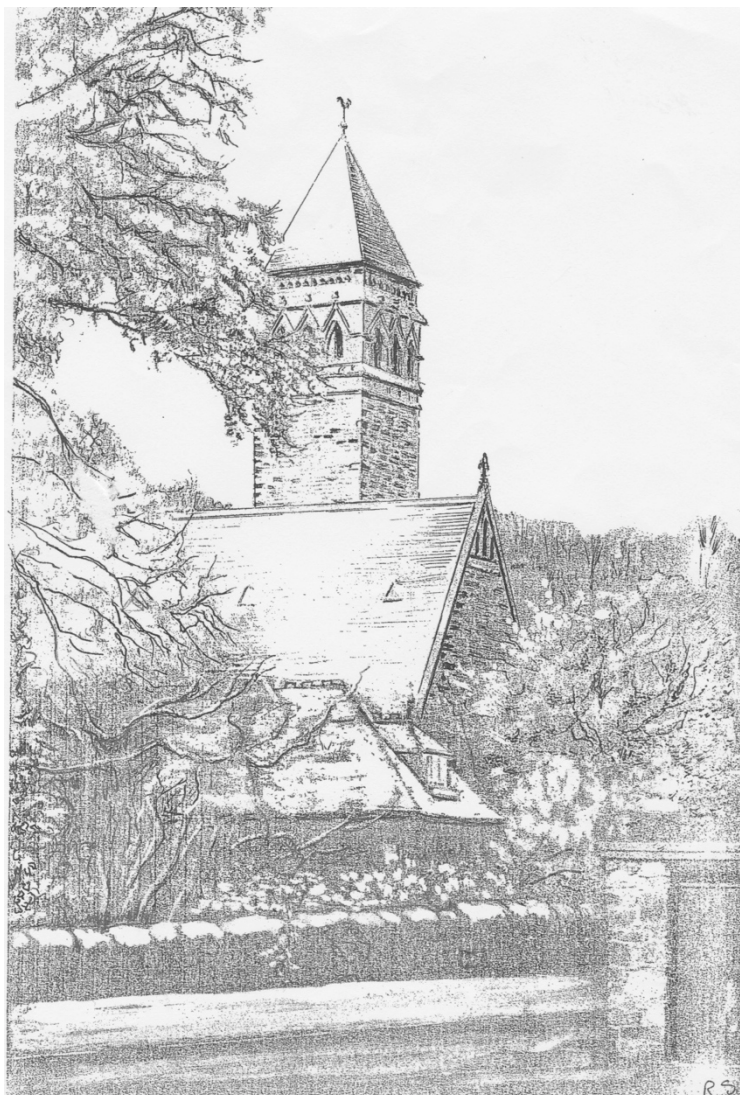


LAMLASH PARISH CHURCH



NEWSLETTER

WINTER 2017/18





Ravey Sillars

Sunday Services 11:30am

This newsletter and our weekly intimations
are available on-line at
www.lamlashkilmorychurch.co.uk

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A Word from the Manse

Jesus said to them, "I have been given all authority in heaven and on earth. Go, then to all people everywhere and make them my disciples." Matthew 28 v 18 -19.

Dear Friends

These verses from Matthew's Gospel are known as the Great Commission. Jesus sends His disciples out to make more disciples who are to be baptised in the Name of the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit. These new disciples are to obey everything Jesus commanded and He promises to be with them always.

All disciples were to continue to go out and make more disciples and so the church grew in ever-increasing circles all over the world.

We were once new disciples and the challenge of the Great Commission was given to us. Have we done as Jesus commanded us? More importantly, perhaps, have we CONTINUED to do as Jesus commands us?

Somewhere along the line for many congregations the joy of going out and making new disciples disappeared from their church life. They grew comfortable with the pews filled every Sunday. They grew comfortable with church organisations filling the halls to bursting every day of the week. Then we woke up one day and discovered life had changed and people had found a hundred and one things to do on a Sunday rather than come to church. We ran out of leaders for the organisations and generations of people, young and not so young, fell through cracks we allowed to creep in and grow wider and wider until one day we began to realise that, if nothing changes, the church may well disappear through the cracks too.

Over recent years, we have witnessed this up and down the country - in cities, in towns, in villages. The church has shut its doors in many places because members are slow to respond to the changes needed.

All the heartache and disillusionment could have been avoided if God's people had been faithful disciples and not let the Great Commission disappear from our worship and our witness.

We are approaching the seasons of Advent and Christmas. It is a good time to remember not just that Jesus came into the world but WHY He came.



'God loved the world so much, He gave His only Son, that everyone who believes in Him, may not die but have eternal life!' John 3 v 16.

How did we get it so wrong? When did we stop going out in the power of God's love and making new disciples?
The answers to these questions are irrelevant!

Our focus is on 'What do we do now?'

Well, the Church of Scotland has taken the initiative and embarked on a movement called The Path of Renewal which has been running for 18 months with 40 congregations involved. We applied to be part of the next 40 congregations and we have been attending conferences and meetings to learn more.

By the time you read this we will have been told that we are indeed on the Path of Renewal. It is an exciting time for Lamlash Church as we try to examine how God may lead us on together to go out in His Name and build new relationships, build new community, make new disciples.

The going out will involve all sorts of things and all sorts of people. It is less about thinking outside the box and more about throwing the box away and starting over - starting by renewing our own hearts and minds.

Years of sitting in church waiting, hoping, praying more people will come in, on the whole, have proved fruitless.

It is time to go out and learn to be church where the people are. Where are the families, the young people, the isolated, the working folk, the busy men, women and children who have no time for God in their lives?

Our going out may take many forms. Be ready! Be supportive! Be surprised by the joy of reaching out, by being church in our community! Be aware that we are not talking about 'churchy' things as we know them! Be praying!

Love came down at Christmas. Love still walks our streets and shores. Love is looking for His people to join Him out there.

Being accepted to be part of the Path of Renewal is just the beginning of the adventure of the rest of our lives - lives for whom Jesus came into the world, lived and died and lives again. We have so much love to share!

May this Christmas be a time of blessing for you all.

May 2018 find us excited by new adventures in the love of our Saviour and Lord.

With love and prayers,

Lily

MEMORY TREE



I am very conscious of the sadness many of us endure. As Christians we believe in Resurrection. We believe in new, eternal life that we will share with those we love... those whom God has called home.

Christmas is a particularly sad time for many. The joy of our Saviour coming in love into the world can be overshadowed by the loss we feel for those we love who are no longer with us.

Starting in Advent and continuing into the New Year, as well as our beautifully decorated Christmas tree in church, there will be a smaller Christmas tree on which you can hang a card or cards in memory of your loved ones.

There will be a box of cards available for you to choose from and you can write your personal message to hang on the Memory Tree.

This Christmas may you know the comfort and peace of our Saviour who holds us in His hands until we meet again.

Lily

Our Church Family

Deaths

Please remember these families in your prayers.

Margaret Young

Gwen Turner

George Marriott



"He will wipe every tear from their eyes. There will be no more death or mourning or crying or pain, for the old order of things has passed away." Revelation 21:4



Faith Development Group

As you will know from the weekly intimations, the Faith Development Group (FDG) meets on alternate Tuesdays at Pearl Forbes home, where we're always made very welcome and comfortable! We're studying Luke's Gospel at the moment and also a time of prayer.

The whole meeting is very relaxed and informal with the discussion wide ranging and interesting. There is no pressure to participate!

Please DO join us - all are welcome. If you are unable to be with us in person, please be with us in prayer.

Monica Tweeddale

Editor's Note: Our weekly intimations are posted on-line. You will find them if you follow this link <http://lamlashkilmorychurch.co.uk/category/intimations/>

Also, recordings of our church service are available on CD from Ian Watt, our Session Clerk.



The Service of Admission to the Office of Reader of Aileen Brookens took place on Saturday the 4th of November.

Aileen's 'Setting Apart' Service was a very happy day! This has been a 4 year journey for Aileen including intensive study as well as her placements. Aileen would like to say how much she has appreciated everyone's support and encouragement since she began her placement with Lily in January. Aileen told me:

"I am looking forward to serving in the church in whatever capacity God calls me. I'm already involved in the Guild, Music Matters, Singing Group, the Faith Development Group and Path of Renewal. Seems a lot already! However, I'm sure Lily will have plans to involve me in other ventures."

Yes, indeed Aileen, you can count on that! ☺

Wishing you all the best from everyone in Lamlash, we feel so blessed to have you in our church family!

FOR
GOD
SO
LOVED THE WORLD
HE
GAVE
HIS
ONLY
SON

LUKE 2: 8-15

And there were shepherds living out in the fields nearby, keeping watch over their flocks at night. An angel of the Lord appeared to them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. But the angel said to them,

'Do not be afraid. I bring you good news that will cause great joy for all the people. Today in the town of David a Saviour has been born to you; he is the Messiah, the Lord. This will be a sign to you: you will find a baby wrapped in cloths and lying in a manger.'

Suddenly a great company of the heavenly host appeared with the angel, praising God and saying,

'Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth peace to those on whom his favour rests.'

When the angels had left them and gone into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, 'let's go to Bethlehem and see this thing that has happened, which the Lord had told us about.'



A Saviour is born !

Colour in one star a day as you countdown to Christmas

Read the Christmas story in Luke 1 and 2

CHRISTMAS

B A B Y T H O L Y J U D E A R T H
 B J P E A C E S O N O F L O C K P U S
 R O F I E L D E G A S H E P H E R D S
 I Y O N B O R N O Z E G M A R Y A A A
 N M R N A T O Z O A P A A L I R I V V
 G O D S C H I L D R H L N A S O S I I
 L J E S U S H O N E L I G H T O E D O
 O G U A R D I B E T H L E H E M Z S U
 R S L S H E E P W H Y E R L O R D O R
 Y N N A N G E L S B H E A V E N A M E

MARY • JOSEPH • NAZARETH • GALILEE • JUDEA • BETHLEHEM • DAVID
 HOLY • CHILD • BABY • SON • NAME • JESUS • MANGER • ROOM • INN
 SHEPHERDS • FIELD • GUARD • FLOCK • SHEEP • ANGELS • SHONE • BRING
 GOOD NEWS • JOY • SAVIOUR • BORN • CHRIST • LORD • LIGHT
 PRAISE • GLORY • GOD • PEACE • EARTH • HEAVEN • CHRISTMAS

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Lord as we worship here in the village named after saintly Molashe¹ of old, we acknowledge other darker things that this place speaks of from past times. Nordic runes cut deep into the walls of the saintly Holy Island Cell, which tell of Viking terror that almost bloodily snuffed out Christ's light so faithfully nurtured by that godly man, of long ships anchored in the Loch before the battle of Largs intent on war, destruction and killing across the water within the bounds of this very presbytery – reminded of that we pray for those who live and suffer today in the shadow of conflict still, and especially those facing discrimination and death for daring to profess the name of Jesus as Lord.

As we profess Jesus as Lord in the old parish church of Kilbride not 100 metres from here stands the Clearances Memorial. It reminds us that once a hungry and dispossessed generation were forced into exile on this very shore, leaving nothing behind but longings for home and a cairn of stones on Lamlash Green from whence their faithful minister preached a farewell sermon of encouragement to help face a hard life in an alien land, a land full of danger and challenges, and yet a land which also held out the promise of freedom and betterment.

And so we remember those today who face economic hardship still, the daily grind of survival and subsistence existence and those who are forced to seek a new life in a foreign place, the refugee and economic migrant, as well as those who seek asylum from the war zones and killing fields of terror. May they too know the promise and hope of a better life, the kind of life we enjoy and must never take for granted. Help us to continue to strive for peace and to build a world where all can live in security and freedom from persecution.

With grateful thanks to Rev Angus Adamson for permission to use part of his prayer at Aileen's Setting Apart Service. -Ed

Lamlash named for St Molios or Molashe 7th Century Irish saint who had his retreat in a cave on Holy Isle opposite the village to which his name was given. Also called in Gaelic Loch an Eilean (Island of the loch). Here in the bay Hakon's Viking fleet lay at anchor before the battle of Largs in 1263



Welcoming Team

Dec 3rd	John Houston & Ken Barclay
Dec 10th	Mick Cannon & Vivienne Haigh
Dec 17th	Mary Mackenzie & Peter Mackay
Dec 24th	Dorothy Boyle & Anne Ferguson
Dec 31st	David Oakes & Alison Page
Jan 7th	Beverley Millar & Robert Marr
Jan 14th	John Houston & Ken Barclay
Jan 21st	Mick Cannon & Vivienne Haigh
Jan 28th	Mary Mackenzie & Peter Mackay
Feb 4th	Dorothy Boyle & Anne Ferguson
Feb 11th	David Oakes & Alison Page
Feb 18th	Beverley Millar & Robert Marr
Feb 25th	John Houston & Ken Barclay



Church Flowers

Dec 3rd	Guild
Dec 10th	Mrs M Fowler
Dec 17th	Mrs M Mackenzie
Dec 24th	Decorations
Dec 31st	Mrs S Noteman
Jan 7th	Mrs A Hutchieson
Jan 14th	Mrs V Haigh
Jan 21st	Ms M McArthur
Jan 28th	Mrs H Crawford
Feb 4th	Ms L Lockhart
Feb 11th	Mrs I Cannon
Feb 18th	Mrs C Watson
Feb 25th	

We have lost a few of our regular donors, leaving us with spaces on the rota. Anyone who would care to join us, even one Sunday in the year would be much appreciated. **Mary Mackenzie**



Church Bells

Dec 3rd	Jean
Dec 10th	Dorothy
Dec 17th	Maureen
Dec 24th	Iain
Dec 24 th eve	Alison
Dec 31st	Jean
Jan 7th	Dorothy
Jan 14th	Maureen
Jan 21st	Iain
Jan 28th	Alison
Feb 4th	Jean
Feb 11th	Dorothy
Feb 18th	Maureen
Feb 25th	Iain



*...no I don't think you're the real Father Christmas!
I think you're up there pinching lead off my roof!!*

Finance Report



Income this year to date has been greater than expenses incurred over the same period.

There have not been any excessive repair bills in this financial year, which has allowed the church to maintain a reasonable balance in the church account.

The congregation continue to support the financial upkeep and responsibilities of the church, through the collection, coffee mornings, and other church activities.

I would like to thank all the organisations who hire the Church Hall for their continued support as this makes a difference to the financial upkeep of the church.

If you have been collecting old £1 coins for the church, please hand them in to be redeemed, and deposited by the treasurer into the church account. They are no longer legal tender so this is time sensitive.

Freewill Offering Envelopes for 2018 are available to anyone wishing to donate to the church by this method. Gift Aid and Standing Order forms are also available from the Treasurer at any time. Please remember to contact the treasurer if circumstances change regarding Income Tax Liability to keep records up to date.

If you have any money raising tips or ideas please let me know, for future discussion with Kirk Session.

Robert K Marr, Treasurer

~~~

Q. Who was the greatest financier in the Bible?

A. Noah. He was floating his stock while everyone else was in liquidation.



## COFFEE MORNINGS

Despite the fickle weather, our faithful "regulars" have paddled through the puddles and battled with the wind to enjoy a chat, cakes and a "cuppa". Some have travelled all the way from Pirnmill and we have welcomed several visitors to the island.



Once again, we are indebted to our stallholders Pearl and Rosemary. We are delighted that Ravey has made an astonishing recovery after her operation. Heather is enjoying her new library in the company of Janice, and George is still producing plants. His wallflowers are wonderful.

**Thank you all for your support. Please keep coming!**

We look forward to seeing you on the first Wednesday of the month except for January, which will be on the 10th, to allow us to recover from Christmas and New Year.

Remember, you will be helping to support the church financially and to offer friendship to people who need support.

**Mary and David Wilkinson** have been faithful workers and supporters of coffee mornings for some years. They are shortly to move to the mainland. Our sincere thanks to both of them. We are sorry to lose them, but we wish them well in their new venture.

**Maureen Oakes**

~~~

Q. How does Moses make his tea?

A. Hebrews it.

Q. Who was the greatest comedian in the Bible?

A. Samson. He brought the house down.

A Sunday School teacher was giving his class a lesson on "Friendship".

He asked his class of ten year olds to give him another name for "friend". Andrew suggested "pal" and Iain said "chum". Matthew chipped in with "They're not friend words, they're dog foods!"



Guild Notes Winter 2017

As we begin our Guild year we move into the third and last year of our current Guild strategy "Be Bold, Be Strong" and we take the theme for 2017/2018 to "Go in Love".



We are now in the happy position of having Lily and Aileen on board and they will take on the shared role of President. The former committee will take on the job of Team Helpers, dealing with the practical matters of running the meetings and Guild members will continue to help with the provision of refreshments. We do have a Treasurer but we still need a Secretary so if you would like to find out about the Guild this would be a good way of finding out what is going on!!



Guild members and congregation joined together as the Guild renewed their vows at the Guild Dedication Service, on Sunday 22nd October, with Lily guiding us through and encouraging us to "Go in Love".

Our first meeting on the following Tuesday was full on for Aileen as she presided over the meeting and took on the role of speaker as well. Aileen spoke on the "Go in Love" theme using verses from Ruth to illustrate the love and loyalty of Ruth to Naomi and 1 Kings 3 to show the love of a mother for her child. These scenes were illustrated by Aileen's well known puppets – but the volunteer puppeteers, perhaps, needed a little training!!

The Guild will continue to support the two projects as we have done during the last two years.

Breaking the cycle – Feed the Minds, dealing with the difficult issue of female genital mutilation (FGM). The project aims to encourage education as the best way of fulfilling the potential of girls.

Street Pastors – Ascension Trust, which seeks to develop and extend the work of street pastors in the towns and cities of Scotland.



The totals raised by the projects to date are as follows:

Street Pastors (Ascension Trust)	£95,629.27
Feed the Minds (FGM in Kenya)	£111,434.79
Caring for the Family (Let's stick together)	£86,314.08
Christian Aid (Caring for Mother Earth)	£81,343.30
Mission International (Haiti project)	£68,583.50
Prospects (All friends together)	£73,679.68

TOTAL £516,984.62 WOW!!

We have a full programme for the year with the following dates planned:

Tuesday 21 November	We entertain Shiskine and Pirnmill for Guild Week.
Wednesday 6 December	Guild Coffee morning
Tuesday 12 December	Guild Christmas Party

Our first meeting was very well supported and we look forward to this continuing. We welcome female, male, past, present and new members at any of our meetings, please come along.

Vivienne Haigh

~ ~ ~

☺ **Smile lines...**

Take C-H-R-I-S-T out of Christmas and you're left with a "miss." - *Anon*

Who hides in the bakery at Christmas?
A mince spy!

Santa's helpers are subordinate clauses.

World Mission (WM)

The new edition of the magazine is the 80th, quite an achievement!

It's always interesting and has covered many challenging topics over the years, as well as changing its format to be in keeping with the times!



In September WM hosted 'Women in the World Church', the speakers must have been very inspiring, and have provided an eye opener to the differences and difficulties of churches in other countries.

As always this edition emphasizes the importance of having friendships, and faith sharing, between people of very diverse countries. The accounts printed demonstrate this, and also the difficulties faced by many Christians, especially women, who are still considered inferior to men in many places. We just don't appreciate how fortunate we are in this country!



Please carry on saving your used postage stamps, leaving a border all around. I shall send them off again after Christmas, which isn't far away now!

If you would like a World Mission magazine saved for you, please let me know.

Monica Tweeddale

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Our Harvest Thanksgiving retiral offering was donated to Tearfund this year. Lynne Paterson, Director of Tearfund Scotland has written to us saying:

*"On behalf of all those whom we serve, I want to say a huge thank you for your church's generous gift of £221.60"*



The full letter is available to view on the noticeboard at the church front door.

## Mary's Meals

Our Fundraising Activities have been magnificent this year.

I never cease to be amazed by the generosity of folks on Arran and am just so grateful for everyone's support over the various projects and campaigns I hit you with! **Thank you** to everyone who has participated in any way; it's hugely appreciated by me and more importantly by the next child who is waiting to be fed by Mary's Meals in a place of education.

### Double the Love

I have just received the wonderful news that any donations banked between 1 Nov and 31 Dec 2017 will be matched. The timing really couldn't be better when we have just started another **Arran Skinnymalinks** campaign in Brodick, Shiskine and Lamlash. All our Festive Focus donations will be matched and feed twice as many children!



### Knit & Natter

Heartfelt thanks to our K&N 'Nutters', who have worked so hard to produce a **huge** number of knitted festive mindings. Please, come and buy these to help us raise funds for Mary's Meals. The Knit & Natter Singalong takes place on Sunday 26 Nov in our Church Hall 2-3:30pm. You don't have to sing to buy the mindings and you don't have to eat the mince pies if you are dieting! I promise, you won't be asked to knit but please support this Festive Fundraiser, even if it's just for a wee while.

Brodick Coop has generously donated supplies for our refreshments and Graeme McKinnon has kindly donated his time and fantastic talents to play the piano for us. We have some fab singers lined up to help us have a relaxed and enjoyable all-age singsong. Don't miss out!

**Alison Page**





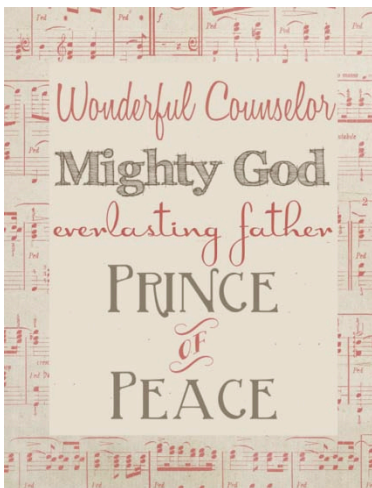
## The Singing Group

Isn't it great to make a difference?

The Singing Group has been so effective in learning the new hymns that have been introduced to our services. Each week they spend an hour singing: learning new hymns, working out the best keys and tunes and providing much appreciated feedback. The latest Church of Scotland hymn book (CH4) has included a great deal of Scottish music and hymns by Scots but also drawn on worldwide sources. Traditional American tunes often have their roots drawn from Scottish traditions and a number are included. The recent service with Arco strings playing used two of these.

The Singing Group is an open and inclusive activity and the benefit to us all has been that as they are scattered around the church on Sundays, they provide an informal lead to congregational singing. Over the last year the singing in church has improved so much - we have learned so many new hymns and incorporated them into our worship to great effect. The Singing Group has been at the heart of this and our sincerest appreciation is due to them. Well done!

We also have a good laugh and the banter is most entertaining. We would love to welcome more, so if you are free on a Wednesday at 4pm for an hour, do drop in. You don't have to come every week, just pop in when you can. It is not about if you think you are a singer or not, it is about you changing what and how we sing. You can make a



difference  
and we  
want to  
hear what  
you think.



**Graeme McKinnon**

## Music Matters



The monthly meeting of Music Matters continues to delight and enthrall us all. The sheer pleasure created by the activity is quite memorable and we all look forward to the last Thursday in the month. Recently, Arco entertained us and our percussion playing has added a new and super fun aspect with everyone joining in the Latin rhythms.

We have been trying to start a second date each month but we really have to wait until staff pressures at Coorie Doon and Montrose House have been resolved.

A **huge** thank you to everyone who has made this such a valued date. If you know anyone who might benefit from coming along, get in touch with Rev. Lily (600047) if you need help to organise transport.



Δ Our fab team of helpers in October



Δ A solo from Jean Bowden with Graeme McKinnon on piano



Photos taken at Music Matters August 2017





Thanks to everyone for their donations to the Blythwood Christmas shoe box appeal.

Thanks also to **Mary Mackenzie and Joyce Walker** for organising this for us all here in Lamlash.

thank  
you!

Anne Mitchell wrote to Mary 1/11/17 advising *"the total received from all the churches taking part on Arran was 181 shoe boxes and £653 in donations. These were sent off the island yesterday via Arran Haulage and should be on the pallets ready for transporting."*

The shoe boxes will now be well on the way to the country they are destined for.



Over the years, and through Sunday School and TearFund, from 1989 to 2003, and through Cool Club and World Vision from 2003 onwards we have sponsored a number of children in India and other South-East Asian countries.

**World Vision**



Our present sponsored child is Bakul Peter, who lives with his family in the Ghoraghat region of Bangladesh.

Bakul Peter is 12, and he and his family and village benefit from our sponsorship, which currently stands at £26 per month. We are very grateful to those who help to carry forwards this Christian work.

World Vision only becomes involved in projects, such as providing wells for clean water or teaching more efficient farming methods, after consultation with local village or district elders. In this way, every child is seen as equal.

If you would like to help by setting up a sponsorship agreement, even on an occasional basis, and not necessarily for the full £26 per month, please contact me.

**Ian Watt**



Arran Churches Together

There is no Christingle Service this year; instead there is to be a

**St Andrews Night Service and Ceilidh**

in Brodick Church Hall

on **30<sup>th</sup> November** at 6.30pm.

This will begin with a short act of worship, followed by a ceilidh and supper.

**Carols at the Co-op** will be from 11am – 12noon on **16<sup>th</sup> December**.

The **Service of Christian Unity** is on 21<sup>st</sup> January 2018 at 12 noon in Whiting Bay Church.

## Foodbank

As a result of seasonal employment, there is now an even greater demand on the Foodbank on Arran. Sadly, there are a number of families struggling on the island and seeking our support. Rev. Angus Adamson has confirmed that the Foodbank is providing much needed help and all our donations are being used by local people, none has

### Shopping List

- \* Tinned Meat
- \* Sugar
- \* Long Life Fruit Juice
- \* Milk (UHT or powdered)
- \* Pasta Sauces
- \* Sponge Puddings (Tin)
- \* Rice Pudding (Tin)
- \* Tinned Fruit
- \* Hot Chocolate
- \* Instant Coffee
- \* Instant Mash Potato
- \* Tinned Fish
- \* Biscuits or snack bars
- \* Tinned Vegetables

been sent off the island in the last two years. For some this may be good news, preferring to support our local people. Bad news when the whole system is clearly failing, evidenced when people have to choose between heating or eating as a result of rising fuel costs combined with low wages or unemployment.

This is just a suggested shopping list. Tinned meat is always in short supply plus any toiletries, sanitary products including nappies would be most welcome.

**All donations are gratefully received.**

As you are filling up your trolley with luxury items over this Festive Season, please consider adding a few items to help replenish the Foodbank supplies.

## Women in Black, Arran

*At the invitation of the Editor, Elsa Rodeck writes*

On the last Saturday of each month a group of women come together in Brodick to stand for peace. We do this as part of a broader movement around the world called Women in Black. Women in Black started in 1988 in Jerusalem by a group of Israeli women who wanted to show their opposition to the Israeli occupation of Palestinian territories. They stood in silence, wearing black, and holding placards, and thereafter came each week at the same hour and to the same location. This simple protest, that could be done anywhere, with their children beside them, soon spread to other parts of Israel. The idea then moved further afield with solidarity vigils springing up in Europe, the US and Canada, India and Australia. Today the reasons for meeting have broadened beyond the Israel-Palestine conflict, and women across the world hold vigils for a variety of causes. But for all, women come to bear witness and express their commitment to and hope for peace in the world, and against all war. With this intention, we started a vigil in Arran at the end of 2015. From a small two women effort, some months the group grows to a considerable size of 12!

I spoke to several of the group about why they come to Women in Black, and about what it means to them. The women in Arran who join the vigil come from a wide variety of ages, faiths and backgrounds. These influence the reasons why they come to Women in Black but as one woman put it, “We may all have various ways of looking at the world but we have the same hope - to work for peace, not war”. Another woman had heard about Women in Black some years ago, through a Quaker friend who had spent time in Israel and Palestine as an Ecumenical Accompanier, and told of her experience of Women in Black in that region. She says, “So when I heard a Women in Black was starting here, I was thrilled to be able to be part of it,” and “have the opportunity at this age to join a movement. Sitting holding a placard is about what I want to do. I can be a witness to a need for conflict resolution and peace because it’s the biggest need there is, and I hope it makes people think a bit”. Some women have campaigned for peace, and with CND particularly, for many years. One woman said, “I’ve always wanted to work against wars and violence. Having lived a long time, if I can help a little by showing I’m against wars; and really it’s violence of all kinds I hate. My husband and I were in CND for a long time. We used to have a caravan and we’d take it down to Brodick, and different areas, and put up anti-nuclear signs, and people wanted to talk about it.”

Bringing awareness to other people about peace is an aim that many of the women have for Women in Black; as is the idea that our vigil is itself peaceful. Women in Black is not about chanting, shouting, or angry demonstrations. One woman says she likes it because, “There’s no violence, no shouting, or anger. We’re sitting peacefully, not throwing rocks etc...” While another says, “I go to Women in Black because I think a peaceful demonstration makes a clear point. There is so much noise and anger that when you stop and stand to make a point it’s deeper, more poignant. It’s important to do it, because everyone is shouting about war and arguing with each other, that it’s good to be quiet”.

In Arran, and Scotland, and the West more generally, we are fortunate enough not to live our lives in the midst of a devastating conflict. However with Trident submarines on our doorstep, and the threat of global war perhaps never far away, we stand at our monthly vigils to highlight the constant need for working against these situations and the suffering that goes on. People may have a feeling that there is nothing that ordinary citizens can do. Politicians make decisions for us about global security and fund weapons systems which many of us would never support. But by joining Women in Black we bring the belief that, as one of our group said, “The more people who are aware the better, we do have the power to change. Even in the mind, the more people who think positively and wish for peace, it will have an impact”.

Women in Black in Arran are always keen to welcome new and interested people. And despite the ‘Women’ in the title, sympathetic men are also welcome in Arran! Any readers who wish to come, meet at the Coastal Way start in Brodick at 1pm on the last Saturday of each month, and in all weathers!!

Elsa Rodeck



At a time when we are thinking of peace on earth and goodwill to all men, please remember the church voices support for a ban on nuclear weapons. For those without access to the internet, here is a direct lift from the Church of Scotland website.



"Since 1983 the General Assembly of the Church of Scotland has held the position that nuclear arms are by nature morally and theologically wrong. In 2015 the General Assembly reaffirmed the Church's position that the ownership of, use of and threat to use nuclear weapons are inherently evil and stated its support for an international Nuclear Ban Treaty."

Speaking last year, the Very Rev Dr Russell Barr, then Moderator of the General Assembly said:

"Attempts to sustain peace through the threat of indiscriminate mass destruction could not be further from the peace to which Christ calls us. It is vital that the UK demonstrates the sort of change it wants to see in the world; building peace through strong and courageous leadership and not by commissioning more nuclear weapons."

On Friday 7 July over 120 states voted to adopt a treaty prohibiting Nuclear Weapons. Speaking after the decision Rev Dr. Richard Frazer, convener of the Church of Scotland's Church and Society Council said:



In 1972 the world banned biological weapons; we have subsequently banned chemical weapons, anti-personnel landmines and cluster munitions. Today the UN has agreed the Nuclear Ban Treaty.

"While there is much more that needs to be done before we can rid the world of nuclear weapons, this represents a significant step forward and will make the possession of these weapons morally and practically more difficult.

"Nuclear weapons are indiscriminate in their impact and the disproportionate scale of suffering that they are capable of unleashing makes them unjustifiable. Steps now need to be taken to urge our own government to take further their own commitments to nuclear disarmament, particularly in light of last year's disappointing decision to renew Trident."

[http://www.churchofscotland.org.uk/news\\_and\\_events/news/2017/chur](http://www.churchofscotland.org.uk/news_and_events/news/2017/chur)



*I subscribe to Parish Pump mainly as a resource for Christian puzzles and children's pages so I don't have to worry about copyright implications for our Newsletter. Having just had a conversation about the Arran Foodbank with Rev Angus Adamson and learning about the difficulties some folk are facing in terms of timing of benefit payments, this article on the Welfare State by the Venerable John Barton in their editorial section seemed quite timely. Ed*

*Editor Parish Pump: The Ven. John Barton looks back on an historic watershed for the UK.*

## **The Beveridge Report – 75 years on**

We take it for granted that all children will receive secondary education, people who are ill will be treated under a national health service and we will all be paid a State pension when we retire. Indeed, we regard these benefits as routine, perhaps not realising this has not always been the case.

Turn the clock back to World War 2. The British people accepted their wartime deprivation with a strong sense of unity and purpose in the face of a common enemy. At the same time, it was recognised that long-standing inequalities should be rectified when times improved. The British Government, which was then a coalition of political parties, commissioned Sir William Beveridge to investigate the best way of helping people on low incomes.

The resultant Beveridge Report identified five 'Giant Evils' of Want, Disease, Ignorance, Squalor and Idleness. It proposed that in return for all people of working age paying a weekly contribution, benefits should be available to those who were sick, unemployed, retired or widowed.



The Archbishop of Canterbury, William Temple, said "this is the first time anybody has set out to embody the whole spirit of the Christian ethic in an Act of Parliament", for at the war's end the Beveridge Report began to be implemented. The 1944 Education Act was followed in 1948 by the founding of the NHS. Social security benefits meant people in need could be cared for from the cradle to the grave. Temple had himself published a vision for post-war Britain, called "Christianity and the Social Order". Temple, Beveridge and the economic historian R H Tawney had been at university together and shared both Christian idealism and the urge to make it work.

This month is the 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Beveridge's Report. The Welfare State is now woven into the fabric of British Society. Like all reforms, it needs regular attention to ensure the original vision hasn't been obscured over time. Today's Universal Credit is a step in the right direction, though its clumsy roll-out needs rapid modification if the intended recipients are to be paid on time.

Christians may want to reflect on the Welfare State. Is it a right or a privilege to be beneficiaries? Do we take it for granted as our due, or are we grateful for what we receive?





## LET THERE BE LIGHT

Genesis 1:3

The recent furore about fracking serves to remind us of Scotland's long history of involvement in the oil industry. Most people would be surprised to know that the world's first commercial oil-works were established here in 1851, eight years before the first oil well was drilled in Pennsylvania. The location was West Lothian, and the pioneer was a Glasgow man called James Young – who may or may not have rejoiced in his nickname of 'Paraffin' Young.

Anyone travelling in the Bathgate area can hardly fail to notice the enormous heaps of reddish waste left over after the manufacturing process had removed lubricating oil, naphtha (kerosene), and paraffin from the soft shale deposits mined in the district. And it was the paraffin lamp which was to revolutionise domestic, educational and business life, especially in rural Scotland.

It is hard for us to imagine life without artificial illumination. In his great work 'Social Life in Scotland in the 18<sup>th</sup> Century', Henry Grey Graham gives us a flavour of what it was like for most people who could not afford the luxury of candles.

*"In bygone times, folk were obliged to take as much work out of the day as possible, for there was little to be done when darkness set in except to go to bed. In the homes of the poor there was no light except from the fitful gleams of the peat fire, as the only means of illuminating the dingy hole was the smoky glimmer of the "ruffy" – a wick stuck in the cleft of a fir stick, or a stalk of hemp, and lit for such occasions as family worship."*

But now a portable and affordable source of light opened up all sorts of possibilities – evening classes in the newly formed Mechanics Institutes, hobbies and reading at home, and public libraries open in the evenings to cater for working people.

Lamlash, of course, already had its own subscription library, as reported by Rev. Allan McNaughton, Minister of Kilbride Parish (1826-1844).

*"In the year 1824, a few public-spirited individuals established a small library in the parish; and to make it easily accessible to all, the amount of the subscription was fixed at 1/- per annum. There are at present about 80 members, and the subscriptions are collected once a year at a general meeting at which books to be added to the collection are proposed and voted for."*

*The collection consists of about 300 volumes, including excellent works in history, biography, popular science, geography and practical divinity. Most of the religious books, either originally composed in Gaelic, or translated into Gaelic from the English language, have always a great circulation among the more aged of the subscribers."*

None of the early records appear to have survived, however - thanks to the salvage efforts of Vic Shaw - Cash Book No.2 of the Kilbride Library, which runs from 1864 to 1880 provides some information. Membership continued to hover around the 80 mark, and first on the list in January 1864 was 'Mr Paterson, Whitehouse'. He, of course, was James Paterson, Factor to the Duke of Hamilton, and his position on the list suggests that since Lamlash did not have a public hall or library building, he provided the storage facilities in the Whitehouse.

Other subscribers included the Rev. Colin Campbell (Kilbride Minister 1844-1883), John McBride (farmer, Holy Isle), James Tod (farmer, Burican), and Richard Jones (blacksmith, living in a house on the site of what was later to become Hamilton Terrace). Mr Jones also has the doubtful privilege of being the current author's great-great-grandfather. The 1864 membership included "Mrs Captain McKellar" (Blairbeg), who was obviously proud of the status of captain's wife. The curious thing about this situation was that Mary McKellar was already a widow, her husband Alexander having expired (from '*overstimulation by alcohol*') aboard his vessel in Glasgow Harbour in April 1863. She subsequently returned to Glasgow.

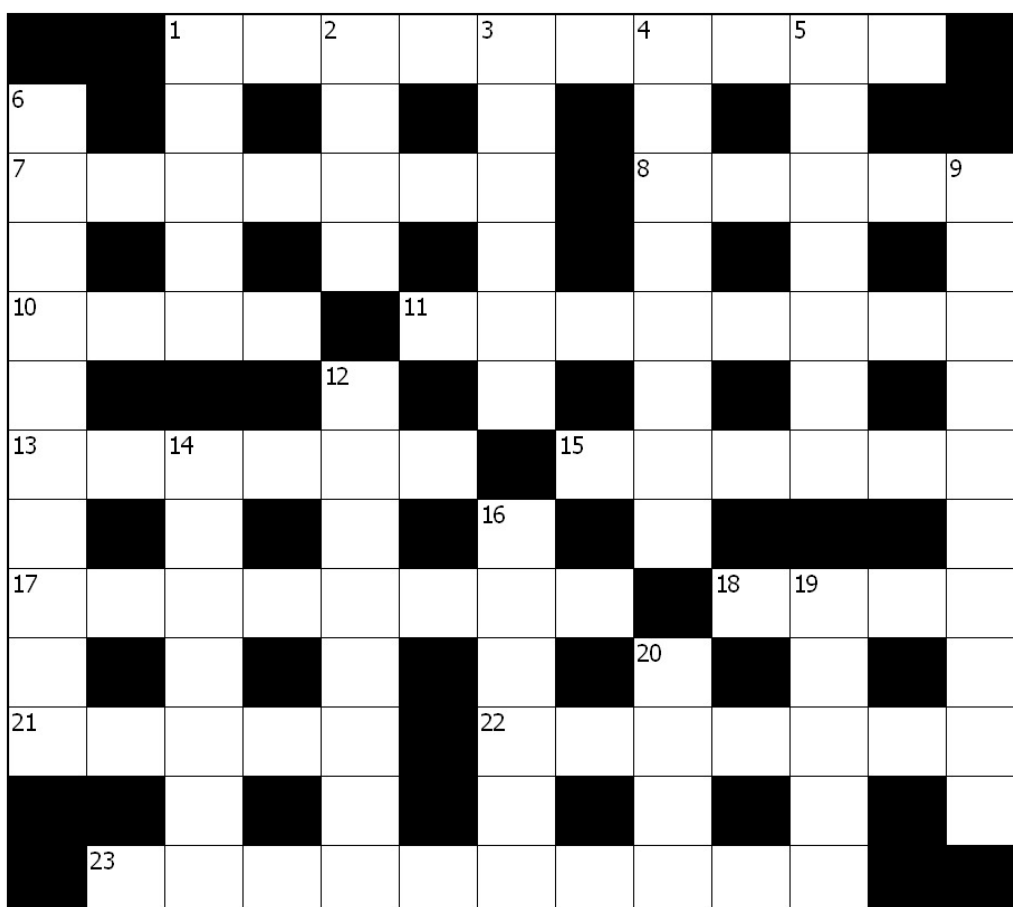
The accommodation situation was eased in the late 1870s, when the Parish Hall – now the Church Hall - was built by public subscription and a grant from the Baird Trust of Glasgow. It contained a library and reading room, and it is likely that the subscription library was absorbed into the new facility. One of the later members was Mrs Mary Jamieson – already familiar to us in her previous life as proprietor of the Corrie Hotel & Ballroom. She had retired to Lamlash, and comes to our notice yet again at the official opening of Kilbride Parish Church in June 1886.

According to the report in the Campbeltown Courier –

*"The new church was opened by the Rev. Norman McLeod, of St Stephen's Edinburgh. Mrs Jamieson, Altachorvie, a lady of 95 years, was present, and it was thought peculiarly appropriate that she should be the first worshipper to enter the new church. About a thousand people were present."*

IAIN AULD

## Crossword (NIV Version)



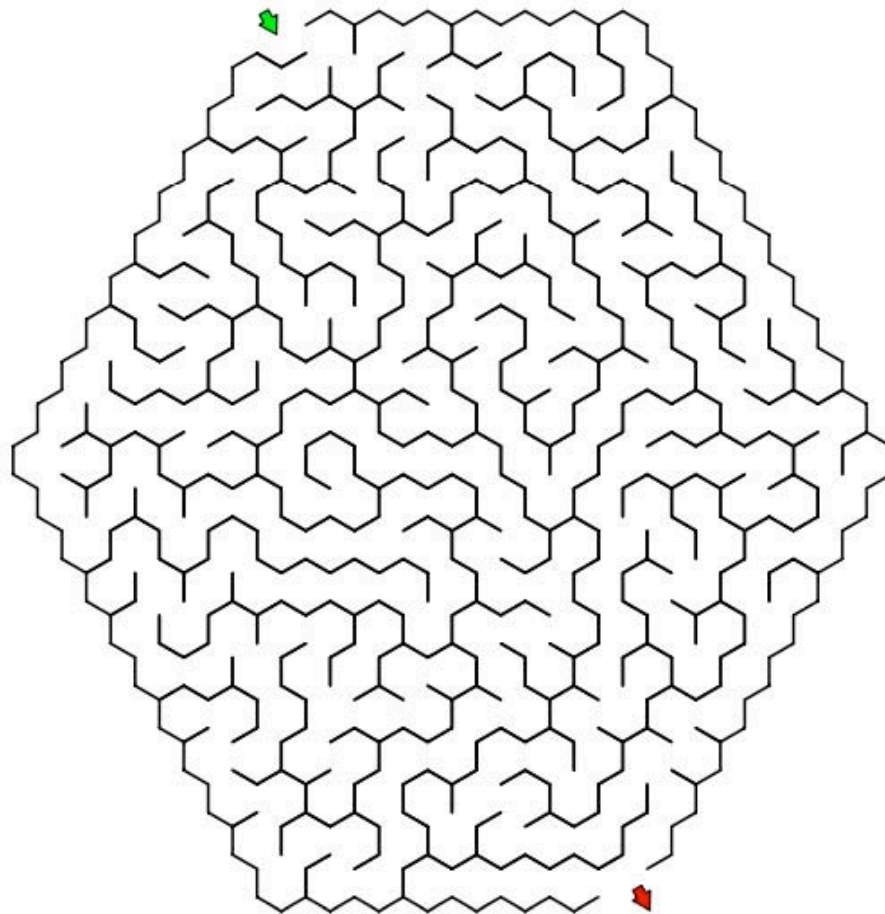
### Across

- 1 Provisional meeting place of God and the Jews (Exodus 25:9) (10)  
 7 David's third son, killed when his head got caught in a tree during a battle with his father (2 Samuel 18:14,15) (7)  
 8 They ruled much of the west coast of South America in the 15th and early 16th centuries (5)  
 10 Small deer of European and Asian extraction (4)  
 11 Seized control of (Numbers 21:25) (8)  
 13 Terror (Luke 24:5) (6)  
 15 First World War heroine shot by the Germans in Brussels, Nurse Edith .... (6)  
 17 Stormy (8)  
 18 A bitter variety of this, together with lamb and unleavened bread, was the Passover menu for anyone unclean (Numbers 9:11) (4)  
 21 Arson (anag.) (5)  
 22 How John Newton described God's grace in his well-known hymn (7)  
 23 Habitation (Isaiah 27:10) (10)

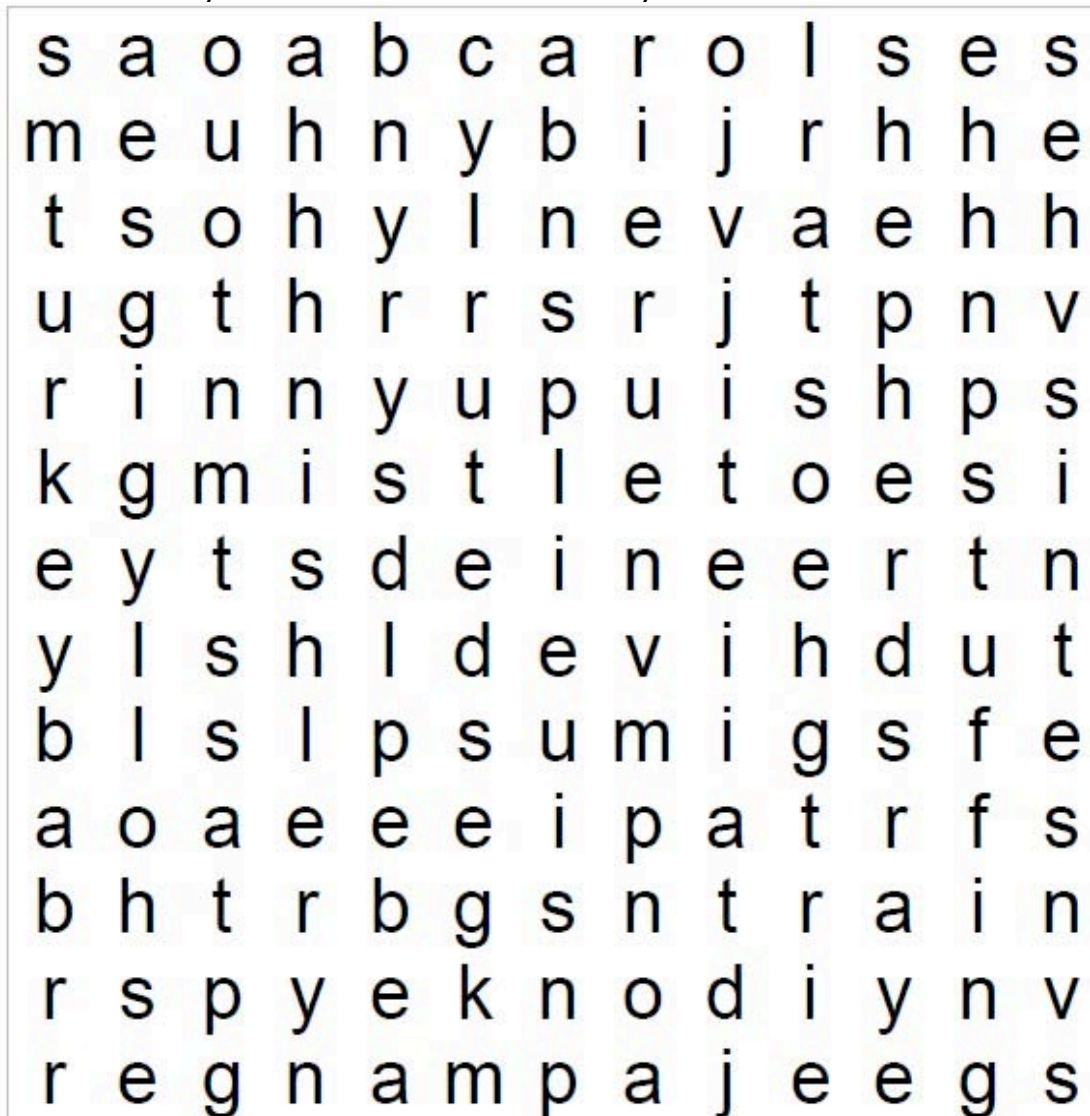
### Clues Down

- 1 .... and see that the Lord is good (Psalm 34:8) (5)
- 2 The wicked man flees though no one pursues, but the righteous are as ... as a lion (Proverbs 28:1) (4)
- 3 One of the exiles, a descendant of Parosh, who married a foreign woman (Ezra 10:25) (6)
- 4 He escaped from Nob when Saul killed the rest of his family and joined David (1 Samuel 22:19,20) (8)
- 5 City and lake in Central Switzerland (7)
- 6 Offer your bodies as living .... , holy and pleasing to God (Romans 12:1) (10)
- 9 Pouches carried by horses (Genesis 49:14) (10)
- 12 One who accepts government by God (8)
- 14 Aromatic substance commonly used in Jewish ritual (Exodus 30:1) (7)
- 16 He asked Jesus, 'What is truth?' (John 18:38) (6)
- 19 Are (Romans 13:1) (5)
- 20 You are to give him the name Jesus, because he will ... his people from their sins (Matthew 1:21) (4)

### Maze



Before we know it we'll be in the countdown to Christmas! Christmas cards, shopping, school nativity plays, carol concerts, ordering the turkey, wrapping presents, bringing home the Christmas tree.... all in preparation for the big day itself! How many Christmas related words can you find?



|                                                          |                                                                  |
|----------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------|
| baby<br>tree<br>Jesus<br>nativity<br>shepherds<br>angels | Joseph<br>manger<br>star<br>hallelujah<br>heavenlyhost<br>turkey |
| donkey<br>sheep<br>inn<br>Mary<br>virgin                 | holly<br>presents<br>mistletoe<br>stuffing<br>pudding<br>carols  |





## CHRISTMAS CARDS

Time to write your Christmas cards again – what designs have you picked to send this year? Are they religious ones?

Look in the shops at all the different designs, traditional and modern. Traditional religious cards have usually included the nativity – Mary, Joseph and the baby Jesus. But what else would you count as religious? The Three Kings? The Bible doesn't say they were kings, or that there were three; just that they were Wise Men, who travelled far to bring special gifts for the baby Jesus.

Do you know why there are so many robins on Christmas cards? The first postmen in Victorian times wore red and were called robins, so robins were shown as delivering cards.

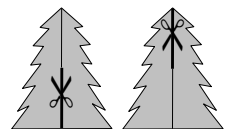


Whatever kind of card you send this year, be sure to include a kind message with love for your friends. Our love is a tiny echo of God's love for all the world.

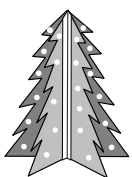
### CARD or DECORATION

Here is a simple 3-D Christmas tree that you can use as a decoration or a card. You will need green card, crayons, glitter or paint, scissors and sticky tape.

Fold a piece of card in half, then cut it in half. Put the two pieces together and fold them in half again.



Draw half a Christmas tree opposite the fold. Cut along the line and you will have 2 identical trees. Fold the trees in half, very lightly, hardly creasing the centre line to mark the centre of the tree. Cut a slit along the bottom half of the centre of one tree and along the top half of the centre of the other tree. Slip the two trees together along the slits. To help the tree to stand firmly, use sticky tape to fasten the parts together where they meet.



Decorate the tree. If you are using it as a card then leave an area free of decorations so that you can write on it.



*What goes red white red white red white?  
Santa rolling down a hill.*





Star

Please show us the right way to go when we are confused.



Shepherds

Help us to tell people about who Jesus is



Mary

Thank you for parents and people who look after us



Joseph

Please help people who have to make difficult decisions



Animals

Thank you for animals and all of the world you have made



Wise Men

Please help all people who are searching to find what they are looking for



Jesus

Thank you for sending Jesus to be with us and help us

## Nativity Prayer cards

Cut out and laminate the cards. Choose one at random and pray the prayer written on it. You might want to add to the prayers and include people you know.

# Bible Bite

A short story from the Bible

It can be read in the Bible in  
Luke 1:26-56 & Matthew 1:18-25

In Israel, about 2000 years ago, a young woman, Mary, was going to marry Joseph. The weddings were in two stages.

In one year we will complete our wedding



Then God's messenger angel came to see Mary.



Don't be afraid!

You will have God's baby, and call him Jesus, 'God saves', because he will save people from what they do wrong.



How can this happen?



With God, nothing is impossible.

Your cousin Elizabeth, who couldn't have children, is now 6 months pregnant.



Mary visited Elizabeth.



When Joseph heard that Mary was pregnant, he was very upset



This will bring shame on me and my family.



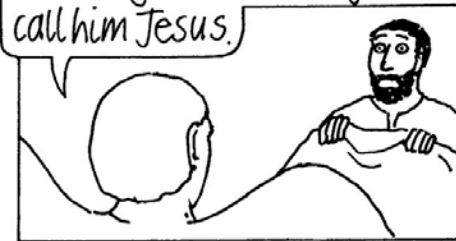
He always did what was right so he decided to end their marriage, but quietly.



But the angel came to him in a dream.



Don't be afraid to marry Mary. The baby is God's, and you will call him Jesus.



So Joseph and Mary completed their marriage.







Dec15 ©deborah noble • parishpump.co.uk

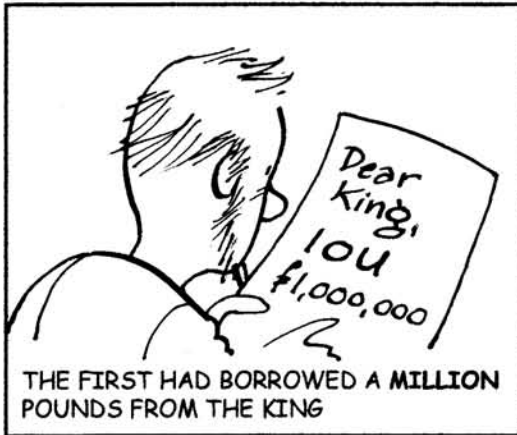
The  
Tale of the  
**TWO  
DEBTORS**



JESUS OFTEN TOLD  
STORIES WITH  
HIDDEN MEANINGS



ONE WAS ABOUT TWO SERVANTS  
WHO HAD BORROWED MONEY



THE FIRST HAD BORROWED A MILLION  
POUNDS FROM THE KING

AND NOW THE KING  
WANTED HIS MONEY BACK!



BUT THE SERVANT  
COULDN'T PAY!



THE KING WAS VERY  
ANGRY INDEED.

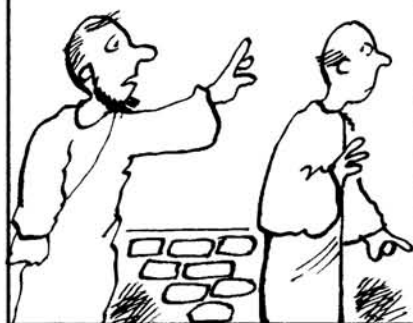
BUT THE SERVANT PLEADED SO MUCH,  
THE KING AGREED TO LET HIM OFF  
HIS DEBT.



HOWEVER, NO SOONER  
HAD HE BEEN LET OFF  
HIS DEBT....



...HE MET A FELLOW SERVANT  
WHO OWED HIM A FEW PENCE!



THE FIRST SERVANT  
NEARLY THROTTLED THE  
SECOND, TRY TO GET HIS  
MONEY

WHEN THE KING HEARD ABOUT IT  
HE WAS VERY CROSS INDEED, AND  
SET ABOUT GETTING EVERY PENNY  
BACK FROM THE FIRST DEBTOR.



JESUS EXPLAINED -  
"WE NEED TO FORGIVE EACH OTHER,  
AS GOD HAS FORGIVEN US."

## Crossword Solution

|   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
|   |   |   | T | N | E | M | E | L | T | T | E | S |   |
| S |   | S |   | V |   | T |   | V |   | S |   |   |   |
| G | N | I | Z | A | M | A |   | R | A | N | O | S |   |
| A |   | X |   | S |   | L |   | C |   | E |   | E |   |
| B | R | E | H |   | C | I | N | O | L | C | Y | C |   |
| E |   |   |   |   | R |   | P |   | E |   | N |   | I |
| L | L | E | V | A | C |   | T | H | G | I | R | F |   |
| D |   | N |   | H |   | H |   | T |   |   |   | I |   |
| D | E | R | U | T | P | A | C |   | S | E | O | R |   |
| A |   | E |   | A |   | I |   | D |   | T |   | C |   |
| S | A | C | N | I |   | M | O | L | A | S | B | A |   |
|   |   | U |   | B |   | A |   | O |   | A |   | S |   |
|   | E | L | C | A | N | R | E | B | A | T |   |   |   |



### The Christmas Message

The date was set in heaven above  
 When love come down upon this earth,  
 A stable bare, a bed of straw,  
 The setting for the Saviour's birth.

Shepherds out upon the hillside  
 'Watching o'er their flocks by night',  
 When angels telling of a baby  
 In splendor, burst upon their sight

Signs were seen in distant lands  
 With wise men travelling from afar  
 Having searched the skies at night  
 Came following His natal star.

As we hear the Christmas message,  
 If we think these things are true,  
 We could come to seek this baby  
 We could be like wise men too.

*By Megan Carter*





### From the Editor

As we go to print, the Festive Season will soon be upon us. This Newsletter is the final edition from me in the Editor's chair and has a theme of 'Peace and Goodwill'. Also, some interesting 'happenings' in Lamlash past, present and future! Thanks to Iain Auld and Rev Angus Adamson for the historic content – fascinating!

Former Church of Scotland Moderator, Rev. John Chalmers has a series of articles on 'a living church' being published in "Life and Work" magazine at the moment. In the first of three he states:

*"The challenge at the local level is for our parish churches to become places which belong to the whole community. Our message must be that there is no 'us', who belong to God, and 'them', who don't. There is only 'us', and God does not belong to any of us – we all belong to God.*

<http://www.lifeandwork.org/features/features/view/285-a-living-church>

(Oct editions of L&W available to borrow if you prefer to read in print)

As mentioned in Rev. Lily's pastoral letter, Lamlash Church has put themselves forward to join 'Pathway of Renewal'. For the last two years, every Newsletter being posted through letterboxes in Lamlash states:

**"Lamlash Church in the heart of the Community with the Community at its heart."**

We are keen to get this right, this is about all the people living in our Lamlash Community, old and young. Please talk with us, let's discuss what you would like to see happening. Help us on this journey, get involved and let's work together.

I'd like to thank everyone who allowed me to interview them, photograph them, submitted articles, reports, drawings, poems, funny ditties, etc over the last 4 years. A real collaborative effort which allowed me to produce a magazine we are all proud of – so well done you!

It's been an absolute pleasure ☺

With warmest wishes for a peaceful Christmas

and good health to enjoy 2018!

*Alison*





# Festive Fundraiser

in aid of Mary's Meals

Sunday 26<sup>th</sup> Nov 2 – 3:30pm

Lamlash Church Hall





## **December Church Services in Lamlash**

|                                   |                              |
|-----------------------------------|------------------------------|
| 3rd December 11:30am              | Advent Communion             |
| 4 <sup>th</sup> December 7pm      | Arran Carol Concert          |
| 10 <sup>th</sup> December 11.30am | Lessons and Carols with ARCO |
| 10 <sup>th</sup> December 3pm     | Carols at PHT                |
| 17 <sup>th</sup> December 11.30am | Family Nativity              |
| 24 <sup>th</sup> December 11.30am | Morning worship              |
| 24 <sup>th</sup> December 11:30pm | Christmas Eve Service        |
| 31 <sup>st</sup> December 11:30am | Morning worship              |

Christmas day falls on the Monday this year and there will be no Christmas Day service as Lily will have 4 services to conduct on the Sunday.





# Join our Family Nativity

On Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> December  
at 11:30am  
in Lamlash Church



## The Greatest Journey

Pop up Nativity  
No rehearsals, informal and good fun.  
Dressing up optional ...but would be fab!

Join us and put Christ back in your Christmas

