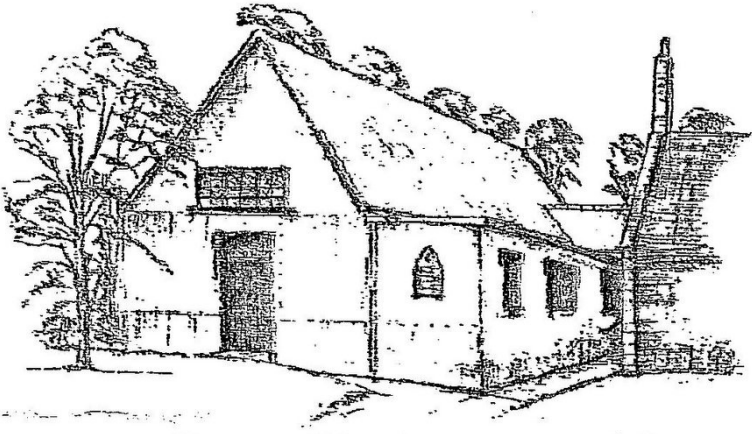
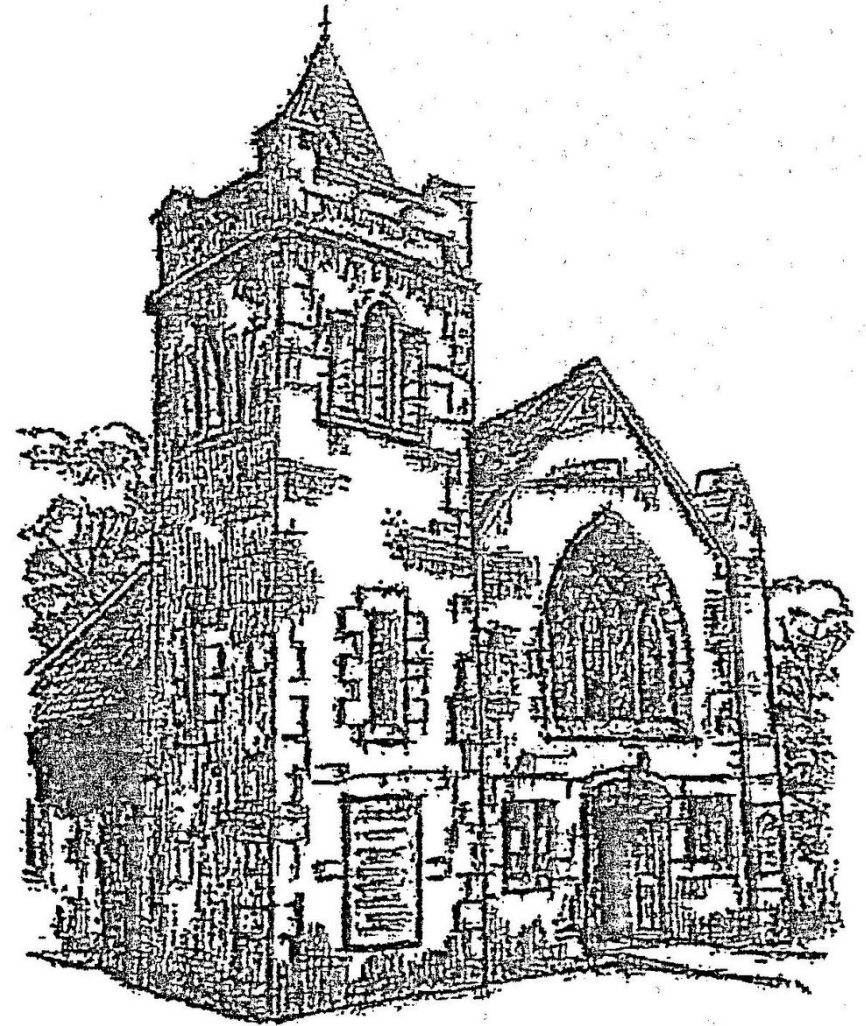


St Bride's Church Brodick

August Newsletter



Brodick Church War Memorial Hall



Summer 2019

Corriecravie

Summer2019

Paul writes to the Church at Philippi 'In everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known unto God. And the peace of God, which passeth all understanding, shall keep your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus'. (Philippians 4: 6- 7).

Besides my own daily office to maintain my personal spiritual health and wellbeing, as parish minister part of my duty is to look after the spiritual health and wellbeing of all my parishioners both church and non-church and that means holding them and their needs in prayer before God.

Praying for others is called intercessory prayer and John Pritchard in his excellent book *The Second Intercessions Handbook* states: 'Intercession is one of the best ways we've got of loving someone. We can't do more for them than to put them in the hands of a God who cares for them even more than we do. There are a few people I know who pray for me regularly each week and I'm more grateful for that gift than I can say'.

People pray for me and my ministry too and I also am more grateful for that gift than I can say. But all Christians are expected to pray for others and especially for those in need, the ill, the hurting and the despairing. And of course we do that in church every Sunday in our prayers of concern for others. But above and beyond that, in the North Arran linkage we have a monthly service of Prayers for Health and Healing, when we meet at 12 Noon in the transept of Brodick Church on the last Wednesday of the month to specifically pray for those known to us who are suffering ill-health, not just here on the island, but elsewhere.

Although having run these services for over 10 years now, they have never been popular and are very poorly attended; at most 8 and more often just 2 or 3 people come along. I know too that some of those who do come only do so out of loyalty to me. I had therefore all but resolved to discontinue them. It takes much effort for Jean to collate names on prayer lists every month, not to mention hours spent in the study in preparation and then all for a half-hour service few bother to come to. Time I wondered that might be spent better ministering in another way. However, I have never lightly

nor glibly promised to pray for someone and then simply not bothered, that would be a terrible betrayal of trust. Hence in this case I couldn't in all conscience just stop something without consultation with those who have over many years asked for prayer.

As a result, I received these words written by a lady from Northern Ireland.

"I met the Reverend Angus Adamson at the Armagh Pipers' Festival, and I was very impressed when he told me that he held a healing service in Arran.

It wasn't very long after that meeting that I needed him to pray for the healing of my friend Heather when she was diagnosed with a very aggressive brain tumour and there was nothing any of us could offer. She smiled when we told her that the people on Arran were praying for her.

We were able to tell Sophie, when her twins were dangerously premature, that Arran was mindful of the seriousness of the situation.

It was the only thing we could offer to Sacha when the cancer she didn't know she had, metastasised and she was suffering horrendous rounds of chemo and radiography. 'You are being mentioned in the healing service on the island of Arran on Wednesday', was the only spark of hope we could offer her.

'Thank you', she said.

In a world that is increasingly so given to the cult of self, it is the only magnanimous and inclusive way of saying to the very ill: 'we care, and we hope in the caring there is healing'.

On 21st September I wakened with a savage pain in my head and I was not able to speak. It was a terrifying experience. 'A haematoma – or a bleed on the brain (not a mini-stroke)' was the diagnosis. Six months have passed since then, and I am almost recovered, and part of that recovery I am sure had something to do with the healing service on Arran.

Miracles never explain themselves, but if there is no one able to reach out beyond the illness it stays locked in a very personal space. Some of mine was able to float off to Arran, unlikely as it seemed. And against all the odds I am here today, able to write this paragraph and to acknowledge my deepest gratitude.

I, and I'm sure many others, feel grateful to the Reverend Angus Adamson and those in his healing service, for raising their voices and thinking about those of us who could not speak on our own behalf. We would do well to remember that, as William Shakespeare said, 'There are more things in heaven and earth than this world dreams of'.

Needless to say, I no longer intend to discontinue our services for health and healing. So, if you wish anyone to be prayed for each month, please let us have their names. Christian names will do, no confidences need be broken. After all God already knows each by their full name. Better still, please if you can, come along and pray. It is easy to remember, 12 noon the last Wednesday of each month from September to June following the monthly Brodick Coffee morning. And I stress it isn't a Brodick health and healing service, it is a joint North Arran service for all congregations at Corrie, Lochranza, Pirrmill and Shiskine too. As John Pritchard puts it: 'the point about intercession is not to understand it, but to do it'.

Angus

Editor's Remarks

The summer is once again upon us and although the weather has been very mixed compared to last year we are still able to enjoy this beautiful island of ours. July is a busy month for St Bride's as we hold our major fund raising events during this time. The Church Fete is on July 20th at 2pm and the Auction the following Thursday evening July 25th at 8pm in Brodick Golf Club. All donations and help on these days will be very much appreciated. The Sunday School has again had a very busy year. We all enjoy seeing the children when they join with the congregation on a Sunday morning. Our thanks to Ann MacKay and Cameron for doing such a great job with the children.

My thanks, as always, to all those who have contributed to this magazine. If you would like to contribute to the magazine I can be contacted on 01770303579 or sheenamcl4@gmail.com

Walking Together – Reflective Walks for All Ages

Walking Together was the theme of the 2018-19

Moderator, the Very Rev Susan Brown, and General Assembly has been encouraging churches to get involved in different types of pilgrimage.

What opportunities might there be to walk with a group from your church? Can you create a time to walk, talk and pray? Reflective walks can be a meaningful way for people to connect with God, creation and each other. They can be done alone or in a group, with church regulars or those with no church connection, in a rural or urban setting.

Walking Together cards have been produced to encourage conversation and reflection with people of different generations. These have proved very popular and have already been used by Boys and Girls Brigade groups, Guild groups and church groups of different ages. The cards focus on a theme such as a view, a stone, food or water, and provide walkers with prompts for something to think about, something to do and something to talk about.

Free sets of cards and a Leaders' Guide can be downloaded or ordered from the Resourcing Mission shop:

<https://www.resourcingmission.org.uk/shop>

In Your paths, Lord Jesus,
We walk, our hands in Yours
As You lead us forward
In step
Together
Open to You
And Your world
For Your sake

Very Rev Susan Brown

There are countless definitions and interpretations of pilgrimage. A new page on the Resourcing Mission website signposts just a few of these different approaches.

<https://www.resourcingmission.org.uk/mission/pilgrimage>



"Summer Suns Are Glowing"

In the bible we are taught how to live as God's children. Through love, prayer and grace the 'Way of Jesus' is often shown. But what checks and tests can we use to see if we are 'doing right'?

In Mathew's Gospel chapter 5, Verses 43-48, we have the breathtaking challenge of Jesus, not only to 'Love your neighbour', but also to 'Love your enemies'.

How do we know that is what God intends us to do?

Well because that is the way He acts. How do we know that?

BECAUSE WHEN THE SUN SHINES WE ALL GET A TAN.

BECAUSE WHEN IT RAINS WE ALL GET WET.

God doesn't sort out the farmers – 'GOOD' equals sunshine; 'BAD' equals floods. Imagine the chaos and anger that would cause.

Only when we live through God's unconditional love – showing that love to all – can we be children of our Heavenly Father.

So the weather forecast becomes a prayer-help. Thank God.

Alan M. Thompson

Property Report

The only item to report is that the annual fire inspection has taken place.

The working party on the manse continue to look at all the options available to us and will report when we have further information.

At present until we have final costs for the manse I feel it is prudent to only carry out essential repairs.

C. MacKenzie

St Brides Ladies Club

Another winter session, with interesting guests was brought to a close with our successful Spring Fayre. Thanks to all who contributed or supported this event.

The first of our fortnightly meetings of the 2019-20 session will be on the 28th October at 2 pm in the War Memorial Hall, to which all are welcome. We are looking forward to our usual varied program of speakers and will once again be having our ever popular Christmas Lunch and Scott's Afternoon. The new Syllabus will be available at the end of September.

Help Wanted

St. Brides Ladies will once again be providing the tearoom at the Highland Games on Saturday 10th August. As well as donations of sandwiches and home baking we are looking for volunteers to help on the day. So if you can spare an hour or so between 10am and 4pm please speak to me or add your name to the list which will be on the church hall notice board. Your help would be gratefully received by the stalwart band of ladies who turn up every year.

Sylvia Alison

Sunday School

Last August we began our session and lost some of our Sunday scholars to Triathlon. However we have a dedicated five who come along regularly and are very enthusiastic. They are Hector and Ruby MacArthur, Eva McCrae, Lachlan McKinnon and Connie Watts. We take part in Sunday service and have been learning about the 12 Disciples. We then read stories from the bible, followed by craft activity and then we play some games.

Our Nativity was called a Christmas Window and some of our former children came on the day and took part which was great as we are always happy to have them back. We went to the Playbarn for our outing and then had our Prize-giving which closed our session till we return on Sunday 25th August.

Ann MacKay

Adventures in Norway

Earlier in the year I went on a cruise holiday to the fjords of Norway. We travelled from Avonmouth docks near Bristol and sailed up the west coast. It was a strange sensation sailing past Sanda and the west side of the Mull of Kintyre as I can see the east side of these from the manse window.

A few days into the cruise and being in the North Sea, it became very rough. We were on the MV Marco Polo, a mid-sized ship, however it was still rolling from side to side and I could hardly walk about on it. Like the disciples in the boat with Jesus who were afraid in the storm they had to trust Him, I had to trust that the captain knew what he was doing.

Other than the rough seas the scenery sailing up the fjords was breathtaking and because of the time of year the further north we went the more snow there was. Norway is a beautiful country and a spectacular part of God's creation.

As if I hadn't had enough adventure on the high seas, I went on another one in Tromso, husky sledging. I booked for the morning session and after a bus journey I arrived at the centre, where the sun was glistening on the freshly fallen snow. We met the dogs and they were very friendly. There were about two hundred huskys altogether at that centre. We were led to where the sleds were. Each sled was for two people and I was paired with a nice lady I had met on the bus. There were twelve dogs to each sled. The dogs pulled the sled effortlessly through the snow with the musher driving them, I had to trust the musher knew what he was doing as he was driving the dogs over the rugged white landscape. It certainly was an experience and I enjoyed the adventure. There was a nice cup of tea and cake served in a Sami herdsman's tent when we had finished which was a bonus.

When I am on holiday, surprise surprise, I like to look in churches and take a seat in them. This time I visited three of them in three different ports and each one was unusual.

After arriving at the port of Honningsvåg, far above the Arctic Circle, I travelled by bus to the North Cape which, as the name suggests, is the most northern point in Norway. At one point along the route we had to travel in convoy behind a snow plough which, I have to say, didn't fill me with confidence. However, we arrived safely at the North Cape Visitor Centre. After walking across the snow to the spot that marked the most northerly point, I went into the centre. Inside was a lift that took you down two floors into the depths of the mountain. On the pathway to the cave of lights I came across a little chapel which I hadn't expected to find. I went

through an opening in the rock and it was there with about a dozen wooden high back chairs arranged facing a little table set into the wall with lights on it and lights from the cave wall shining down on it. I had a seat and looking around at the rock and the lights it was hard to believe I was more than sixty feet below the ground in this place of worship.

Our next port of call was Alta. I went on a tour there to the Sorrisvanna Igloo Hotel, which was entirely constructed of local ice and snow – rooms, beds, even the glasses in the Bar were ice. For those who didn't feel the cold, there was an excursion to stay overnight there. It would have been too cold for me to do that though. However there was also a little chapel there entirely made of ice with a communion table and chairs. The guide told us that there had been a wedding there the previous week.

The third church I visited was south of our next port of call, Kristiansund and the church was the Kavernes Stave Church. A stave church is a medieval wooden Christian church building once common in north-western Europe. The name derives from the building's structure of post and lintel construction, a type of timber framing where the load-bearing ore-pine posts are called stafr in Old Norse. No nails were used in their construction. You could sense the age of it when you were inside. No flash photos were allowed to be taken inside the church in order to preserve it. It was an experience and nothing like any church I had been in before.

During the Middle-Ages, there were more than 1,000 Stave Churches in Norway, but today, only 28 remain.

From there I travelled on our return journey to Kristiansund along the Atlantic Ocean Road that is built across four islands linked together with bridges. Kristiansund is sheltered by these islands and is Norway's finest natural harbour.

Norway is known as the land of the Northern Lights; however we were disappointed in that we never got to see this spectacular sight as the sky was cloudy at night or snowing when we were there. Nothing else about the scenery of that beautiful country disappointed though.

Every blessing

Jean Hunter

Friends of Montrose House Association
Summer 2019

Work continues in the garden. Minnie and Marjorie have planted an old wooden dinghy and painted outdoor furniture, and NAC continues with the regular maintenance. Recently some families have made generous donations to the garden fund in memory of loved ones. Suggestions as to how this could be spent are a sensory garden and some trees.

The Summer Fete on the 3rd July was busy and successful. The kitchen of MH provided a sumptuous strawberry tart tea; there were excellent book and baking stalls and an amazing tombola and raffle. Over £700 was raised for MH and the Stronach Day Care Unit. Thank you to all who donated, volunteered their help, visited and spent so generously.

For anyone who would be interested in pursuing some voluntary formal training to help people with communication difficulties there is soon to be short course in Training Mats which is a visual framework using images to enable communication. It is evidence based and has been used for a number of years with people of all ages with learning or physical disabilities, people who suffer from neurological conditions, strokes, and dementia.

Manager Morven Ross Bain would like to offer a place to a volunteer who would train her staff. The training is not onerous consisting of two training sessions of about three hours each.

To find out more contact her at Montrose House by September.

Visiting is open to everyone not just family; residents love to see old friends and neighbours, and management would also like to encourage visitors to see residents who may require more one to one input.

Residents who have recently passed away: Tearlach MacLean, Pat Crawley and Jean Mann whose memorial service in the home will be held shortly.

A.Keir

Arran Churches Together Food Bank

The Arran Food Bank at Brodick Church continues to be used by those who find themselves in need; some use it on a regular basis and others use it sporadically, as the need arises.

The generosity of the people of Arran is fantastic - churches around the island collect and deliver items to Brodick Church; shoppers donate items in the collection basket at the big Coop which is emptied several times a week by Food Bank volunteers and individuals and workplaces regularly leave donations in the vestibule at Brodick Church. Please leave any donations in a bag in the vestibule to allow us to keep a record of monthly usage. These statistics are collated and submitted to North Ayrshire allowing them to understand the need on the island.

A store of items is kept in the transept at the church and is used to top up the baskets in the vestibule. The vestibule is open 24/7 allowing people to access it whenever suits them. Social Services also collect items for people in need with whom they work who can't get to Brodick themselves.

Items which we regularly run short of are:

Tinned meat	Tinned vegetables
Tinned fish	Long life milk
Tinned fruit	Sugar
Tinned custard/rice	Jam
Toiletries	Household cleaning products

Please note that we have a huge stock of dried pasta, tinned tomatoes and sanitary products.

Many thanks for your continued support.

Arran Food Bank Team

Blythswood Care

Christmas Shoebox Appeal 2019

This year seems to have passed very quickly, and yes, it's time to think about launching our Shoebox Appeal once again!

Last year's appeal was very successful with 220 boxes being sent from the island along with £776 in gift aid and donations.

This year there are three ways in which you may wish to participate:

- 1) To fill a shoebox with a selection of the contents listed on the information leaflet
- 2) To donate 'loose' items which can be added to shoeboxes either here or on the mainland
- 3) To make a monetary contribution of any sum

As there is such a shortage of shoeboxes available this year from shoe shops on the mainland, and although we expect to have a limited supply available, we would urge you to source one for yourselves. We are also appealing for any **empty shoeboxes** you may have at home. Please drop any you have into the church. In addition this year, we will provide a collection box in the vestibule of the church to receive any loose donations of goods.

This is a very worthwhile cause and every donation - large or small - is gratefully received.

Thank you once again for your continued support.

Thank You

A huge thank you goes to Ann Mitchell who, along with her late husband Hamish, started the Shoebox appeal, here on Arran many years ago. Ann has decided to step down from her role as team leader. All her dedication and hard work for this cause is much appreciated so we wish her well and God speed as she moves to her new house in Blackwaterfoot.

The Shoebox Team

Arran Churches Together.

Since the last edition of our church magazine, the group have held three very well attended events: firstly the Walk of Witness on Good Friday, secondly the Pentecost service on 9th June at the Preaching Cave at Kilpatrick, and finally the Songs of Praise at Lamlash Green on 7th July.

The annual ACTS quiz and social evening will be held as usual in our church hall on Thursday 12th September at 7pm, and on 29th September at 3.30pm the annual Clachan Church service will take place. Your attendance at both these events will be appreciated.

FLOWER ROTA

The church would look very bare without flowers, so I am very grateful to those who put their names on the flower rota list in the church hall. At the moment there are no names down for August or September, so if anyone can help it would be appreciated.

You don't need to be an expert! Flowers are beautiful no matter how they are arranged.

Ann Lauder

Wednesday Coffee Morning Rota July-Nov 2019

31-Jul	I. Davie	S McLean
28-Aug	G.Sillars	G.Bleakley
25-Sep	A.Green	E.Lawrie
30-Oct	L.Hendry	S.Allison
27-Nov	M.Cameron	M.MacKinlay

CHURCH NOTICES- Summer 2019

Deaths	Pat Crawley	Montrose House	17 th April
	Alice Lennox	Brodick	09 th May
	Jean Mann	Montrose House	23 rd June

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

4 th Aug	Sacrament of the Lord's Supper at 10.30am
10 th Aug	Tearoom at the Highland Games
11 th Aug	Pastoral Support Group meets in the Transept at 10am
28 th Aug	Coffee Morning in Church Hall from 10.30am
1 st Sept	Pastoral Support Group meets in the Transept at 10am
25 th Sept	Coffee Morning in Church Hall from 10.30am
25 th Sept	Service of Prayers for Health and Healing in Transept at 12noon
29 th Sept	Open Air Service at the Clachan Church Shiskine at 3pm
6 th Oct	Pastoral Support group meets in the Transept at 10am
28 th Oct	St Bride's Ladies in Church Hall at 2pm
30 th Oct	Coffee Morning in Church Hall from 10.30am
30 th Oct	Service of Prayers for Health and Healing in Transept at 12noon
3 rd Nov	North Arran Joint Communion Brodick Church at 11am
27 th Nov	Coffee Morning in Church Hall from 10.30am
7 th Nov	Service of Prayers for Health and Healing in Transept at 12noon

WHO'S WHO AT BRODICK CHURCH

Minister	Rev. Angus Adamson	870228
Parish Assistant	Mrs Jean Hunter	860380
Session Clerk Deputy Session Clerk	Mrs Elizabeth Lawrie Mr. Alan Milligan	302782 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	Mrs Lorna MacDonald	302499
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 Convener	Mrs Susan Dobson	302365
Church Minibus Convener	Mrs Alison Bilsland	303505
Coffee Morning Convener	Mrs Margaret Bryce	302117
Sunday Tea Convener	Mrs Susan Dobson	302365
Church Flower Convener	Mrs Ann Lauder	303517
"Life and Work" Convener	Mrs Elise White	302387