

*Scottish Episcopal Church*  
*Diocese of Glasgow and Galloway*

## **Christ Church, Dalbeattie**



*Issue No. 8*

*August/September 2015*

*This month we have two clergy letters as the summer edition of St Ninian's Review coincides with the publication of this magazine.*

**Canon Bayne writes:** "We believe that God never sleeps, but the Church undoubtedly dozes a bit in the summer months: clubs, organisations and committees are in temporary abeyance; many people are away on holiday; friends and relatives who come to visit take up our time; the garden, the beach or the golf course are seductive alternatives to attending Church. The clergy and other congregational leaders use this quiet time to begin to plan things like study groups, sermon series, special events and (Oh, no! Not yet!) Carol Services.

I realised I was behind with my prep, driving into Kirkcudbright the other day, when I spotted Arden House's enormous banner advertising its Christmas dinners and parties. The early part of the year has been so remarkably busy that forward planning has had to give way to "sufficient unto the day....." We are currently operating as a group of four Charges, served by nine clergy (eight of whom are supposed to be retired!) three lay readers, and four worship leaders. Just planning the Sunday services and rostering the clergy has become a series of major exercises that risk obscuring the wider view.

While we continue to hope and pray that a new Rector will emerge soon for St. Mary's and Greyfriars, we nevertheless need to develop a shared vision for the charges that will encourage us to grow in Christ. During this quieter summer time, we all need to reflect on how we can work more creatively, both among ourselves and with our brothers and sisters in Christ of the other denominations (who find themselves in exactly the same situation as ourselves) so that the Church in the Stewartry can have not just a viable but a vibrant future. The Mission Action Plans, on which our congregations have been working separately, and which have helped us to a better self-understanding, will also help us to spot opportunities to work together.

**The Revd Mark Smith writes:** It is a privilege to be asked to write a message for the Church Magazine. It is also an opportunity.

An opportunity to thank those of you who have made Debbie and myself (and Natasha & Isaac) so very welcome as we join with you on Sundays. An opportunity to publicly thank Bishop Gregor and Canon David Bayne and the Vestries (both here and St Ninian's) for inviting me to help in the ministry of the parishes at this time. An opportunity to walk with you through this time of change and challenge. We look forward to it!

In terms of a message, I am not sure where to start. It is not yet Advent with its anticipation nor Christmas with its drama nor Lent with its preparation nor Holy Week with its passion nor Easter with its celebration nor Pentecost or Trinity with their inspiration and teaching.

It is Summertime. In the well-known words of Ira Gershwin: "Summertime ... and the living is easy." Many regular activities and groups have stopped meeting, children and families think of holidays, students chill for months on end. It is holiday time! The very word 'holiday' has its roots in 'holy day' – it is not time off from God, rather time to be with Him in whatever way we can. Time set apart for a special purpose. Time to let God

guide us rather than the usual schedules. It is a holy opportunity.

The reduced busy-ness gives us a chance to catch up, walk and rest. Catch up with God, walk with Jesus, rest in the Spirit. Summer is a chance to recharge the batteries – emotional, physical, mental and spiritual – to be ready for what lies ahead. Why not read the Bible instead of that holiday book? Stroll round asking Jesus to help you see people as He does? Spend time reflecting on the lessons of Advent, Christmas, Lent, Holy Week, Easter, Pentecost with the Spirit as your guide?

Summer is over all too soon. We have a lot to be ready for. We face many challenges as a congregation ... or should I say many opportunities? Changes ... or steps on the journey of faith? The wider Church is facing many things and we don't yet know what God has in store for us. Let's use what is left of the Summer to re-tune to God's way, receive Jesus' love and hear the Spirit's inner guidance so that we are ready ... for whatever He has for us.



*The Revd Mark Smith will be taking a larger part in our worship at Christ Church. He has written this minister profile for our Church website. As many of you do not have access to the Internet Mark has agreed that his 'bio' and photograph can be included in this magazine.*

"I was ordained in the Church of England in 1989 having trained at Cranmer Hall, Durham. In terms of Churchmanship I guess I come from the Low Church/Evangelical tradition in the Church of England. You may have guessed this from my confusion with liturgy and robes!

I am by no means a Theologian. You may have guessed this from my sermons! I served in three busy inner-city parishes, all with multiple congregations, over the next thirteen years. Exhausted, I came out of parish work and got a job with Tesco!

Debbie and I moved to Scotland and married in 2004. We have lived in Beeswing since 2005 and the cottage is now finished after much DIY! Debbie works for the NHS in the Community, managing School Nurses across the Region! She also sings like an angel. You may have guessed this if you've stood near her!

Natasha is at Durham/Newcastle Medical School training to be a Doctor. Isaac, her son, was born in 2009 and is now at school. He is often more middle-aged than his Nana and Papa!

After being involved with our local church (Lochend & New Abbey Church of Scotland) then helping with pulpit supply in various Church of Scotland parishes round the area, I was asked to step in as Locum Minister for Dalbeattie & Kirkgunzeon with Urr Parish in 2013. It was good to be able to help them out during that time of transition until a new Minister was appointed in October 2014.

When David and Bishop Gregor asked if I would be willing to help out in Christ Church and St Ninian's I was more than happy to accept their invitation. So here I am!."

**The Balliol Consort Concert held at Christ Church on the 5th May, raised the sum of £398 for the Tower Fund.. Thanks again.**

## Services at Christ Church

### August

2 <sup>nd</sup>	Ninth Sunday after Trinity	8.30 a.m., 10.30 a.m.	Holy Communion Sung Eucharist
9 <sup>th</sup>	Tenth Sunday after Trinity	10.30 a.m.	Sung Eucharist
16 <sup>th</sup>	Eleventh Sunday after Trinity	10.30 a.m.	Sung Eucharist
23 <sup>rd</sup>	Twelfth Sunday after Trinity	10.30 a.m.	Sung Eucharist
30 <sup>th</sup>	Thirteenth Sunday after Trinity	10.30 a.m.	Sung Eucharist

### September

6th	Fourteenth Sunday after Trinity	8.30 a.m. 10.30 a.m.	Holy Communion Sung Eucharist
13th	Fifteenth Sunday after Trinity	10.30 a.m.	Sung Eucharist
20th	Sixteenth Sunday after Trinity	10.30 a.m.	Sung Eucharist
27th	Seventeenth Sunday after Trinity	10.30 a.m.	Sung Eucharist

### October

4th	Eighteenth Sunday after Trinity	8.30 a.m.	Holy Communion
	HARVEST FESTIVAL	10.30 a.m.	Sung Eucharist

<b>Midweek Service</b> Thursday 10.00 a.m. Holy Communion
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There is a service of **Holy Communion** at **8.30 a.m.** on the **first Sunday** of the month at **Christ Church** and a service **every Sunday** at **St Ninian's, Castle Douglas**.

<b>Munches Park Care Home, Dalbeattie</b>	<b>Ecumenical Service 2.00 p.m.</b>
<b>Third Sunday in the month</b>	<b>All Welcome</b>

**From the Editor** Tel: 01556 630314 E-mail: [muriel.a.palmer@gmail.com](mailto:muriel.a.palmer@gmail.com)

The dead-line for articles for the next magazine **October/November 2015** is the **14<sup>th</sup> September** the magazine will be available on the end of **September, 2015**. Articles from all are always welcome.

The next magazine will be the last one for which I will be the editor. Is this a task you could do? If you need more information do not hesitate to contact me. I can, if necessary, prepare the finished magazine for publishing and printing.

This magazine has been printed by Small Print, Castle Douglas.

*Anthony Duncalf, Honorary Secretary, has provided this summary of the Meeting of Christ Church Vestry held on the 15th July, 2015.*

- ⇒ A number of essential electrical works are in hand to get the Rectory ready for a new tenancy, as well as replacing some faulty windows. We are also looking to get a gardener in to bring the garden back up to scratch and maintain it until new tenants are found.
- ⇒ The next phase of the church lighting will be going ahead shortly, adding further spotlights in the body of the church and re-siting those at the front to cut down on 'glare'.
- ⇒ Plans for the re-modelling of the tower and entrance porch have now been submitted to the Planning Authority - we await their findings.
- ⇒ It was agreed to join forces with St Peter's with our 'Food Bank' donations, with items donated going to the Kirkcudbright Food Bank (which is where any Dalbeattie residents in need are directed by the Council).
- ⇒ Concern has been expressed that the current format of three Church sales per year is starting to place increasing pressure on a declining number of helpers. It was proposed that in 2016 we do not hold a Winter Sale, and that the Colvend Sale be relocated to a date in August, creating a longer interval following the Plant Sale in May. A Convenor is still needed for this year's Winter Sale - willing volunteers would be most welcome.
- ⇒ It was agreed to join in with the Christian Aid initiative of praying for an end to conflict in Palestine/Israel on the 24th of each month; this will be included on the weekly pew sheets on the appropriate Sunday, and we hope many of the congregation will include this in their personal prayers.
- ⇒ Muriel Palmer will be stepping down as editor of the Magazine after the November edition. We are very grateful for her sterling work. It is hoped someone will come forward to take on this task and ensure the Magazine continues into 2016 and beyond, even if in a slightly different form.

*Edith Thorp, Lay Representative reports on the Galloway Regional Council meeting held on 6 July 2015 at Castle Douglas.*

The presentation to the Regional Council was from **Putting You First Development Officers** from **Third Sector Dumfries and Galloway** on **Health and Social Care Integration: Understanding Faith Groups as Community Assets**. Not the best presentation or facilitation, but the main bit of information gleaned, was that should we wish to know where the need for our involvement in the local community might be, they were the organisation to contact!

Possible extension of the Ecumenical Learning Agreement following the review of the same in Annandale and Eskdale. I had been at that meeting with the Revd John Macleod (Lockerbie) and as he was away on a course, I spoke to it. In my opinion it seemed that the Regional Council might be the forum to invite representation from all the Presbyteries to the meetings. Doing that could start the process of Regional cross-fertilisation of ideas/

training etc. It was discussed, but no conclusion as to the way forward was come to. David Bayne reported from Diocesan Council that there were eleven vacancies in the Diocese among other things.

A seven page report from the General Synod had been circulated. The item that interested me was the initiative to pray on the 24th of each month for a peaceful resolution of the Palestinian/Israeli conflict. A Christian Aid initiative taken up by ACTS (Action of Churches Together in Scotland). No response was given to my seeing the initiative as a possible thing that the Regional charges might take forward!

St Mary's, Gatehouse of Fleet had made application for a grant of £2,885 to install windows in the outer doors under the MAP plan to make their church more visible and welcoming. Approved by Regional Council and the Diocese.

From my point of view, I did not find it a very inspiring meeting.

*Thanks are due to Anthony for writing the following about one of his favourite hymns.*

I thought I'd write a brief review of a song of praise which most of you probably won't know: it's what I'd call a modern classic, which has been around since the mid-90s, but hasn't yet made it into the standard episcopal hall of fame!

**"Shout to the Lord"** originates from Australia's Hillsong Fellowship, written by the prolific Darlene Zschech. It has a great tune (always important!), which builds through the verse - proclaiming *"My Saviour ... tower of refuge and strength"* - into the chorus, lifting the spirit as the words proclaim *"Power and majesty, praise to the King"*, in words which echo many of the Psalms - *"Mountains bow down and the seas will roar at the sound of Your Name"*.

I first encountered the song while attending a large Pentecostal church in Leeds, at a time of considerable change in my life, and I found that the words spoke very much into my heart, reassuring me of the enduring presence and comfort of the Lord amidst all the turmoil of our life on earth, and inspiring me to echo the resolve to *"Let every breath... never cease to worship You."*

If you have access to the internet, you can listen to the original recording by Darlene and her band at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-uMeuhxftiQ> - I'd be interested to hear what you make of it! Or why not share a hymn or chorus that inspires you?

*Why was the computer so tired when it got home?*

Because it had a hard drive!

Q: *What is the longest word in the English language?*

R: Smiles. Because there is a mile between its first and last letters.

*The Revd Beryl Scott has written this account of the Theological Reflection Meeting held at St. Peter's on the 9th June presented by Father Joe Boland., parish priest of St Bride's, West Kilbride.*

We enjoyed an interesting, illustrated talk about 'Pope Francis' with Argentina as the background. Pope Francis is the first Latin American, and first Jesuit, to lead the Roman Catholic Church. He was accepted by both Church conservatives and reformers, seen as orthodox on most matters, but liberal on social justice, although far from being a 'Liberal Theologist', abiding by the teaching of the Church.

Jorge Bergoglio was born in Argentina in 1936. His grandparents and their children left Italy in 1927 to settle in Argentina. Jorge was brought up at a time of renewed interest in social justice in this predominantly Catholic country. He trained in a Jesuit seminary and felt called to priesthood, and became a Jesuit, studying in both Argentina and Germany. It was a time of 'Liberal Theology' associated with Marxism. The Vatican could not accept Marxism which caused class war, and Jorge followed its line which caused trouble and a split among the Jesuits; he received much opposition from the government as well as the Jesuits. He lived in tension with the authorities for their lack of care for the impoverished during some very difficult times. An extremely difficult period, called the 'Dirty War' saw thousands of people made to disappear by the government.

He became a Bishop in 1992 and Archbishop of Buenos Aires in 1998. He became a Cardinal in 2005; as Cardinal Bergoglio he was greeted jubilantly. Part of his public appeal lay in his sober austerity, rejecting the pomp and living a humble life style. He had great concern for the poor and a commitment to dialogue as a way to build bridges between people of all backgrounds, beliefs and faiths. At the end of Father Boland's well received talk, there was a short period of questions.

The session ended with notice of the next meeting to be held on the 8th of September, the speaker will be the Revd Dr Ewan Kelly from the Church of Scotland; he is the Lead for Spiritual Care at NHS Dumfries and Galloway.

## **Fill Those Pews!**

## **All Welcome**

The Welcome, Integration & Numerical Growth Development Team is organising a day conference on Church Growth and invites you to attend it. It will be led by The Venerable Bob Jackson, THE leading authority in Church Growth in the Church of England. The day will be based on his latest book ***What makes Churches grow?*** (published by Church House Publishing) and will explore reasons why some churches are growing and others are static or declining. Whether you are working on Numerical Growth as one of your MAP priorities or not, the WINGs team hope this day will have something to offer everyone in the Diocese. Lunch will be provided. The conference will be held at St Silas, 69 Park Road, Glasgow G4 9JD on Saturday, 24th October, 2015; 10.00 a.m.-3.30 p.m.

**Contact:** the Revd Canon Drew Sheridan **E-mail:** [drew@frsheridan.fsnet.co.uk](mailto:drew@frsheridan.fsnet.co.uk)



## *BISHOP GREGOR'S LECTURE 22 JUNE 2015*

As usual many people gathered to hear Bishop Gregor's lecture on the Gospel of St John. We are well blessed as a Diocese that we have a Bishop who ensures that all the Charges in the Diocese have the opportunity to attend; as the same lecture is delivered both in the north and the south of the Diocese.



Bishop Gregor's next lecture ***Figures in Anglican Thought*** is to be held on the 9<sup>th</sup> November at St Ninian's, Castle Douglas. 7.00 p.m. for 7.30 p.m. The first presentation of this lecture will be at 7.30 p.m. on the 3<sup>rd</sup> November at Holy Trinity and St Barnabas, Paisley.



### *Scottish Pilgrimage to the Shrine of Our Lady of Walsingham* Friday, 25 – Monday, 28 September 2015

For over 40 years the annual Scottish Pilgrimage to the Shrine of Our Lady of Walsingham has taken many to the small village of Walsingham in North Norfolk. The event provides a great opportunity to meet, share and worship with other Episcopalians and Anglicans in a peaceful and blessed setting.

Accommodation is in modern well appointed single rooms within the Shrine itself and the total cost, including your room, transport and meals on a half board basis, is £265. The Rev Gordon Fyfe is our accompanying priest who oversees a programme of reflection, worship and socialising.

The Shrine's theme for pilgrims in 2015 is '***Mary: Life-Giving Spring***', inviting us to partake of her spiritual nourishment.

The coach leaves Glasgow at 9.30 a.m.; with pick ups points at Edinburgh and at other points en route by arrangement. It is expected that on Monday the coach will be in Glasgow by 6.00 p.m.

For further information please contact:

Annie Blackwood    Tel: 07989 554023    annie.b70@live.co.uk or  
Alison Gifford        Tel: 07990 570371    gifforda@sky.com



## CHRIST CHURCH GARDEN TEAS 2015

Muriel Palmer reports that the first Garden Tea was hosted by Anthony and Joseph Duncalf on Wednesday the 1st July. The weather co-operated with the rain holding off until evening. To quote Anthony from our Facebook page *"A convivial gathering at the first of this year's Summer teas - hot and sultry, but the rain held off!"*

The 'eats' (as my late father would have described the food) were absolutely delicious; including sandwiches, sausage rolls, cakes, scones and much more. Plus tea, coffee and cold drinks. The Church gives its grateful thanks to the hosts; the monies raised are notified as a grand total after all the teas for the year have been held.

The next Garden Tea will be held at the home of the Revd Beryl Scott on Wednesday, 5th August at Islecroft House, Dalbeattie.



Thanks are due to Anthony for the photographs.

The lucky birds at Maxwell Park were not forgotten and had their share of the food after we all went home.

**The next Garden Tea will be held at the home of the Revd Beryl Scott, Islecroft House, Dalbeattie, on Wednesday, 5th August; at 3.00 p.m.**

*There are still copies available of 'More Soup Recipes' booklet either direct from Muriel Palmer or from the Visitor Information Point, High Street, Dalbeattie. All monies raised from the sale of these booklets is to be donated to the Scottish Episcopal Institute (the Scottish Episcopal Bishops' Charity appeal for 2015).*

## Christ Church Summer Sale, Colvend.- 22nd July 2015



1: Keith waiting for customers



2: Elizabeth and Debbie at the cake stall



3: Jane and Miranda at the Craft Stall

Thanks to Geoff Greenwood (Jane's husband) for photographs 2 & 3 on this page and for photograph 4 on the next page and to Susie Priestly (Pat's daughter) for photograph 5.

'Sale Day' is only about 10% of the work involved. As reported in the last magazine preparation for the plant sale is a year round activity. The **Chat & Craft Group** are working all year round making items for the Summer and Winter Sales. After a sale the convenor needs a week R&R; many thanks are due to Robin Charlton for being the Convenor of this sale. Thanks are due to all the people who worked on the day from Beryl Scott on the door and all the people in-between serving refreshments; manning the stalls. Grateful thanks are due to the Revd Mark Smith for a quiet moment of prayer before declaring the sale open to announcing the raffle winners at the end of the morning. Thanks Mark. Thanks are also due to Mark's wife Debbie and daughter Natasha, they were all ably assisted by grandson Isaac - a true family effort. And, last but not least thanks to all our visitors for coming to the Sale.

This year because the sale was held before all the English schools were on holiday visitor numbers were about 30% down so it was brilliant to learn that when all the pennies were counted we made **£1,132.90** (which is a sum in the region of what we usually make).

*Muriel Palmer*





4: Grant, Edith and Alfred with the Raffle



5: Mark, Pat & Ted!!

**DATE FOR YOUR DIARY** The Christ Church Winter Sale is to be held on the Saturday, 7th November, 2015 10.00 a.m.-12 noon in the Upper Hall at Dalbeattie Town Hall.

**DO COME AND JOIN US** and start your Christmas present shopping early (apologies for mentioning Christmas in August). Then enjoy our delightful refreshments.

### Prayers for Israel and the Occupied Palestinian Territories on the 24th of each month

There is always more space in this format as the pages do not need to be numbered; so this article is not available in the printed magazine. On page 6, Edith Thorp, our Lay Representative, reports that the item that interested her most at the Regional Council meeting was the initiative that we should pray on the 24th of each month for a peaceful resolution of the Palestinian/Israeli conflict. A Christian Aid initiative taken up by ACTS (Action of Churches Together in Scotland). This initiative has been adopted by Christ Church.

The article from Inspires online on the 22<sup>nd</sup> July 2015 reports that:

“General Synod 2015 approved the Global Partnerships Committee motion that members of the Scottish Episcopal Church be encouraged join the Scottish ecumenical initiative, promoted by Christian Aid, in praying for Israel/Palestine on the 24<sup>th</sup> day of every month. This initiative was supported by a motion which called for the recognition and support of the Pope’s recent recognition of the State of Palestine and his call for reconciliation.

As well as praying as an individual and with others in your own church community you can join with others on the following dates and time:

24 August	7.00 p.m.- 9.00 p.m.	Abbotshall Church of Scotland, Kirkcaldy
24 September	7.00 p.m.- 9.00 p.m.	St Kentigern’s Church of Scotland, Kilmarnock
24 October	10.30 a.m.-12.30 p.m.	Selkirk United Reformed Church, Selkirk
24 November	7.00 p.m.- 9.00 p.m.	Knox United Free Church of Scotland”

## *Christ Church Chat & Craft Group*

The Chat & Craft Group meet on the second Thursday of the month ; except for August and December when they have a well-earned rest. The meetings are usually held at 12 Park Terrace., Dalbeattie, the home of Geoff and Jane Greenwood . All are welcome - we do more chatting than crafting at the meetings. The crafts are made individually at home by the members of the Group.

The group is small but have complimentary skills which enables a broad range of crafts to be made. Thanks are due to the long-suffering family members of the crafters.

The July meeting was held in Rockcliffe when we spent the time pricing some of the many crafts whilst having lots of fun and laughs **and** tea and cakes!



The 'crafty' ladies!!

- 1 Ruby, Jane and Beryl
- 2 Miranda and Pat

I found this gem on the website of the church of St Leonard, Langho & Billington;  
[www.stleonardslangho.org.uk](http://www.stleonardslangho.org.uk) MP

**God has a sense of humour:** A woman received a call that her daughter was sick. She stopped by the pharmacy to get medication, got back to her car and found that she had locked her keys inside. The woman found an old rusty coat hanger left on the ground. She looked at it and said "I don't know how to use this". She bowed her head and asked God to send her **HELP**. Within 5 minutes a beat up old motorcycle pulled up a bearded man who was wearing an old biker skull rag. The man got off of his cycle and asked if he could help. She said: "Yes, my daughter is sick. I've locked my keys in my car. I must get home. Please, can you use this hanger to unlock my car?" He said, "Sure." He walked over to the car, and in less than a minute the car door was opened. She hugged the man and through tears said, Thank You **SO** Much! You are a very nice man. The man replied, "Lady, I am **NOT** a nice man. I just got out of PRISON yesterday, I was in prison for car theft." The woman hugged the man again sobbing "Oh, thank you God! You even sent me a Professional!" **Is GOD Good or What!"**



*The last meeting for 2014/2015 was held on the 16<sup>th</sup> June; Elizabeth Woodburn outgoing Joint Leader writes:*

"All our monthly meetings are interesting and none more than this one. The Rector led the Service of Dedication, at which Thelma Gemmell was enrolled as a member of the Branch and Alison Bayne was introduced as the next Joint Leader with Ann Gault. It was time for me to hand over the reins; so a new chapter can begin after the summer break. As usual, it was a very happy meeting and after the service we all enjoyed a buffet lunch in the Rectory garden. Everyone had contributed to this, so it was a buffet to remember,, with sweets to die for. Presentations were made to Alison and David for their hospitality in opening their home to us once again, and I received a lovely Rose Bush which now stands in "Pride of Place" on my patio.

It has been a privilege and pleasure being part of something so rewarding, "Fun, Fellowship and Worship". For me these three words sum up our monthly meetings. St Ninian's is the only branch to try joint leadership to see if it would work, and grateful thanks must go to Jenny Spence who shared three years with me. Jenny and I wanted to mark this "first sharing"; so the cross we have used in our monthly worship we have left with the branch as a reminder.

I can't thank members enough for the support and help I have received during my time in office and I look forward to the September meeting (see below) when another interesting year begins."



Kirsty Allison, St Ninian's Castle Douglas MU secretary has said that:

"The new programme for 2015-16 will be available soon, and the first meeting will be on 15<sup>th</sup> September. This will be a Service of Dedication at 12 noon followed by lunch and an Open Meeting in the Hall. We would be delighted to welcome you to sample us if you have not been before."

## *DALBEATTIE PROBUS GROUP VISIT TO DUMFRIES HOUSE*

Dalbeattie Probus visited **Dumfries House** on the 27th May, Ron Newton provided this report that has been written by Inglis Lamont

A party of 23 of the club members and their wives and friends enjoyed a day out visiting historic Dumfries House. There was an excellent guide for the tour of the house which everyone found interesting. A lunch of soup and sandwiches, tea, coffee and cakes followed and then, since the rain had started, a short wet look at the gardens and the gift shop. Many favourable comments regarding the visit were made.



**Apologies but you will need a magnifying glass to see who went on this outing!!**

**Dalbeattie Probus Club** meet on the second and fourth Wednesday of every month in the Parish Church Centre, Dalbeattie at 10.00 a.m.



**Bexley Phoenix Choir**

### **CONCERT**

at St Ninian's, Castle Douglas

**Friday, August 7<sup>th</sup> 2015 at 7.30 p.m.**

***Fauré's Requiem***

Together with a selection of other music

**Tickets: £8.00**

available from 01556 502736  
or on the night

Refreshments included

[www.bexleyphoenixchoir.org.uk](http://www.bexleyphoenixchoir.org.uk)

Over the last few months I have written articles about the Churches who are part of Churches Together in Dalbeattie & District. I have decided it would be good to write about the other Episcopal Churches in the Stewartry; in the last issue I wrote about St Mary's, Gatehouse and Greyfriars, Kirkcudbright. In this magazine I have included information about St Ninian's, Castle Douglas and St Margaret of Scotland, New Galloway. MP



St Ninian's, St Andrew Street, Castle Douglas, DG7 1EN

Rector: Canon David Bayne Tel: 01556 503818

[www.stninianscastledouglas.org.uk](http://www.stninianscastledouglas.org.uk) visit their website to learn about the many activities that take place.

St Ninian's feast day is the 16th September.

### **Main Service times**

**Sundays** 8.30 a.m. and 11.00 a.m. **Thursdays** 10.15 a.m.

A Sunday School and Crèche are held in the Hall during the 11.00am Service.

Canon Bayne is the Interim Priest-in-Charge during their time of vacancy at Christ Church, Dalbeattie; St Mary's, Gatehouse and Greyfriars, Kirkcudbright.

On page 16 Graham Brignall reports on a visit to St Finan and seeing the Grave Cross of the Lt. Meiklejohn. There are five Grave Crosses at St Ninian's the story of the soldiers can be found in the history section of the Church website. (Grave Crosses marked the original burial places of soldiers killed in battle.)



St Margaret of Scotland, New Galloway, Castle Douglas, Kirkcudbrightshire DG7 3RP

Rector: Revd John Repath

Tel: 01644 420235

St Margaret's feast day is the 16th November.

### **Main Service times**

**Sundays and Wednesdays** at 10.30 a.m.

St Margaret's is a picturesque Arts & Crafts church of 1904 by W M Harrison, the chancel was added 1908 and the lych-gate in 1912.

Picture © Scotland's Churches Trust.



*Thanks are due to Graham Brignall for his account of two HOLIDAY DISCOVERIES*

In May while on holiday in Ardnamurchan Miranda and I came across St Finan's Church, Kinlochmoidart. The house which used to be there was where Prince Charles Edward Stewart spent the week before his rally at Glenfinnan. The church was built in 1858 and was, at the time, the most northerly Episcopal church in the UK.

We were pleasantly surprised to find a notice on the door telling us the church was open, so we entered and discovered a beautiful little church with mostly bare stone walls and lots of stained glass windows. On the north wall was fixed the wooden cross which had been used to denote the burial place, near to where he was killed in action, of Lt. Kenneth Forbes Meiklejohn, 1<sup>st</sup> Cameron Highlanders, who died fighting in Aisne on 25<sup>th</sup> September 1914, aged 29, making him one of the earliest casualties of World War 1. The cross had been brought home, but his remains lie interred at the British Cemetery at Vendresse. He left a widow, and a son who was born 6 months after his father's death.

The church now holds one service every month and also a monthly service in the Church of Scotland church of St Mary in Strontian.



**Images © St Finan's Church, Kinlochmoidart**

The second holiday find was made in July when we visited the Episcopal Church of St Ninian's, Glen Urquhart, Dumnadrochet

The first incumbent dates from 1854 (which might question the claim made by my previous holiday find). It seats about 70 people and is unusual in that a meeting room is underneath the vestry.

Set into the altar is a stone carved with a simple cross which came from the now demolished church at Temple in the mouth of Glen Urquhart. Historians now consider that Temple was the most northerly base of St Ninian, so this very early cross may have been seen by our Patron Saint at the end of the 4th century.



### St Ninian's, Glen Urquhart - thanks to Graham for the photographs

Note from Muriel Palmer: The current incumbent of the church, is the rector who was at **All Saints Challoch** when I was there - the Revd Christine Mylne. Small world, I would like to be able to visit her but so far ... .

Postscript from Graham to our readers: Do you know the history of St Finan and his connection to the church at Kinlochmoidart? If so we would be delighted to hear from you. It is planned to include an article about St Finan in the next magazine.

*Liz Barfoot is the Alternate Lay Representative (after serving many years as Lay representative) at All Saints' Challoch. The following poem WIGTOWN BAY written by Liz was in the June/July 2015 issue of the Challoch Newsletter. Liz has given permission to include this beautiful poem in our magazine. MP*

#### WIGTOWN BAY

The moon is full,	The moon is full,
The tide obeys.	The tide has ebbed,
The wind is strong,	The wind is stilled.
The sea obeys.	The river glides
White horses race into the bay,	While moonlight's silken sheen
Their masters drive them on	Softly strokes the rocks and sand.
To death on the rocks.	A curlew's call is peace.

#### Colvend Parish Annual Church Sale

Thursday, 13th August, 2015

Colvend Village Hall

1.30 p.m.

**St Peter's Art Feste** at the Maxwell Room, **St Peter's Church**, Dalbeattie  
 Friday 31 July - Sunday 2 August 10.00 a.m. - 4.00 p.m.  
**Exhibition of Art Work by the late Hazel Devonshire**

## What's on August/September 2015

### August

- August 2<sup>nd</sup> 2.30 p.m. **Dalbeattie and District Churches Together; CIVIC PRAZE** open-air service Band Stand Colliston Park (see page 14)
- August 8<sup>th</sup> 7.30 p.m. **Bexley Phoenix Choir Concert** at St Ninian's Church, Castle Douglas (see page 14)
- August 16<sup>th</sup> 3.00 p.m. **Ecumenical Service** at **Dundrennan Abbey**

### September

- September 5<sup>th</sup> 11.30 a.m. **Ministry Celebration Service** at **St Margaret's, Newlands** for Lay Readers and members in authorised ministries.
- September 8<sup>th</sup> 12.30 p.m. **Theological Reflection Meeting** at St Peter's, Dalbeattie. The speaker will be the Revd Dr Ewan Kelly. (see page 7.)
- September 15<sup>th</sup> 12 noon **Mothers' Union** at St Ninian's (see page 13)

### Dates for your diary

- October 4<sup>th</sup> 10.30 a.m. **Harvest Festival** Christ Church, Dalbeattie. Donations for Food Bank.
- 3.00 p.m. A Service to launch the **Scottish Episcopal Institute** will take place in **St Ninian's Cathedral, Perth**.
- October 24<sup>th</sup> 10.00 a.m. **Fill those Pews**; see page 7 for more details
- November 7<sup>th</sup> 10.00 a.m. **Christ Church Winter Sale** at Dalbeattie Town Hall.
- November 9<sup>th</sup> 7 p.m. for 7.30 p.m. **Figures in Anglican Thought**; Bishop Gregor's Lecture at St Ninian's, Castle Douglas.
- December 5<sup>th</sup> 10.30 a.m.-3.00 p.m. **Advent Quiet Day** at St Ninian's, Castle Douglas; details to follow

### Healing Blankets

Jane Greenwood

Over the last few months we have been given many blankets from the stock held by **St Ninian's Mother's Union**. They are now running out of stock so **PLEASE CAN YOU HELP** by knitting or crocheting squares. The squares need to be 6x6 inches; the finished blanket being 36x36 inches plus edging. There is a box of wool at the back of the church please help yourselves. Donations of wool and/or ribbons will be gratefully received.

Both St Ninian's and Christ Church receive positive feedback from recipients. The blankets have a prayer enclosed; and are blessed in Church. They are for anyone to have for friends, family or themselves.

## Groups and Activities

### Chat and Craft Group

**12 Park Terrace, Dbt**                      2.00 p.m.              Monthly on Second Thursday  
Contact person: Jane Greenwood      01556 611144

### Hard of Hearing Group

**Church Hall**                      10.30 a.m. - 12.30 p.m.              Monthly on Second Tuesday  
Contact person: Mrs Jenny Edkins      01556 611740

### House Groups (Ecumenical)

**Islecroft House**                      10.30 a.m. - 12 noon              Monday every other week  
Contact person: Revd Beryl Scott      01556 610283

**Strontian**                      1.45 p.m.                      First Tuesday in the month  
Contact person: Mr Brian Woodburn      01556 610519

**Struanlea**                      12 noon - 2.00 p.m.              First Thursday in the month  
Contact person: Mrs Edith Thorp      01556 610816

### Julian Group (Ecumenical)

**Savat**                      2.30 p.m. - 4.30 p.m.              Last Tuesday in the month  
Contact person: Mrs Sue Thomas      01556 612863

**The Balliol Consort Concert held at Christ Church on the 5th May, raised the sum of £398 for the Tower Fund.. Thanks again to all concerned.**



This is additional STOP PRESS material for the on-line edition of the Magazine.

Most of our readers know that Sue created the image of Christ Church that is used on the front of our magazine. She also creates many of our Christ Church posters; the latest one can be seen at page 14.

Sue is also responsible for the design and maintenance of our Church website.

## Who's Who

Interim Priest-in-Charge	Revd Canon David Bayne	01556 503818
Clergy	Revd Beryl Scott	01556 610283
	Revd Mark Smith	01387
Diocesan Reader Emeritus	Mr. Brian Woodburn	01556 610519
Lay Representative/ Munches Park Co-ordinator	Mrs. Edith Thorp	01556 610816
Alternate Lay Representative	Mr Stephen Gaukroger	01556 610819
Honorary Musical Director/ Organist	Mrs Margaret Kelt	
Honorary Secretary	Mr Anthony Duncalf	01556 612322
Honorary Treasurer (Interim)/ Gift Aid/Free Offering Recorder (envelopes)	Mr Alfred Thorp	01556 610816
Rector's Warden/Health & Safety Co-ordinator	Dr. Keith Dennison	01556 630413
People's Warden	Mr. George Sims	01556 612069
Protection of Vulnerable Groups Co-ordinator	Mrs Helen Stephens	01556 610627
Vestry Members	Rector's Warden (Lay Chair) Lay Representative Alternate Lay Representative People's Warden	
Elected Vestry Members	Mrs Robin Charlton	01556 630265
	Mr Anthony Duncalf	01556 612322
	Mrs Jenny Edkins	01556 611740
	Mrs Llyn Glendinning	01556 610676
	Mrs Helen Stephens	01556 610627
	Mrs Sue Thomas	01556 612863
Property Working Group	Canon David Bayne, Dr Keith Dennison, Mr Stephen Gaukroger, Mrs Sue Thomas and Mr Alfred Thorp	
Bible Reading Fellowship	Dr Keith Dennison	01556 630413
Brass & Vestry Cleaning Group	Mrs Robin Charlton	01556 630265
Chat & Craft Co-ordinator	Mrs Jane Greenwood	01556 611144
Church Flowers Co-ordinator	Mrs Julie Dennison	01556 630413
Gardening Co-ordinator	Mrs Julie Dennison	01556 630413
Hospital Emergency Bags	Mrs Jenny Edkins	01556 611740
Link Visiting Co-ordinator	Revd Beryl Scott	01556 610283
Magazine Editor	Mrs Muriel Palmer	01556 630314
Reader Co-ordinator	Mrs Julie Dennison	01556 630413

Christ Church, Blair Street, Dalbeattie, Kirkcudbrightshire

Scottish Charity Number SC010918

[www.christchurchdalbeattie.wordpress.co.uk](http://www.christchurchdalbeattie.wordpress.co.uk) Christ Church has a Facebook page