

May/June 2017

CONTACT



www.dundonald-parish-church.com

FROM THE MANSE May/June 2017

Dear Friends,

Our Church Hall may now have the best toilets in the village! You'll need to come and see. Trying to raise the £33,000 for their refurbishment seemed a daunting task, but it's been amazing how successfully and quickly we have been able to secure £26,000 towards that amount. Hopefully, the project will be VAT exempt, which means we have only another £5,000 to raise to meet the full cost of the work without having to tap into our reserves.

So, it's a very big 'Thank You!' to all those who have been involved in the various fund-raising projects, including Jennifer at the Sheltered Housing Unit, whose Coffee Morning raised £601. Also, a heart-felt 'Thank You' to those who donated money, several of which were very generous amounts. All of this raised £10,000, which is a reflection on how kind and how hard-working members of our Congregation can be.

In that respect, I really enjoyed presenting my annual Golden Egg Awards again this Easter to some hard-working and responsible people within our Congregation. That brings the total presented to 116 Eggs.

The first Egg went to **Janice Hardie** who became our Safeguarding Officer, a position that has increasingly become very important within the Church in general. Since her appointment, Janice has organised several PVG courses and has almost all the relevant checks in place.

The next Egg went to **Doug Grant**, our Fabric Convener, who has been working enthusiastically to bring our Church properties up to a high standard, including overseeing the Hall toilet refurbishment project.

The third Egg went to **Elizabeth Munro** who is our Christian Aid Organiser. Over the years Elizabeth has been doing this, we have raised many thousands of pounds to help our neighbours in desperate need.

The last (and it's definitely the last) went to **Kevin McAulay**. Not only is Kevin the Officer in Charge of our successful B.B. Company, but he is a very able Joiner, whose skills have not been lost on our Fabric Convener, and others within the Congregation.

So thanks to everyone who plays their part within the life of our Congregation. 116 Golden Eggs aren't really a fair reflection on how many people deserve this Award. There are many other worthy recipients within our Church. But Church life isn't about that. There's a higher reward available, and that's the only one that counts.

Take care, and God bless you all.

Bob & Christina

AN OLD LEGEND

An old legend tells how a man once stumbled upon a great red barn after wandering for days in a dark, overgrown forest. Seeking refuge from the howling winds of a storm that seemed to rage perpetually in the forest, he let his eyes grow accustomed to the dark and then, to his astonishment, he discovered that this was the barn where Satan kept his storehouse of seeds to be sown into human hearts. More curious than fearful, he lit a match and began to explore the piles and bins of seeds around him. He couldn't help but notice that the containers labelled seeds of discouragement far outnumbered any other type of seed.

Just as the man had drawn this conclusion, one of Satan's foremost demons arrived to pick up a fresh supply of seed. The man asked him why there was such an abundance of discouragement seeds. The demon laughed, "Because they are so effective and they take root so quickly." The man then asked, "Do they grow everywhere?" At this the demon became sullen. He glared at the man and admitted in disgust, "No, they never seem to thrive in the heart of a grateful person".

Be thankful for what you have, today and trust the Lord to take care of what you don't have.

Rejoice evermore ... In everything give thanks for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus concerning you.

1 Thessalonians 5 v 16, 18 (AV)

BOARD MATTERS

Bob McMillan

The Congregational Board met 18 April in the Church Hall.

FINANCE REPORT:- Bank balance stands at £13233.34. Total offerings for March 2017 were £6295.76, down £585.84 on previous year. Total for 2017 to date is £15,737.97 which is up by £196.68 on same period last year. Special Project Fund (Hall Toilet Refurb) was noted as £10,912.20 plus £4,000 reduction in our Ministry & Mission payments, for a total of £14,912.20. The Treasurer also suggested we might use the "Board & Session Fund" which stands at about £2000 - however it was decided to retain this as it is for the moment. The Christian Aid Famine Appeal retiring offering raised £320.

FABRIC REPORT:- DCR started the work on the toilets on April 3rd. The first two weeks saw the demolition of the existing structures and the formation of the new layout. A new window has been installed in the ladies and the disabled toilets. It was found necessary to install a support beam across the roof at an additional £850 plus a Structural Engineer's fee. A timber beam was sourced and fitted. Part of the wall and floor covering is now in place. Most of the first fix electrical work has been done and the hot water system installed. It was found that the external waste pipe had been blocked by the incursion of tree roots and this had to be replaced. Grateful thanks to Dougal Gray for clearing away shrubbery at the back of toilet block. After discussions with HMRC it would seem that we may be able to claim back all of the V.A.T.

SOCIAL ACTION COMMITTEE:- Tea will be served after the service on the 1st Sunday in May. It is hoped to run a Car Treasure Hunt and BBQ on 11th. June - a volunteer is needed to organise the route.

LOANS SERVICE:- Next services will be on 21st May and 18th June. Mrs. Zorget will play the piano in May and Mrs. Cain will play in June.

AOCB:- The Fete Committee needs new members. Volunteers contact Mrs. Ruth Easton. The Clerk advised that the Church organ has been tampered with on several occasions and this will need to be fitted with a lock.

ITEMS FOR THE MAY AGENDA:- Committee restructuring (Mrs. Mayes). **The next Board & Session meetings** will be on the 16th May with Session having priority. We will also have visitors from the Presbytery Vacancy Procedure Committee.

ALWAYS SAY A PRAYER

THURS 4th May - INTERNATIONAL FIREFIGHTERS DAY

Remember all who courageously serve in the UK's 50 or more fire and rescue services. Ask God to grant them protection and wisdom in dangerous emergency situations. Also pray about the devastation caused by wildfires across the world.

Thurs 4th May - LOCAL GOVERNMENT ELECTIONS

Pray or all involved in the local government elections, that they will be held without disruption, for the leaders in each political party and their teams as they start their UK election campaigns and draft their manifestos - pray for their safety and security as they travel the country; for wisdom for our leaders as they campaign - that they would resist the temptation to promise what they cannot deliver - pray for a 'revival' of honesty and integrity; that the campaigning would be carried out in a positive and civil way - focussing on the plans and policies and not on negative, destructive personality attacks; that any 'voter apathy' will be overcome.

7-21 MAY - PRAY FOR SCHOOLS FORTNIGHT

Lord, may many be inspired to pray for their local schools, especially during the next fortnight. Please encourage those who are already doing this and lead them by Your Spirit as they pray for Your blessing to rest upon staff and pupils. Amen. (prayforschools.org)

8-21 MAY - FOSTER CARE FORTNIGHT

Pray that Foster Care Fortnight will prompt more people to consider welcoming a child into their home and making a significant difference in their life. Pray that every placement will be a safe secure home, a good match that meets the needs of each child.

MON 15 MAY - INTERNATIONAL DAY OF FAMILIES

Remember Christian organisations, Churches, charities and agencies that support families that have been driven from their homes, are living in poverty and in fear for their lives. Pray they will be able to bring them food, shelter, education, medical care and hope.

23 May-7 June - Ayr Presbytery Malawi Trip

25 MAY-4 JUNE - 'THY KINGDOM COME' . The Archbishop of Canterbury is inviting Christians around the world to pray between Ascension Day and Pentecost, for people to know Jesus Christ. (thykingdom.co.uk)

THURS 25th MAY ASCENSION DAY and NATIONAL DAY OF PRAYER

FOR POLICE - Ask God to raise up thousands of Christians to intercede for the advance of God's kingdom throughout the land and pray for those who serve in our local communities. Remember especially our police and other emergency services today.

SUN 4th JUNE - PENTECOST SUNDAY

Holy Spirit, we thank You for sending down Your power, love and wisdom to change our lives as we trust in Christ. We long to witness a greater outpouring of Your grace upon the Church that brings blessing to all people and extends Your Kingdom. Amen.

MON 5th JUNE - WORLD ENVIRONMENT DAY

Pray that British farmers will find ways to preserve the hedgerows and fallow land to provide habitats where wildlife can flourish, especially species under threat. Pray for farmers in the developing world to have the information and resources they need to increase yield and protect the environment.

THURS 8th JUNE - WORLD OCEANS DAY

Our oceans, our future. Ask God to help governments, organisations and individuals to redouble efforts to clean up the oceans and seas, impose workable and fair fishing quotas, and find ways to replenish marine vegetation and fish that are under threat today.

JUNE 11-17 - DIABETES WEEK

Pray for hospitals, GP surgeries and other healthcare providers. Pray that God's Spirit of healing and peace will permeate them, bringing strength and comfort to patients and the staff who work so hard to restore and nurture bodies and minds back to health. Ask God to provide necessary resources and grant breakthroughs in research into how to manage and treat diabetes.

WED 14th JUNE - WORLD BLOOD DONOR DAY

Lord, may today result in many new people being willing to make regular life-saving gifts of blood that will save lives. Please encourage the nurses, donor carers and administrators who work within our Transfusion Services.

SUN 18th JUNE - FATHER'S DAY

Father of us all, may Your great love be increasingly reflected in relationships between fathers and grandfathers and their children. Amen. Pray for millions of families across the world that are fatherless or completely orphaned as a result of conflict, migration, poverty, natural disasters and disease. Ask God to help Christian organisations and churches as they reach out with the Father's love to bring hope and healing to them.

SAT 24th JUNE - ARMED FORCES DAY

Pray that the national celebration in Liverpool and many local events will be a great encouragement to the men and women who make up the Armed Forces community. Thank God for their service and pray for their protection and wellbeing.

SUN 25th JUNE - DAY OF THE SEAFARER

Father, we pray for all seamen, many of whom are poorly paid and living in uncomfortable conditions at risk from piracy and bad weather. Please watch over them and comfort them when they feel homesick and afraid. Amen.

Thanks to Care Prayer Diary online and Pray for Scotland online

SHEILA WILSON 1936-2017 Elder at Dundonald Church 2013-2017

Sheila was born in Crosby, near Liverpool, older sister to Alistair, who now lives in South Africa. Her Scottish parents went to live in Crosby where her father worked as a GP from their house and mother was receptionist. Their house was bombed in the War and father called up to serve in the Army, so they went to live with grandparents in Uddingston where Sheila started school. She learnt to write on a slate with a slate pencil - copy books used only on Fridays for 'best' work. After the War, they moved back to Crosby, where she continued school - no slates there (!) and Sheila became an enthusiastic Brownie, Guide and Sea Ranger. They attended the local Presbyterian Church, where her father was Session Clerk, and she helped in Sunday School with the 'tinies' until she left home.

After leaving school age 18, Sheila did nursing training at Liverpool Royal Infirmary, followed by midwifery in London/St Helen's. She always had an urge to travel and with a friend went to work in Bermuda/Montreal for a couple of years, then back to London working as District Nurse in the Pimlico/Westminster area, which she found a fascinating social mix. In those days they rode bikes, and she said "Hyde Park Corner was somewhat hazardous!" Sheila then did a Health Visiting course, and joined the Soldiers, Sailors, Airmen & Families Association, who ran professional nursing and social work service for families serving overseas. Her first posting was to Aden, which came as quite a culture shock, but she loved it, despite the heat. It was the time of "Mad Mitch" - Lieutenant-Colonel Colin Mitchell, Commander of the 1st Battalion, Argyll & Sutherland Highlanders who subdued the anarchy-ridden Crater District of Aden without losing a single soldier. Subsequent postings were in Singapore and various parts of Germany. Sheila continued her involvement with SSAFA and was Chairperson for several years.

In 1976, Sheila felt it was time to put down roots and chose a nice house in Dundonald, as it was in a largely rural area, had good shopping towns and was also within striking distance of her parents who had retired to Tighnabraich. She worked as a Health Visitor, before becoming Nurse Manager for Community Nursing based at Irvine, which she continued until she retired.

Part of Sheila's lasting legacy is through the many banners that adorn our Church and Hall with their wonderful artistic beauty. Sheila always enjoyed knitting and stitching, and after retirement she did a City & Guilds Creative Embroidery course at Cardonald College from

which she contributed skills, techniques and ideas to the banner-making in her modest way, with calm encouragement and great sense of humour. Sheila helped with crafts at Summer Holiday Club and also updated the Baptismal Registers that hang on the Choir Room walls with her beautiful calligraphy.

In 2006 she joined the Congregational Board, and in 2013 was ordained to Eldership. She was also involved in the Flower Festival, Fete Committee and made fabulous jams! She was very keen on her garden and liked to keep fit walking regularly with other ladies in "Dundonald Ramblers". She enjoyed classical music and opera, playing bridge and was a former Secretary of the Dundonald Historical Society. Sheila passed away suddenly and unexpectedly at home on the evening of Tuesday, 21st March. She was a sincere and good friend to have, always ready to help and we thank God for her life and for the many happy memories she has left behind.

To Rev. Bob Mayes, dearest Pam and the ladies of Dundonald Church

It has been exactly a week since the memorial service for Sheila was held and I just wanted to send a wee note to express our sincere and heartfelt thanks.

Thank you, Bob, for the eulogy and service – it was thoughtful and sincere. I am so grateful that you were able to conduct the service... and still have your holiday!

Huge gratitude for the exceptional tea that Pam, along with the most willing ladies of the parish, arranged for us in memory of Sheila. It was such a load off our minds to know that we did not have to worry about that on the day. I cannot tell you how much it meant. You all worked so hard to produce the spread: the bakes and cakes and savouries were delicious and plentiful. Such wonderful bakers in Dundonald – you did Sheila proud.

I am so glad we did see all the banners that Sheila was involved in and may the tradition continue well into the future.

Hope you all had a blessed Easter and God bless.

*Warm regards
Fiona Wilson Mash*

CAR TREASURE HUNT

SUNDAY 11th June

Come and join this fun evening - 5pm from the Church ending at an 'unknown' destination!

Please see Anne FitzGerald (850276) or any of the Social Action Committee for details

BRIAN LAURIE'S ACCORDIAN BAND

FRIDAY 8TH SEPTEMBER

AT 7.30PM

IN THE CHURCH - DETAILS TO FOLLOW!

Elaine Grant
(851985)

STRICTLY FUN DANCING

in partnership with

DUNDONALD PARISH CHURCH

will be hosting a TEA DANCE

Sunday 8th Oct 2017

2.00-4.30pm

in Dundonald Church Hall

£5 including

tea, coffee & cake

Shirley Shaw (540063)

CONCERT WITH WILLIE STEWART

AND FEATURING ALASTAIR McDONALD

and other local artistes
on Friday 27th October
in the Church at 7.30pm

*details to follow
nearer the time*

Willie Stewart (850486)

JUST A THOUGHT

If only life came packed with manuals we could read,
A list of clear instructions and all parts guaranteed,
But oh life's not so simple, no useful hints or tools,
We have to muddle through it, without the help of rules,
Yet one thing that we do have, are others by our side,
To help, support and cheer us, in whom we may confide,
For as we share our knowledge, so ignorance takes flight,
By working close together, we'll surely get it right!

Taken from St Meddan's Church Magazine

Dear Rev Mayes

22nd April, 2017

On Monday 10th April I attended the Memorial Service for my friend, Sheila Wilson, which was much appreciated by the congregation. Sheila and I played in the Monday Bridge Club and became friends, as did a number of other members. Please pass on to the ladies of your church my thanks for the delicious "cup of tea", sandwiches and cakes. Should you be having a coffee morning at a later date I'd be very happy to support it, maybe bringing a few friends. Could someone let me know any date arranged? We were so lucky to have Sheila as our friend.

Yours sincerely, Mrs Margaret Dick, Troon

60 Years in the Choir!

Isn't it nice to get a lovely surprise now and again?

This is exactly what happened to me at church on Easter Sunday, 16th April! I was presented with beautiful flowers from the choir and congregation on the occasion of my retiral from the choir. I was 'gobsmacked' so much that I did not know what to say. It will certainly be different for me to face the choir rather than being in it. All I can say is a most sincere 'Thank You' to all and best wishes for the future. "Thank you" is a small expression that means so much! Christina



Thank You! Thank you to everyone for the beautiful flowers given to me after my operation, They were greatly appreciated.
With best wishes - Gill Townsend

"Thank you" from Jennifer and Karen at DUNDONALD SHU
"We would like to thank everybody who came along and supported us at the Coffee morning on 1st April for Dundonald Church Toilet Refurbishment. £601 was raised on the day - a big "Thank You"! Friday 28th July is the next date for Rag Bags. Please keep your unwanted items coming. Thank you."

FUND RAISING FOR THE HALL TOILETS

*So far over £26,000 has
been raised !!!*

*thank you everyone who
has taken part with the
fund-raising and who has
thought up such great
ideas!*

(we began in July last year!)

CROQUET GAME

at Glenburn Dairy, Loans

***Sunday 21st May at
2.30 pm***

*Tickets £8 with tea,
coffee and sandwiches
available.*

*Please contact Lilian
Axford if you would like
to take part (850462).
Plenty of car parking. You
are welcome to come and
watch.*

OUR FUNDRAISING RECIPE BOOK!

The last call for your
favourite recipes!

Please think about your
favourite tried and tested
recipes for our recipe book!

Email them to me at
sandyfrancesm@hotmail.com

or put a written note through
my door - 1 Cochrane Drive.

We plan to have the book on
sale at Dundonald Games in

August. Look forward to
hearing from you!

GARDENS OPEN DAY

Sunday 25th June

starting at church

1-5pm

CREAM TEAS

£5

Sheila Payne (850311)

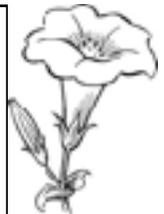
CHURCH DIARY

MORNING WORSHIP	Every Sunday at 11.00 am.
CRECHE	Every Sunday from 10.45 am. (Hall)
SUNDAY SCHOOL	Every Sunday at 11.00 am (Church)
BIBLE CLASS	Every Sunday at 11.00 am (Church)

MAY	7 th	WORSHIP Followed by tea/coffee in hall
"	14 th	WORSHIP
"	16 th	Congregational Board (Church Hall at 7.30pm) followed immediately by the Kirk Session
"	21 st	WORSHIP Loans Village Service (Village Hall at 2.30pm.)
"	28 th	WORSHIP Sheltered Unit Service (2.00pm.)
JUNE	4 th	FAMILY SERVICE (Pentecost) Presentation of Nurture Gifts followed by Lunch in the Hall hosted by The Guild
"	11 th	WORSHIP
"	18 th	WORSHIP
"	25 th	WORSHIP

*The following ladies provided flowers in Church
for April.*

*Mrs M Kuczynski, Flower Fund
Mrs S Payne, Mrs L Zorget, Mrs Jean Gray
Thanks to Everybody **Ellen Gray***





1st DUNDONALD

Well as they say in Hollywood 'That's a wrap' We ended our session this year with our **Annual Display at the Activity Centre** on Friday 28th April and decided to change our format that so many of you are used to seeing. The boys decided that they wanted to move away from the traditional way and put on a theatre style show for parents and friends. We started the evening off with our very own opening ceremony that would put London 2012 to shame. We were joined by our very own 'Red Arrows', 'Village People' and even a visit from President Donald Trump.

The night saw a variety of performances from both the Junior Section with acts such as 'The Invisible Bench' and 'Police CCTV'. The Company Section kept us entertained with a troupe of dancers, a comedy performance of a Dr Surgery and our very own David Copperfield (Jamie Robb) with an amazing illusion that would certainly have left many people wondering how it was done. Our Anchor Section entertained the crowd in between items with a few games and a very different quiz that certainly got a few people in a 'sticky' situation.

Towards the end of the evening we were entertained by some of the drummers and pipers of 1st Dundonald (Michael Robb, Jamie Kerr, Matthew Penman, Kenny Keenan, Kevin McAulay, Zak Francis, Lee Smith) and their tutors Alan Appleby and Chris Bone. I'm delighted with the progress that they've made over the last 6/7 months and look forward to seeing what we can achieve over the next year or two.

We finished our evening off with the presentation of awards and amongst them 3 Presidents Badge awards. The 2nd highest within the Brigade. These were presented to Lance Corporal Ross Love, Corporal Jamie Robb and Corporal Ewan Eaglesham. This marks the start of their 2-year journey to attain the Queens Badge. We were also fortunate this year to have 2 Queens Badge awards handed out this year and these went to Staff Sergeants Murray Jones and Rhys Penman.

Dundonald Church Fete

Saturday 3rd June 2pm

Dundonald Church Hall

cream teas plants cakes crafts *tombola*
bottle stall raffle **quiz**
white elephant and much more!



The Church summer fete is happening on Saturday 3rd June in the Church hall at 2pm. We will have the usual stalls including plant stall, bottle stall, crafts, baking and tombola. Anyone wishing to donate items can hand them into the church hall between 6pm and 8pm on Friday 2nd June. We are also looking for volunteers to help set up and work on the stalls during the day. If you can offer any assistance please contact Ruth on 850012/ 07725627097.

We are also looking for new committee members and if you are interested in joining the fete committee also contact Ruth.

HOUSE GROUPS

"Exploring the
Catechism"

with Catriona in Church
at 7.30pm on

Thurs 4th May

Thurs 18th May

Thurs 1st June

Welcome to the April/May edition of WM

**Stamps, Books, and a Brighter
Future**

Our 2017 Stamp Project

Getting to Know You!

An interview with Kate McDonald

**Working Together for a Just
World**

Christian Aid

Prayer Focus

"Let the Children come to me"

The Scottish-Czech Connection

Growing ties with Evangelical
Church of the Czech Brethren

More in Common

Glasgow Twinning with Hyderabad

General Assembly

Pick up a copy in the porch

**Christian Aid Week
14th - 20th May 2017
WANTED**

We are looking for prizes for the Tombola to be held at the
also baking to serve with the coffee and to sell on the sales table.

**Christian Aid
Coffee Morning
Saturday 20th May
10.00am - 11.30am**

in
The Church Hall
£2.50

Please put this date in your diary to support Christian Aid

If you can donate any prizes or baking they can be given to

Elizabeth Munro
01563 850125

Baking can be handed in to Elizabeth or at the hall on the morning of the 20th May

**PRAYING ACROSS
SCOTLAND**

This will take place on **Sunday 14th May at 3pm** at Muirkirk Parish Church to pray for the Business of the General Assembly and for the commissioners. All are welcome.



*New choir members are needed and are most welcome! You do not have to be able to read music just enjoy singing and taking part in worship. Choir practice is at 10.15 in winter and 10.30 in summer.
Mariea Black*

enjoyed themselves and I'd like to take this opportunity once again to thank Mr David Bone MBE for being our guest for the evening. Mr Mayes for his support over the last 29 years and finally to the officers of 1st Dundonald Company for their indebted support and time that they give up year in and year out as and when required.

That now leads us on to our **Summer programme** which will involve an Anchor Section Day out, Junior Section camp to Newton Stewart, Company Section camp to Kirkham and finally Dundonald Games day before starting our 2017/2018 session.

Until then have a wonderful Summer.

Regards,
Kevin McAulay, Officer in Charge

NEW WORLD

When I was young the world was new,
Such awe and wonder filled each day,
The fields so green, the sky so blue,
All waking hours were spent in play,
Such awe and wonder filled each day,
Fresh things to do, so much to see,
All waking hours were spent in play,



We'd run around or climb a tree.
Fresh things to do, so much to see,
A flowing stream, birds on the wing,
We'd run around or climb a tree,
New pleasures found in everything.
A flowing stream, birds on the wing,
The fields so green, the sky so blue,
New pleasures found in everything,
When I was young the world was new.

Taken from The Link, Mid Glamorgan Mission of the Methodist Church

"Just be who you want to be, not what others want to see."

THE WAY WE WERE...Mr and Mrs W Johnston

from a previous edition of Contact

Mr and Mrs W Johnston with their two boys, Dennis and Brian, took up residence in the School House, Dundonald in 1948. Mr Johnston became Headmaster and held this post for 22 years.

The village was much smaller then and the number of pupils under 200 but as the village became larger of course the number of children increased and by the time Mr Johnstone retired (1970) the number had at least doubled. He was a very popular Headmaster and greatly loved by his pupils. He was their friend as well as 'The Master'. The wee ones would show him their new clothes or toys, tell him their happy secrets, sometimes their sad ones too. When the children grew up and graduated to Marr College or even further on, his interest in them did not cease and he followed their careers with great interest, always ready to give advice or help of any kind when needed. One of the highlights of the school year was when he, along with a few friends, took the Primary 7 boys on cycling tours in the summer holidays. The boys looked forward to these, and enjoyed them very much; many happy and funny stories are told about these excursions to this day.

Mr Johnston took over the duties of Superintendent of the Sunday School shortly after coming to the village and gave great service in this sphere. He held Bible studies and the children sat exams in this subject, many of whom gained certificates. With the help of Mrs Johnston and others they produced kinder-spiels and concerts with the children raising funds for the Church and providing amenities for the Church hall. At Christmas they always produced a nativity play in the Church. After 15 years in the Sunday School a new organist was required for the church. The Board were most fortunate in acquiring the services of Mr Johnston who then had to retire from the Sunday School as he could not carry out both services. His love of music was well-known but he especially enjoyed playing the organ. He was organist at the weddings of many of the pupils who started as children at the school. He was always in great demand as a public speaker at any of the village functions. His ready wit, party humour and his unlimited fund of stories were very much enjoyed.

Mrs Johnston was a great asset to the village also, and a great help to her husband. She was also very musical and help to train the

children in all the musical activities. She was a lovely singer and gave her services freely and her singing was much enjoyed. When they came to Dundonald the Church had no primary Sunday School so along with others they started a primary. At one time there were 120 pupils between the ages of 2 and 8 on the register, one of the highest number in the Presbytery

DUNDONALD WI

Thursday 4th May

at 7.30pm The final meeting and AGM for SWI will be held in the Montgomerie Hall on

Thursday 11th May

7.30pm. Demonstration on Book Folding.

LOANS WI

May - AGM

30th June - 26th Coffee Evening

See Ann or Morag for details

DREGHORN MUSICAL SOCIETY

**25th Anniversary
Spring Concert**

(1992 -2017)

Weds 17th May 2017

7.30pm Grand Hall,
Kilmarnock, tickets £7
(from Anne Watts
and Anne Young)

DUNDONALD HISTORICAL & ARCHIVE SOCIETY

Weds 10th May

Outing to Dumfries Arms Hotel,
Cumnock and Baird Institute,
Cumnock

Irene McMillan (850702)

VOCATIONS CONFERENCE

Saturday 17th June at

Carnegie Conference Centre,
Dunfermline - see website for
details.

vocation@churchofscotland.org.uk

PRAISE GATHERING 2017 - "LIFT HIGH IN THE NAME OF JESUS"

Saturday 10 June/Sunday 11 June 7.30pm

with Onaje Jefferson, Glasgow Royal Concert Hall, tickets now on
sale glasgowconcerthalls.com/praisegathering.org.uk

COOKERY CORNER

CITRUS SPICED SALMON

6 skinless salmon fillets

4 tbsp edible rose petals, finely chopped, 2 tsp sumac,

1 tsp dried lime powder, 1 tsp ground cumin, 1/2 tsp cinnamon

Finely grated rind of 1 orange, Finely grated rind of 1 lime

3--6 tbsp olive oil, Salt and pepper to taste, Lemon wedges to serve

Preheat oven to 200c /180c fan/gas 6. Line a baking sheet with non stick paper. Combine the ground rose petals, spices and grated orange and lime rind in a small bowl, add the olive oil and stir well to form a wet marinade for the salmon. The mixture may only need 3 tablespoons of oil, take care. Rub each salmon fillet with the marinade and place on the baking tray (at this stage you can cover with cling film and refrigerate overnight, if you wish). Season well with salt and pepper and bake for 10-12 minutes until the fish is cooked. Serves 6

This recipe sounds a little odd, but do try it. The rose petals and lime powder can be bought in Tesco, and it takes 15 minutes to prepare. Your guests will be intrigued!



A bricklayer, a joiner and an electrician argued who was on earth first. "We built the pyramids," said the bricklayer, "so we must have been first." "No," said the joiner, "we built Noah's Ark long before that." The electrician chuckled. "What's funny?" asked the joiner. On the first day, God said "Let there be light – and we laid the cables!"

The verger was conducting the vicar to the pulpit for his first sermon in the parish. He whispered, "Vicar, I ought to tell you that there is no record of any soul being saved in this Church with a sermon that lasts longer than ten minutes."

A clergyman on holiday called at a farm and asked for a drink. He was given a bowl of milk. He noticed a pig watching very intently and remarked that it must be a very intelligent animal. "Do you think he knows I'm a stranger?" he asked. "No, reverend," said the farmer, but he knows that you're using his bowl."

PRESBYTERY'S GOT TALENT

held on Friday 31st March at Kingcase Church

The night was a huge success, and well supported with £1959 raised on the night. Thanks were expressed to Kingcase congregation for hosting, and Jill for comparing, and to God for giving her the voice! The money going out will be given to hospitals, orphanages, Ekwendeni HIV/AIDS Project, Guilds and Schools and will be given in the name of the Presbytery of Ayr which is twinned with the Presbyteries of Limphasa and Bandawe in Malawi.

Thank you to everyone from Dundonald Church who gave so generously towards this amount raised.

AYR PRESBYTERY MALAWI TRIP 2017

is from Tuesday 23rd May to Wednesday 7th June

On Friday 26th May Sandy and Frances will visit Mdyaka Congregation for the day and see the projects we have supported.

The team from the Presbytery going out to Malawi are:-

Linda Bryson, Kingcase - twin Chinteche
Bill Duncan, Alloway - twin Bandawe Primary School and BAGSS;
George Fiddes, St Nicholas - twin Phiri
Fiona Ferrans, New Cumnock - twin Kajilirwe;
Julie Griffiths, Alloway - twin Bandawe Primary School and BAGSS;
Bill Weir, Troon Portland - twin Limphasa;
Beth Whittington, Ballantrae - twin Lwambaza

O God bless our land of Malaŵi,
Keep it a land of peace.
Put down each and every enemy,
Hunger, disease, envy.
Join together all our hearts as one,
That we be free from fear.
Bless our leader, each and every one,
And Mother Malaŵi.

Michael-Fredrick Paul Sauka (1934 -1990) composed and wrote the words for "Mlungu Dalitsani Malawi", the National Anthem.

Something To Think About

Prayer is not a spare wheel that you pull out when in trouble, but it is a steering wheel that directs the right path throughout the journey.

Why is a car's windshield so large and the rear view mirror so small? Because our PAST is not as important as our FUTURE. So look ahead and move on.

Friendship is like a BOOK. It takes a few minutes to burn, but it takes years to write.

All things in life are temporary. If going well, enjoy it, they will not last forever. If going wrong don't worry, they can't last long either.

Old friends are Gold! New friends are Diamond! If you get a Diamond, don't forget the Gold! Because to hold a Diamond, you always need a Base of Gold!

Often when we lose hope and think this is the end, God says, "Relax, it's just a bend, not the end!"

When God solves your problems, you have faith in HIS abilities.
When God doesn't solve your problems, He has faith in your abilities.

A blind person asked St Anthony, "Can there be anything worse than losing eyesight?" He replied, "Yes, losing your vision!"

When you pray for others, God listens to you and blesses them, and sometimes when you are safe and happy, remember that someone has prayed for you.

Worrying does not take away tomorrow's troubles, it takes away today's peace.

For the best results follow the Maker's instructions.

However long the night, the dawn will break.

It is good to remember that the tea kettle, although up to its neck in hot water, continues to sing.

Taken from Portree Parish Church of Scotland and other sources

CHURCH ROTAS May - August

DATES	Car Rota 1	Car Rota 2	Car Rota 3
07/05/17	Pat McLaren	Moreen Linton	Keith Parker
14/05/17		Maureen Brown	Elaine Grant
21/05/17	Pam Kavanagh	Kate Tweedie	Margaret Miller
28/05/17	Sandy Parker	Janette Caldwell	Bob McMillan
04/06/17	Angus Stirrat	Gemmill Jack	Frances Mavor
11/06/17		Johnann Stewart	Jane Ritchie
18/06/17	David Harrow	Margaret Rae	Yvonne Cain
25/06/17	Graeme Dunn	Maggie Kuczynski	Elizabeth Munro
02/07/17	Pat McLaren	Moreen Linton	Keith Parker
09/07/17		Maureen Brown	Elaine Grant
16/07/17	Pam Kavanagh	Kate Tweedie	Margaret Miller
23/07/17	Sandy Parker	Janette Caldwell	Bob McMillan
30/07/17	Angus Stirrat	Gemmill Jack	Frances Mavor
06/08/17		Johnann Stewart	Jane Ritchie
13/08/17	David Harrow	Margaret Rae	Yvonne Cain
20/08/17	Graeme Dunn	Maggie Kuczynski	Elizabeth Munro
27/08/17	Pat McLaren	Moreen Linton	Keith Parker
03/09/17		Maureen Brown	Elaine Grant

A HUG – ONE SIZE FITS ALL!!

It's funny how a little hug makes everyone feel good,
 In every place and language it's always understood,
 Hugs don't need equipment, special batteries or parts,
 Just open up your arms and open up your hearts.

DATES	CRECHE ROTA	BIBLE READING ROTA
07/05/17	Linda Zorget & Katy Purdie	I. McMillan
14/05/17	Jean Gray & Debi Dunn	S. Mavor
21/05/17	Libba Fallows & Anne FitzGerald	C. Mayes
28/05/17	Shirley Shaw & Kathleen Morton	C. Millar
04/06/17	Helen Jamieson & Nancy Armour	B. Rae
11/06/17	Catriona Mayes & Margaret Rae	M. Miller
18/06/17	Linda Hall & Shona Jack	J. Kerr
25/06/17	Lynne Fagan & Joan Edgar	M. Wright
02/07/17	Linda Zorget & Katy Purdie	F. Douglas
09/07/17	Jean Gray & Debi Dunn	A. McLaren
16/07/17	Libba Fallows & Anne FitzGerald	
23/07/17	Frances Mavor & Kathleen Morton	B. McMillan
30/07/17	Helen Jamieson & Nancy Armour	
06/08/17	Catriona Mayes & Margaret Rae	J. Ritchie (Mr)
13/08/17	Linda Hall & Shona Jack	
20/08/17	Lynne Fagan & Joan Edgar	S. Shaw
27/08/17	Katy Purdie	G. Stewart
03/09/17	Jean Gray & Debi Dunn	

07/05/17	DOOR DUTY			
W. Rae	E. Gray	G. Kenmuir	Mrs J. Ritchie	G. Baird
14/05/17				
J. Morton	E. Grant	M. Miller	J. Hardie	
21/05/17				
E. Docherty	E. Munro	Mr J. Ritchie	G. Dunn	L. Axford
28/05/17				
D. Harrow	A. Ferguson	M. Brown	J. Harper	

04/06/17 DOOR DUTY (cont.)

G. Jack H. Harrow D. Richmond Y. Cain

11/06/17

W. Thomson S. Mavor D. Gray M. Gilmour

18/06/17

R. McMillan F. Mavor A. FitzGerald J. Wilson

25/06/17

J. Kerr S. Payne A. Picken A. Brown

02/07/17

W. Rae E. Gray G. Kenmuir Mrs J. Ritchie G. Baird

09/07/17

J. Morton E. Grant M. Miller J. Hardie

16/07/17

E. Docherty E. Munro Mr J. Ritchie G. Dunn L. Axford

23/07/17

D. Harrow A. Ferguson M. Brown J. Harper

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27/08/17

W. Rae E. Gray G. Kenmuir Mrs J. Ritchie G. Baird

03/09/17

J. Morton E. Grant M. Miller J. Hardie

WISDOM ...THINK ABOUT IT

Finally, brothers and sisters, whatever is true or noble whatever is right, whatever is pure or lovely or admirable – if anything is excellent or praiseworthy – think about such things. Phil. 4:8

In our work places we can struggle with an avalanche of data and information. We're all too aware that quantity of knowledge does not equate to wisdom. True wisdom is relational. It is a way of thinking and living which results in harmony with God and with others in every arena of life.

The Bible, the book of Proverbs in particular, builds a picture of wisdom as a compass for life, helping us to discern the path we should take and guiding us in how to walk that path. Wisdom is occasionally seen when someone has a moment of insight which unlocks a seemingly intractable situation.

However, most wisdom is based on habitual patterns developed over time. This can be regular focused attention on God's Word, as in the instruction given to Joshua: 'Keep this Book of the Law always on your lips, meditate on it day and night, so that you may be careful to do everything written in it. Then you will be prosperous and successful' (Joshua 1:8). It also includes Paul's more general call to 'think about' things that are noble, right, pure, lovely, and so on.

Developments in neuroscience help us to reflect on the significance of directions like these in the Bible.

Neuroplasticity is the term used to describe how the brain is modified by our patterns of thinking. As David Rock and Linda Page write in *Coaching with the Brain in Mind*: 'By exerting conscious energy, we decide what to pay attention to. Over time, the connections we make because we are paying attention become hardwired, and the basis for further actions.'

By making wise choices as to where we focus our attention – the articles we read, the TV programmes we watch, or the colleagues we listen to – our brains are reshaped. This influences our capacity to feel, think and act wisely. Paul's instruction to focus on that which is 'excellent or praiseworthy' is wise advice.

Taken from the Parish Pump

When you come to the end of the rope, tie a knot and hang on.

Thomas Jefferson (1743-18

CONTACT INFORMATION

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Please give articles to the Editor

- for Summer Contact by Sunday 2nd July
- for the September Magazine by Sunday 27th August

**ROCKY'S
plaiice**

LOOK OUT FOR THE

HOLIDAY CLUB IN AUGUST!

crafts, games, jokes, music, snacks
and Bible stories about Peter and his
friends at the Chip Shop Church!