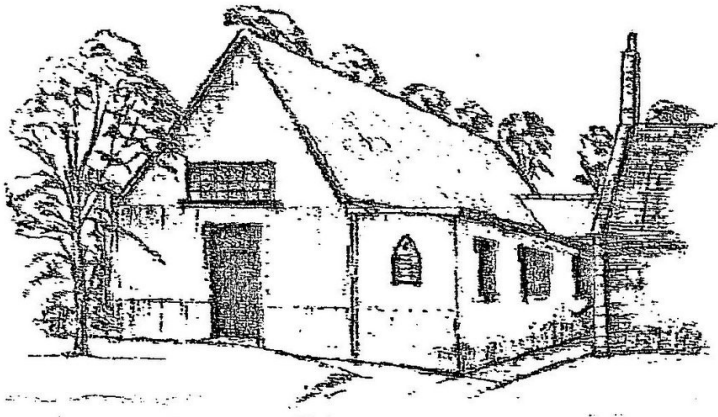
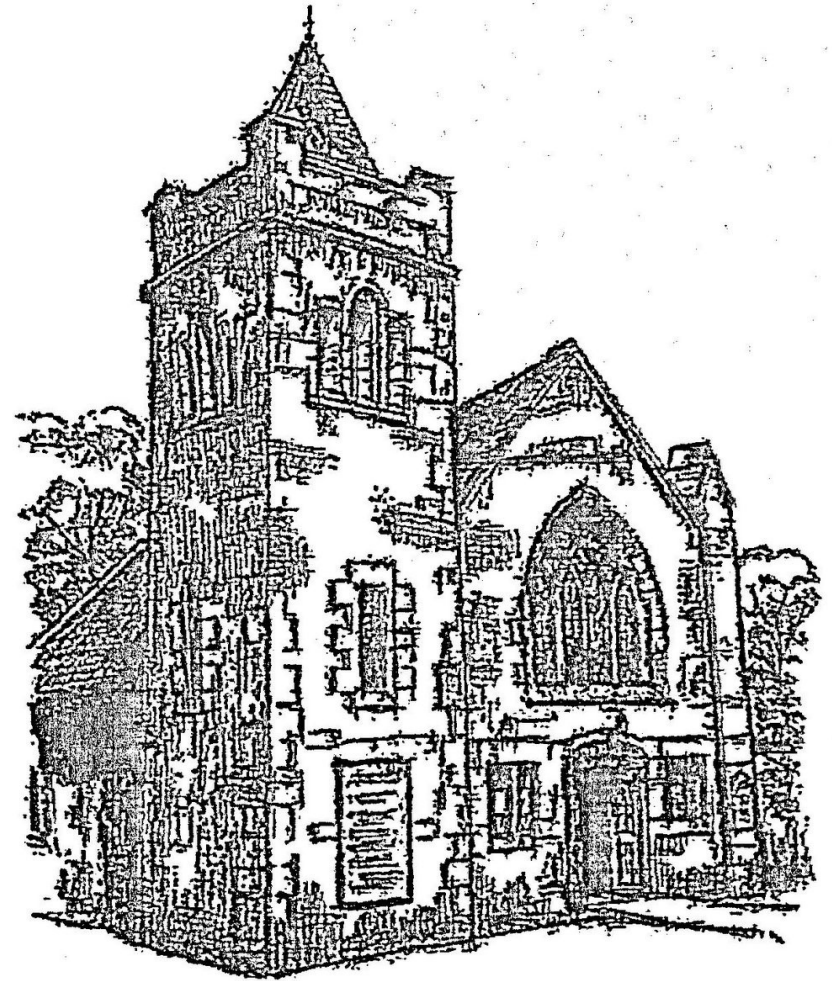


St Bride's Church Brodick

February Newsletter



Brodick Church War Memorial Hall



Winter 2020

Corriecravie

Feb 2020

In November past I visited Armagh for the William Kennedy Piping Festival and among other great events there was a lecture entitled 'the Pipes that once through Rossmore's Halls', a fascinating insight into the musical heritage of Irish nobleman Henry Robert Westenra 3rd Baron Rossmore (1792-1860). Lord Rossmore was a renowned Uilleann piper and collector of pipe music, said in his day to be the equal of any professional piper in Ireland. Among the tunes selected to be played was an ancient Arran boat-song entitled *Uamh an Rìgh* or 'The King's Cave' collected here in the 1830's.

The Rossmore connection with Arran between 1820 and 1854 was through his marriage to Anne Douglas-Hamilton the illegitimate daughter of the 8th Duke. Her dowry included the farms of Altgloch, South and North Penrioch, South, Mid and North Thunderguy, Catacol, Imachar, Dougarie and Auchingallan, what is now approximately the modern day Dougarie Estate.

I was delighted to return with a copy of a lost Arran tune, but that was tinged with the fact that the Rossmore name here will ever be connected with one of the cruellest episodes in our island's Clearance history.

Rossmore had a residence at High Dougarie but wished to build a new hunting lodge at Catacol, what is now Catacol Farm, in order to accommodate his hunting parties who were in the habit of going via Catacol Glen via Loch Tanna, through Glen Iorsa to High Dougarie. However, the original blackhouses of the old village of Catacol located at the mouth of the glen offended the gentry who had to pass them on the way to their sport. In an act of treachery the residents of Catacol were invited to a party at Dougarie by Lord Rossmore but when they made to go home, the servants prevented them leaving long enough to allow the keepers and his agents to set the thatch of their cottages alight and pull down the walls, utterly destroying them. On their return to Catacol the people were left destitute. With no land to till the only option was to eek a meagre living fishing the waters of the Kilbrannan Sound. Eventually under duress Catacol Row, that very pretty street of twelve cottages we now know as the Twelve Apostles was built for them. Despite this, many

families refused to live there in protest at the way they had been treated and it originally had the less poetic nickname of 'Hungry Row'.

In other ways, Lord Rossmore seems to have been a more enlightened land owner, for he had a church built for the Northend people in 1842. The following year at the Disruption when the Free Church split away from the Established Church of Scotland, he put the building at the disposal of the people who opted to become a congregation of the Free Church. Lenimore Church, as it was known, was located at the *Airidh Bheirge* (Areverege) a flat piece of ground located between Pirnmill and Catacol. There is a wonderful painting by John McWhirter R.A. in the *Book of Arran Vol 2* entitled 'Sunday in the Highlands', which shows the people walking along the foreshore to the church, shown in the background. Demolished in the 1950's all that now remains of it are steps cut into the roadside verge.

Lord Rossmore also built a magnificent family seat, Rossmore Castle, in County Monaghan. In a competition with the neighbouring Shirleys of Lough Fea, as to who owned the biggest room in the County, the drawing room was extended five times. Nothing of this once magnificent mansion now remains for it had to be abandoned in the 1950's due to dry rot and it too was levelled to the ground. Perhaps, there is a strange irony in that, although not for the present Rossmore family. Despite what the bible says that 'the sins of the parents are to be visited on the children to the third and fourth generation' (Exodus 20: 4), I have always felt it is quite wrong to hold future generations responsible for the actions of forebears and things that happened way before they were born or had any control over.

Hopefully though, we can learn from the cruelties of the past and make the present more just and better for all. As to judging our ancestors too hastily, care must be taken, 'judge not lest ye be judged' (Matthew 7: 1). We might think it inconceivable that someone in the past could spend money to build a place of worship whilst neglecting the needs of the poor and homeless. Yet as we approach another Stated Annual Meeting, our yearly congregational business and financial meeting, a huge amount of energy will be placed into spending money keeping our church buildings open and the institution of the Kirk functioning. Jesus on the other hand, would have been more likely to give it all away to the poor and needy.

Angus

Editor's Remarks

At this the start of 2020 may I wish all our readers a Happy and Healthy New Year. This is not only the start of a new year but the start of another decade and it is to be hoped that we can look forward to a time when people, despite their differences, can live and work together for a more peaceful and united society in this country as well as in the world at large.

On Sunday 22nd December the highlight of the service was the nativity story told and performed by the Sunday school. It was much appreciated by the congregation and the children of the Sunday school are to be congratulated on another fine performance. Our thanks, once again, go to Mrs. Ann MacKay and Cameron for all their hard work.

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

Arran Churches Together Food Bank

Our sincere thanks to all those who donated items to the Food Bank in the Christmas Appeal. As a result, 18 large bags of staples and 12 large bags of Christmas Treats were distributed by the Social Work Department to those in need. We have also managed to restock and meet the demand for the Food Bank throughout the Christmas holidays.

In December, more than 1400 items were used in the Food Bank - an increase of more than 200 items from December 2018.

At present we are short of tinned fish, meat and vegetables and have a surplus of pasta, sanitary protection and nappies.

Our grateful thanks to you all for your continued support of the Food Bank.

The Food Bank Team

Property Report

We have now received a copy of the survey carried out by Allied Surveyors on behalf of Ardrossan Presbytery and from this I will be able to work out what are essential repairs and what are non essential repairs.

We have also received clearance from the General Trustees in Edinburgh that we can go ahead with the rebuilding of the Manse. The Architect will put in the necessary applications required to North Ayrshire Council.

Colin MacKenzie

Shoebox Appeal 2019

Our thanks go to everyone who supported the Christmas Shoebox Appeal. A special thank you to the team of ladies, involved in covering, filling and checking boxes, for all their hard work. We sent off 143 boxes and £515 to Blythswood. Again, our thanks go to Tony Morrow for providing the transport.

Over 110,000 filled shoeboxes were sent off in December 2019 to eight countries, in Eastern European Serbia, Romania, Albania, Bulgaria, Kosovo, Ukraine, Hungary and Moldova as well as some going to Pakistan,

It is never too early to start thinking of the 2020 appeal and to start collecting items for your box. We were a bit short of hand knitted hats scarves and gloves last year so if there are any knitters out there who are looking for a project over the winter months why not start knitting now. All donations will be most gratefully received.

It is rewarding to know that the Blythswood Shoebox Appeal is such a good cause and brings joy and laughter to so many, especially at Christmas.

Thank you all, once again.

The Shoebox Team

That's Christmas over for.....

Once more, the cards are taken down, the tree packed away in its box (or dropped into the bin), baubles carefully wrapped, lights safely unplugged, mince pies no longer seen.

CHRISTMAS IS PUT AWAY FOR ANOTHER YEAR!!

Or is it?

He laid his glory by,
He wrapped him in our clay;
Unmarked by human eye,
The latent Godhead lay;
Infant of days He here became,
And bore the mild Immanuel's name.

Unsearchable the love
That hath the Saviour brought;
The grace is far above
Or man or angel's thought;
Suffice for us that God, we know,
Our God, is manifest below.

He deigns in flesh to appear,
Widest extremes to join;
To bring our vileness near,
And make us all divine;
And we the life of God shall know,
For God is manifest below. (Charles Wesley)

The Baby, whose birth we have remembered and celebrated, grows up in Nazareth: a lad, laughing and running with other boys and soon to become a carpenter. Then... a few short years of, talking, listening, teaching, healing and praying... UNTIL a cruel crucifixion, burial after death, THEN... glorious Resurrection. Christmas points to Easter. The Baby is 'Lord of All'. The Christ-child is the Redeemer. The Son of Man is also the Son of God.

Hail the heaven-born prince of Peace!
Hail the Sun of righteousness!
Light and life to all he brings,
Risen with healing in His wings.
Hark! The herald-angels sing
Glory to the new-born king.

Alan M. Thompson

Arran Churches Together News

Arran Churches Together continues to support Arran Youth Foundation. Until recently their Friday evening 'drop in' session was held at Brodick Church with all other sessions held at their cabins in Lamlash. The Friday evening session is now also being held at the cabins; the success of the change of venue will be reviewed throughout the year.

Taize Services continue to run on the first Thursday of each month throughout the year from February to November in Shiskine Church at 7pm. These services last about an hour and include music, readings, prayers and silent meditation. The services are ecumenical and aim to promote unity, peace and tolerance.

What happened in 2019?

- World Day of prayer in March at St Margaret's Church, Whiting Bay.
- Good Friday Walk of Witness in April in Brodick
- Songs of Praise in July on Lamlash Village Green.
- Quiz night in Brodick Church in September.
- St Andrew's Night worship followed by a celidh in November in Lamlash Church.
- Carols at Brodick Coop in December.

What's happening in 2020?

- Service of Christian Unity on 19th January at noon in Shiskine Church.
- World Day of Prayer on 6th March in Lochranza Church – details to follow.

THANKS.

As we are now into another year, it is only right that we should express how grateful we are to those who spent so much of their precious time decorating the church for Christmas. The tree, the windows, the floral arrangements and the crib scenes were much appreciated not only by those attending normal services but also the additional events held in the church this year.

A number of members have their names on rotas throughout the year, for a variety of tasks which keep the church ticking over. Many thanks to all of them – door stewards, tea and coffee servers, etc. These are also time-consuming jobs which can so easily be taken for granted.

We are also indebted to those who donate the flowers which decorate the church throughout the year, and those who look after them. These things do not just happen, but also can be a time-consuming job for those who arrange them and make sure they are watered throughout the week. The flower calendar is on the church hall noticeboard and we would be grateful for all offers of help by way of donating and or arranging flowers in the year ahead.

One of the most demanding jobs for our volunteers is running the food bank, and the team there deserve our very grateful thanks for the work they do – almost daily – throughout the year in this vital piece of community service.

Many of you diligently save used postage stamps which are left in the receptacle in the vestibule and which are sent on to a Church of Scotland central facilitator, who in turn sells these to stamp dealers to raise funds for an annual overseas aid project. Thank you for that too.

Finally our ministry team, 'pulpit suppliers', organists, bible readers, and our Sunday School leaders, who prepare and lead our worship week by week; our church cleaner who faithfully comes along week in week out to clean both church and hall; our office-bearers who spend so much of their time looking after the procedures and organisation of the church's affairs – all these and more are very much in our debt.

Thank you all.

St. Bride's Ladies

During the first half of the session we had three very interesting guest speakers—Hazel Robertson of Arran Aromatics, Fiona Laing from the Coastguard and Margaret Wright from Save the Children. We concluded the year with 2 annual events— the Christmas Fayre on 7th December which was very successful thanks to all who contributed. This was followed by a wonderful Christmas lunch in the Wineport on Monday 16th December.

We now look ahead to the next half of the syllabus which should be enjoyable. By the time you get this, we will have had our first meeting. Fiona Crawford gave an interesting account of her holiday in Borneo, illustrated with photos of rare and exotic animals. Borneo is not a country we think of as a tourist destination. We then have our Scots afternoon on Monday 27th January. After afternoon tea an appropriate programme of Scottish entertainment has been arranged. We have three more speakers before our AGM on 23rd March and finish off the session with the Easter Fayre on 4th April. Our meetings are open to everyone and you will be made very welcome. The syllables are available in the church vestibule.

Jean Robertson
07484 649 461

Wednesday Coffee Morning Rota Jan-Jun 2020

29-January	Myrna Boal	Ann Lauder
26-February	Liz McKellar	Irene Rollo
25-March	Margaret Bryce	Jean Robertson
29-April	Susan Dobson	Catriona Smith
27-May	Isobel Davie	Sheena McLean
24-Jun	Grace Sillars	Ann Green

CHURCH NOTICES – Winter 2020

Baptism	Grayson Leonidas Davie McLean	27 th October
Deaths	Frances Ross	22 nd October
	Sheila Roberts	21 st December
	Elma Proudfoot	21 st December
	Elma Bayne	24 th December
	Sheila Selkirk	28 th December

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

2nd Feb **Sacrament of the Lord's Supper at 10.30am**

1st March Informal Sacrament of the Lord's Supper at 10.30am

Coffee Mornings in the Church Hall from 10.30-12noon in aid of World Vision

29th January, 26th February, 25th March, 29th April

Service of Prayers for Health and Healing in the Transept at 12noon

29th January, 26th February, 25th March, 29th April

St Bride's Ladies in the Church Hall at 2pm

10th February, 24th February, 9th March, 23rd March

4th April **Spring Fayre from 2pm in Church Hall**

Pastoral Support Group meets in the Transept at 10am

1st March, 5th April

Easter

9th April Maundy Thursday,

10th April Good Friday, Walk of Witness 2pm Holy Cross Church to Brodick Church

12th April Easter Sunday

10th May **Sacrament of the Lord's Supper at 10.30 am**

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