

The Real Easter Egg

Out of 80 million chocolate Easter Eggs sold each year **The Real Easter Egg** is the only FAIRTRADE one with the Easter story book in the box, making it educational, charitable and good to eat too!

Last year we donated FAIRTRADE Easter Eggs to our local food banks and they were gratefully appreciated as were the Advent calendars we donated this Christmas.

With your support it is hoped to do the same this year. Each Real Easter Egg costs £3.99, donations can be put in an envelope and put in the Sunday collection bags, given to Rebecca or handed into the Church office.



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Murder
Mystery

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Tribute to
Chris Clunie

FOCUS



Cardross Parish Church magazine

February 2020



BACK TO THE FUTURE

FLASHBACK!
Maggie's Induction
in October 2015.

Dear Friends,

I remember very clearly talking with friends in the playground of my primary school in the early 1970's and trying to imagine what it would be like in the year 2000. Well, the year 2000 has come and

gone along with all the excitement of a new millennium and relief that the world didn't come to a standstill with the much talked about 'millennium bug'.

Maggie's view continues on page 3.....

CONTACT: MINISTER

Rev. Maggie McArthur
The Manse

16 Bainfield Road
Cardross G82 5JQ

Tel: 01389 849329

Email: revmaggiemac@hotmail.co.uk

CONTACT: OFFICE

Sandra McLatchie

Tel: 01389 841322

9.00am – 1.00pm

Monday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday.

Email: cardrosschurch529@btinternet.com

www.CardrossParishChurch.org



THANK YOU

On behalf of FOOD FOR THOUGHT I am writing to say a massive thank you to all at Cardross Church for your donation of toys in the run up to Christmas. Every donation received is greatly appreciated and has helped the charity help those in need in our community.

As you may be aware at this time of the year, and all year round, we do our best to help families who are affected by poverty or are lonely. We give out emergency food aid parcels on a daily basis (Mon-Fri) and demand for this service increases in the month of December. We also provide a hot meal at our community lunch every Wednesday and Thursday this is aimed at providing a place for people to come and socialise.

Our toy bank which ran from 16-24 December was a success thanks to the generosity of the people in our community, we gave out over 700 gifts to families in West Dunbartonshire, each

child received up to three and the adults were able to pick a gift for themselves too.

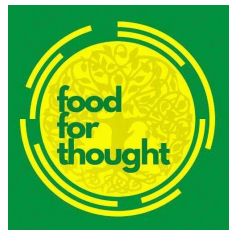
On Christmas day we welcomed 70 people from the Dunbartonshire area to have Christmas lunch, where we offered a three course meal, with turkey and all the trimmings, pipers and live entertainment. We reached out to people who may otherwise have been on their own on Christmas day. A great day was had by all.

Food For Thought could not have done any of this without your help and we are thrilled to have your support.

Yours sincerely

John R Dyer

Chairman



CHURCH OFFICE OPENING HOURS

OFFICE HOURS: The office hours are Monday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday 9am to 1pm. However it would be helpful if anyone wishing to visit the office could do so whenever possible between the hours of 9.30am and 12pm. This allows time before and after for administration to be done without interruption.

Many thanks. Maggie.

Office contact:
Sandra 01389 841322



Church Diary

JANUARY

30 7.00pm Local Church Review - All of the congregation are invited

FEBRUARY

2 11.00am Morning Worship - Holy Communion
4 7.00pm Service of Installation for Maggie as Moderator of the Presbytery of Dumbarton - Holy Communion followed by supper in Church Halls.
9 11.00am Morning Worship
13 7.00pm Local Church Review - All of the congregation are invited
15 10.00am-12noon Messy Church
16 11.00am Morning Worship
23 11.00am Morning Worship - Thinking Day
27 7.30pm Kirk Session meeting

MARCH

1 11.00am Morning Worship - Round the Table Communion
7 2pm-4pm Fischy Music workshop and concert
8 11.00am Morning Worship
14 10.00am-12noon Messy Church
15 11.00am Morning Worship
21 10.00am-12noon Guild Coffee Morning
22 11.00am Morning Worship
26 7.30pm Congregational Board meeting - Approval of Accounts
29 11.00am Morning Worship - Annual Congregational Meeting following morning service

APRIL

5 11.00am Morning Worship - Palm Sunday, all age service *note* no Round the Table Communion
9 Maundy Thursday
10 Good Friday
12 08.30am Easter Morning Worship in the Easter Garden
12 11.00am Easter Sunday Morning Worship with Holy Communion
18 10.00am-12noon Messy Church
19 11.00am Morning Worship
26 11.00am Morning Worship
30 7.30pm Kirk Session meeting

Congregational Register

DEATHS

Sept 15th Mr James Hanning, 6 Waverley Ave, Helensburgh
 Sept 20th Mrs Bette Wilson, late of Geilston Park, Cardross
 Oct 15th Mr Cameron McLean, 18 Bainfield Rd, Cardross
 Nov 22nd Mrs Christine Clunie, late of 16 Mitchell Dr, Cardross
 Nov 22nd Mr Archibald Lyon, late of 3 Braid Ave, Cardross
 Dec 6th Mrs Danella Smith, The Mews, Charlotte St, Helensburgh
 Dec 25th Mr John McNeil, 3 Geilston Park, Cardross

WEDDINGS

Oct 11th Lynn McLean and Alan Vickers, 34 Hillside Rd, Cardross
 (see picture below)



Oct 12th John McArthur and Erin McGeady on Oct 12th at 'The Den',
 Balirmains Farm, Culross
 Nov 29th Gillian Adamson and Philip Fullerton, 9 Braid Ave, Cardross



Dear Friends (cont ...)

Here we are twenty years further on and I wonder how you are feeling about the time that has past. Life has changed so much hasn't it? We live in a society where the cult of celebrity rules. Reality TV, talent shows and the endless bombardment of who is an 'A Lister' are hard to avoid. I really must be getting old because I hardly recognise any of the so-called famous people nowadays.

But wait a minute! We are not called to be famous. As followers of Jesus we are simply called to be faithful. There in lies the secret of fulfilment and contentment. We do not need to be always on diets, getting plastic surgery or being airbrushed in photographs. God loves us as we are and calls us into service using the gifts he has bestowed upon us. Our job is to be faithful to his trust in us.

2020 will be my fifth year at Cardross. In my ministry here I have watched faithfulness at work even during very testing times. It is because of this faithfulness that we have seen signs of growth and hope. We continue to build on the faithful commitment of office bearers, members and adherents and week by week fulfil the ministry of serving others in the spirit of worship and holiness.

Yes, we would all like to be witnesses to a Damascus Road style of change but just as in individual lives, the change comes through living faithful lives, wholly dependent on the grace of God. So if we think that what we do is not much or will never set the world alight, then remember that we are not called to be famous – we are called to be faithful.

God will take what we are willing to give in whatever role or capacity and it will be his blessing which makes the difference. Our reward will not be our names in neon lights or the front page of glossy magazines but the gentle words of our Saviour, 'Well done, good and faithful servant!' (Matt 25:23).

And as we have built on the faithful work of those who have gone before us, so it will be that those who come after us will build on the faithful work we are doing right now. In this way the church will have a future and the fulfilment of God's Kingdom will be a little bit nearer.

May 2020 bring good things to you, your loved ones and to the faithful people of Cardross Parish Church.

With God's richest blessings to you and yours.

Maggie

Fischy Music - the popular Christian music group are to visit **Cardross** on



March 7th to hold a workshop and concert for children and their families. We

are hosting the event jointly with the Helensburgh churches and it's hoped that we will have a huge turn out for the free event.

*Opening Spring
at Ardardan...*



*A family farm experience
with unique indoor play &
cafe along with outdoor
farm and woodland fun.*

*Thank you so much for
your understanding and
support throughout the construction
of our new development.*

*We can't wait to share Monty's
with you and hope you enjoy the
next chapter in the Ardardan
journey.*



Keep an eye on facebook & instagram for
news on all that's going on at Ardardan.

Chris was blessed to have such a loving family and she in turn was a blessing to them. As fellow elders, we too consider ourselves blessed to have served alongside her and will always be thankful for her friendship.

We commend David, Christine, Gillian, Nico, Lauren, Katie, Ross, Andrew, Peter, Gareth, Gemma and Katie's husband Peter to God's love and continue to uphold all the family in prayer.

"Well done, good and faithful servant!" (Matthew 25:23)

Rev. Maggie McArthur.

Welcoming you to church will be:

FEBRUARY

- 2 Mrs M Bryson, P Foster, Mrs D Colquhoun
- 9 Mrs A Lee, Mrs C Scholarios, Mrs L McKee
- 16 T Davey, Mrs A Wood, G Kenny
- 23 Mrs R MacLachlan, J Young, Mrs J Wilson

MARCH

- 1 Mrs J Fisher, D Paterson, Mrs M Walker
- 8 Mrs E Cormack, Mrs M Brown, Mrs M Craven
- 15 Mrs M Bryson, P Foster, Mrs D Colquhoun
- 22 Mrs A Lee, Mrs C Scholarios, W MacLachlan
- 29 Mrs L McKee, T Davey, Mrs A Wood

APRIL

- 5 Mrs C Craig, Mrs R MacLachlan, J Young
- 12 G Kenny, Mrs J Wilson, Mrs J Fisher
- 19 D Paterson, Mrs M Walker, Mrs E Cormack
- 26 Mrs M Brown, Mrs M Craven, Mrs C Craig

MAY

- 3 Mrs M MacNeill, Mrs M Bryson, P Foster
- 10 Mrs D Colquhoun, Mrs A Lee, Mrs J Fisher
- 17 W MacLachlan, Mrs L McKee, T Davey
- 24 Mrs A Wood, Mrs C Craig, Mrs R MacLachlan
- 31 J Young, G Kenny, Mrs J Wilson

JUNE

- 7 D Paterson, Mrs M Craven, Mrs M Brown

KIRK SESSION TRIBUTE: CHRIS CLUNIE



***One who never turned her back, but marched, breast forward.
Never doubted clouds would break.
Never dreamed wrong would triumph.
Held that we fall, so we can rise to fight better,
Sleep to wake.***

I recited these words, adapted from Robert Browning's poem, 'Epilogue', at Chris's committal. I felt they were apt for the lady I had come to know and admire and love.

I got to know Chris fairly quickly after my induction to Cardross in 2015. She was a regular attender at worship, a generous supporter of Christian Aid and all fundraising events, a committed district elder since 1986 taking a keen interest in all that was going on in the life of the church and a faithful pastoral visitor. But I really got to know her through the Bible Study groups which she graciously hosted along with Rusty the sausage dog! Her faith was an inspiration and very soon I realised that this faith permeated every aspect of her life.

Brought up in a loving, Christian family Chris's early years revolved around church life in Clydebank. Even WW2, evacuation or the loss of her beloved brother Jack couldn't dampen her love for God and when she married Andy they both made church central to their future as a family.

They were blessed with children in their son David and daughter Christine. With the passage of time along came the grandchildren – seven in all! Chris, was endearingly referred to by her friends as, 'Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs!' She was never happier than when they were all around her. Christmas was extra special due to her birthday being on Christmas Eve, but any occasion was used to have a family get-together where great fun ensued. She was extremely proud of them all as individuals and for what they have achieved with their lives. They brought her much joy.

The way Chris lived her life has been a lasting example to her family and to others. She was a realist and did not practice a Christianity that wavered when trouble came. The death of Andy was hard to bear but faith enabled her to carry on, '*never doubting clouds would break*'. She also practiced a Christianity that brought joy. Any time spent in her company was filled with laughter and you always came away feeling better. Her wise words brought common sense to tricky situations and she would speak her mind in love, '*never dreaming that wrong would triumph*.'

Perhaps her greatest challenge was the progress of age for this brought with it issues of health and mobility. Once again, however, faith sustained her during these difficult days. She believed that the Saviour who had walked with her all her life would not abandon her on the threshold of death. She just waited for his call to take her home. This call came on November 22nd when Chris slipped from this world into God's eternal presence with her loved ones right by her side - where they have been all their lives. As the poem said she held that we, '*sleep to wake*'.

Cont.....

THERE'S BEEN A MURDER!

MURDER MYSTERY
EVENING

We are staging a murder mystery evening on Friday 27 March 2020 at 7.30pm in the Church Halls. This is going to be a fun, entertaining evening and we are looking for budding detectives to solve our murder.

Tickets are £10 per person, which will include a supper. Tea and Coffee will be provided, but feel free to bring your own bottle. Tickets can be obtained from the Church Office or Judy Wilson email judy@judyfamily.plus.com or 07884496257.

Funds raised will go towards Messy Church and Cardross Parish Church.



PROPERTY REPORT by Judy Wilson

In our most recent survey of the Church building one of the recommendations was to have all the stonework for the Church repointed. The reason being, the last time the Church was repointed, the wrong mix was used, which is resulting in damage to the stonework and damp penetration. The total cost is estimated between £60,000 to £70,000.

Last year we managed to have the stonework on the wall adjacent to the office door repointed with a grant from the National Churches Trust (£2,950) and a grant from Presbytery (£2,750).

This year we have again been successful in obtaining a grant from the National Churches Trust for £7,000 and are awaiting to hear if we have been successful with a grant application Historic Environment Scotland for a similar amount.

We are also currently looking at various options, to identify further funding opportunities, to have this work completed as soon as possible.

We are all indebted to the on-going support from the National Churches Trust.



FLOWER ROTA 2020

January

05 Christmas Tree
12 Mrs J Wilson, Riverview
19 Mrs S McLatchie
26 Miss N Gray

February

02 Mrs S Auty
09 Mrs C Craig
16 Mr A McIntyre
23 Mrs P Stevenson

March

01 A Walker
08 Mrs A Lee
15 Mrs R MacLachlan
22 Mrs J Wilson, Riverview
29 M Timmer

April

05 Mrs E Milne
12 Mrs J Fisher
19 Mrs K Young
26 Mrs I Muir, Riverview

May

03 Mrs A Foster
10 Mrs C Fleming
17 Mrs J Goel
24 Mrs M Craven
31 Mrs J Dean

June

07 Mrs M MacNeill
14 Mrs J Goel
21 Mrs J Wilson, Riverview
28 Mrs R Wilson, Auchensail

July

05 Miss K Ferguson
12 Mrs J McKillop
19 Mrs D Colquhoun
26 A McIntyre

August

02 Mrs M Bryson
09 Mrs R MacLachlan
16 Mrs S Kinloch, Walton
23 Miss S McGown
30 TBA

September

06 Mrs J McNeil
13 Guild
20 Harvest Thanksgiving
27 Miss S McGown

October

04 Mrs P Goldie
11 TBA
18 Mrs J Goodings
25 Mrs M Glen

November

01 Mrs H Johnstone
08 Remembrance Sunday
15 Mrs J Wilson, Ardoch
22 Mrs S Hanning
29 Mrs R Wilson, Old Manse

December

06 Mrs L Darroch
13 Mrs E Cormack
22 Christmas Tree
29 Christmas Tree

MAGGIE TO BECOME MODERATOR

At its December Meeting, the Presbytery of Dumbarton was pleased to approve the nomination of the Rev Maggie McArthur as its Moderator for 2020/2021. This position is normally held from June to May, however due to the resignation, due to ill health, of the present Moderator, the Rev. Tina Kemp, Mrs McArthur has agreed, with the approval of Presbytery, to accept the position from February 2020.

The Service of Installation, which will include the Celebration of Holy

Communion, will be held in Cardross Parish Church on Tuesday 4 February 2020 at 7.00pm.

We hope that as many of the congregation as possible will be there on the evening to support and encourage Maggie, as she takes on this new and important role within the Church.

Maureen I Walker

Session Clerk



It is good to be back after 4½ months. I am advised that it will take a little while before I am back to normal, so please overlook the odd note (or two) that might go astray! Certainly I was grateful for the good wishes received during my absence and on my return.

Our Choir Members are truly dedicated – and we would be pleased to have more folks joining – so I want to mention a

scheme which was tried in North America with some success.

If you enjoy singing but cannot commit to Wednesday practices, (September-April 7.00pm to 8.30pm) and Sunday rehearsals (10.00am September – April), please consider coming for one month, starting with the 7.00pm practice. At the end of that month you can leave and perhaps come back in the future.

Do think about this. We look forward to seeing you.

Andrew Black

Organist and Choir Master

Still on a musical theme **MUSIC MAKERS** our talented group of children have started back and are working towards their next two public performances.

Practice dates for performing on Palm Sunday (April 5th) are: March 7th, 21st, 28th and April 4th from 10-10.45am in the church.

Practice dates for performing on June 28th to kick off the holiday club week are May 30th, June 6th, 13th and 27th. Same time & place. 🎵 🎵 🎵 🎵 🎵 🎵

Contact Maggie if you'd like to join in or help:

Tel: 01389 849329 / Mob: 07799 556367 or email: revmaggie@hotmail.co.uk

NEW YEAR QUIZ

- 1/ What does "auld lang syne" mean?
- 2/ Which place was the last to celebrate the new millennium on Jan. 1, 2000?
- 3/ During the Chinese New Year, what activity should you avoid to ward off bad luck?
- 4/ What year did the New Year's celebration in Times Square begin?
- 5/ What fruit do New Year's revelers in Spain eat at the stroke of midnight?
- 6/ Which country rings in New Year's by burning effigies called Jack Straw?
- 7/ The first mobile phone call in Britain was made by which comedian on Jan 1st 1985?
- 8/ On New Years Day 1925 Norway changed the name of its capital city to Oslo. What was the previous name?
- 9/ Traditionally, what do the Dutch eat to usher in the New Year?
- 10/ The US Congress prohibited the importation of what into the USA on Jan 1st 1808?

Answers below - no peeking!

THANK YOU, THANK YOU!

In the last few months with your support from fundraising events and donations we have been able to help the following charities:

K2 TOGETHER 10th Anniversary coffee morning in October:
 Erskine Hospital - £315
 Local Dementia Resource Centre - £315
 Robin House - £315

Jazz Cafe Evening for Christian Aid raised - £890

Congregation members also donate enough money to buy and donate to local food banks **72 Meaningful Chocolate Advent Calendar and Christmas Story Books.**

Many thanks for your continuing support.

Rebecca MacLachlan

NEW YEAR QUIZ ANSWERS: 1/ Times gone by 2/ Hawaii 3/ Don't use scissors or sharp objects - or it will cut your stream of wealth! 4/ 1904 5/ Grapes 6/ Hungary 7/ Ernie Wise 8/ Christiania 9/ Oliebollen (donuts) 10/ Slaves

MESSY CHURCH IS BACK!

Messy Church started back on Saturday 18th January with a healthy turnout of families keen to blow away the January blues. Messy Church meets monthly on a Saturday morning where children and families enjoy bible stories, which are explored through fun activities, games and music. A light lunch is shared in fellowship. Next Messy Church is on Saturday 15 February, so why not pop along and join in. We would be delighted to have more volunteers and if you would like to help (and we DO need some more helpers) please contact Maggie or Judy (07884496257).



Advance notice for this year's **Summer Club**, which will run from **Monday 29 June till Friday 3 July** with an all age service on Sunday 5 July. The theme is **Professor Potty's Time Travel Tales** visiting different stories from the Bible. Registration will open in May on a first come first serve basis. We are looking for volunteers to add to the team. If you feel you want to try something new or

want further information please contact Maggie or Judy (07884496257).



MY SPIRITUAL JOURNEY



After the success of writing two books charting the life of his father including 'From Trench to Sky' and spending the last ten years attempting to complete his own memoirs, Michael Wilson has been encouraged to write a booklet about his Spiritual Journey by his constant companion and wife, Rosemary.

The booklet is a detailed account of a remarkable life and a man's relationship

with God and is full of wonderful stories and pictures from Michael's family archive.

Although not for sale at this point (popular demand may change that) Michael intends making copies available via the Church office and the village library for people to borrow and return.

FISCHY MUSIC the well known Christian band who make music for children are coming to Cardross. We are hosting an afternoon, along with the Helensburgh churches, which will feature a concert and workshop conducted by lead singer and founder of the group, Stephen Fischbacher, and performer Christy Ringrose. The event which will be held in

our church halls on Sat 7th March and is free it will run from 2pm until 4pm. We are hoping that there will be a huge turnout of local children and their families.



LOCAL CHURCH REVIEW



Maggie and Maureen with the members of Presbytery who came to lead the first of three meetings for the Congregation to discuss the future of the Church and our vision of what that should be.

The Local Church Review committee from Presbytery visited us for the first of our three meetings on Thursday 16th January. On that night about 40 people attended. We looked at the nine areas of focus for congregational life to see what we are doing at the moment: WORSHIP. EVANGELISM. SERVICE. DISCIPLESHIP. FELLOWSHIP. WIDER CHURCH. 'MINISTRY' TEAM. STEWARDSHIP. COMMUNICATION.

The next meeting on January 30th will assess the outcome of the 9 topics, discuss the principle outcomes in more detail and choose 3 or 4 to bring to the final meeting on February 13th when hopefully an Action Plan can be

formulated. The LCR team will help us aim for specific goals using the SMART acronym – Specific/Measurable/Achievable/Resourced/Time limited.

It is important that the whole LCR process be seen as a congregational exercise. It is designed to ensure that the goals are not the private dream of the minister or any office bearer but are shared and owned by the congregation. So I look forward to welcoming you to the next meetings when you can have your say and share your thoughts and ideas.

Many thanks for your continuing support. Maggie McArthur.