

*Christ Church is part of the  
Diocese of Glasgow and Galloway  
of the Scottish Episcopal Church,  
part of the worldwide Anglican Communion  
and a member of Dalbeattie Churches Together*

[www.christchurchdalbeattie.wordpress.com](http://www.christchurchdalbeattie.wordpress.com)



published by  
Christ Church, Blair Street, Dalbeattie, Kirkcudbrightshire  
Scottish Charity Number SC010918

# **Christ Church News** ***Summer***



**AD2018**

**Issue No. 28**

# What goes on at Christ Church ?

## **Regular Worship (Holy Communion):**

EVERY SUNDAY 10.30am  
EVERY THURSDAY 10.00am

## **Regular Groups and Activities:**

### **M.A.B. (Monday at Beryl's) Group**

begins with a cuppa and catch-up, then prayer followed by a Bible study looking at fresh perspectives from various resources.

*Alternate Mondays, 10.30am at Islecroft House, Mill St.*

CONTACT: Beryl Scott on 610283

### **T.A.G. (Tuesday Afternoon Group)**

choose a theme and study the ways the Bible covers the topic ... with tea and fellowship thrown in!

*First Tuesday of month, 1.30pm (usually) at 3 Blair St.*

CONTACT: Graham & Miranda Brignall on 610409

### **Hard of Hearing Group (Drop-In Clinic)**

is a local charity with trained volunteers who can provide help and support with various practical aspects of Hearing-Aid use.

Tea and Coffee are provided, just drop in, have a drink, a biscuit and a chat.

*Second Tuesday in the month, 10am-12noon, Christ Church Hall*

## **Ecumenical Groups and Activities:**

### **Together with God**

is a monthly time of worship, prayer and fellowship organised by members of Dalbeattie Churches Together.

*Third Sunday of each month at 7pm, various locations*

**See Weekly Pew Sheet for further details ...**

# Who's Who at Christ Church

<i>Interim Priest-in-Charge</i>	Rev Stephen Hazlett	01557 620132
<i>Honorary Assistant Priests</i>	Rev Beryl Scott	01556 610283
	Rev Mark RS Smith	01387 760263
<i>Honorary Organist</i>	Maggie Kelt	

## *VESTRY (Committee):*

Dr Keith Dennison	<i>Rector's Warden/Lay Chair</i>	01556 630413
George Sims	<i>People's Warden</i>	01556 612069
Jane Greenwood	<i>Minute Secretary</i>	01556 611144
Llyn Glendinning	<i>Honorary Treasurer</i>	01556 610676
Edith Thorp	<i>Synod Lay Rep</i>	01556 610816
Alfred Thorp	<i>Alternate Synod Lay Rep</i>	01556 610816
Helen Stephens	<i>Protection of Vulnerable</i>	01556 610627
Robin Charlton		01556 630265
Alison Forrest		01556 630344
Matthew Pumphrey		01556 630246

## *GROUPS & ACTIVITIES:*

<i>Bible Reading Fellowship</i>	Dr Keith Dennison	01556 630413
<i>Brass &amp; Cleaning Group</i>	Robin Charlton	01556 630265
<i>Chat &amp; Craft Group</i>	Jane Greenwood	01556 611144
<i>Flowers )</i>		
<i>Gardens ) Co-ordinator</i>	Julie Dennison	01556 630413
<i>Readers )</i>		

## *MAGAZINE (Editorial Team):*

Rev Mark RS Smith	01387 760263
Graham Brignall	01556 610409
Miranda Brignall	01556 610409
Ron Newton	01556 611567

## *WEBSITE:*

[www.christchurchdalbeattie.wordpress.com](http://www.christchurchdalbeattie.wordpress.com)

Sue Thomas 01556 612863

[suethomas21@btinternet.com](mailto:suethomas21@btinternet.com)

## CHRIST CHURCH DIARY

### JUNE

<b>SUN 10<sup>th</sup></b>	6pm	Evensong at St Ninian's, CD
<b>Tue 12<sup>th</sup></b>	10am	Hard-of-Hearing Clinic
	1.30pm	T.A.G.
<b>SUN 17<sup>th</sup></b>	7pm	Together with God at Christ Church
<b>SUN 24<sup>th</sup></b>	7pm	Taize worship at St Ninian's, CD

### JULY

<b>SUN 8<sup>th</sup></b>	6pm	Evensong at St Ninian's, CD
<b>Tue 3<sup>rd</sup></b>	1.30pm	T.A.G.
<b>Tue 10<sup>th</sup></b>	10am	Hard-of-Hearing Clinic

### AUGUST

<b>SUN 5<sup>th</sup></b>	2.30pm	Civic Praise in Colliston Park
<b>SUN 12<sup>th</sup></b>	6pm	Evensong at St Ninian's, CD
<b>Tue 7<sup>th</sup></b>	1.30pm	T.A.G.
<b>Tue 14<sup>th</sup></b>	10am	Hard-of-Hearing Clinic

### SEPTEMBER

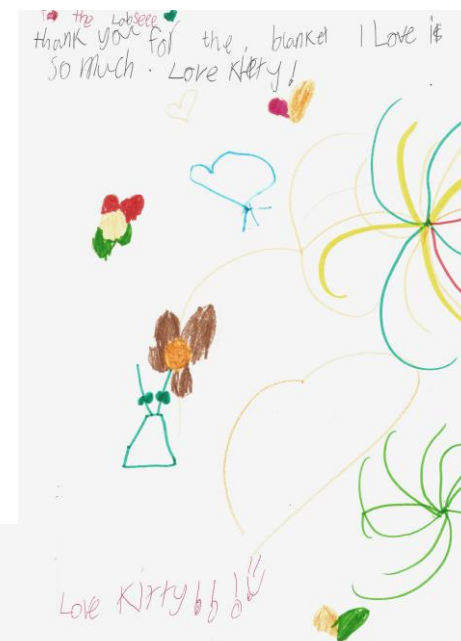
<b>Tue 4<sup>th</sup></b>	1.30pm	T.A.G.
<b>Tue 11<sup>th</sup></b>	10am	Hard-of-Hearing Clinic
<b>SUN 9<sup>th</sup></b>	6pm	Evensong at St Ninian's, CD
<b>SUN 16<sup>th</sup></b>	7pm	Together with God Parish Church Centre
<b>SUN 23<sup>rd</sup></b>	7pm	Iona Worship at St Ninian's, CD

## Looking Further Ahead ...

Winter Sale	17 <sup>th</sup> November
Mark: live	24 <sup>th</sup> November

**A young mum** (daughter of a friend) suddenly became paralysed from the waist down and tests revealed a growth in her spine. We took a Healing Blanket from church for her and it proved a great comfort for her to know folk were praying.

Her daughters also took to 'Blankie' and the knitters from Christ Church quickly produced mini versions for them to have while Mum was in hospital. Surgery has now removed the growth but Mum faces many months physiotherapy to restore mobility. Keep praying.



These pictures and a note are at the back of church.

Mark & Debbie Smith





### **Diocesan Synod 2018**

Took place on Sat 12<sup>th</sup> May in Kilmarnock. Report in next magazine.

### **Lent Appeal 2018 – MND Scotland**

Raised £545 for the Bishop's Lent Appeal.

Thank you to all who donated, collected, lunched, boxed and contributed to this appeal.

*Llyn Glendinning*

### **Annual Plant Sale – Sat 12<sup>th</sup> May**

Raised £1550 for Church Funds. Report in next magazine.

\* \* \*

## **The Joy of Easter**

by Maggie Kelt

*(as premiered on Easter Day in Christ Church)*

The Joy of Easter,  
the bloom of springtime,  
an air of hope is everywhere;  
This time of happiness lifts our spirits  
for God the Father is always there.

Sing with joy and  
sing with gladness and  
thank the Lord with every breath.  
Raise your voices in praise to Him -  
Christ the Saviour has conquered death.

The Joy of Easter is here.

## **SUMMER PUDDING**

A traditional recipe to capture the taste of Summer!

### **INGREDIENTS:**

1250g berries & currants  
of your choice

175g caster sugar

Fresh sliced white bread

### **METHOD:**

Wash the fruit and dry on kitchen paper.

Put the sugar and 3tbsp water into a large pan;

gently heat until the sugar has dissolved, then boil for 1 minute.  
Tip in the fruit and cook for 3 minutes, stirring occasionally.  
Put a sieve over a bowl and tip in the fruit and juices.

Cut the crusts off the bread.

Cut one slice into a circle to fit the base of a 1.25litre bowl.

Then use the slices to line the sides of the bowl, first dipping each one into the fruit juice.

Make sure the inside of the bowl is fully covered.

Then spoon in the fruit to fill the bowl.

Use more bread to cover the top.

Put a suitably-sized plate on top of the bowl then weigh it down with at least 2kg of weights.

Chill overnight then put a serving-plate upside down on top of the bowl and flip it over;

the pudding should slide out of the bowl in one piece.

Serve with any left-over juice and fruit and add cream.

*Miranda Brignall*



## Saint of the Month

### *Saint Boisil (Boswell) - July 7<sup>th</sup>*

Boisil was prior at Melrose and it was his sanctity which drew a young Cuthbert there; Boisil immediately recognised Cuthbert's potential.

It was Boisil who taught Cuthbert the sacred scriptures and they became close friends. Both travelled among the neighbouring villages and preached to the local people; the sick were brought to Boisil to be cured by his herbal remedies and by the healing properties of two local springs.

Boisil was struck down by a pestilence in 664, which he had foretold 3 years earlier, as was Cuthbert. Boisil foretold he would die, which he did, and also that Cuthbert would survive and become a bishop and effect great things for the Church, which he did! His relics were taken to Durham in the 11<sup>th</sup> century.

*Graham Brignall*

## Easter Brain Stretcher ... ANSWERS

BEST IN PRAYER gives **PRESBYTERIAN**

MOON STARER gives **ASTRONOMER**

THEY SEE gives **THE EYES**

IS NO AMITY gives **ANIMOSITY**

LIES – LET'S RECOUNT gives **ELECTION RESULTS**

I'M A DOT IN PLACE gives **A DECIMAL POINT**

Very well done if you got any of those!

*With thanks to the parish magazine of All Saints' Hillingdon.*



**POP-UP SHOP** on the 12<sup>th</sup>, 13<sup>th</sup> and 14<sup>th</sup> April was a real success.

We had really good items to sell and, thanks to some extra help, the shop looked very professional. I really enjoyed chatting to our customers and getting glimpses into their lives:

- A grandma and grandad with their two grandchildren, staying at Southernness, bought bedding as they were cold in their caravan. They were having a good holiday but that little extra warmth and comfort was much appreciated.
- A young couple who were just

setting up their first home bought a bedside cabinet and other small bits of furniture. It felt good to be of help to them.

- We were donated a rocking chair from a passer-by, who delivered it, so we had it outside the shop. It caused quite a lot of amusement as people tried it out on the pavement and one elderly lady decided she would buy it, after some haggling! We delivered it to her bungalow, she then said she could now offer a comfy chair to her guests.

Our church has a wonderful band of providers and helpers, without which we couldn't hold any of our events.

We raised **£605** for Church Funds! Thanks to everyone.

*Jane Greenwood*



## **Lettuce is not the only Leaf...**

Having recently gained more greenhouse space I decided that this year I would experiment with growing more than just tomatoes and cucumber. I like the idea of growing my own fruit and veg but, as I share my garden with rabbits and deer who have very healthy appetites, I am focussing on what I can grow out of their reach in pots.

So this year I am experimenting with growing herbs, mixed salad leaves and micro-greens in containers. I am hoping that the decorative effect will also enhance the ornamental display in my greenhouse which is still in its early stages. They will grow outside too.

A brief reminder of some basics when growing in containers:

CONTAINER: You can use practically anything to grow your crops in provided they are strong enough to take the weight of damp soil and a heavy crop. The deeper and larger the pot the more it can withstand hot weather and strong winds.

LOCATION: If growing outside site it near your back door so it is handy but avoid deep shade and wind.

MEDIUM: Use a good quality compost for salad leaves as it will have enough nutrients for their needs. Ensure good drainage.

GROWING: Sow your seeds directly into containers as they can be thinned out as necessary (don't forget that thinnings can be used as garnish and eaten). Water frequently to ensure the surface does not dry out.

There are several varieties of seed mixes available which should be sown at fortnightly intervals to ensure successive growth for harvesting.

Be adventurous! Try herbs and aromatic leaves such as coriander and basil, leaf rocket and mustard seedlings to enhance your salads.

Have fun and enjoy the unbeatable flavour and satisfaction of growing your own for the Salad Days of Summer.

*Alison Forrest*



## **A Message from Rev Mark Smith ...**

After our celebration of the gift of the Holy Spirit at Pentecost and our acknowledgement of the mysterious Trinity we settle into what is sometimes called (in church circles) Ordinary Time. This suits me. I am an ordinary human being after all.

Yet for our faith to grow and for us to truly know God's love and share His light with the world the ordinary needs to be rooted in Pentecost and Trinity. Just as Summer would be lifeless without the roots put down by plants during Spring, so our faith is lifeless without the truths of Pentecost and Trinity.

For those who believe in Jesus Christ, God chose to send the Holy Spirit in a new way, not just to empower heroes for specific tasks at specific times, as in the Old Testament, but to dwell in ordinary disciples like you and me at all times. It is the Holy Spirit who points us to Jesus, comforts us, teaches us and strengthens us whatever we face in life.

However, our faith is not just about an inner feeling it is also a rational and reasonable faith, grounded on the truth about God and Jesus. Trinity highlights the mystery of the Godhead – that which we will never fully understand in this life – yet also emphasises the true nature of God. We worship an Infinite and Eternal God. Infinite in that He is unlimited in any way – with God all things are possible. Eternal in that He is outside time, beginning and end, unchanging and unfading. We can be confident in our faith at all times, ordinary and extraordinary.

Jesus told us that God the Father is the Gardener. Through the Holy Spirit He reaches into our lives to protect us and patiently tends us so that we can fulfil our potential for Him. The Infinite source of Love wants us to be over-filled with His love so that it spills around. The thrice Holy Lord wants us to live in His Righteous Way to challenge the world's way. The Divine Gardener wants us to bear good fruit so that others will also taste and see that the Lord is good.

May God Bless you this Summer in the ordinary and the extra-ordinary.

## ... in need of prayer?

### *Ministry of Laying-on-of-Hands*

We offer this during our main Sunday Communion – carry the pew sheet with you to the rail and the Priest will ask your name, place a hand on the top of your head and ask God to bless you before administering Communion.

Whether a personal issue, a concern for another person or situation, or a simple desire to get close to God, this gives an opportunity to open up to God.

We offer this Ministry in faith that God wants to work in our lives and wants to use us as His channels.

Sometimes it brings healing, sometimes peace,  
sometimes empowerment, sometimes wisdom  
– always it opens us to God's Love, Mercy and Grace.

### *Care & Share & Prayer Network*

If you have any need or concern or news simply telephone one of the people named below and the need will be disseminated around the congregation to harness the power of **Prayer**, ensure that all are aware of the needs of those around us and enable us to share **Christ's Love**.

The network should also be used to pass on **Good News** as an encouragement for the congregation.

We do not need detailed information or even the names of people to be able to Pray effectively. God knows the need and can hear our Prayers however vague they may feel to us.

Rev. Beryl Scott – (01556) 610283  
Miranda Brignall – (01556) 610409

### *Healing Blankets*

These carry a simple card assuring the recipient of our prayers and are themselves a physical 'hug' and a comfort during difficult times.

They are available at the front of church. Please take one for any relative, friend or neighbour (any age, any gender) facing a tough time of any sort (illness, bereavement, distress) **and** pray for them.

**Alexander McCalister** MB ChB(Hons) TD KStJ QHS FRCS

6<sup>th</sup> June 1925- 26<sup>th</sup> January 2018

Or 'Alec' as he was known to us at Christ Church!

*Extracts from a full life ... which may surprise you ...*

Born in Belfast, he grew up in rural Northern Ireland in relatively poor surroundings. His first home in Antrim was a dwelling with no electricity nor running water. His mother cooked over an open peat fire, using a cauldron and a griddle ... if water was needed someone was sent 300 yards down the road to a spring and came back with water in a bucket. For washing clothes and themselves the family collected rainwater.

Alex thought this was an admirable way to grow up ...

His family had suggested he might wish to become a carpenter but his inspirational head teacher thought he should consider medicine as a career ... he won a local government scholarship which allowed him to study at Queen's University, Belfast ...

He was awarded MB ChB with 1<sup>st</sup> Class Honours in 1948.

Whilst teaching medical students he met Claire ... when he asked her to his family home in Antrim it was a bit of a culture shock – the family still had no running water in the 1950's – but when he started playing the fiddle with his father she realised that she wanted to marry him. They married in 1955 and went on to have four children.

In 1968 he was appointed consultant general surgeon at the Ulster Hospital in Belfast and he worked there until retiring in 1989 gaining a reputation as a very good surgeon. Claire died in 1985.

Alex joined the Territorial Army as a young doctor, rising to Colonel in the Royal Army Medical Corps (Volunteers) and Commanding Officer of 204 Field Hospital. He was awarded the Territorial Decoration (TD) became a Knight of St John of Malta (KStJ) and the Queen's Honorary Surgeon (QHS).

He married Heather in 1989. They moved to Dalbeattie to be closer to the bulk of their combined family. Heather died in 2013. Alex was unfailingly polite to all, dignified (even as his health deteriorated) and always wore a shirt and tie. He was a deeply spiritual and religious person, carrying his prayerbook everywhere he went, writing in it and noting favourite passages, prayers and psalms.

His eldest daughter with Claire, also called Heather, died two weeks before him in January 2018. He is missed.

*Judy Leaver*



## Crimbo Down Under - My Trip to New Zealand

Wanting to do something different from last year which, with Chris so unwell, was not a happy time, especially for a Christmas-lover like me, I flew from Glasgow just before Christmas. December seemed a good time to head to the other side of the world and visit my late husband's two nieces and their families. His sister had emigrated to New Zealand in 1946 on the £10 scheme!



Jane, the younger niece, and her 18-year-old son, live on the outskirts of **Wellington**, at the bottom of the North Island. From their deck they have a marvellous view of the frequent ferries to and from South Island, and aircraft winging relentlessly into the airport from all over the world.



Many Wellingtonians own boats and the **Yacht and Rowing Clubs** are nearby, so I spent pleasant times watching the various craft racing, or people just messing about in boats.

I soon learned that a sunhat is essential as the New Zealand sunshine can be extremely strong!

On one of the few wet days I caught a bus down to the attractive Oriental Drive, with its lovely houses reminiscent of New England, and its Art Deco homes. At the impressive modern exhibition centre on the waterfront I queued with Kiwi, European and other tourists to go around the much talked about Gallipoli event. What an extremely interesting and moving experience that was. The figures of the soldiers were so life-like, even to their hairy arms, eyebrows and expressions! I felt rather ashamed to know so little about the campaign.

Christmas was spent on the Tasman Sea coast at **Kapiti**, about 45 minutes from Wellington, with the elder niece, who is a vet, her family and



friends. The beach is yards away through their hedge; the volcanic sand is rather greyish, but looking ahead is **Kapiti Island**, a nature reserve and, to the left, mountains, making it a lovely place to stroll in the evenings. We swam several times in the early evening, the sea being pleasantly warm and enjoyed by families after work and school. On the roadsides I was enchanted by the masses of blue and white agapanthus, which the locals consider to be almost a weed.

St Mark's church is just 5 minutes' walk from the house, so I was pleased to be able to attend their service of communion on a hot Sunday morning. I was given a warm welcome to their modern, light, airy wooden church and found the service virtually the same as ours at Christ Church. Tea was served from a trolley, then I was shown the vestry, the kitchen and, with some pride, the new fridge! *Robin Charlton*