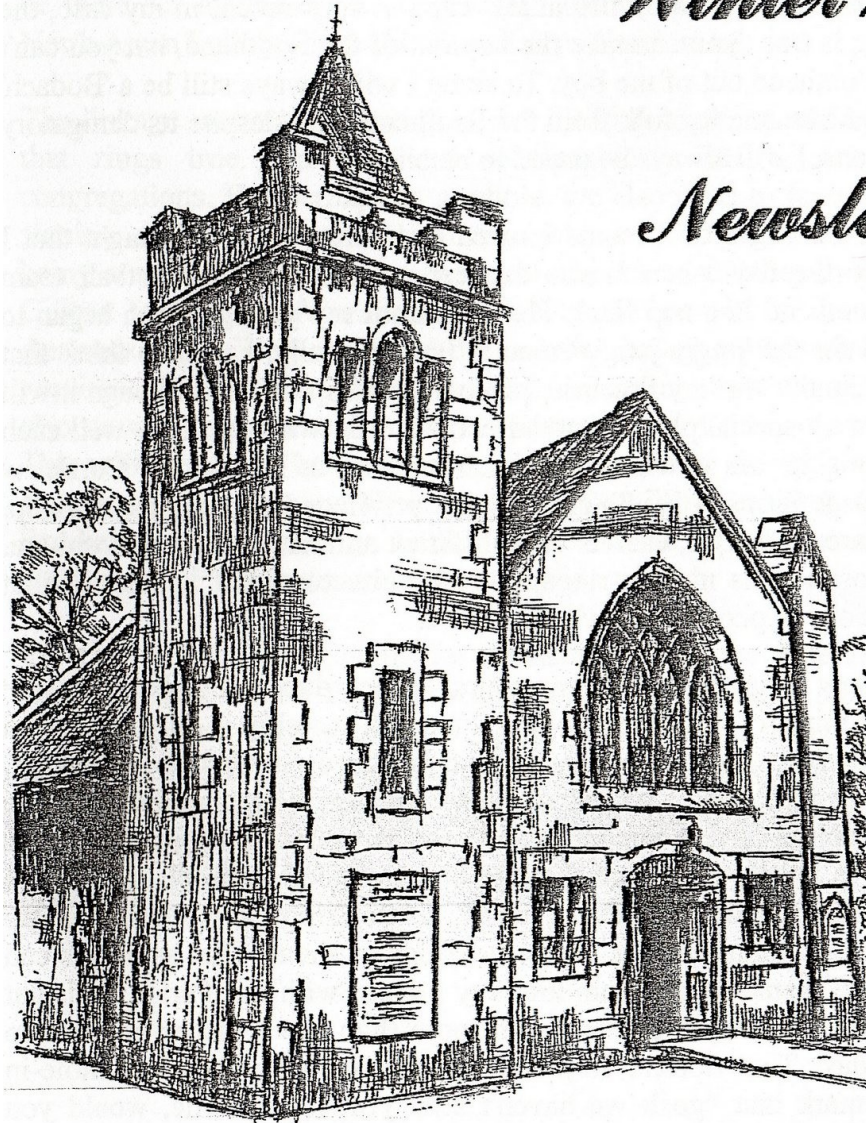


*St Bride's Church
Brodict*

Winter 2013

Newsletter



Brodick Manse
January 2013

As I drive around the island on my parish visits and to conduct worship, I never cease to thank God for the privilege of living in such a stunningly beautiful place. Yet the scenery is only part of what makes Arran such a special place in which to live. It also has a wonderful community spirit. That said, each village and district has its own unique and distinct identity, of which it is fiercely proud. Although I have lived in Brodick now for the past seven years and enjoy life in the 'capital' very much, in my case, the old saying is true, 'you can take the boy out of the Southend, but you can't take the Southend out of the boy. To some I will always still be a 'Bodach' (the local nickname for folk from the Southend) and despite its derogatory connotations, I will always be proud to be one.

However the edges do become blurred over time. I never thought that I would see the day when I would cheer on the Brodick football team against Southend in a cup final. That was until my youngest son began to keep goal for the 'jingly-jangly' men in blue. Equally, I used to think that Kilmory Church was my favourite place to worship in, and although it will always have a special place in my affections, I now love equally well each of the five churches in which, as parish minister at Brodick lw Corrie lw Lochranza & Pirnmill lw Shiskine, I am privileged to conduct worship. They too are all unique, each is very different and has its own atmosphere. That atmosphere is not just created by architecture, but by the distinct congregations of people who worship there.

Unlike many villages and communities, where due to cut backs in the number of ministry posts and multiple linkages, worship is only conducted in rural churches, at best every second or third Sunday and at worst, infrequently, here, with a couple of exceptions, there is worship in all five churches each and every Sunday of the year, as well as in Montrose House. For me it is hugely important that the Word of God is proclaimed at the heart of each community every week, to congregations committed to serving their communities as Christ demands of them. That said, this can only happen thanks to the team ministry I share with our Parish Assistant Jean Hunter. Neither of us can be in more than three places of worship each Sunday. That doesn't stop the frequently made half-fun-whole-in earnest remark that "gosh we haven't seen you for a while, would you

mind signing the visitor's book".

Usually this occurs on return from holiday, when perhaps missing just one Sunday away, can mean not being in the churches on one side of the linkage for three weeks. It doesn't mean that we are committed to one parish more than another. We are both totally committed to serving all five equally. Even although I live in Brodick and Jean in Shiskine, we have no greater affinity to one place over another, nor do we favour any one church or congregation over another. Indeed, we try our level best at all times, to be there for all those who live within the various parish bounds of the North Arran linkage, both church and non-church alike.

The linkage motto is 'independent but working together' and by and large that rings true. An excellent relationship exists between all five congregations. But perhaps as a whole, we also need to learn to be more sharing of the resources of both my ministry and Jean's. With there now being a vacancy at Kilmory lw Lamlash, due to the departure of Revd Gillean MacLean to Aberdeenshire, inevitably that will impact on the time demands and calls upon Jean and I to assist further south where and when required. Added to this, due to vacancies elsewhere in Presbytery, Jean has also now been appointed Interim Moderator at St Cuthbert's in Saltcoats. This will mean her being away on duty there, both during the week and sometimes on a Sunday. Therefore not only will the congregation here in Brodick have to share us further afield on the island, but also on the mainland and within the context of the wider church.

We cannot minister without the fantastic support we receive from our congregations, but for the foreseeable future, we will need a little extra in the way of encouragement and help, even if it is just being a little more understanding of how we are required to be shared with others less fortunate than ourselves, who at the moment, do not have any minister to call their own.

Yours aye

Angus

St Brides's Ladies.

Following the very successful Harvest Lunch on Sunday 28th October, for which the Ladies did the catering, we had visits from three interesting and able speakers - Pasla Gautier on Tibetan Culture, Charlotte Weir on the Glasgow City Mission, and Lexie Andrade on the Salvation Army and how she became a member.

Saturday 8th December brought the annual Christmas Fayre which raised the satisfactory sum of £600. The hampers were won by Valerie Crawford and Ray Galbraith. The following Monday was our very enjoyable Christmas Party for which many thanks are due to the 'Fairy off the Christmas Tree' and her hard working committee. When I tell you that we started off by making hats of crepe paper and assorted scraps of trimming (with some amazing results) you will realise that St Bride's Ladies can turn their hands to almost anything!

And now, as we soldier on into 2103, stout of heart and boots, and mindful of the "dreadful winter" forecast by the weather men, we have made three of our talks afternoon ones, starting with Helen Knight's account of her visit to New Zealand on Monday 14th January. This, and the very popular Scots Night which follows on 28th January (at its usual evening time), may well be over by the time you read this, but, as I write tickets are still on sale.

Both of the February meetings are in the afternoon (2.30pm) and are open meetings for anyone interested - David Shaw speaks to us on the 11th about Mission Aviation Fellowship, and Sir Kenneth Calman, Chairman of the National Trust for Scotland, will be here on the 25th.

On Monday 11th March at 7.30pm, Helen Kerr's subject is the Trans-Siberian Railway (hope that's not an omen!), and that is followed by our AGM on the 25th March with Jean Hunter's slide show as the sugar on the coating of the pill.

The annual Easter Fayre will be on Saturday 5th April at 2pm, and hopefully by then Spring will have come!

Property Report

MANSE. 2102 turned out to be a busy year, with one major and costly item, namely the roughcast to the manse which has now been completed. The mastic work around the windows will be carried out when the weather improves. The insulation work I had hoped would be covered by a government grant scheme failed to materialise, as the area is too small for consideration. We are fortunately in the position of having insulation material available which we can instal on our own. Window ironmongery has been oiled and serviced. The annual manse inspection will shortly be carried out by John Kerr of Corrie Church and myself.

CHURCH. The lead flashing to the skew has been completed. On investigating the possibilities of cleaning the stonework to the front elevation it quickly became apparent that, with the restrictions imposed by presbytery and other authorities, it would not be cost effective to continue. Their advice was to leave well alone. Rot was discovered in the fascia outriggers, soffit boarding, and sarking on the corner adjacent to the organ, and it was dealt with by replacing all timbers where necessary. Necessary adjustments were made to carry the 'Legion Flag' to its position in the chancel. A new microphone had to be purchased, the existing one being unable to be repaired.

HALL. Because of weather conditions the hall roof has not been painted. A new memorial sign is in place in memory of those who lost their lives on both World Wars. The hall is now to be known as the Memorial Hall.

HEALTH AND SAFETY. Following reports from presbytery regarding being aware of injury to persons operating within our jurisdiction, and the consequences thereof, copies of public liability documents are now being asked for from contractors before commencement of any work being undertaken on our behalf within the manse, church or hall perimeters. Volunteers, to whom we are indebted for their assistance, are being asked to sign a disclaimer. I trust no-one will be offended by this request, but will understand and appreciate the reason for it.

A new property register, issued by presbytery for the church and hall, necessitated the compiling of a new inventory of fixtures and fittings. Thanks go to John Lauder, Alex Lawrie, and in particular to Frances Corbett for typing this document. A condition report is now asked for by presbytery to cover the manse, church, and hall annually.

Norman Cuthbert.

Advent of the Lights.

For the first time this year the village of Brodick has been greatly enhanced with the introduction of a floodlighting system, proclaiming the presence of the Church, and establishing it in its rightful place at the centre of the village community.

The project started off some time ago when it appeared on a 'wish list' of ideas to celebrate the centenary of the church in 2010/11. It was not proceeded with at that time, although the potential value of such a feature was recognised, and a minimum cost scheme to light just the tower was approved and implemented for the centenary with some success.

The main objection to the full scheme was centred round the cost – not so much the lights themselves – but of digging trenches to sink the feed cables to a regulation depth below ground. There have always been so many more urgent demands on our finances. However, the bequest of a generous legacy from the estate of the late Mrs Betty Ure of Whiting Bay enabled us to proceed with the project to be completed in time for Advent 2012. The new facility will be in operation at major events throughout the year, and over the Christmas and New year period each year.

Corrie Church.

For some years now our church magazine has contained at least a page of "Corrie News". However, the villages of Corrie and Sannox have started publishing their own village newsletter, which contains all the Corrie Church news within its pages.

As a result this magazine is now solely devoted to Brodick Church news and views, and we wish Corrie well with their new venture. We could, however, do with a little more input 'from the pews' each quarter, rather than more of the same from the usual suspects. So don't be shy – let us all share your opinions and anything else you feel would benefit from an airing within these august pages. The editor does, of course have the right to edit all contributions.

KIDS CLUB.

Here we are into another session of the Kids Club. It seems no time since we began on the first Friday in September. We have thirty two kids registered with us, and on average there have been about fifteen attending on a Friday. Football as ever is popular with an odd game of dodge ball. Table football in the small hall is also popular. Some of the children though are not too keen on sport, so they can play the wide variety of board games that we have accumulated. There are also the various crafts – making cards and assembling models out of yoghurt cartons, boxes, and whatever is in the junk box. It never ceases to amaze the leaders of their creations.

As for the leaders, the club wouldn't be able to carry on without the willing volunteers. We are grateful to them for their commitment on a rota basis. We haven't been able as yet to have any special nights like a film night or a quiz night as we had thought, however, hopefully we will be able to do that before we finish in May. We did have a successful Christmas party though, with the usual party games and special Christmas food which was fun.

The Kids Club has now been running for nearly six years, and it is good that the young ones feel comfortable coming along to the church hall. It is good too that some of them have moved on to the AYF (Arran Youth Foundation) when old enough for that.

We thank God that as a church we can provide this service for the young ones of our community, and a safe place for them to play and be together. Your prayers for the young ones and the leaders of the Kids Club would be much appreciated.

Jean Hunter.

Out of the Mouths of Babes.

A three-year old's prayer: "Our Father, does art in Heaven, Harold is his name. Amen".

The annual Carol Concert in Lamlash Church, held this year on the 2nd December, was well attended as usual, with some lovely carols sung by island choirs as well as those sung by the congregation. We were ably accompanied by Douglas Hamilton on the organ, and Arran Brass, conducted by Dave Payn. A warm welcome was provided by some members of Arran Brass playing carols in the vestibule as we arrived. The offering went to CLIC Sargent.

This year the Christingle Service was hosted by Arran Baptist Church, and took place on 29th November in Brodick Village Hall. It was attended by a good number of excited children but not so many adults, which was a pity as it was a lovely cheerful service which helped to build up the anticipation of Christmas. Offerings were in aid of North Ayrshire Women's Association.

A dozen or so people gathered to sing carols inside the Co-op Store from 11am - 12 noon on 15th December. Money collected went towards the Co-op's own charity schemes.

The next event will be the Service of Christian Unity to be held in Lamlash Church at 12 noon on 20th January, an opportunity for all the different denominations on the island to worship together in true Christian spirit.

More out of the mouths of babes.

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

Mother was preparing pancakes for her sons, Kevin 5 and Ryan 3. The boys began to argue over who would get the first pancake and their mother saw the opportunity for a moral lesson. "If Jesus was sitting here, He would say, "Let my brother have the first pancake, I can wait". Quick as a flash, Kevin turned to his wee brother and said : "Ryan, you be Jesus!"

Musical Bloomers - From children's essays:
"Agnus Dei was a woman composer famous for her church music."
"Most composers don't live until they are dead."
"Handel was half German, half Italian and half French."

Friends of Montrose House Association - Winter 2013 Report

As 2012 turns to 2013 it seems an appropriate time to 'cast a backward eye' over the past year and plan ahead, making the odd resolution on the way.

Undoubtedly the most significant topic of interest to all has been the New Build Montrose House with the publication of plans for a new building to be situated further up Glenclay and the recent confirmation that the land purchase is now complete and building work due to commence in March 2013 with completion due in October 2014.

An unannounced visit of the Care Commission resulted in the appointment of a Relief Manager and an embargo on Respite admissions until January 2013. Subsequently the posts of Manager and Assistant Manager have been advertised in the local press. The current NAC -and indeed National- policy of supporting the elderly in their own homes for as long as possible inevitably means that residents on admission are less able and many need one-to-one and sometimes two-to-one support. This, coupled with an unusually high absence of senior personnel due to accidents, has placed unprecedented demands on staff at a very busy time of the year. Valliant efforts of remaining staff, ably supported by 'Friends' have ensured that Hallowe'en and Christmas events have gone ahead with great success.

January is traditionally Burns month and plans are in hand to hold a Burns Supper in - house with the Clarke family from Shiskine arranging the entertainment. A meeting is also planned with the Architect and Senior personnel from N A C as part of the 'Consultation Process' in the New Build Project.

As previously reported it is particularly pleasing to note that attendance at the weekly Sunday Services has increased recently and on several occasions the service has been taken by members of our Church Worship Group when Angus and Jean have been otherwise engaged. It is interesting to note that this service was originally instituted many years ago as a replacement for the Evening Service in Church and as such is advertised weekly in the local press along with all other Church Services and open to anyone who wishes to attend. It is a very useful way of bringing the Church to those who are unable to come to services in Church.

A three-year old's prayer ;
"Our Father, Who does art in heaven,
Harold is his name. Amen"

Another overheard prayer by a little boy ;
"Lord, if you can't make me a better boy,
don't worry about it, 'cos I'm having a
really good time like I am".

After the christening of his baby brother in church, Sam sobbed all the way home in the back of the car. His father asked him again and again what was wrong and eventually he replied: "That minister said he wanted us to be brought up in a Christian home but I just want to stay with you".

KIRK SESSION

If you ever need to get in touch with an elder, for any reason, you may find the list below helpful:

Tel; District for which they are responsible:

Mrs Margaret Bryce	302117	Strathwhillan
Mrs Shona Hume	302625	Corriegills
Mrs Elizabeth Lawrie	302782	Knowe Road
Mr Stewart Lambie	302304	Invercloy
Mrs Ann Lauder	303517	Shore Road
Mrs Evelyn Sillars	302246	Rosaburn
Mrs Frances Corbett	302891	Springbank
Mr Alex Lawrie	302782	Sheean Drive
Mrs Elizabeth McKellar	302230	Auchrannie Road
Mrs Sheila Selkirk	302433	Brathwic
Mr Hamish Mitchell	302285	Alma Park
Mrs Fiona Brown	302423	Alma Road South
Mrs Myrna Boal	302582	Mayish
Mr Robert McLean	303579	Alma Road North
Mrs Valerie Cross	302615	Glen Estate/Montrose House
Mrs Lorna MacDonald	302499	Lamlash
Mr Alan Milligan	303968	Sheean Drive
Mr John Lauder	303517	Postal

Remember the elders are there to assist in the oversight of the parish, and need to be kept informed of any newcomers to the district, anyone having problems, or anyone in need of pastoral care.

SHOEBOX APPEAL

Hamish and Anne Mitchell want to thank everyone for the excellent response to last autumn's shoebox appeal. Including those from other churches 170 boxes and £530 in donations were sent off to the Blythswood Care depot. Particular thanks are due to Valerie Cross for her assistance with checking and packing, and Arran Deliveries for taking the boxes to Glasgow yet again at their own expense.

It has been suggested that, since filling a shoebox can be quite a task in the time allowed, perhaps we could all make a point of buying something every month and putting it away ready for making the final push when the autumn appeal comes round again (in nine months time!).

CHURCH NOTICES – Winter 2013

Baptisms	Lillian Elizabeth Alison Keir	26th October 2012
	Maxwell Allan Glen Keir	26th October 2012
	Harris Roxburgh Bryan	26th October 2012
	Nicole Louise Bunyan	24th December 2012
	D'Arce Anne Bunyan	24th December 2012
	Lyle William Bunyan	24th December 2012
	Mia Grace Walker	24th December 2012

Marriages Vivian Lindsay Keir to Paul Roxburgh Bryan at Brodick Church on 27th October 2012

Funerals	Kelly-Ann Nixon	25th November 2012
	Margaret Davidson	2nd December 2012

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

23rd January	10.30am Church Coffee Morning in the Church Hall
28th January	6.30 for 7pm Scots Night in the Church Hall
3rd February	10.30am COMMUNION service
6th February	10.30am Church Coffee Morning in the Church Hall
7th February	7.30pm Taize service, Shiskine Church
11th February	2.30pm St Bride's Ladies – David Shaw – M.A.F.
20th February	10.30am Church Coffee Morning in the Church Hall
25th February	2.30pm St Bride's Ladies – Sir Kenneth Calman
28th February	12noon Health and Healing service, Shiskine Church
1st March	2pm World Day of Prayer service, Holy Cross Church
6th March	10.30am Church Coffee Morning in the Church Hall
7th March	7.30pm Taize service, Shiskine Church
11th March	7pm Stated Annual Meeting, Church Hall
11th March	7.30pm St Bride's Ladies – Helen Kerr
20th March	10.30am Church Coffee Morning in the Church Hall
20th March	12noon Health and Healing service in the Transept
25th March	7.30pm St Bride's Ladies – AGM - and Jean Hunter
28th March	7pm Maundy Thursday service, Shiskine Church
29th March	2pm Good Friday Walk of Witness, Holy Cross Church
31st March	10.30am Easter Sunday service
3rd April	10.30am Church Coffee Morning in the Church Hall
4th April	7.30pm Taize service, Shiskine Church
6th April	2pm St Bride's Ladies Easter Fayre
17th April	10.30am Church Coffee Morning in the Church Hall
25th April	12noon Health and Healing service, Shiskine Church

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	Mr. Alan Milligan	303968
Treasurer	Mrs Sylvia Alison	302613
Property Convenor	Mr Norman Cuthbert	303772
Freewill Offering Convenor	Mrs Elizabeth McKellar	302230
Church Magazine Editor	Mrs Sheena Mclean	303579
Presbytery Elder	Mrs Evelyn Sillars	302246
Pastoral Support Team Convenor	Mrs Elizabeth McKellar	302230
Sunday School Leader	Mrs Ann MacKay	600040
Hall Letting Convenor	Mr Alan Milligan	303968
Church Minibus Rota	Mrs Alison Bilsland	303505
Church Flower Rota	Mrs Evelyn Sillars	302246
Sunday Tea Rota	Mrs Anne Mitchell	302285
"Life and Work" Convenor	Mrs Elise White	302387