

SCOTTISH EPISCOPAL CHURCH

DIOCESE OF GLASGOW & GALLOWAY

CHRIST CHURCH, DALBEATTIE



ISSUE N° 15

AUGUST 2016

What's On in August at Christ Church and District

- Saturday, July 30th Saturday, August 6th Daily from 10.30 a.m. - 5.00 p.m.
Kippford Painters' Exhibition, Village Hall, Kippford
- Monday, 1st **10.30 a.m. Study Group** at Islecroft House
- Tuesday, 2nd **11.00 a.m. Holy Communion at Barlochan Care Home**
12 noon. TAG meeting at 3 Blair Street, Dalbeattie
- Wednesday, 3rd **2-4 p.m.** Musical Minds at the Church Centre, Craignair Street, Dalbeattie.
 Contact: Norman Kennedy 01556 610650
- Thursday, 4th **10.00 a.m. Holy Communion**
12.00 noon House Group at Struanlea
- Friday, 5th **7.30 p.m.** A presentation of **photographs and stories of old Colvend, Southwick and Kirkbean** from the 1890's through to the 1940's; at Colvend Public Hall.
 Entrance by ticket only; tickets may be acquired at the Colvend Shop or through James Gatherer on 01556 630255; jamesgatherer@btinternet.com
- Sunday, 7th 8.30 a.m. Holy Communion**
10.30 a.m. Sung Eucharist
2.30 p.m. CIVIC PRAZE Dalbeattie Churches Together; at the Band Stand, Colliston Park, Dalbeattie
- Monday, 8th 8.00 p.m. **QUIZ NIGHT** at the Kings Arms Hotel for the Civic Week Shield
- Tuesday, 9th 10.00 a.m. - 12 noon **Hard of Hearing Drop-In Clinic** in the Church Hall
 7.30 for 8 pm **PRIZE BINGO** in the Town Hall
- Wednesday, 10th 6.30-8.30 p.m. **THE ROAD RUNNER** in the Day Centre Hall
- Thursday, 11th **10.00 a.m. Holy Communion**
 1.00 p.m. **Colvend, Southwick & Kirkbean Parish Sale** at Colvend Village Hall.
 For more information visit their website.
 6.30 for 7 p.m. **CHILDREN'S FUN RUN** Colliston Park
- Friday, 12th 2 p.m. The Dunmuir Veterinary Group **Children's Pet Show** Colliston Park
 7.30 p.m. **MOVIE NIGHT** at the Birchvale Theatre
South Pacific sing-a-long version
- Sunday, 14th 10.30 a.m. Sung Eucharist**
6.00 p.m. Evensong at St Ninian's, Castle Douglas
- Monday, 15th 10.30 a.m. Study Group at Islecroft House
- Tuesday, 16th **3-5 p.m.** Pam & Matthew Pumphrey will host a **Garden Tea** at their home
 Clonyard Farm. Donations for Christ Church, Dalbeattie
- Thursday, 18th **10.00 a.m. Holy Communion**
- Sunday, 21st 10.30 a.m. Sung Eucharist**
2.00 p.m. Service at Munches Care Home, Dalbeattie
- Wednesday, 24th 3-5 p.m.** the Chat & Craft Group will host a **Garden Tea** at the home
 of Muriel & Nicholas; Hestan Burn, Rockcliffe. Donations for Christ Church, Dalbeattie
5.15 p.m. for 6.00 p.m. Galloway Regional Council Meeting at St Ninian's, Castle Douglas.
- Thursday, 25th **10.00 a.m. Holy Communion**
- Saturday 27th 10 a.m.-2 p.m. Colvend Farmer's Market & Produce at Colvend Public Hall
- Sunday, 28th 10.30 a.m. Sung Eucharist**
- Tuesday, 30th **2.30 p.m. Julian Group** at Savat

A message from our Rector Canon David Bayne

Dear Friends

In the wake of the EU referendum result our country is in the midst of its deepest political crisis since the Suez disaster of 1956-7 that sounded the death-knell of the British empire. Both the governing and opposition parties are in disarray, and those who engineered the “out” vote are walking away from their responsibilities. We are beginning to see glimpses of the economic consequences of political failure. There is no plan or policy for the UK’s future, and the expectations of the “leave” constituency on the neuralgic points of immigration and the health service have already been dashed—leaving them, I suspect, even more angry and alienated from the political and financial élites.

That perception, that the people don’t matter to their rulers—who are seen as being interested in only their own aggrandisement and enrichment, rather than the common good—is taking root, not just in the UK but throughout the western world. A toxic brew of anger, frustration and alienation is bubbling up into a determination to sabotage the establishment. In consequence, the broadly-liberal, democratic, regulated capitalism that has been our political settlement, arguably since the Enlightenment and certainly for a century, is under pressure from an assortment of right- and left-wing nationalists, populists and snake-oil salesmen, peddling simplistic solutions to the gargantuan socio-economic issues of the 21st century. In the UK the presenting issues are still the Iraq war, the banking crisis and the EU, with a side-dish of immigration, the NHS and the quarter-century civil war in the Conservative party—and the EU was the available target on June 23rd.

So is the Christian religion able to address helpfully these besetting issues of our time? I believe so. And I believe our best approach may be through St. Paul’s “higher gifts” in 1 Corinthians 13 - faith, hope, and charity—not least because almost anyone who has ever been to a wedding will have heard the text.

Charity, from the Latin, *caritas*, is the love expressed in Jesus’ New Commandment: **“Love one another, as I have loved you.”** It challenges Christians to see the Christ in others. For non-Christians charity may perhaps be represented as a call to respect the humanity of others.

Hope is a defining characteristic of Christians. We see the endless possibilities of new life in Christ who, in the ultimate act of charity, freed us from our “fallen” nature to fulfil our true destiny through “the glorious liberty of the children of God.” If we can come to recognise that we are all God’s children—in the old Scots phrase, **“a’ Jock Tamson’s bairns”** - then there is indeed hope for humanity.

Pace St. Paul, I think **faith** is the Christian gift most needed by the modern world. I don't mean the endless and fruitless determination of the world's religions to re-make God in their own image. Too many ruthless men, over too many centuries, have annexed the faith of others to their own ambition and, by a transference I have never understood, it's God who gets the blame. Rather, I mean the common human understanding, at a much deeper level, of a divine Creator whose purposes for humanity are good and who made us for good.

The ancient Israelite Proverb (29.18) says, "**where there is no vision the people perish.**" That's as true today as 3000 years ago, and I believe that our faith in God as enfleshed by Jesus and expressed above by Paul gives us a manifesto for a world that rises above its politics and religions to offer nothing less than humanity's salvation from itself. In the words of Michael Forster's best hymn:

"We work with our Creator to keep the vision bright;
in places of oppression we call for freedom's light:
a glorious new beginning, a universe at peace,
where justice flows like fountains, and praises never cease."



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A message from our Honorary Assistant Revd Mark Smith

AUGUST starts with the Annual Civic Daze celebrations in Dalbeattie.

Churches Together in Dalbeattie are holding **Civic Praise** at the bandstand in the park following the town Pipe Band on Sunday 7th from 2pm – join us if you can. We have well-known tunes, favourite hymns, new songs and a chance to hear what the Churches are all about.

After that there are all sorts of opportunities to take part in events celebrating life in Dalbeattie.

The holiday season is often busier than we would like so it is good to slip in some fun celebrations together.

Too often in the past, it was believed that God didn't want people to enjoy themselves and celebrate life – Church seemed stuffy and straight-laced and Christians po-faced. Let me reassure you, however, that Jesus Himself wants people to have life in all its fullness, including celebrating the good things together – He even changed water into wine to

ensure that a wedding party could continue!

Whatever you do this summer, try to make it a celebration of all the good things that we have – family, friends, food, fun. And don't be ashamed to enjoy yourself – it's what God wants for us. Why not include Him in your celebrations?

As I write this we are preparing for the Summer Fete and I don't know the financial outcome, but I would like to thank all those who have put so much effort into the occasion. I know that all who attend will feel welcome and sense the joyful, friendly atmosphere. The Summer Fete is a fun (!) way to share **Good News** with others by being **Good News** and I pray that our visitors will feel that they have come near to Jesus in some way.

I would also take this opportunity to pass on thanks to the congregation from two families who have recently been touched by us being **Good News**: Firstly, Sophie and James and all Eilidh's family and friends who appreciated the warm welcome and friendly atmosphere for her baptism. Secondly, the family of Freda (a close friend of Debbie's Mum) who died of cancer last month – she had clung to the Healing Blanket that was passed to her in her last weeks and was buried with it in her arms.

Finally (for now) I would thank all who helped make Brian and Elizabeth's last Sunday with us so special. It was good to have such a warm service and enjoy their company over a cup of tea, lots of cake, some favourite tunes and a lot of blether! We wish them well in their move and in settling into life in Leyland together.

May God Bless you

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News from Christ Church

Christ Church Retreat 2016 - 27th-30th June; please turn to pages 10 & 11 for an account of the Retreat.

Ordinary Meeting of the Vestry held on 11th July 2016

The Tower: tenders have been received by the Diocesan Architect. Canon Bayne is investigating sources of funding. Until funding is offered the work cannot start.

MAP: we have received the MAP document from our facilitator, Anne McWilliam. Before returning it to Anne a few small alterations need to be made. The MAP Group has this in hand.

Harvest: this year's Harvest Festival will be celebrated on Sunday 25th September. It is planned that the Church be open on the Saturday afternoon and that invitations to the people of Dalbeattie are made. Light refreshments will be available in the Hall. A Harvest Lunch after the Sunday Service is also being planned. A Harvest Banner is to be ordered.

An away day for the Congregation is being planned by Canon David Bayne; the facilitator will be Canon Drew Sheridan. It is hoped to arrange this in the Autumn. Details to follow.

Bishop Gregor: is to visit Christ Church sometime in the autumn. Details to follow.

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Sea Sunday, July 10 the retiring collection for the Mission to Seafarers has been sent by special delivery to the Mission. As it was sent in sealed envelopes the total donated is not known. The loose donations were put into envelopes.

News from Dalbeattie & District Churches Together:

Anthony Duncalf reports:. **Civic Praz** is happening again this year - Sunday 7th August in Colliston Park. The Galloway Pipe Band will be playing from 2pm, with the service itself starting at 2.30pm. Teas and Coffees will be served after the service.

We are looking for keen singers to join a combined churches Choir. The choir will be led by Rory McLatchie from the Parish Church. Some great classic hymns plus a couple of more modern worship songs including ***Bless the Lord*** by Matt Redman will be part of the programme.

Jane Greenwood reports: The **Churches Together Food Bank** has been exceptionally busy for several weeks now and stocks are running low. In fact critically short in almost everything. Could you please try to donate some food to help alleviate the shortage. Please ensure at least six months before sell by dates clearly indicated on each item.

News from the Region

A new rector, the Revd Stephen Hazlett, has been appointed for the joint charge of Greyfriars, Kirkcudbright and St Mary's, Gatehouse of Fleet. His induction will take place on Friday, 29th September.

The next **Galloway Regional Meeting** will be held on **Wednesday, 24th August**; 5.15 p.m. for 6.00 p.m. at St Ninian's, Castle Douglas.

Celebrations and Happy Days

(Not quite) a Family Wedding

Sue Thomas writes



“On the 21st June, while my daughter Rachel, her partner John and their son Patrick were holidaying in Orkney they were married. The service was performed by the Registrar and their witnesses were two lady carers from the local Care Home. It was, Rachel tells me, a very romantic occasion and everyone involved agreed. They had booked their holiday accommodation (and the Registrar) in advance and were staying in a converted church in South Ronaldsay - previously St Peter’s Chapel of Ease (Church of Scotland) but always known colloquially as Herston Hall. The real joy of the occasion was that the ceremony actually took place in the Hall so Rachel did walk down the ‘aisle’, even though they didn’t know this would be the case until they arrived in Orkney and at the

Registrar’s suggestion were told that the law allows for weddings to take place anywhere, anytime.

Not being ones for fuss they kept the whole proceeding secret until their return. What wise souls they are to do things their own way and not be swept up in society’s need for big occasions. And Rachel has always been very good at playing her cards close to her chest! All of us were delighted with their news and wish them every happiness in their continuing life together.”

On Sunday 26th June, Muriel and Nicholas Palmer joined Muriel’s sister, Margaret, and her brother-in-law, Bob, and four friends at Mabie House Hotel for a celebratory lunch to mark the occasion of Margaret & Bob’s **Golden Wedding Anniversary** on the **25th June**. The celebration on the day itself was with their daughter, Joanne, and family who live in Dunblane.

Thanks to Jane & Geoff Greenwood for sharing the happy occasion of their daughter's wedding with us.

On Friday 1st July at Skipton Registry office their daughter Sarah married Nick. The weather managed to keep fine. Mum (Beryl D) made a lovely table flower arrangement which matched with bride's flowers. The couple have gone to The Lakes for a fortnight's honeymoon.



Back Row L-R: Jonah, Sarah, Nick, Megan, Geoff, Jane
Front Row: L-R Best Man Ben (Sarah & Nick's son)
Flower girl Beau Sarah's granddaughter



Ben watching VERY carefully the cutting of the Cake!!

On Thursday, 14th July, Marion Gardner's parents - **Anne & Erle Gardner** - celebrated their **Diamond Wedding Anniversary**.

On the 16th July, Alfred and Edith Thorp went to the wedding of Edith's cousin's youngest son, in the church at Great Bedworth, where their mutual ancestor had been perpetual curate in the 18/19th century.*

The eldest brother was best man, the middle brother, who is a Free Church minister, preached on St Paul's letter on 'love' - *a love letter from Jesus to the couple*; love is an action; he finished by using the result of love like this: *Daniel, love is kind, Louise, love does not envy, Daniel, love does not boast, Louise, love is not proud, and so on, was his message to the couple.*

The vicar said later that it had been the best wedding he had been to. It was a great and happy day.

*In the February/March 2016 edition of our magazine Edith wrote an article about the perpetual curate. Copies can be requested or visit the Church website.



The Wedding at Great Bedworth

Have you a Happy Day you would like to share with our reader?

Milestone Birthdays, Weddings and Anniversaries.

The Kirkcudbright Philatelic Society was founded in 1966; it has a membership of 30, with an average attendance of 20. Earlier this year celebrations were held to mark the Society's 50th anniversary. It meets on the second Friday of the month from September to May in the **RC Church Hall, Kirkcudbright** from **7.30-9.30 p.m.** The meetings consist of displays by either members on their specialist subject or by visiting speakers.

We are a philatelic society so we study all aspects of stamp collecting. The stamp itself, country, manufacture, postal rates, airmail, postal history, or using the stamp and its usage in a thematic way as in birds, opera, or a person like David Livingstone.

The Society organises and circulates a 'packet' where members can sell and buy material for their collection.

The Society is also involved in the wider national scene. It has in the past hosted the Scottish Annual Congress in Perth and travelled to London as a group to the International Exhibition in 2010.

The object of the Society is to promote all aspects of philately, whether at the simplest level or collecting at its most advanced stages. Everyone's collecting is of interest, as that is what interests that particular person.

I asked my fellow retreatants for a couple of sentences about the retreat so that I could add a report to the magazine. Alfred, Edith and I did that but Keith and Beryl have written several sentences which I have decided should be included. Muriel

A few thoughts on Cumbrae from Keith

There is always a feeling of excitement taking the short ferry trip from Largs to Cumbrae. Then there is the brief trip to Millport, the only town on the island, curving around the attractive hilly bay on the south coast.

As soon as you approach Millport you can see the spire of Britain's smallest cathedral, the **Cathedral of the Isles**. There is a sense of inner peace and calm as you enter the cathedral grounds, built in 1851 to a design by William Butterfield who was a leading Gothic revival architect of the day. What an achievement and a perpetual endowment to future Christians.

Julie and I love the ambience of the whole place. It is wonderful for a few days to be away from the telephone, from television and the internet. Then you can truly be inspired by the talks and the many, many books available in the library. There is the gift of time to think and in silence come to terms with your inner self and feel closer to God.

Our pilgrimage this year was no exception to these many thoughts. We had all of the things already mentioned accompanied by six wonderful cameo lectures and a final discussion and appraisal on the final day of our stay.

Just before we left the island on the final day Muriel, Beryl and Julie and I drove to the highest point on the island and surveyed the scenery and view from the Glaidstone. As we stood there listening to the skylarks and being overwhelmed by the view of the Firth of Clyde, we contemplated the beauty of nature and all that we are blessed with from God.

So refreshed, we caught the ferry back to Largs and drove home filled with everlasting memories.

Beryl writes:

We have experienced many wonderful retreats on Cumbrae for many years now. Each Retreat leader has provided us with sessions throughout the two full days as a basis for our own quiet times of meditation, and we have enjoyed and benefited from them all.

Our retreat leader this year was Canon David Bayne and at each session we concentrated on how Christianity developed from its basis in Judaism and looked at the way Jesus fulfilled the Old Testament prophecies as the one who would come to save Israel. We began by looking at Jesus as messiah, priest, prophet and suffering servant. We continued by hearing about the changes, arguments, heretics and

different beliefs about Jesus, as both man and God, over the next four centuries.

This was of special interest to me reminding me of two of my choice subjects, Judaism and the first 400 centuries of Christianity, during my ordination studies. As well as quiet times and study, we were uplifted by our services of the Daily Office and Holy Communion. With picnic lunches and a free afternoon we enjoyed the beautiful scenery of Cumbrae in spite of some inclement weather. We thank David for giving up his time and providing such interesting sessions and allowing us time on Thursday to discuss all aspects of our retreat.



Standing L-R: Alfred, Muriel, Julie, Edith, Canon Bayne, Beryl, Keith, Pat & Paul
Sitting L-R Judi, Glenis and Jim (Thanks to Paul for the photograph.)

Alfred *Stimulating and thought provoking.*

Edith *A space to 'be', under the guidance of our Rector - David Bayne. The in-between silence was such a relief from thinking/talking!*

Muriel: *An excellent programme of talks from David; a good mix of retreatants. I came back both spiritually and physically refreshed.*

For more information about the **Cathedral of the Isles** and the **College of the Holy Spirit** visit their website.

CHRIST CHURCH SUMMER FETE

In the paper copy pages 12/13 are presented as a two-page spread; this is not possible here. MP

Christ Church Summer Sale

The magnificent total of £1,650 was raised yesterday which together with a donation of £50 takes the total to £1,700; this is a very welcome and needful contribution to the running costs of our Church. The Editors thank Ron & Sue for the photographs.

Especial thanks go to our Convenor, Jane Greenwood; who managed through hard work to raise more money than at the Plant Sale 2016; maybe she can do a hat-trick and exceed this total at the Winter Bazaar. (Put the date in your diary - Saturday 29th October.)

Jane wishes to give many, many thanks to all the helpers, the people who donated things for us to sell and to the Revd Mark Smith for being with us and for mingling with the visitors and last, but not least, a big thank you to all our visitors who contributed to the financial success and creating the friendly atmosphere. We were so lucky with the weather; it poured down the night before and all day Thursday. Thank you God.



Debbie asks 'Cake anyone?'



The Revd Mark is looking for the winner!



Ruth 'manning' the Vintage Stall



The 'T Team' Alfred, Jenny, Keith & Julie



Geoff & Celia ask 'Who will buy our beautiful plants?'



Jenni and Jim waiting for customers for the Jam Jar Tombola



Three of our 'Crafty Ladies' Beryl, Ruby & Miranda the fourth 'Crafty Lady,' Jane managed to avoid the camera!



Maggie & Ian smile for the camera; Jenny is checking her raffle tickets! I wonder if she won anything.



Graham our friendly book-seller

SURELY NOT IN MY CHURCH

PVG Training Day, - Castle Douglas - 24th May 2016 - Helen Stephens reports:

Edith and I journeyed off to the Training Day which was run by the Provincial PVG Officer, Donald Urquhart, and his assistant Daphne Audsley.

We noticed on arrival, with pleasure, that Bishop Gregor was in attendance and he participated quite a bit in our discussions, this subject being one which he indicated is one of his concerns when carrying out his pastoral ministry.

However, the training day, whilst touching on the safety of young children in our churches, was mainly about domestic violence/abuse which has now gained major focus. Donald Urquhart is a retired police officer and he had prepared for us statistics from Police (Scotland) records for 2011/12. Apparently there were reports of over 60,000 incidents of domestic abuse over that period. A third of 1,395 young people aged between 14 and 18 thought that using violence in an intimate relationship was acceptable under certain circumstances. The same study found that 17% of young women had experienced violence or abuse in their own relationship with a boyfriend; 37% of pupils in one secondary school in Scotland disclosed anonymously that they were currently experiencing or living with domestic abuse. A selection from the following headings put domestic abuse into a church context.

- all forms of abuse are irreconcilable with the Christian faith;
- faith & scripture cannot be used to justify violence against women;
- Christian victims face the same hurdles as do other victims but they also have religious or biblical concerns;
- domestic abuse is rarely discussed in church communities;
- domestic abuse is a CRIME, not a private matter to be kept in the family community

Further:

- males & females possess equal worth - equality within relationships;
- there should be refusal to condone any form of abuse;
- recognition that domestic abuse is as prevalent among Christians as among any other groups;
- 'survivors' may choose anyone they trust to talk to, not necessarily those with pastoral responsibilities.

WHAT NEXT?

What can I do?

- be aware
- provide support
- signpost to other agencies

Whatever you do - **DO SOMETHING - DO NOT IGNORE IT**

Some additional resources are posted on the notice at the back of church but immediate contact can be made by ringing Scottish Domestic Abuse Helpline on **0800 027 1234**

I asked what we should do if, say, we were asked to keep certain matters of abuse confidential, as could often be the case among friends. I was immediately told that under no circumstances could it be kept confidential and that I would be obliged to take further action. Quite daunting.

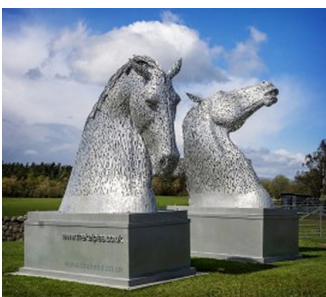
The Training Day overall was useful and informative but could have been structured to make better use of the time available. Another full training day for 'newcomers' to PVG is to be held in September in St. Margaret's Newlands and details will be circulated in due course.

SAINT of the MONTH

Saint Ebba: 25th August

Ebba was sister to St Oswald and Oswi, King of Northumbria. Assisted by Oswi's liberality she founded a nunnery upon the River Darwent in the Bishopric of Durham, which was called Ebchester. She also founded a separate double monastery at Coldingham, which she governed herself until her death in 683.

She is not to be confused with another St Ebba, who lived 200 years later and is famous for an interestingly bizarre incident, about which there will be more in next April's magazine.



Kirkcudbright welcomed the KELPIE MAQUETTES on the 24th July; they will be in the town until the 29th of August. The Kelpies were designed by Andy Scott.

The Revd Beryl Scott writes “**The Islecroft House Group** has been meeting for many years and throughout this time we have studied a number of the books in the Bible. Until recently we have met throughout the year on alternate Mondays at 10.30am. to 12 noon. We have now been asked to meet on the first and third Mondays of each month.

We begin with refreshments and catching up with each other's news, sharing problems, joys and stories. Our studies have varied over the years but mostly guided by books written about the part of the Bible we are studying. For a while now we have used the Right Reverend Tom Wright's ***New Testament Commentaries for Everyone*** but also other commentaries. Tom, once Bishop of Durham, is now a professor in Aberdeen university and considered one of the foremost theological scholars of our time. He has produced books for the whole of the New Testament.

For our study we read the passages slowly and prayerfully each using their own Bibles (this is called Lectio Divina). After reading the commentaries we have a time of discussion each of us usually taking part and adding to our understanding.

We have room for one or two others if anyone would like to join us. Although the New Testament seems to be full of parables and healing, it is clear that Jesus is anxious for his followers to listen and learn about the way God wants us to live. One of his sayings ***'You who have ears listen'.***

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Wednesday, 7th September 3-5 p.m. Beryl Scott & her team will host a **Garden Tea** at her home Islecroft House, Dalbeattie. Donations for Christ Church, Dalbeattie.

Saturday, 11th & Sunday 12th September 10.00 a.m. - 4.00 p.m.

Auchencairn Church Flower Festival

Tuesday, 13th September 12.30 – 2.00 p.m.

Theological Reflection Meeting 'Keeping the Spiritual Light Burning for People with Dementia' a talk by Jenny Henderson – 'Faith in Older People' at the Maxwell Room, St Peter's RC Church, Dalbeattie.

Sunday, 25th September 10.30 a.m. **Christ Church HARVEST FESTIVAL**

Saturday, 29th October 10.00 a.m.-12 noon **Christ Church Winter Bazaar** at Dalbeattie Town Hall.

This quiz has been sent by Alison Coolican. Alison now lives in Old Langho which is only about 20 miles from the Woodburn's new home. Alison says: "This quiz was compiled from one twenty-plus years ago for a Chester Diocese M.U. fund-raising event. It was also used at the Dalbeattie Probus probably 6 or 7 years ago but I don't think anyone remembers it from then. It may be suitable thinking of August being a holiday month - people going to or remembering coastal places in the sun or rain or whatever!"

Coastal towns (G.B.)

- | | |
|--|------------------------------------|
| 1 SPOIL THE ENTRANCE | 11 TWO FACIAL FEATURES |
| 2 DEFINITELY NOT NORTH STARBOARD | 12 FOR A MODERN LOCK |
| 3 ERNIE'S PARTNER | 13 THE SHEEP'S ENTRY |
| 4 THE CATTLEMAN LOST A LETTER | 14 BRIGHTLY COLOURED VEHICLE |
| 5 COME HERE TO ENJOY ONE OF THE ELEMENTS | 15 PATRON SAINT, GOLF & UNIVERSITY |
| 6 PEOPLE'S ROCK | 16 SOUNDS LIKE AN OLD CAR |
| 7 BEEF AND DAIRY ONES | 17 BIRD ERA |
| 8 A COLOURED FRENCH MOUNTAIN | 18 MR. MACDONALD |
| 9 SOUNDS LIKE A PUB GAME | 19 SOUNDS LIKE A SMALL STREAM |
| 10 X ALONGSIDE | 20 A STRONGHOLD FOR A PRINCE |

Answers to the June Quiz ***What's Their Line?***- It was disappointing to have no replies but maybe the quiz above is more your line!

- | | | |
|-----------------|------------------|------------------|
| 1 Toxophilite | 8 Horticulturist | 15 Spelaeologist |
| 2 Apiarist | 9 Ichthyologist | 16 Cembalist |
| 3 Campanologist | 10 Trichologist | 17 Stenographer |
| 4 Ornithologist | 11 Calligrapher | 18 Philatelist |
| 5 Lepidopterist | 12 Hippist | 19 Dendrologist |
| 6 Numismatist | 13 Cartographer | 20 Horologist |
| 7 Odontologist | 14 Thaumaturgist | |

On the 1st August 2016, **the Rev Audrey O'Brien Stewart** will take up her post as Canon Missioner for the Diocese of Glasgow and Galloway. She will also have a role at St Mary's Cathedral, Glasgow.

When my friend, Jenni, told me about receiving a phone call from a Medieval Pilgrim I just had to ask her to write an article ! Muriel Palmer

THE VARIED LIFE OF A SESSION CLERK AND THE STORY OF A MEDIEVAL PILGRIM

Most of you will know me through my work with the **Mission to Seafarers** (sorry couldn't resist a mention; seafarers never to be forgotten) but one of my other hats is as **Session Clerk to Mochrum Kirk** in the Parish of Wigtown and Stranraer, chosen I am sure for my administrative skills rather than for any affiliation to Presbyterianism.

It is a very varied role, preparing rotas for the Elders; writing a report for our own magazine each quarter (no sooner have I written the final sentence when it seems time to start again); ensuring everything is in place for Sunday morning worship and other services, including booking the organist although I would be no help if she didn't turn up as I can't play a note; getting involved in Messy Church even when entertaining children isn't my forte; ordering the wine for the monthly Communion service (I'm convinced Amazon thinks I am an alcoholic); even do the cleaning if the occasion arises, and of course the inevitable minutes, two lots in our case as we have a Board and a Session and which still have to be hand written into a huge ledger as the Church of Scotland moves very slowly into the 21st century.

And so to the story of the **medieval pilgrim**. I am sure that you will have all heard of the '**The Whithorn Way**'; a pilgrimage walk of 127 miles in the footsteps of Saints, Monks and Monarchs split into 12 walking sections varying in length between 9 and 15 miles. Mochrum is at the end of the route from New Luce and the starting point of the final part of the journey, Mochrum to Whithorn and it is not unusual for me to receive a call to say that a group will be passing through and we set about getting the ladies baking and providing refreshments in the Kirk.

This time however I received a call to say that a lone pilgrim would be passing through dressed in appropriate medieval costume and would I meet up with him to sign his 'passport', a document which verifies that he stopped at all the main places and buildings of significance along the route thereby enhancing his pilgrimage experience. Arrangements were made that he should be at Mochrum around 5.00 p.m. and that I would take him home and give him a meal. All well until 5 o/c comes and another phone call to say that he may not now be arriving until around 8.00 p.m. No problem says I salmon fillets only take around 20 minutes to cook and the potatoes are all scraped and sitting awaiting in the saucepan.

Unfortunately phone signals at Mochrum are almost non-existent and so around 7.30p.m. I set off from my home in Port William in case he is there waiting for me and is unable to let me know. 8.15 p.m. comes and still no sign, by which time I am thinking I could have walked from New Luce quicker myself and those residents of Mochrum who are out for a stroll think I'm perfectly deranged when I ask several times if they have seen a medieval pilgrim on their travels. Finally around 9.20 p.m. he arrives, completely exhausted, almost dehydrated and having been lost several times en route travelling around 20 miles longer than he should have done, something very evident when he takes his shoes off at my house and I offer up a tiny prayer that I have 'Febreeze' in the cupboard left over from when my wee kitten first arrived and decided that the dining room carpet was much preferable to the lovely clean dirt tray I had prepared for her. Jim is very relieved to see us home as not having been able to contact me at Mochrum he was sure that I must have been done away with and that he was never going to see me again. By now all thoughts of my cooking the salmon fillets are forgotten and we opt for the much easier option of hot soup and sandwiches.



After several glasses of water and the always welcome cup of tea, and the poor man obviously too tired for polite conversation I take him off to our Manse for the night, which has been empty for around the past three years and in which he tells me he slept the sleep of the unconscious until I picked him up again at 8.30 a.m. the following morning to take him back to Mochrum for the short walk, his words not mine, to Whithorn; but not before he showed me all the very authentic parts of his costume and the letter he had received on behalf of the Pope authorising this pilgrimage. He was a very interesting man who had done a number of such pilgrimages, including the El Camino de Santiago in Northern Spain and we wish him well for whatever he decides to do in the future, and I await to see what next awaits me as Session Clerk of Mochrum Kirk.

Due to lack of space, my planned article about my late husband's time at the Hostel of the Resurrection, whilst reading English at Leeds University, has had to be carried over to the next magazine. MP

Church Archives—Part Four

Verbatim copy of appeal for subscriptions circulated in England 1875

CHRIST CHURCH, DALBEATTIE

Dalbeattie is a small town on the Scottish side of the border, about five miles distant from Castle-Douglas, and forty-five from Carlisle. A large proportion of the population consists of English work people, who, having been attracted to the spot by the great granite works in the vicinity, have now settled there. During the last two years I have been doing my best to meet the spiritual wants of these people, by having regular Church services in the town, with the sanction of the Bishop of the diocese, and under the auspices of the firm Messrs Shearer & Smith. We have service every Sunday evening and as often as practical in the morning as well; and also, on special occasions, during the week. Besides this there is a Sunday School, in which there are upwards of eighty children, a night school, Bible classes, &c.

From the first we have suffered very serious inconvenience from the want of a larger and more suitable place of worship. The only room we could obtain for our purpose is one over some stables, which is used on week days for dancing and other secular purposes; this is very close and uncomfortable, as well as unpleasant on account of its position. But not withstanding all our drawbacks and difficulties, under God's blessing, the work has so far prospered that we have felt justified in taking steps to obtain a church. In August of last year an amateur concert was kindly given for this purpose in Castle-Douglas, by which (after paying all expenses) £40 was cleared; this was followed by a bazaar at the same place, by which £340 was raised. About £470 has been collected in subscriptions sent from all parts of the country -making altogether a total of £850.

The church -a neat commodious edifice -was begun some months ago, and is now approaching completion; but we require an additional £200. I am unable to furnish this myself, and the congregation is far too poor; I therefore earnestly appeal for help. I look with confidence to our brethren for I am sure they cannot be indifferent to the welfare of their fellow-churchmen. None of those to whom this appeal is sent will feel the loss of a few shillings; and yet that small amount will, in the aggregate, be the means of conferring a great boon on the poor congregation of Christ Church, Dalbeattie. May I ask you the enclosed envelope, with *some* donation, however small, even if it is only *a few stamps*?

WALTER MARLOW RAMSAY, B.A.

This is the last of this series from the Archives. Have you any memories of Christ Church 50/70 years ago that you could share with our readers? Mine only go back 4 years! MP

SO LONG, FAREWELL, AUF WIEDERSEHEN, GOODBYE

On Sunday, 24th July we said goodbye to our Lay Reader Emeritus Brian Woodburn and his wife Elizabeth. They have both given of their time to Christ Church. Brian read the Gospel, preached and assisted with the chalice; Elizabeth read one of the lessons. Brian preached a very poignant final sermon, based on the Lord's Prayer, on the importance of letting God change and use us as we pray; ably assisted by GOD (AKA the Revd Mark Smith). The Rector's Warden, Keith Dennison, thanked both Brian & Elizabeth for their years of valued service and wished them well for the future. Brian and Elizabeth both narrowly avoided tears in reflecting on their time with us.



Immediately after the service they were presented with a framed montage to remind them of their time at Christ Church. Then it was off to the hall for tea, coffee and cakes; provided by Elizabeth, Debbie & Muriel.



On Wednesday July 27th it was Brian's last attendance at the Dalbeattie Probus Club. Thanks to Ron Newton for both these photographs; the one to the left is of Brian and the Probus Chairman, Alan Dingle, looking at the photograph and book that Brian was presented with.

Marion Gardner posted the following on the Christ Church Facebook page:

Reflecting on Brian's ministry and Elizabeth's reading yesterday (Sunday) I am aware that today my inner smile is as wide as the world. Let me tell you why - because I am so grateful that my life has been touched by Brian and Elizabeth, whom I met through my Dad's connections with the Dalbeattie Probus Group. Even though you and I know, that it may be a while before we can have a chuckle when Brian's sense of humour enlightens whatever story he is sharing with you, we know that he is taking this inspiration to the depths of his family and to a new parish. Our treasured memories are the seeds of inspiration and just like those from the Sower in the parable they are growing into cherished plants to be enjoyed by our community. I have no doubt that the ground is prepared for Brian & Elizabeth to sprinkle more seeds of inspiration and laughter as they enjoy a new adventure. Namaste.

Groups and Activities

Chat and Craft Group

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

Hard of Hearing Group

Church Hall 10.00 a.m. - 12 noon (see below)
Contact: Mrs Jenny Edkins 01556 611744

Dates for the Dalbeattie Drop-In Hard of Hearing Clinic in 2016

<u>Tuesday August 9th</u>	Tuesday November 8th	<u>Tea, coffee, biscuits</u>
Tuesday September 13th	Tuesday December 13th	<u>and chat provided.</u>
Tuesday October 11th		

House Groups (Ecumenical)

3 Blair Street 1.45 p.m. First Tuesday in the month
Contact: Graham & Miranda Brignall 01556 610409

Islecroft House 10.30 a.m. – 12 noon First and third Monday of the month

Contact: Revd Beryl Scott 01556 610283 (see page 16)

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

Julian Group (Ecumenical)

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

Despite Brian and Elizabeth Woodburn moving on to the next stage in their journey through life, the **Tuesday Afternoon Group** (TAG) have determined they will continue in much the same format as before but, for the foreseeable future, under the nominal leadership of Graham and Miranda Brignall. Brian and Elizabeth have run the group for more than 15 years and have established a friendly, relaxed group whose members are encouraged to lead meetings on a rota basis, discussing topics on a wide variety of subjects of their own choosing; these are not always Bible-cased, though we do look for biblical references as much as we can. They have done a sterling job and will be sadly missed; naturally we wish them well.

From the Editorial Team

The Team can be contacted:

Miranda Brignall g.brignall14@btinternet.com

Muriel Palmer muriel.a.palmer@gmail.com

In the last magazine the Revd Beryl Scott's article about a Woodland Burial was reprinted. Since going to print we have learnt that the late Cecil Grange lived at what is now the Dental Surgery. Beryl says she remembers the service every time she visits the Dentist.

We are grateful to Alison Coolican for this month's quiz. Have you a quiz or puzzle you could share with our readers? If, so, please send to Miranda or Muriel by e-mail if possible. Written copies can be left at the back of the Church in an envelope marked Miranda Brignall or Muriel Palmer. Thank you.

The cut-off date for articles for the next magazine is **Friday, 19th August**.

Graham & Miranda Brignall wish to give especial thanks to Jane Greenwood, her husband Geoff; and her parents Beryl & Eric Dowgill for all their hard work in ensuring that the Summer Fete was such a resounding success. They went more than an extra mile as they went as far as New Abbey to display the Fete Posters. I echo these thanks as I am sure we all do. MP

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For more information contact Ron Newton
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e-mail philipronaldnewton36@gmail.com

The double-space to the right would cost
£20; half a page £40.00 per annum

Who's Who at Christ Church

Priest-in-Charge	Revd Canon David Bayne	01556 503818
Honorary Assistant Priest	Revd Mark RS Smith	01387 760263
NSM	Revd Beryl Scott	01556 610283
Lay Representative/ Munches Park Coordinator	Mrs. Edith Thorp	01556 610816
Alternate Lay Rep.	Mr Alfred Thorp	01556 610816
Honorary Musical Director & Organist	Mrs Maggie Kelt	
Honorary Secretary	Mrs Sue Thomas	01556 612863
Treasurer	Mr Mark Parry	
Gift Aid/Free Offering	Mr Alfred Thorp	01556 610816
Recorder (envelopes)		
Rector's Warden & Health & Safety Coordinator	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)	01556 630413
	Lay Representative	01556 610816
	Alternate Lay Representative	01556 610816
	People's Warden	01556 612069
Constituent Vestry Members		
	Mrs Robin Charlton	01556 630265
	Mr Anthony Duncalf	01556 612322
	Mrs Llyn Glendinning	01556 610676
	Mr Ron Newton	01556 611567
	Mrs Helen Stephens	01556 610627
	Mrs Sue Thomas	01556 612863
Property Working Group: Canon David Bayne, Dr Keith Dennison, Mrs Sue Thomas and Mr Alfred Thorp		
Bible Reading Fellowship	Dr Keith Dennison	01556 630413
Brass & Vestry Cleaning Group	Mrs Robin Charlton	01556 630265
Church Flowers Coordinator	Mrs Julie Dennison	01556 630413
Gardening Coordinator	Mrs Julie Dennison	01556 630413
Hard of Hearing Clinic Coordinator	Mrs Jenny Edkins	01556 611740
Magazine Team	Mrs Miranda Brignall	01556 610409
	Mrs Muriel Palmer	01556 630314
Reader Coordinator	Mrs Julie Dennison	01556 630413

Christ Church, Blair Street, Dalbeattie, Kirkcudbrightshire

Scottish Charity Number SC010918

www.christchurchdalbeattie.wordpress.co.uk Christ Church has a Facebook page