that end it has always strongly maintained the right to defend itself from any interference from the state and the crown.

Although 'by law established' the 'national' church of the people of Scotland, unlike the Church of England, which recognizes the Queen as its head and allows Parliament to be part of its decision making process, such as appointing Bishops to the House of Lords, the Kirk vehemently upholds the belief that Jesus Christ is the sole head of the Church. This stance is perhaps best summed up in the famous

remark made by that great champion of Presbyterianism Andrew Melville, to King James VI and I, at a time when the king's writ was absolute. "There are two kings and two kingdoms in Scotland: there is King James, the head of this commonwealth, and there is Christ Jesus, the King of the Church, whose subject King James the Sixth is, and of whose kingdom he is not a king, nor a lord, nor a head, but a member."

Whilst the Kirk has always worked with the state to build a 'Godly Commonwealth' in Scotland, recognizing that the state must be allowed control over its own sphere of influence, i.e. the secular, it also maintains the right to be independent from the state and crown in matters of religion and its own governance. Hence north of the border, Scots Law has no jurisdiction over Church Law and the Kirk the right to maintain complete spiritual independence. Besides maintaining a separate legal and education system in Scotland, one of the most important clauses of the Act of Union of 1707, which brought into being the United Kingdom of Great Britain, enshrined this principle by establishing Presbyterian governance of the Church of Scotland. Indeed up to the last minute, until this latter concession was granted, it looked as if the Act of Union might fail, due to the pressure from the ministers of the Kirk preaching against it from every pulpit in the land.

I doubt if any preaching from any pulpit would have such influence nowadays. And that is a very good thing and exactly how it should be. Whilst the Church of Scotland must be involved in politics for the reasons I have already outlined, it must never be 'party political', or seek to influence people voting according to their own personal and private convictions. As the Referendum draws near, the only thing that truly matters, whether a 'yes' or 'no' vote carries the day this September, is that the Kirk maintains the right to its own spiritual independence, thus ensuring it continues to be the conscience of the nation, never compromised by crown or state from speaking out for justice and in order to see God's righteousness prevail. Thus if need be, being prophetic still and a thorn in the flesh of every government of whatever political persuasion that acts wrongly, be that solely at Holyrood, or both at Holyrood and Westminster.

Come what will, as it has done in the past even during violent oppression, may the Kirk ever continue to live up to its proud and defiant motto of *Nec Tamen Consumebatur*. 'And it was not consumed' (Exodus 3:2).

Angus

### Editor's remarks

On Sunday 29<sup>th</sup> June the following children were presented with their Sunday School prizes. Lily Keir, Grace Popplewell, Kirsty Hume and Cameron MacKay. Also receiving prizes were Isla, Annie and Andrew McKelvie and Jack Popplewell who were unable to attend on that day. Congratulations to them all.

Scott MacKay and Abby McKelvie will be joining Ross Dobson as young helpers when the new session of the Sunday School starts later in the year.

Thanks, as always, to Mrs Ann MacKay for her continued dedication and commitment to the Sunday School throughout the past year.

My thanks, to all those who have contributed to this edition of the Newsletter.

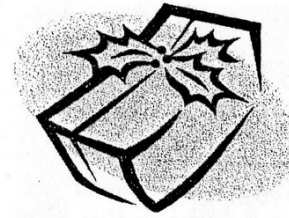
### Mary's Meals and World Vision.

These are the two charities that we, as a church, support every year. Last year we only collected £70 in the 'Mary's Meals Pennies Bottle' which was well down on previous years.

In June, Angus gave an address to the children about 'pennies' and how many it takes to feed a hungry child for a whole school year, reminding us that the collection bottle was still at the front door of the Church waiting for our 'pennies'. When the bottle was counted at the end of June it contained £91, enough to feed seven children, just from the odd change in your pocket and purse. So please keep dropping your change in the bottle and see how many more children we can feed this year.

Through World Vision we sponsor two children Katerega and Tounkang in Patiana, Senegal. The funding for this comes from the coffee mornings held every second Wednesday in the Church War Memorial Hall. So please come along not only will you be supporting a worthy cause but the chat is good and the baking the best.

Sylvia



### **CHRISTMAS SHOEBOX APPEAL 2014**

We are approaching the time of year when we begin the preparation for our annual Christmas Shoebox Appeal on behalf of Blythswood Care. Last year the Island Churches sent the magnificent total of 190 boxes which were distributed to children and adults in need.

It is amazing that a box containing simple items of toiletries and clothes bring such happiness to those who have nothing in this world. So now is the time to start to collect the toothpaste and brush, soap and shampoo (no bigger than 250ml), hats, scarves and gloves and other small gifts to put in your box and save the last minute rush.

Letters giving full details will be with you by the beginning of September with final date at the end of October.

Please accept the invitation and bring happiness in a shoebox to somebody who has nothing in this world.

**SHOW THE WORLD THAT YOU CARE!**

Hamish Mitchell

### Arran Churches Together

This year we had a near perfect evening for the Songs of Praise service on Sunday 29<sup>th</sup> June, with warm sun, little wind and no midges. It was back at our usual venue, Lamlash Green, and was well attended. The singing was accompanied by Arran Brass, and afterwards we were able to adjourn to the Church Hall for a friendly chat over tea or coffee. Our Quiz / Social Night is planned for Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> August in Brodick Church Hall, and I thoroughly recommend it for an evening of fun.



## Friends of Montrose House Association Summer 2014 Report

The advent of summer weather with several days of cloudless blue skies interspersed with the odd day of continuous rain has encouraged the gardens to flourish with colourful displays in front of house and residents able to sit outside and enjoy the pleasant surroundings, albeit for the last time in the present location.

Meanwhile the by-word is 'Business as Usual' and our organisation has proceeded with the usual programme of early summer events. The main fund raising event of the year, the Annual Summer Fete, has just taken place and the magnificent sum of £1,245.03 was raised on the day. This comprised of £364.60 to Montrose House, £329.00 to Stronach Services, and £551.43 to FOMHA. Very well done to everyone who took part or even just came for a look and to spend some money!

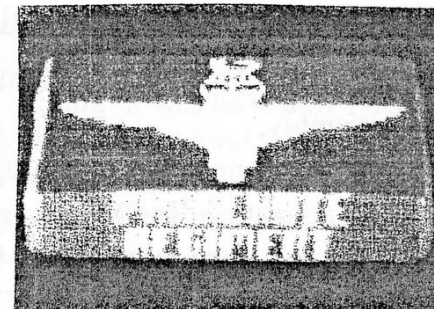
Our A G M took place in May with the same stalwart committee members re-elected en-bloc in the complete absence of any new interest whatsoever!

Also towards the end of May we were invited to a site visit to view progress of the new building further up Glenclay, having reached the 'Building Wind and Watertight' landmark stage of the project. This proved very interesting and informative - even the Architect admitted to being amazed at the size of the place! 'High Viz' jackets and hard hats were the order of dress for the occasion. Construction is on schedule and due for completion on 19th Sept. 2014.

Outside events in which we have been involved include the High School presentation of the musical Grease and we have also given financial support to a number of Summer Outings in the mini-bus during the recent spell of good weather. At the time of writing arrangements are in hand for some members of the renowned Summer Serenaders to give an informal performance in-house during their Summer Holiday on the island.

Our very much depleted 'garden gang' continues to maintain a reasonable level of presentation of the site as we await with keen interest to see what survives the move to the new location in September.

Finally it is with sadness that we acknowledge the deaths of residents Drew Crawford, Peggy Pierce and George Waddell.



At this time when we nationally acknowledge the events of the two World Wars and in particular we commemorate the D-Day landings of Allied Forces on the beaches of Normandy, it is interesting to note that in our Church we have a very poignant reminder of these events in the two hassocks which rest at the foot of the communion table, depicting the emblems of the Royal Corps of Transport and the Parachute Regiment.

They were presented to us in 1997 by the parents of Roy Hebblewhite of Great Driffield, Yorkshire who died tragically in a Road Traffic Accident in 1988.

On leaving school, Roy enlisted in the Royal Corps of Transport and was stationed at Troon, Ayrshire and spent much time training on Arran to which he became very attached. He passed out with honours with the rank of Corporal and joined the parachute regiment at Aldershot, Hants.

The hassocks or kneelers were crafted in needlepoint by Roy's mother and donated

"To a Church in the place he loved"



## Church of Scotland General Assembly 2014

I would like to share with you some of my experience of this year's General Assembly.

This was my first time at the Assembly as a commissioner and I found it to be very interesting. The Moderator, the Right Rev John Chalmers conducted worship each morning and his theme for the week was "Hands stretched out across the world" and each respective day the Reflection was a different aspect of that e.g. "Hands stretched out in hope..in love..in healing..etc." The worship each morning was uplifting and inspiring and the singing was magnificent drawing us into the presence of God for the day ahead.

The Lord High Commissioner at the Assembly was the HRH Earl of Wessex, Prince Edward and he spoke very well and also brought the greetings from the Queen to the gathering. He was there each day at some point along with HRH the Countess of Wessex.

The Moderator's hope for the Assembly was that there would be 'Respectful Dialogue' and in all his own conduct of the business he was very gracious. Although there were some controversial issues debated and voted upon over the week everything was done in a respectful manner. After all it is the church, however maybe not what I was expecting!

We are aware of the number of vacant charges at the moment and there is also a shortage of people coming forward for the recognised ministries of the church, especially for Ministers of Word and Sacrament.

The Ministries Council, in their report, brought forward a proposal to recruit, educate and train, in a year, no fewer than 10 candidates for the Ministry of Word and Sacrament. However a commissioner thought that wasn't bold enough and brought forward an amendment to the deliverance. The amendment was that the Ministries Council, in consultation with the Mission and Discipleship Council, had to recruit, educate and train no fewer than 30 candidates for the Ministry of Word and Sacrament each year and the amendment was carried.

This was a bold move for the church and an encouraging one. It was a busy week with many reports too numerous for me to mention in this article.

However, over a very tiring week it is something that I felt privileged to be part of and in some way helped, in a measure, restore my faith in our National Church.

On the Thursday evening I was invited, with other Commissioners to attend a Beating Retreat and Reception at the Palace of Holyrood. It turned out to be a very enjoyable evening. It was hosted by HRH Earl of Wessex and the Countess of Wessex. It was good to meet there some of the overseas delegates and delegates from other denominations. We were in the company of the Moderator of the Presbyterian Church of Wales, Rev Trefor Lewis.

## Ardrossan Presbytery News

A Review Group was set up last year to look into changing the committee structure of Ardrossan Presbytery. This group which included your minister Angus, after their deliberations brought proposals to Presbytery for a radical change in the workings of Presbytery. The outcome was that the proposals were accepted with a little tweaking here and there and this new structure will begin at the start of the Presbytery year in September. The new format of the committees will be tried out for one year closely monitored by the Review Group. If they work good and well, if not at least they will have been attempted, nothing ventured nothing gained. If you would like more information on this please ask Angus, myself or your Presbytery elder.

If you haven't already heard, I have been appointed as the Moderator of Ardrossan Presbytery for year 2014/2015 and God willing I take up that appointment in September.

## Other news

I was appointed by Ardrossan Presbytery as Interim Moderator for Kilmorylw Lamlash and I have now been in position since the beginning of February. Previous to that I was Interim Moderator for Saltcoats: St Cuthberts Church until the induction of Rev Arthur Sherratt to that charge in January.

However, in talking to folk in Lamlash and Kilmory and our own congregations some are still unsure what an Interim Moderator is. Having a minister in charge he or she is Moderator of the Kirk Session and folk understand that but not the position of Interim Moderator.

I have been asked to explain and hopefully this will help partly to clear up the matter.

(I will quote now from the guidelines to explain). "An Interim Moderator is invited by the Presbytery to serve in a vacancy.

Although the work maybe time-consuming, it should be found as a worthwhile experience. An Interim Moderator has a dual role to discharge. On the one hand, being the Presbytery's appointee, the Interim Moderator is expected to help in representing the views of Presbytery to the congregation. On the other hand, as the congregation's minister for the time being, the Interim Moderator may be called on to help in representing the congregation's views to the Presbytery. It shall be the duty of the Interim Moderator to preside at all the meetings of the Kirk Session and to preside at all congregational meetings in connection with the vacancy, or at which the minister would have presided had the charge been full." Although I have only been with Kilmory and Lamlash a few times in taking services on a Sunday, I am responsible for the 'Pulpit Supply' making sure they have someone to lead them in worship each week. I am also responsible, not just for presiding at meetings, but ensuring that all the business and affairs of the church run as smoothly as possible and according to the Laws of the Church. However, in saying this I do not do that on my own. Their Office Bearers are well experienced in their own areas of service and all carry out their duties efficiently and of course the Session Clerks, have a heavy workload as well. Everyone in the congregations has a part to play though. I am with them to help in this time of vacancy and as they seek the minister of God's choosing for their congregations. This time should be seen by them as a time of challenge and of renewed commitment and vigour. Unless there is some 'vision' of what the congregation is, where it is going and what it hopes to do, then the task of finding the 'right' minister can be much more difficult. I am employed part time as Parish Assistant with the congregations of North Arran, so as well as Interim Moderator for Kilmory and Lamlash I am also serving as their Locum for one day's pastoral work per week (seven hours). Please pray for Kilmory and Lamlash in this time of vacancy and for Ardrossan Presbytery in these challenging days ahead.

Yours in His service  
Jean Hunter

### Property Report.

Manse.

The painter work to the main entrance hallway and upper landing remains outstanding, but I am assured this area will be completed in the near future.

Wall tiling has been carried out behind the wood burning stove, as a protection.

Hall.

The corrugated sheeting to the external walls has been given a power wash to remove algae. A new sound system will be in operation shortly, and will be available for Board Meetings and at other times when necessary.

The weather bar at the front door has been repaired.

Replacement of fluorescent tubes is ongoing.

The fire extinguishers have had their annual check by West Coast Fire.

It is the intention to close the hall from Monday 11th August to Saturday 16th August, for varnishing of the main floor.

Church.

New equipment has been installed to improve the quality and recording facility to our sound system.

The flooring to the vestibule at the side door has been replaced and shortly flooring adjacent to the pulpit will also be investigated and made good.

The Board is looking into the cost of sealing off the arch windows of the tower with Perspex in an attempt to prevent rainwater entering the tower, seeping down through the sandstone, and causing a buildup of algae on the stone. This area of stonework, on the half landing to the gallery has, for some time, been a concern.

I would hope the Perspex to the side windows will proceed shortly.

Externally.

The grass cutting continues together with the annual tidy up of bushes and hedges. I am happy to report the Youth Group has started to paint the railings, and probably a further two occasions will finish the work.



## Strabane Gardens

The church joined forces this year with the Arran Youth Foundations to host an Open Gardens fund-raising event at Strabane, courtesy of Lady Jean Fforde, on Saturday 7th June.

Very unfortunately, just as the last marquee was erected, the rain came on and did not stop all day. Nevertheless a number of hardy souls turned up and were able to look around the gardens which as usual were a picture and so well looked after.

We are very grateful to all who helped in any way that day to erect and dismantle, serve teas, sell raffle tickets and take entrance donations, as well as bake for the expected hordes. The church and AYF benefited equally from the £500 raised.

## Church Fete and Auction

By the time many of you read this the 2104 events will have happened – but not without an awful lot of work by a large number of people. So thank you to Janet Ramage who has led the planning, to Brodick Golf Club for allowing us to hold the auction in their clubhouse again, and thanks to all of you for supporting it so well.

Although, at the time of writing, the amounts raised are unknown, it will be evident to anyone who reads our church accounts just how much we depend upon this fund-raising effort to help balance our books. So thank you all.

## Happy Anniversary!

On the 10th August St. Molio's Church, Shiskine, will celebrate the 125th anniversary of the church with a special service, to which former members frae a' the airts have been invited.

That will be the culmination of a series of special events to mark the anniversary which have been happening this summer, and we send them our very best wishes for the next 125 years of witness in the Shiskine Valley.

## Congratulations

Members and friends of the church will have joined in sending their best wishes to Robbie and Ashton Adamson on their wedding on 19th July.

Robbie is of course the elder son of our minister Rev Angus Adamson and his wife Susan, and Angus had the unusual privilege of conducting his son's wedding in Lamlash Church where he and Susan were themselves married.

## St Bride's Ladies

Over the summer months St. Bride's Ladies have no meetings but the ladies are not idle. The Church Fete in July sees many of them involved in various ways from manning stalls to providing some of the baking for the baking stall. The next big event on St Bride's calendar is the Highland Games on 9<sup>th</sup> August when the ladies are responsible for the catering in the Ormidale Pavilion. Sandwiches, baking, teas, coffees and soft drinks will be available as usual. However this event lasts most of the day and much assistance is required. If you are able to help and/or provide sandwiches or baking please put your name on the lists on the notice board in the hall nearer the time. Let's hope the weather is fine for these occasions.

The committee has been meeting to arrange next session's syllabus. This can be quite challenging so if anyone has an interesting suggestion please let us know



## CHURCH NOTICES – Summer 2014

**New Member:** Mrs Alison Macmillan, Cooriedoon. 1st June

**Weddings:** Scott Paton and Emma Wallace in Brodick Church 10th May  
 Andrew Jennings and Donna Coakley in Brodick Church 24th May  
 Alastair Kelso and Daniela Alfrinhaus at the Douglas Hotel 17th June  
 Paddy McHale and Katie Phelps at Altachorvie, Lamlash 31st May  
 Derek Archer and Sarah Bowman in Brodick Church 21st June  
 Calum McNicol and Victoria McNicol at Lunga House 28th June  
 Matt Keir and Debbie Clow at 'The Gairden', Brodick 4th July  
 Stuart McLauchlan and Emma Morrison in Brodick Church 12th July  
 Robbie Adamson and Ashton Lamb at Lamlash Church 19th July

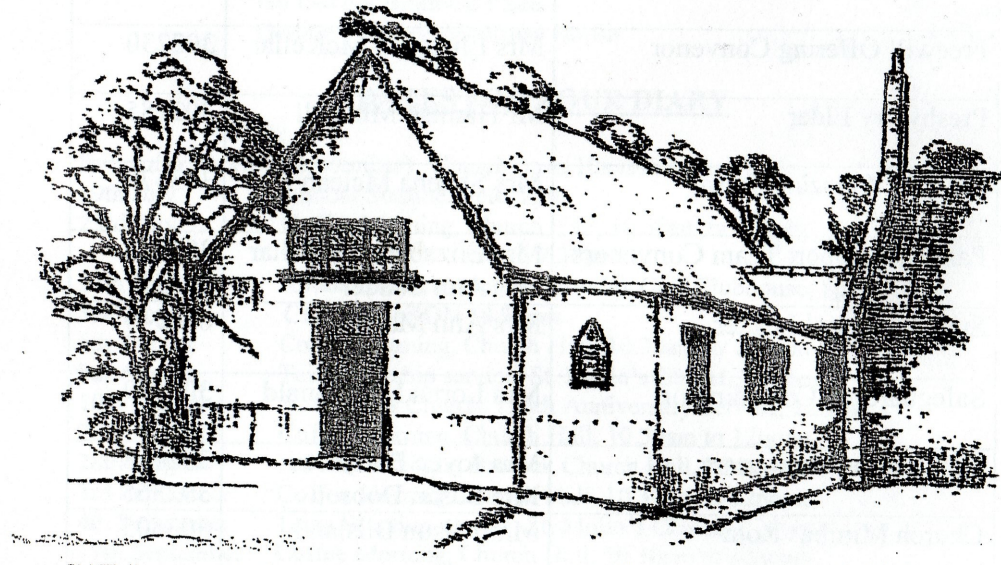
**Deaths:** Drew Crawford, Montrose House 30th April  
 Peggy Pierce, Montrose House 13th May  
 Ian Devlin, Brathwic Place 27th May  
 George Waddell, Montrose House 5th July

### DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Every day (April to September) Church open 10am to 4pm  
 19th July Annual Summer Fete, 2pm  
 23rd July Coffee Morning, Church Hall, 10.30am to 12noon  
 Corrie Church Concert, 7.30pm  
 24th July Annual Church Auction, Brodick Golf Clubhouse, 8pm  
**3rd August COMMUNION 10.30am**  
 6th August Coffee Morning, Church Hall, 10.30am to 12noon  
 7th August Taize Worship service, St. Molio's Church 7.30pm  
 10th August St. Molio's Church, 125th Anniversary Service, 12noon  
 20th August Coffee Morning, Church Hall, 10.30am to 12noon  
 28th August ACT Quiz Night, Brodick Church Hall, 7.30pm  
 3rd September Coffee Morning, Church Hall, 10.30am to 12noon  
 4th September Taize Worship service, St. Molio's Church 7.30pm  
 17th September Coffee Morning, Church Hall, 10.30am to 12noon  
 25th September Prayers for Health and Healing, Shiskine, 12noon  
 28th September Clachan Preaching House Service, 3pm  
 1st October Coffee Morning, Church Hall, 10.30am to 12noon  
 2nd October Taize Worship service, St. Molio's Church 7.30pm  
 5th October Perishers Service during morning worship, 10.30am  
 15th October Coffee Morning, Church Hall, 10.30am to 12noon  
 26th October Harvest Festival with Soup and Sandwich Lunch after  
 29th October Coffee Morning, Church Hall, 10.30am to 12noon  
 Prayers for Health and Healing, Brodick, 12noon  
**2nd November LINKAGE COMMUNION SERVICE, Brodick 11am**

## 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 Convenor	Mr Norman Cuthbert	303772
Freewill Offering Convenor	Mrs Elizabeth McKellar	302230
Presbytery Elder	Mr Hamish Mitchell	302285
Church Magazine Editor	Mrs Sheena Mclean	303579
Pastoral Support Team Convenors	Mrs Elizabeth McKellar Mrs Ann Lauder	302230 303517
Sunday School Leader	Mrs Ann MacKay	600944
Safeguarding Co-ordinator	Mrs Lorna MacDonald	302499
Hall Letting Convenors	Mrs Joyce Buchanan Mrs Susan Dobson	302468 302365
Church Minibus Rota	Mrs Alison Bilsland	303505
Coffee Morning Convenor	Mrs Margaret Bryce	302117
Sunday Tea Rota	Mrs Anne Mitchell	302285
Church Flower Convenor	Mrs Ann Lauder	303517
"Life and Work" Convenor	Mrs Elise White	302387



*Brodick Church War Memorial Hall*