

YOUR CHURCH NEEDS YOU

It's a fact of life but without volunteers you can't run clubs and organisations. We sometimes take for granted that there are things like Messy Church, Summer Holiday Club, floral arrangements in the Church and a choir to lead our worship each week. Without volunteers we wouldn't have any of these things. I'm sure you would agree that we would all be poorer without them. SO we are asking the members of the congregation to search their hearts and ask themselves if they can offer an hour or two once a month or week to help the team that already staff up our clubs and organisations.

Please let Rev Maggie know, via the church office, if you think you can help.



CONTACT: MINISTER

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CONTACT: OFFICE

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www.CardrossParishChurch.org



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the past!

FOCUS



Cardross Parish Church magazine

February 2019



NEW YEAR AND NEW IMPROVEMENT WORK FOR CHURCH COMPLETED

Extensive work to the main entrance of the church and to the car park has been undertaken to improve the look and the safety of our buildings and grounds. Property Convenor, Tom Darroch along

with Judy Wilson arranged and oversaw the much needed work on the Church entrance and the rutted surface of the car park. Read all about the improvements in Tom's property report on Page 2.....

The Congregation will have noticed a great deal of activity over recent weeks both in the church grounds and the car park serving the church halls. Trail and Queen have done a great job transforming the church grounds and finding a solution to the flooding problem at the church gate. All paths around the church were lifted and treated with weedkiller before the laying down of a membrane and covering with new gravel, which should prove to be of real benefit during the summer. Once this was completed the company lifted a number of rows of slabs to raise the level of the ground, put in a small drain and then relaid slabs right out to the gate which should not only solve the flooding problem but provides secure footing and a pleasing entranceway into the front door.

The car park has also been resurfaced by Macrete Ltd. This involved removal of remains of the old bunkers adjacent to the kitchen. The company also relaid or renewed the kerbing around the edges of the car park and created a run off for the discharge of water to a soakaway drain within the grassed area. This will hopefully prove to be a long term solution to the car park issues and in addition to making it look real good should make it safer for both cars and their occupants.

We are grateful to both companies for the way in which they have carried out this work which was often done during inclement weather. Special thanks to Judy Wilson who arranged and oversaw the works to the car park.

Tom Darroch
Property Convenor



Church Diary

FEBRUARY

- 3** 11.00am Morning Worship - Celebration of Holy Communion
- 10** 11.00am Morning Worship
- 17** 11.00am Morning Worship
- 24** 11.00am Morning Worship - Thinking Day

MARCH

- 3** 11.00am Morning Worship - Round the Table Communion
- 10** 11.00am Morning Worship - Mothering Sunday
- 17** 11.00am Morning Worship
- 24** 11.00am Morning Worship - Annual Stated Meeting
- 31** 11.00am Morning Worship

APRIL

- 7** 11.00am Morning Worship
- 14** 11.00am Morning Worship - Palm Sunday
- 18** 7.00pm Maundy Thursday - Celebration of Holy Communion
- 19** 7.00pm Good Friday - Ecumenical Service with St Mahew's
- 21** 8.30am *He is Risen!* Early morning worship in the Easter Garden
- 21** 11.00am Morning Worship - Easter Day with Holy Communion



Our Christmas Fair on the 17th November was once again a huge success. Thanks to the generosity of those who attended we raised a fantastic £2330.00 for Church funds. A big thank you to all who donated goods or helped man the stalls and the tea room.

Congregational Register

DEATHS

2018

Sep 16th Mrs Carol Sloan, 6A Mitchell Drive, Cardross.
 Oct 12th Mr Leonard Scott, 11 Ferryfield Road, Connel.
 Nov 15th Mrs Katie MacMillan, 30 Kirkton Crescent, Cardross.
 Nov 19th Mrs Pam Paterson, 38 Crofthead Road, Prestwick.
 Nov 30th Mr Alistair Stratton, 14 Napier Avenue, Cardross.
 Dec 3rd Miss Violet Begg, Antonine House Care Home, Bearsden.
 Dec 12th Mr William Cox, Low Milndovan Farm Cottage, Cardross.

BAPTISM

Sep 6th Charlotte Floyd, Gran-daughter of John and Senga.

DEDICATION:

Dec 23rd Joseph Louis McCulloch son of Malcolm and Andrea.

WEDDINGS

None



Dear Friends,

I have known people over the years who have been very traditional in their ways. They would never pass a penny lying on the ground but had to pick it up believing this could bring good fortune; they would never cut their nails on certain days for fear of bringing bad luck; they would always put a coin inside a purse or wallet before they gave it as a present. This indicated the wish for plenty; if they received a brooch or something sharp then they had to give a small coin in return in order to mitigate any danger of getting hurt; the house would be cleaned from top to bottom before an old year ended so that anything bad was swept away making room for goodness, and of course, on Hogmanay, a male member of the family was sent outside before midnight to be the 'first footer' with a lump of coal and black bun to signify a warm hearth and a full larder.

Whatever traditions you adhere to I hope that all of you will enjoy good things as you journey through this new year. Although tradition keeps us in touch with the past and can give us a nostalgic connection to people no longer with us, we must also hope for new things.

In the Book of Revelation (Ch 21) Jesus tells us that he is one who is making all things new. When our focus is on him and away from self, then he will surprise us. In the famous stories of the Arabian Nights we encounter Prince Barmaki. He was famous for giving a beggar a feast consisting of ornate but empty dishes. This is something we could never accuse Jesus of doing. Our Saviour has done the opposite. He has given us a meal to share which although simple in appearance is actually sumptuous. The frugality of bread and wine become a feast in his hands. He took something old and traditional such as the Passover meal and made it forever new.

Every time we celebrate Communion we experience this new thing. It will never become old because it comes from the one who is making all things new. Perhaps this year we could pray for him to work afresh in our lives as individuals and as a congregation. In this way we will be refreshed and enabled to serve him with new commitment, and see one another through fresh and forgiving eyes. And where better to begin than round the Table of our Lord. The old has gone the new has come!

With God's richest blessings to you and yours.







Thank you for all your support
of Ardardan.

We thoroughly appreciate it.
We look forward to what's to
come in 2019, and hope you
enjoy being part of the journey.

*The Montys
& Team at Ardardan*





Eat • Shop • Walk • Enjoy



Welcoming you to church will be:

FEBRUARY

- 3** Mrs C Craig, Mrs J Wilson, D Paterson
- 10** Mrs J Fisher, P Foster, Mrs M Craven
- 17** Mrs E Cormack, Mrs M Brown, Mrs M Bryson
- 24** Mrs M Walker, Mrs M MacNeill, T Davey

MARCH

- 3** Mrs D Colquhoun, Miss N Gray, Mrs J McNeil
- 10** Mrs A Lee, Mrs C Scholarios, Mrs A Wood
- 17** Mrs L McKee, G Kenny, W MacLachlan
- 24** Mrs R MacLachlan, J Young, Mrs A Campbell
- 31** Mrs C Craig, Mrs J Wilson, Mrs J Fisher

APRIL

- 7** D Paterson, Mrs M Craven, Mrs E Cormack
- 14** Mrs M Brown, Mrs M Bryson, Mrs M Walker
- 21** Mrs M MacNeill, T Davey, Mrs D Colquhoun
- 28** Miss N Gray, Mrs J McNeill, Mrs A Lee

MAY

- 5** Mrs C Scholarios, Mrs A Wood, Mrs L McKee
- 12** G Kenny, P Foster, Mrs R MacLachlan
- 19** J Young, Mrs A Campbell, Mrs C Craig
- 26** Mrs J Wilson, Mrs J Fisher, D Paterson

JUNE

- 2** Mrs M Brown, Mrs M Bryson, Mrs M MacNeill

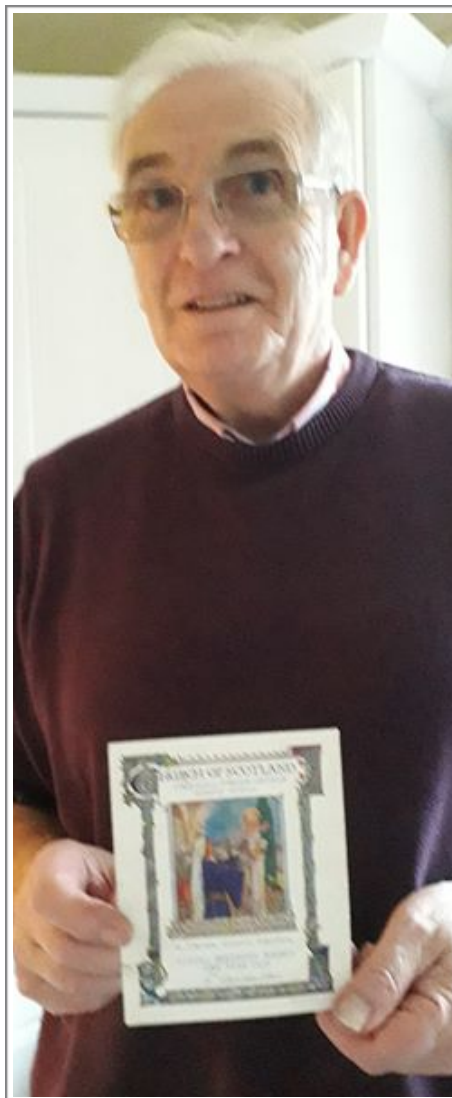
BIRTHDAY CARD FROM 1947

We got a lovely surprise on the Church Facebook page the other day when out of the blue we received a message and a photograph of a birthday card from 1947. Derek Camlin was born and grew up in Rose Cottage on Smithy road where most of the five generations of his family had lived. Derek moved down to Lincolnshire to live and work over 40 years ago. He used to visit relatives in the area regularly but sadly they are now all gone. During a recent tidy up in his home he came across this card from the church to mark his first birthday on the 11th January 1947.

Do you remember Derek and his family? Let us know.



If you haven't visited and 'liked' our Facebook page please do - just Google



Cardross Parish Church Facebook and you'll find us!



NOREEN TAKES A COFFEE BREAK!

After being Convenor of the Coffee Club for more years than anyone can remember Noreen Scott has decided to hang up her pinny and take a well deserved 'coffee break.'

In thanks for her tireless service over the many years of her convenorship Noreen was presented with a beautiful basket of flowers at the final Coffee Club meeting of the year on December the 17th by Margaret Calder.

The Coffee Club has restarted after the festive break and meets on Monday in the Committee rooms at the Church hall from 10am until 11.30am. Why don't you come along and join us!



SENIOR CITIZENS CHRISTMAS LUNCH



Some of our senior citizens celebrated the start of Christmas in style with a fabulous lunch at the Winnock Hotel in Drymen. Apart from the delicious Christmas food they were entertained by local fiddler Ryan Young who came along and played Scottish melodies and some of his own compositions which was enjoyed by all.

Margaret Calder

IT'S A WRAP.....



It seems to take ages till it comes then it's all over before you know it. What am I talking about - Christmas of course! This year there was so much going on and it all kicked off with a wonderful night of music, food and entertainment as we marked Advent with the C.A.F.E. - Cardross Advent Family Evening. Lots of families turned out for the Sunday night event which was organised by Peter and Audrey Foster. The church hall was set up in a

CAFE style and we enjoyed an evening of Worship and fun with Christian Praise Group - Rock Salt' who lead our worship. To mark the closing of the Year of Young People we enjoyed a simple supper followed by Advent themed crafts and ended our evening singing some of our favourite Carols including a fabulous new Carol sung to the tune of "Hallelujah" by Leonard Cohen.



Have Pen - Will Write!

At this time of the year thoughts turn to New Year Resolutions - how many have we made and how many we have broken already! I must confess that I am not guilty of either statement. What I do enjoy and appreciate is letters and notes at Christmas with renewal of friendships and it made me think of longstanding pen friends - has the technological age we live in erased 'Pen Pals' in favour of texts and emails?

Writing letters has always appealed to me and I remember our school teacher encouraged the art of letter writing. Each of the class acquired a Pen Friend - in my case a fourteen year old Norwegian boy who was a football fanatic but not so enthusiastic about the English language!!

In the early sixties when I joined the Scottish Women's Rural there was a questionnaire about pen friends and so I met (at a distance) a young woman called Eleanor from Australia who lived with her husband Dean and their two daughters up the river Murray some 200 miles from Adelaide, where her husband was the manager of a fruit farm. And so a long, regular and interesting correspondence began and life in Australia was compared to life in Scotland. Weather, as you can imagine, was always discussed, recipes swapped,

education standards chewed over. Naturally we made plans to visit each other but since we now had four children 'nipping over' to OZ was not on my schedule nor was it on Eleanor's either.



The first of our family to visit was by our youngest daughter and her husband on a dental exchange and then Eleanor's older daughter got married and came to Scotland on honeymoon. The links were being well maintained. Last year, in May, Eleanor's other daughter came to tour Scotland and stayed with us towards the end of her

holiday. She was so happy to spend time with us. Apparently I have the same sense of humour as her mother - I didn't ask what that meant! She now keeps in contact with our daughter Maxie who lives in the village - sadly not by pen - but by social media and iMessage on their tablets.

It's now exactly 50 years since I started that first letter 'Dear Eleanor and Dean.....' we are now half a century older but our friendship remains very strong and our only regret is that we haven't managed to visit each of our respective countries.

Anne Russell

CHRISTMAS GIFT SERVICE

On behalf of the HV team, I would be grateful if you could convey our thanks to the congregation of Cardross Parish Church for the generous donation of Christmas presents from your gift service. The gifts were divided between 'food for thought' food bank and West Dunbarton secret Santa, both of which support families in need.

Yours sincerely
Jennifer Cordner

Health Visitor Team NHSGGC / West Dunbartonshire
HSCP



SUMMER IS ON IT'S WAY!



Here's advance notice that this year's Summer Club will run from Monday 1 July till Friday 5 July with an all age service on Sunday 7 July. This will be a fantastic week looking at teams from the bible and exploring the stories through craft making, songs, games and sporting action. **We are looking for volunteers to assist in delivering this fun programme and if you are interested please contact Judy Wilson on 07884496257 or email judy@judyfamily.plus.com**

Helensburgh and Lomond Foodbank

I am writing on behalf of the Helensburgh and Lomond Foodbank to thank you for the recent donation of goods from your church and the 40 chocolate Advent Calendars, which was a lovely idea and brightened up the start of December for the children of our clients (and maybe some of our teenage adult clients too!) We found it really heart-warming that members of the community, as well as donating ordinary food items, try to spread some festive cheer with special extras as Christmas approached.

If the Advent Calendars were from a particular group within the church will you please thank them very much. I'm afraid that sometimes, when we are having a busy morning at the Foodbank, we don't always get the exact details of who donated what.

Please pass our thanks on to all your parishioners who are so constant in their support, we very much appreciate it.

Best wishes,
Barbie Paterson
Secretary, Helensburgh and Lomond Food bank.



..A LOOK BACK AT CHRISTMAS



The following evening MESSY Church held their annual Christmas Party. Once again there was a good turnout and we enjoyed music, games, food and crafts all with a festive twist! There were prizes for pass the parcel and musical chairs which were 'keenly' fought for! The evening ended with Rev Maggie standing in for

Father Christmas and handing out selection boxes to all the children. Our older children who attend the Monday after school club in the Dunny marked their Christmas with a Pizza party and by the look of it the festive feast was well received. So that was Christmas 2018 - only 48 weeks till the next one!



KNITTERS CAST THEIR

In 2009 Save the Children Fund launched an appeal for knitted baby hats which created a lot of interest and support. Following on from this a small group of ladies decided to carry on knitting and 'K2 Together' was born!

TEN years later, and with a healthy membership, we are going from strength to strength. Our initial intention was just to continue knitting for neonatal and special care baby units but over the years we have discovered more and more charities and groups that we can support with our work.

To date we have knitted thousands of blankets, hats and jackets (and even some octopuses!) for premature and sick babies in hospital. We have also been able to give special gifts of knitted clothes to friends and families in our community whose babies had a special need when they were born. Hundreds

and hundreds of poppies were lovingly knitted over the years raising over a thousand pounds for Poppy Scotland. Fish and Chip jumpers are sent to Malawi to keep babies born there warm and help reduce infant mortality, these babies would normally be wrapped in newspaper, hence the name 'Fish and Chip!'

Refugees and displaced people have benefitted from being given hats, scarfs and snoods which we have sent to The Ravens Trust and other organisations involved in reaching those in need. The residents of Erskine have been happy to receive lovely blankets and Twiddle Muffs for their residents. Some Twiddle Muffs, which help patients with dementia, have even reached a nursing home in Rumania. Our latest project has involved knitting 'Trauma Teddies' 'which the Police use to comfort children they encounter in distressing situations.



MAGIC TO MARK TENTH ANNIV



THE LADIES OF THE K2 KNITTING GROUP WITH JUST SOME OF THE THINGS THEY MAKE

As you can see we keep very busy and get a lot of satisfaction out of helping others while enjoying the fellowship our group brings.

For more information please call **Rebecca Maclachlan: 01389 841167**

We take this opportunity to thank everyone who has supported the group in many different ways: from donating money, wool, patterns, coming along to our coffee mornings and just taking a general interest in what we are doing.

In the Autumn we plan to celebrate our 10th Anniversary with a coffee morning and exhibition of the knitting we do, this will take place in the Church Halls on Saturday 12th October. We are also planning a 'surprise' community project for Christmas 2019 - so watch this space!

K2 Together meets on the second Tuesday of every month in the church hall at 7.30 pm. Whether you are an experienced knitter or would like to learn new members will be made most welcome.

