

***SCOTTISH EPISCOPAL CHURCH
DIOCESE OF GLASGOW & GALLOWAY***

CHRIST CHURCH, DALBEATTIE



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ISSUE N° 23 - JUNE-AUGUST 2017

AU REVOIR DAVID & ALISON



At the end of June we will be saying goodbye to David and Alison. David has been Rector of St Ninian's, Castle Douglas for the last 18 years, and, for the last 4 years, since the retirement of the Revd Canon Kenneth Stephen, he has been the Interim Priest at Christ Church.

David's last service before his retirement will be on **Sunday 25th June** at **St Ninian's Church**, Castle Douglas. It will be followed by a Buffet Lunch at the Old Manse, Crossmichael. Members of Christ Church are invited to attend; **there will be no service at Christ Church on the 25th**. (There is a list at the back of church- please sign up if you would like to come and also if you need or can offer transport.)

David's final service at Christ Church will be on **Sunday 18th June** and a smaller celebration is planned to be held in the Church Hall.

The Vestry and Congregation thank David for his Ministry to Christ Church and wish him and Alison the very best for a long and happy retirement in the Emerald Isle. Their new address is Adrigole, 2 Waterside Close, Askamore, County Wexford; they will be delighted to hear from us from time to time.

A COUPLE OF PHOTOGRAPHS FROM 2016



Christ Church Retreat 2016

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.)



The signing of MAP year 3; L-R: Canon David Bayne, Edith Thorp, Lay Representative.; Anne McWilliam Facilitator, Sue Thomas, Honorary Secretary and the Revd Mark Smith (Honorary Assistant Priest. (Thanks to Ron Newton for the photograph.)

From the Archives thanks to Helen Stephens for this gem from a Christ Church magazine dated December 2006/January 2007.

TIME FOR A SMILE - remarks by the late Ronald Reagan.

I am reminded of a favourite little story of mine about a career naval officer who finally got his four stripes, became a Captain, and then was given command of a giant battleship.

One night he was out, steaming around the Atlantic when he was called from his quarters to the bridge and told about a signal light in the distance. The Captain told the signalman, 'Signal them to bear to starboard'. Back came the signal from ahead asking - or saying - '**YOU** bear to starboard'. Well, as I say, the Captain was very aware that he was the commander of a battleship, the biggest thing afloat, the pride of the fleet, and he said 'Signal that light again to bear to starboard **NOW**'. And once again, back came the answer 'Bear to starboard yourself'.

Well, the Captain decided to give the unknown counterpart a lesson in sea-going humility; so he said 'Signal them again and tell them to bear to starboard. **I am a battleship**'.

And back came the signal 'Bear to starboard yourself. **I am a lighthouse**'.

NEWS FROM CHRIST CHURCH



The porch is completed. The building of the disabled access is underway and it is hoped that the work will be completed soon. MP

We would like to thank **Anthony Duncalf** for all he has done for Christ Church over the last few years, especially for maintaining our Facebook page. More people outside of the congregation visit our Facebook page than visit our website or read our magazine. We wish Anthony & Joseph happiness in the new life they are planning in their home county of Yorkshire. MP

Bishop Gregor's Lent Appeal 2017: Scottish Refugee Council

Christ Church raised **£769.20** for the Appeal, approximately two-thirds of the money was raised from the Soup Lunches. Many thanks to all friends and visitors who came to support the lunches and to the hosts for providing them.

FOOD BANK-donations are still urgently needed. Please ensure that donations have a minimum shelf-life of 6 months. Jane Greenwood takes our donations to St Peter's Church Dalbeattie; and from there they are taken to Kirkcudbrightshire Churches Together. St Ninian's, Castle Douglas, support their local Food Bank. At the back of both churches there are boxes for donations. Toiletries and household cleaning materials are also needed. Thank you for your continued support. MP

Vision without Action is just a Daydream; Action without Vision is a Nightmare. Anon

The Cross at the Cross

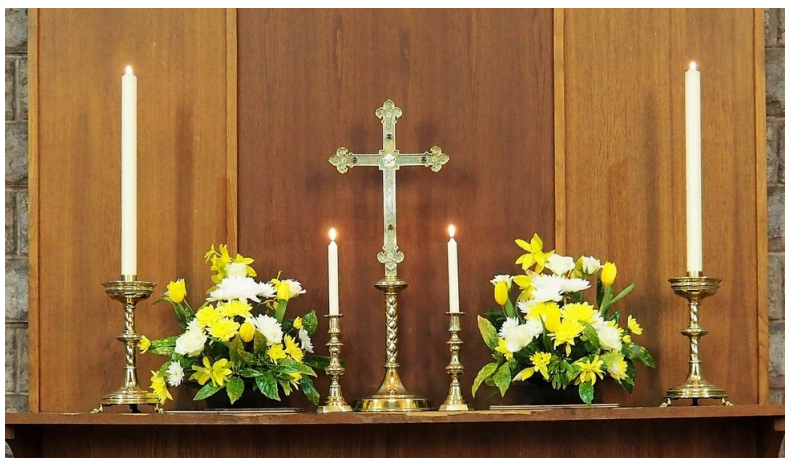
Many people from the Churches in Dalbeattie & District gathered at 12 noon to hold a short open-air service on Good Friday. The service was led by the Revd Mark Smith, Honorary Assistant Priest, Christ Church, Dalbeattie.



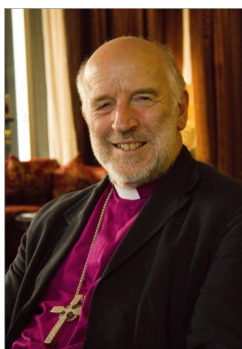
Thanks to Ron Newton for these photographs. Please note the shadow of the Cross on the first photograph. MP

EASTER SUNDAY

Once again the Church was beautifully decorated. It was good to see old friends and family at the service. Thanks to Ron Newton for the photographs.



GALLOWAY REGION ASCENSION DAY SERVICE



The Regional Ascension Day Eucharist is to be celebrated at St Ninian's, Castle Douglas on the **25th May at 12.30pm**. The preacher will be Primus, the Most Revd. David Chillingworth.



We thank God for Bishop Gregor's continuing recovery.

Conversations in the In-Between**26 May-3 June**

Pocket Prayers have been written for each day of this In-Between period.

- 26 May Between Generations
- 27 May Between Seeking and Finding
- 28 May Between Bystander and Game Changer
- 29 May Between Chaos and Courage
- 30 May Between Us Two
- 31 May Between Breaths
- 1 June Between Sunset and Sunrise
- 2 June Between Despair and Thanksgiving
- 3 June Between Endings and Beginnings

Visit website www.thykingdomcome.global for more information

PENTECOST/WHIT SUNDAY**4th June 2017**

Pentecost is celebrated 50 days from **Easter Sunday** (counting inclusive of Easter Sunday itself), i.e. 49 days or 7 weeks *after* Easter Sunday. It is also the tenth day after **Ascension Day**, which itself is 40 days *from* Easter, (counting inclusive of Easter Sunday itself.)

The holy day is also called White Sunday or Whitsunday, especially in the United Kingdom, where traditionally the next day, Whit Monday, was also a public holiday.

WHIT FRIDAY**9th June 2017**

The Whit Walks the traditional "Procession of Witness" has long been celebrated throughout the North West. For many, Whit Friday remains the most important date in the calendar. In 1849, Charlotte Brontë described the Whitsuntide walks as "a joyous scene, and a scene to do good".

Muriel Palmer remembers walking behind the banner of her Church in Rochdale to the Town Hall Square where they met up with other churches in the area to hold a service of witness. Afterwards there was fun and games in St Chad's Vicarage Fields. As a child in Lancashire they did not have Easter Bonnets it was much too cold to discard winter garments but on Whit Friday there was always a new pair of sandals and hair ribbons for the girls.

A WHITSUN RECIPE

This is for a Whitsun cake, found in a newsletter of the parish of Kingsdown, Lynsted and Norton, in Kent.©

Ingredients:

325g/11oz small green gooseberries	175g/6oz butter (softened)
5 heads of elderflower blossom	175g/6oz soft dark brown sugar
225g/8oz plain wholemeal flour	2 large eggs
2 tsp baking powder	

Method:

Top and tail the gooseberries into a mixing bowl.

Carefully strip the elderflowers from the stalks and stir into the gooseberries.

Sift flour and baking powder into a separate bowl.

Dice the butter and rub into the flour until the consistency of bread crumbs.

Stir in sugar and lightly beaten eggs.

Stir in gooseberry mixture.

Line and grease an 8-inch cake tin (preferably loose-bottomed).

Turn cake mixture into the tin and mound it up in the middle.

Bake in a pre-heated oven at 180°C/323°F/Gas 4 for about 90 minutes.

Cool for a few minutes before removing from tin (it will not come away easily from the sides of the tin).

Serve as a pudding with lots of cream.

[www.lynsted.com/Recipes/Cookbook/Whitsun_Cake.html]

Knitting for the Mission to Seafarers - this continues and you are encouraged to knit for this worthy Charity. Patterns, wool and needles can be found at the back of the Church. You can use your own favourite patterns Thank you to all our knitters. MP

The Way Among: Welcome

*When I read the following extract from **People of the Way** I was reminded of what the Revd Canon Drew Sheridan said about the difference between Welcome and Intentional Welcome at the recent Christ Church Away Day. Muriel Palmer*

And if you greet only your brothers and sisters, what more are you doing than others? Do not even the Gentiles do the same? *Matthew 5:47*

Meditation

I receive 'Good morning' and a smile, as a book and a neatly folded sheet of paper are thrust into my hands, before she turns to continue the conversation with someone she knows.

Where do I go? Where can I sit?

I usher myself inside and find a seat that looks safe, away from the eyes of inquisitive stares.

Will I know when to stand and sit, ... or kneel and what to say and sing ... and when?

And afterwards the awkwardness of conversation as one by one they greet me with the same questions then shuffle off, relieved to have done their duty and made their escape.

Outside, the same sign still hangs in pride of place – ALL ARE WELCOME.

And, I wonder ... as I wander homewards.

Morning Prayer

Gracious God, help us to realise that welcome is more than a word: that it runs deeper than a cup of tea and lasts longer than a smile. Help us to see that welcome is a way of being and not a task to be done. Help us to rejoice in the presence of fellow guests in Your house; to see them as companions and not strangers; to hear their stories and see to their needs. Help us to welcome others as You welcome us. Amen

©People of the Way

CHRIST CHURCH PLANT SALE - 6TH MAY 2017

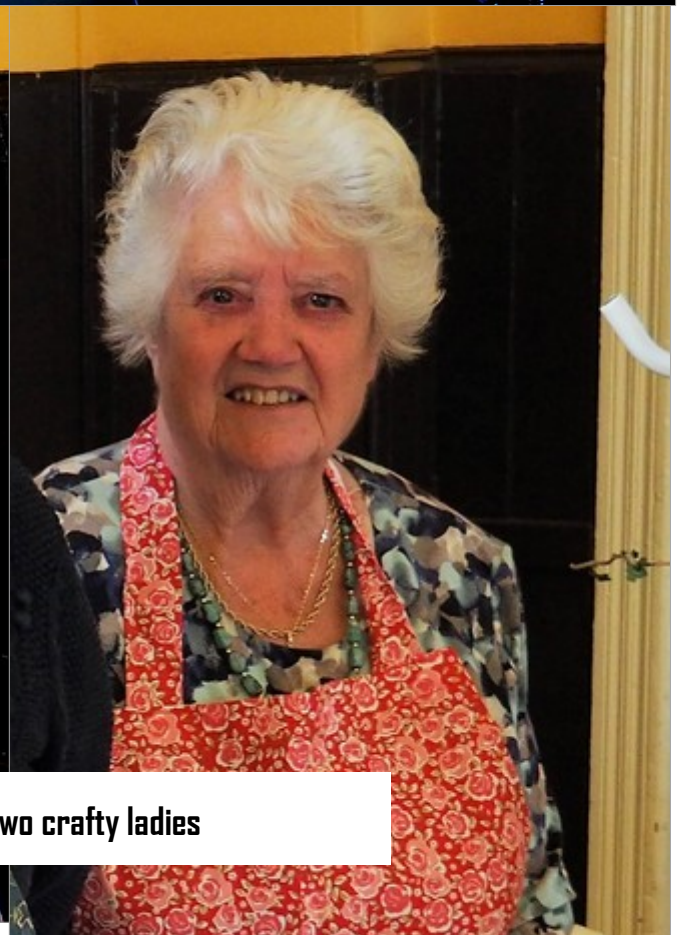
A brilliant morning - over 150 people joined us and enabled the magnificent total of **£1,833.60** to be raised.. What a result, thanks to Jane, our convenor, who has the knack of getting the best out of everybody. Thanks to all the stall-holders for the time they so willingly gave to make the morning such a success. Thanks to Ron Newton for the photographs.



Beryl S at the door



'Tombola' Billy



Beryl D and Ruby - two crafty ladies



The ever popular Plant Stall



Celia



'Vintage' Sue!



'The Tea Ladies' Edith and Jenny



Canon David Bayne announcing the winner



Llyn with the prize

MOTHER'S UNION, ST NINIAN'S, CASTLE DOUGLAS



At the meeting to be held on **Tuesday, 25th April** three volunteers from **Dumfries & Galloway Blood Bikes** came to talk about the Charity that was set up by local volunteers in 2015.

Judith, Vice-Chair, talked about how she got involved and how over the past two years the service has developed. Ffyona is a Controller and Fund Raiser and John is a rider. The star of the show was 'June the Bike'!

As it was so windy and wet the bike was wheeled into the lesser hall.



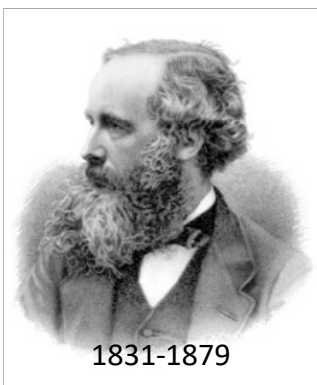
Joy, Jenny and June the Bike

We are used to seeing Joy and Jenny side by side at the piano not side by side on a motorbike!

On the Facebook page of D&G Blood Bikes they write

"Part of a busy week, we gave a talk to Castle Douglas Mother's Union today. After a lovely soup lunch members were told about the charity's work by Judith, Ffyona & John S. The bike was admired by all. Thank you ladies for a very warm reception & your interest in what we do & also for your generous donations."

Visit their website for more information **www.dgbloodbikes.org.uk**



At the open meeting held on the 16th May the speaker was Dr Francis Toolis. His talk was about **James Clerk Maxwell** – The Man who "Changed Everything and was then Forgotten".

Alison Bayne welcomed our speaker and visitors and after prayers, food and fellowship we settled down to listen to Dr Toolis. He gave a most interesting talk about James Clerk Maxwell, a prominent mathematical physicist. He developed formulae governing electricity and magnetism as well as the Maxwell distribution in the kinetic theory of gases (thanks Google). He is buried at Parton Kirk. MP

ANWOTH OLD KIRK

On Wednesday the 10th May I joined old and new friends from All Saints, Challoch Christian Fellowship at Anwoth Old Kirk (with kind permission of the Church of Scotland).

A Eucharist Service was celebrated, by the Rector of the Linked Charges Wigtownshire, the Revd Michael Buchanan Hills. (All Saints', Challoch; St Ninian's, Portpatrick and St John's, Stranraer). The congregation of 15 together with one rector, one dog (or as Michael said there were two dog collars but only one priest!) were blessed with beautiful weather and surrounded by birdsong and the sound of the wind in the trees.

In his sermon Michael recounted the fascinating history of the Revd Samuel Rutherford's time at Anwoth and of his lasting legacy to the Presbyterian Church. After the service we gathered for lunch in Gatehouse of Fleet. A day to remember. **Muriel Palmer**



Michael & Tess @ Gerry Ewan



**Bluebells at Castramon Wood
Gatehouse of Fleet @Ron Newton**

By perseverance the snail reached the ark.

Charles Spurgeon

SAINT OF THE MONTH

Due to change of frequency of the magazine and that there was no May edition; there are four Saints to remember.

Saint Cathan: 17th May

Cathan is another Irish monk who makes it onto our list because of his association with many parts of the Hebrides. Very little is known of him, except that he came to the Isle of Bute in the 6th century and he is normally mentioned in association with his more famous nephew St Blane.

Many churches across the Western Isles were dedicated to St Cathan, among which are the ruins of those on Bute, Colonsay, Gigha and Luìng.

For a time Cathan may have lived at the monastery at Stornoway, on Lewis, and his relics are said to have been housed at a chapel founded by Clan MacLeod on the island.

His name is also connected to Clan Chattan.

Saint Fillan: 20th June

This is another story containing two saints of the same name; in this case they are both of Irish origin. Although the story of one of them is based upon the career of an historic individual, much of the tradition surrounding Fillan seems to be legendary.

St Fillan came to Scotland from Ireland in 717, settling firstly at Loch Duich and then at Pittenweem. He became the abbot of a monastery in Fife before retiring to Glendochart and Strathfillan. Fillan was credited with powers such as the healing of the sick and he also possessed a luminous glow from his left arm, which he used to study and write sacred scriptures in the dark. He is the patron saint of the mentally ill.

According to legend Robert the Bruce requested Fillan's armbone to be brought to the site where the Battle of Bannockburn was to be fought. Only the reliquary was sent, because it was feared the relic would fall into English hands; on the eve of the battle, while Robert was kneeling in prayer, a noise came from the reliquary, the door opened and the bone fell out. Bruce won the battle next day and he established a monastery to thank St Fillan for the victory.

Saint Serf: 1st July

Serf is most likely a legendary figure, though there probably was someone of that name who lived in Fife and who founded Culross. One story relates how he was Pope for 7 years but then left to settle in Scotland, where he met Adomnan, Abbot of Iona, who showed him an island in Loch Leven. Here Serf founded a priory.

He was also said to have been a contemporary of Kentigern (St Mungo as he was to become); when Mungo and his mother landed at Culross they were looked after by Serf, who became foster-father to Mungo. However, Mungo and Adomnan were not contemporaneous, so it is likely that there were two saints by the name of Serf.

Saint Blane: August 10th

Blane was born on the Isle of Bute at an unknown date. He was the nephew of St Cathan, who sent him off to Ireland to be educated. He became a monk, returned to Scotland and eventually became bishop among the Picts. He travelled widely and founded missions in several places, including Perthshire and Aberdeenshire.

Devotion to St Blane was popular in Scotland from early times. His name is particularly associated with Dunblane, where the bell of his monastery on Bute is believed to be preserved and where he founded a chapel which became a place of pilgrimage before, in the 13th century, being transformed into a cathedral. The ruins of a church dedicated to him on the Isle of Bute, built in medieval times on the site of his 6th century monastery, are well preserved.

He died in 590.

SUMMER SALE

Saturday, 29th July Colvend Public Hall 10.00 a.m-12 noon
(The Dalbeattie-Sandyhills Bus (372A) stops at Colvend Public Hall by request.)

**Stalls to include: Grand Raffle; Tombola, Book Stall,
Home Baking & Preserving Stall; Craft Stall**

WINTER BAZAAR

Saturday, 19th November Dalbeattie Town Hall 10 a.m.-12noon
**Stalls to include: Grand Raffle; Tombola, Home Baking & Preserving Stall;
Christmas Craft Stall**

MORE HOLIDAY GEMS

While on holiday recently in Argyle I took midweek communion, along with 9 members of the local congregation, at **St Paul's, Rothesay** (Isle of Bute). The current church is right on the sea-front and was consecrated in 1862, having replaced a wooden church dating from 1853. The architectural style is Victorian gothic-revival and it is built from basalt; there is a steeply-pitched roof. There is a fine collection of stained glass windows, all dating from the early 20th century.

The present rector is the Very Revd Andrew Swift, who is also rector of: Holy Trinity, Dunoon which dates from 1850 and has many fine features, including an ornate stone altar and font, a vaulted chancel and framed nave ceilings.

As tourist numbers to Dunoon increased in the late 19th century the church was extended to admit larger summer congregations. During the time of the United States (US) submarine base at nearby Holy Loch from 1961 to 1992 many Episcopalians from the US Navy worshipped at the church. There is a fine collection of stained glass windows, dating from between 1870 and 1938.

Miranda Brignall



Holy Trinity, Dunoon



St Paul's, Rothesay

Dumfries & Galloway Hard of Hearing Drop-In Clinics

Did you know that you can go to any of the Clinics in the Region? The days and times for the Clinics in the Stewartry are:

Castle Douglas: Bowler's Hall, DG7 1EG 2nd & 4th Thursday every month 2-4pm

Dalbeattie: Christ Church Hall, DG5 4DR 2nd Tuesday every month 10-12noon

Kirkcudbright: Greyfriar's House, DG6 4HZ 3rd Friday of the month 2-4pm

New Galloway: Town Hall, DG7 3RL 1st Tuesday every 2nd month

(start date Oct 16)

Nicholas Palmer, Drop-In Clinic Volunteer

Happy 100th Birthday, Emmie



Beryl & Emmie

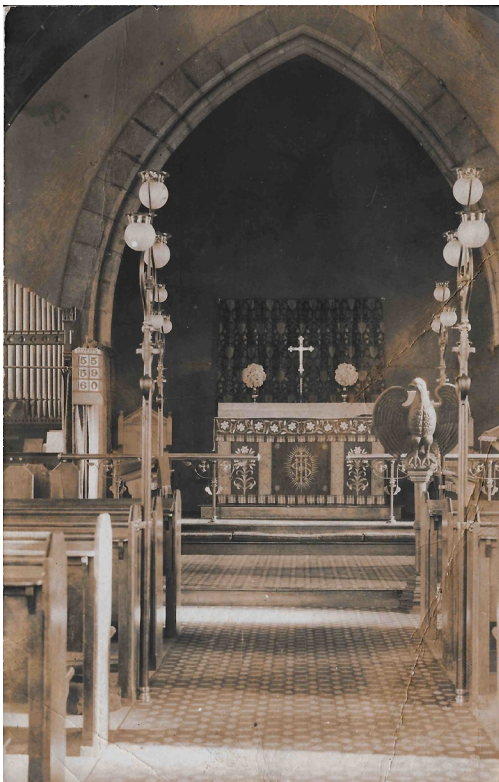


John & Emmie

My Aunt, Emmie Procter, was 100 years old on 3rd May 2017; she is Beryl Dowgill's older sister. Emmie celebrated her birthday at Back Lane Methodist Chapel of which she and her late husband, Frank, had been members from their teens. Her son John and daughter Judith were there with their families. The rest of her extended family and the congregation also joined in the celebrations.

There was of course a birthday card from Her Majesty the Queen which took pride of place on the top table. Well done Emmie !!!

Jane Greenwood



CHRIST CHURCH, DALBEATTIE

Thanks are due to Brian & Elizabeth Woodburn for sharing this postcard of Christ Church Dalbeattie with us.

There is no date on the back. Can you help date it?

It is before the stained glass windows were installed in the 1950s.

The cost of postage was a half-penny for Inland and one penny stamp for Foreign.

The End of an Era ...

As many of you will already know, this edition of the Christ Church Magazine will be the last one edited by Muriel Palmer. She is stepping aside to focus on finishing her book about World War I in time for the Centenary of the ending of hostilities in late 1918.

We have been fortunate to have her at the helm and her drive, determination and tenacity have brought this magazine to where it is today. Many readers comment on the mix of articles between the covers and much of this is due to Muriel's persistence in cajoling contributors to meet deadlines and share their interests for a wider audience. It has resulted in a magazine which members of Christ Church have been glad to share with friends and neighbours as part of our ongoing witness to what God is doing amongst us

The excellent template she has set up and the very high standards she has set are there for all to see. Her commitment in printing and collating the many pages for each edition, ably helped by Nicholas and a stapler, has protected us from the less glamorous, labour-intensive side of producing such a publication.

The overwhelmingly positive response and comments made as part of our recent Magazine Questionnaire show what a good job has been done and our hope is that we can maintain the standard for future editions.

Thank you, Muriel, for your enthusiasm for the project, your skills on the computer and your practical work in getting the magazine out there for us to enjoy and share. We wish you well in your endeavours as your book takes shape and look forward to seeing it in print.

Rev. Mark RS Smith

p.p. Communications Group

Muriel Palmer writes: Thank you Mark for the kind words above.

Tentative plans are in place for the next magazine to be published at the beginning of September, to cover the seasons of Michaelmas, Harvest and Remembrance. Plans are in hand for the printer to be moved from my house to a more central and easily accessible location for the members of the Church.

Contact: Miranda T: 01556 610409; E: g.brignall14@btinternet.com

Ron T: 01556 611567. E: philipronaldnewton36@gmail.com

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Tue, May 30th 12.30 p.m. **Theological Reflection Meeting** at the Maxwell Room, St Peter's. Dalbeattie. The speaker will be the Revd Sarah Moore, Area President of the United Reform Church in North-West England. She will speak about **"God for All, Unity as a tool for Discipleship"**.

Sat, Jun 17th 7.30 p.m. **The Kings Grange Singers** from Castle Douglas will be at **Colvend Church**. Proceeds in aid of Church Funds. Tickets will be available nearer the time.

Sun, Jul 9th 2-5pm **Scotland Open Garden**
Drumstinchall House & Drumstinchall Cottage

Sat, Jul 29th **Christ Church Summer Sale** see page 15

Thu, Aug 10th 1.30 p.m. **Colvend, Southwick and Kirkbean Parish Annual Sale**
at the Colvend Public Hall

Sun, Aug 20th tbc **Ecumenical Service at Dundrennan**
Details to follow.

Sat, Sep 2nd **Pilgrimage to Whithorn and St Ninian's Cave**
The Development Team for Prayer and Spirituality is organising this event. Details to follow.



HOW COME THE WAITRESS GETS 15% AND GOD ONLY GETS 10%?

Have you a cartoon, joke or something for a bottom of a page filler?

If you have please send the details to Miranda.

Could you be the CC magazine Gardening Reporter?

Could you be the CC magazine Cookery Reporter?

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 Representative	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 Recorder (envelopes)	Mr Alfred Thorp	01556 610816
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
	Mrs Llyn Glendinning	01556 610676
	Mr Ron Newton	01556 611567
	Mrs Helen Stephens	01556 610627
	Mrs Sue Thomas	01556 612863
	vacancy	
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
Chat & Craft Group	Mrs Jane Greenwood	01556 611144
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
	Mr Ron Newton	01556 611567
Reader Coordinator	Mrs Julie Dennison	01556 630413