

# Lamlash Parish Church Newsletter

## Summer 2018



### Sunday Services 11:30am

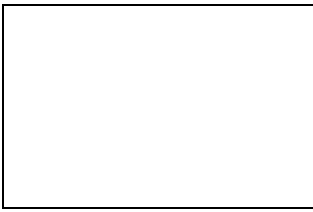
Our magazine is available on-line and in colour

[www.lamlashkilmorychurch.co.uk](http://www.lamlashkilmorychurch.co.uk)

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Fabric/Property			
Committee Convenor	John Houston	600245	
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Church Flowers	Mary Mackenzie	700220	
The Guild	Aileen Brookens	700535	
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## *A Word from the Manse*

Then Jesus made a circuit of all the towns and villages. He taught in their meeting places, reported Kingdom news, and healed their diseased bodies, healed their bruised and hurt lives. When he looked out over the crowds, His heart broke. So confused and aimless they were, like sheep with no shepherd. "What a huge harvest!" He said to His disciples. "How few workers! On your knees and pray for harvest hands!"

**Matthew 9:37-38 The Message**

Dear Friends

One of the new hymns we have been learning is 'Hear the call of the kingdom' and in Matthew 9 and 10, we find Jesus praying, calling 12 of His followers and sending them out with the message that the Kingdom is here. He sends them out right where they are - into their own neighbourhood and Matthew tells us the fields are ripe with harvest.

What a great picture for us as Lamlash Church! We are at the heart of the community, with the community at our heart. Jesus is sending us out to those on our doorstep; to people we meet every day and He is already there, preparing the way for us who are inspired to hear the call of the Kingdom. The harvest is rich and the labourers are few, but few as we are, His call remains the same.

We are in the season of Pentecost when the promise of Jesus is fulfilled and the Holy Spirit of God comes upon the frightened, anxious disciples who are then not only encouraged but also so motivated that there is no holding them back! They rush out into the streets around them and, through the power of the Holy Spirit working in them, they are able to talk to people about God, in ways that are easy to understand. On that day of Pentecost over 3000 people respond to God's love for them, are baptised and join the disciples as part of the early church!

We are the church of today because of those first transformed followers of Jesus. What a debt of gratitude we owe them! Had they failed to answer the call of the Kingdom, the church would have dwindled and died. What a responsibility their legacy is to us. It is wonderful to be able to sit in our church, to worship God together and be nourished spiritually with His Word, with hymns, prayers and sermons but, oh! dear people of God, this is food to strengthen us and send us out!

I am going to stop there and let you read for yourself Jesus' word to us in Matthew 10.

## **MATTHEW 10    The Twelve Harvest Hands**

Jesus called twelve of His followers and sent them into the ripe fields. He gave them power to kick out the evil spirits and to tenderly care for the bruised and hurt lives.

Jesus sent His twelve harvest hands out with this charge:

"Don't begin by travelling to some far-off place to convert unbelievers and don't try to be dramatic by tackling some public enemy. Go to the lost, confused people right here in the neighbourhood. Tell them that the Kingdom is here. Bring health to the sick. Raise the dead. Touch the untouchables. Kick out the demons. You have been treated generously, so live generously.

"Don't think you have to put on a fund-raising campaign before you start. You don't need a lot of equipment. You are the equipment, and all you need to keep that going is three meals a day. Travel light."

May the Spirit fill you with the power of God's extravagant love that you may be able to respond.

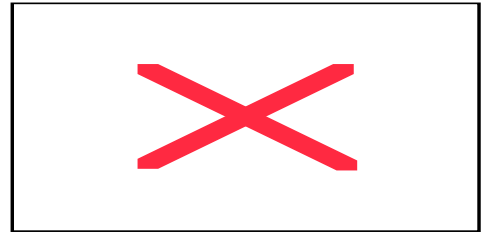
*Lily*

Silver Jubilee, Congratulations!

Rev Lily McKinnon  
Ordained 25 years ago  
6 May 1993

(Lovely Lily, not aged a bit!! ☺ Ed)





## **PATH of RENEWAL**

The Path of Renewal is a journey we are making together to wherever God leads us.

I am grateful to the team who are working alongside me - Dorothy Boyle, Aileen Brookens, Robert Marr, Beverley Miller, Alison Page, Ian Watt. Together we have been praying, attending conferences and listening to each other.

Path of Renewal is about change. From its beginning in the days after Jesus rose again and the Spirit of Pentecost came in liberating power, the church has never stayed the same - a living organism, by its very nature, grows and changes. If it doesn't, it dies. With change, comes loss. With loss, comes grieving and a longing for what used to be. We have to help each other through necessary change and transformation; it is a case of risk the adventure or die.

This doesn't mean we set aside all that Lamlash Church was and is. We respect the past, the generations who worked tirelessly to build up our congregation and the outreach to others. What worked then, doesn't work today. We must look for other ways to engage with our community. Some of what we try, may not work and that is ok. Not much is working as it is! By trying a different way, we learn and we prayerfully go forward with what is fruitful and leave behind what is not.

I am sure you all remember the Sunday School Trip! Rain or shine, the excitement and fun was great. The races, the games, the purvey, the singing, the enjoyment of all ages having a day out together - all firmly lodged in our memories of wonderful times.

Our P of R team would like to re-kindle that spirit of family joy in simple things and we are planning a Sunday School trip on the green! We are calling it a **Family Fun Day** and planning the usual elements of games, races, goodies to eat, singing all wrapped up in fun! We will be calling on you, the church, to help so be ready to respond as we get this organised!

We are also planning to start Messy church in the autumn. This will be monthly and involves families coming together in the hall for something to eat, crafts, singing, Bible stories and lots of fun for all the family! Aileen will be leading this as she has years of experience and we will involve as many of you as possible - maybe on a rota - but we will need your help. Beverley will be our craft leader and our Path of Renewal team will be meeting soon to firm up dates, content and team leaders.

Fair warning! Hear the call of the Kingdom!

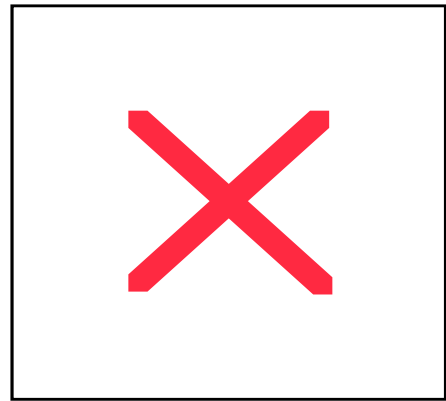
*Lily*

## Our Church Family

### Deaths

*Blessed are those who mourn, for they shall be comforted.*

Matthew 5 verse 4



We remember these families in our prayers:

Isabella Lammie

Shona Noteman

Harold Taylor

Kerr Baillie

Willie McConnell

~~~

Recordings of our Sunday Service are available on CD.

If you would like a copy, please contact Ian Watt our Session Clerk.

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Residents in Trust Housing, McKelvie Road meet on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of each month at 3pm. Please join them in the lounge for a short service of worship.

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### **Arran Churches Together** - Report by Ian Watt

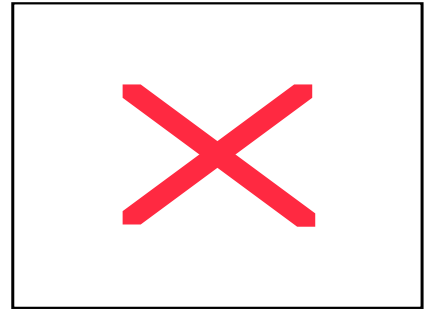
The Foodbank continues to be well used, thank you for your contributions.

Arran Youth Foundations is looking for at least one more volunteer.

The date for the Songs of Praise on Lamlash Green is the 24<sup>th</sup> of June.

The collection this year will be for Erskine Hospital.

Taize Worship is held on the first Thursday of the month.



## Welcoming Teams

|         |                               |
|---------|-------------------------------|
| 3 June  | Mary Mackenzie & Peter Mackay |
| 10 June | Dorothy Boyle & Anne Ferguson |
| 17 June | David Oakes & Alison Page     |
| 24 June | Beverley Millar & Robert Marr |
| 1 July  | John Houston & Ken Barclay    |
| 8 July  | Mick Cannon & Vivienne Haigh  |
| 15 July | Mary Mackenzie & Peter Mackay |
| 22 July | Dorothy Boyle & Anne Ferguson |
| 29 July | David Oakes & Alison Page     |
| 5 Aug   | Beverley Millar & Robert Marr |
| 12 Aug  | John Houston & Ken Barclay    |
| 19 Aug  | Mick Cannon & Vivienne Haigh  |
| 26 Aug  | Mary Mackenzie & Peter Mackay |

## Church Flowers

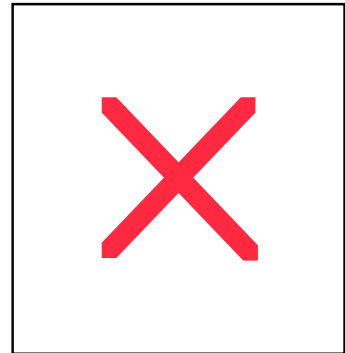
|         |                        |
|---------|------------------------|
| 3 June  | Mrs Morag Campbell     |
| 10 June | Mrs Patricia Trewby    |
| 17 June | Mrs Margaret Fowler    |
| 24 June | Mrs Fiona MacGilchrist |
| 1 July  | Mrs Liz Sinclair       |
| 8 July  | Mrs Beverley Millar    |
| 15 July | Mrs Beth Gordon        |
| 22 July | Mrs Belle Cameron      |
| 29 July | Mrs Janette Mackay     |
| 5 Aug   | Mrs Morag Campbell     |
| 12 Aug  | Mrs Alison Page        |
| 19 Aug  | Mrs Joan Pellowe       |
| 26 Aug  | Rev Lily McKinnon      |



If you would like to join the flower rota or can assist with delivery of the flowers after our church service, please contact:-  
Mary Mackenzie Tel:700220.

## Church Bells

|         |         |
|---------|---------|
| 3 June  | Maureen |
| 10 June | Iain    |
| 17 June | Alison  |
| 24 June | Jean    |
| 1 July  | Dorothy |
| 8 July  | Maureen |
| 15 July | Iain    |
| 22 July | Alison  |
| 29 July | Jean    |
| 5 Aug   | Dorothy |
| 12 Aug  | Maureen |
| 19 Aug  | Iain    |
| 26 Aug  | Alison  |



### Hymn to tune Capel 1919

*Matilda Barbara-Bethan-Edward 1836 -*

God make my life a little light within the world to glow;  
A little flame that burneth bright wherever I may go.

God make my life a little song that comforteth the sad,  
That helpeth others be strong and makes the singer glad.

God make my life a little staff whereon the weak may rest,  
That so what health and strength I have may serve my neighbours best.

God make my life a little hymn of tenderness and praise,  
Of faith that never waxeth dim in all His wondrous ways.

I was inspired to play the tune to this hymn recently as the offering was being received, the words seemed very appropriate to the theme of the service. Some of the 'Oldies' in the congregation may recall singing it in their Sunday School days of yore. May these words continue to help and encourage us on our way!  
On a lighter note, as a child I was puzzled to know how my mother's Singer sewing machine could be made 'glad' (v2)

**Margaret Fowler**

Sending our love and very best wishes to Sal celebrating her **100<sup>th</sup> Birthday!**

For many years, Sal Bannatyne sang in the choir with her friend Margaret Stewart, and she still takes a great interest in 'her' church through the CD recordings of our Sunday Service.

Sal has served the whole community so well over many years, including growing turnips at Glenkiln!

~ ~ ~

### **ORGAN RECITAL**

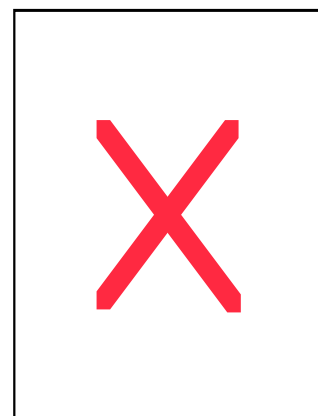
We are delighted to welcome back Douglas Bruce for another Organ Recital this year in Lamlash Church. This will take place at 3pm on June 10th, lasting about an hour.

Last year 80 people attended and Douglas gave a wonderful recital with his own blend of humour informing us about the various composers.

Douglas donated £400 to the church as well as a grant of £250 from a European trust.

More programme details will be available soon but here are some of the composers to whet your appetite! Charpentier, Handel, Johann Sebastian Bach, Haydn, Hollins and more. It is a treat not to be missed so please spread the word!

**DOUGLAS BRUCE** was born in Perth and now lives in Switzerland. He is a renowned organist who has played in some of the world's major cathedrals throughout Europe and the USA. He is playing in Ukraine before coming to Lamlash.



# TRY PRAYING. THERE IS HOPE

## FOR THOSE WHO DON'T DO CHURCH

A conversation on a train went like this. The guy in his 20s was asked, "Do you ever pray? " His reply was, "Yes. I prayed for two people who were seriously ill. One died and the other got better." He concluded he'd had 50% success.

This reflex – the desire to reach out to God – is basic to many, many people. Trypraying is a resource for people like that: no church connection or interest, but open to find out about God. The trypraying booklet is a 7-day prayer guide and is now being used by many to pass on to friends and family with a few words of encouragement – 'Why don't you try praying for a week and see what happens in your life?'

If you want information about the project that has grown around this go to [www.thereishope.co.uk](http://www.thereishope.co.uk).

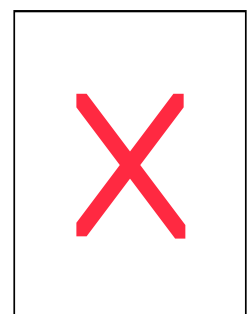
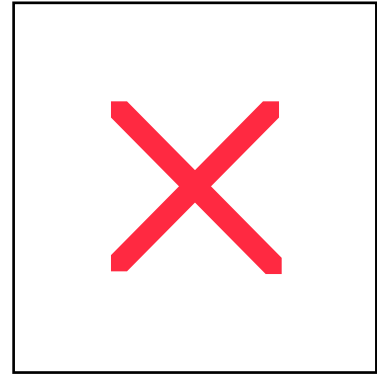
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## Prayer

The church vitally need prayer support for all their activities. Also, for the encouragement and wellbeing of our minister, Lily, and all those who are involved in whatever capacity, large or small. It is also important to pray about issues which affect the whole island, and elsewhere. Even if you are unable to join any of the prayer groups, please pray at home.

There is always a time for prayer at the Faith Development Group, why not join us after the summer break?

Monica Tweeddale





## Prayer

God of the impossible,  
we pray for justice, peace and reconciliation.  
And when the challenges seem too many,  
remind us of your resurrection power,  
and the miracles of your love that happen  
whenever injustice is dismantled and rebuilt with peace.  
Help us to hope that the impossible can happen  
and live as if it might do so today.  
Amen.

by *Christian Aid Scotland*



## JAMES 2: 14-17

What good is it, my brothers and sisters, if you say you have faith but do not have works? Can faith save you? If a brother or sister is naked and lacks daily food, and one of you says to them, 'Go in peace; keep warm and eat your fill', and yet you do not supply their bodily needs, what is the good of that? So faith by itself, if it has no works, is dead.

Extracts used with kind permission from Sanctuary First

<https://www.sanctuaryfirst.org.uk/daily-worship/28-words>

## Twinning with Malawi

Just over a year ago four members of our Presbytery, Rev David Watson, Rev Tanya Webster, Deirdre Murray and Jim Welsh, visited Malala Presbytery in the North of Malawi. The purpose of the visit was to sign a Twinning agreement between Ardrossan Presbytery and Malala Presbytery and to visit all Churches in that Presbytery with a view to individual twinings of churches in the two Presbyteries. Largs St John's linked with Cumbræ Parish Church was already twinned with one of the churches and, since the visit, Largs Clark Memorial Church, Ardrossan Park Church and West Kilbride Parish Church have agreed to twin with churches there.

This year we are delighted to be welcoming four visitors from Malala Presbytery to our Presbytery from the 7th-19th June. Two of the visitors are Ministers, one a representative from the Women's Guild and a young woman representing the Christian Youth Fellowship. An itinerary for their visit has been finalised and they will be visiting Arran on Monday, 11th June.

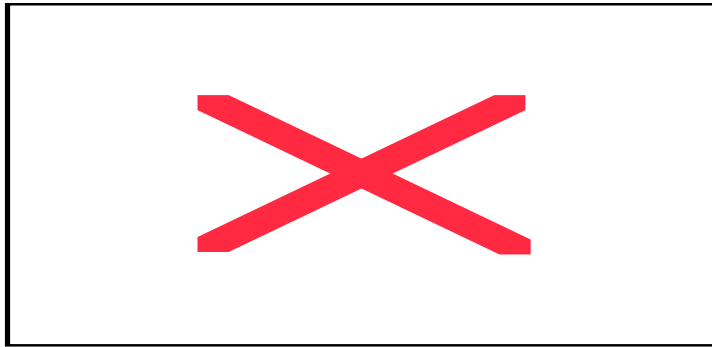
The itinerary for the day is still provisional but so far - our six guests (4 from Malala and 2 from Ardrossan) arrive off the 10.45am ferry and spend an hour in Arran High School, then over to lunch in Shiskine with Arran clergy. A drive round the north end brings us back to Brodick Church Hall at 3.15pm for tea and coffee to which all congregations be most welcome and at least one of the group will say a few words. Then it will just be a meet and greet before we send them back to Ardrossan on the 4.40pm ferry.

It is hoped that they will be able to meet as many members of the churches in Arran as possible during their visit. It is also hoped that other churches here will prayerfully consider twinning with a church there.

This photo was taken outside the Parliament building in Lilongwe, Malawi.



(L-R Rev David Watson, Rev Tanya Webster, Deirdre Murray, Jim Welsh and Rev William Mumba, Malala Presbytery Clerk)



The regular Singing Group is coming to an end as I will be otherwise engaged shortly! We will still meet now and again but the weekly time together is no longer possible. Thank you to all of you who made it fun as well as a learning time together. You have made a great difference to our Sunday worship and your commitment is greatly appreciated.

*Graeme*

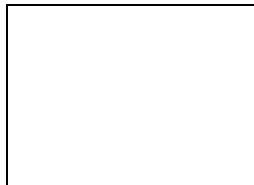
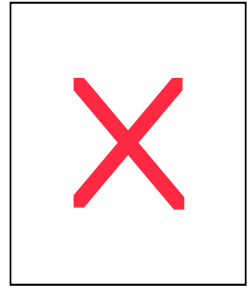


A photo with some members of the Singing Group.

*Thanks Graeme, I'm going to really miss our singing on a Wednesday - great fun and fellowship! Good luck with your next adventure! Ed*

## Guild News

The Guild has had another busy and successful year focusing on the theme, 'Go in Love,' and we had a variety of speakers who helped us to think about that in various ways from puppets to the Huguenots in France. The turn out to each meeting has been high, the home baking exceptional and everyone worked well together to make each meeting an enjoyable experience.



The two projects we've supported over the previous three years, Street Pastors and Feed the Minds raised overall more than £200,000 which is an amazing achievement from all the Guilds who supported these particular charities.

As mentioned at our AGM in March, the new way of functioning in our Guild meetings with committee members working in pairs to share the workload has again worked very well, so a big thank you to everyone for taking this on. Joyce Walker has also very kindly volunteered to be our secretary for which we are very grateful and we'll appreciate the help she can now give as a result.

Our annual lunch at the Brodick bar was well attended with Lily able to attend this year. We now look forward to the Laigh Kirk, Kilmarnock, coming to join us on the 29<sup>th</sup> May for lunch and to being entertained by 'Ain't Misbehavin'.



Our new strategy for the next three years is 'One Journey, Many Roads' with the theme for our first year being 'Seeking the Way', the second year will be, 'Companions on the Road' and the third year, 'The Extra Mile'

This image of travelling and journeying together is one that we see again and again in the Bible. Usually the journeys are based on faith and hope as God takes His people to new places. So we look forward to all that lies ahead for us knowing that we, as His people don't journey alone.

We now have a break to enjoy, hopefully, some good weather as summer approaches and look forward to meeting up again in October when any new members would be very welcome.

### **Dates for your Diary**

29 <sup>th</sup> May	Guild Link Laigh Kirk
5 <sup>th</sup> June	Summer Rally, Cumbrae
1 <sup>st</sup> Sep.	Annual Gathering, Caird Hall, Dundee
28 <sup>th</sup> Oct	Guild Dedication Service
18 <sup>th</sup> -25 <sup>th</sup> Nov.	Guild Week



**Aileen Brookens** (Guild President)

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### **Finance Report**

At May 2018 the Bank Account Balances are:-

Current Account £29,840    Deposit Account £70,000

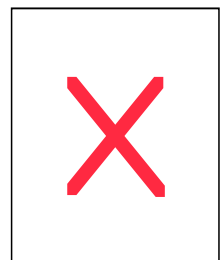
The church continues to meet its financial obligations toward the Church of Scotland.

Gift Aid has been submitted to HMRC and we have just banked £6658.19.

The church accounts have been accepted by Presbytery and have now been posted on the OSCR website.

I am grateful to our congregation for their continued support throughout the year.

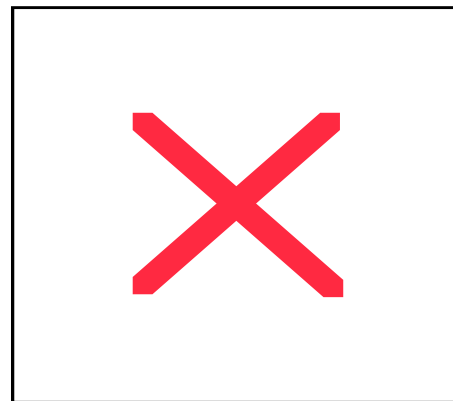
**Robert K Marr** (Church Treasurer)



## **Property Report May 2018**

### **Property Inspection**

In January the annual inspection of all the Church's property was carried out. A small number of items requiring attention were noted on the annual return to Presbytery. None of these items were considered to be serious or high risk.



### **Church**

Some months ago Bill Young created a new door in the panelling adjacent to the organ. This access is to assist with the dehumidification of that area and guard against future breakdowns due to dampness.

Vegetation - quotes are being sought for the erection of scaffolding to enable a roofer to carry out the removal of vegetation growth at the ridge.

### **Hall**

A quote for painting the external windows has been received from a decorator. One window cill is showing signs of rot and will need to be dealt with prior to painting the exterior woodwork

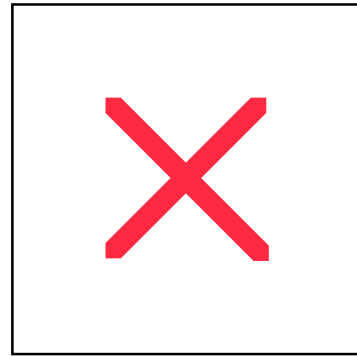
A new heater thermostat was fitted to a faulty panel radiator.

PAT testing of electrical appliances is still outstanding.

### **Grounds**

Our next door neighbour has drawn to our attention the amount of ivy and the like growing on the rear wall. Further investigation is required to avoid detrimental effect on our sandstone boundary wall.

*John Houston – Property Convenor*



## CHURCH Re-DEVELOPMENT PLANS

After many meetings, applications and emails, our proposals to re-develop the church buildings are beginning to take a more concrete (no pun intended!) shape.

Recently, our Sanctuary Group met with Peter Drummond, an architect recommended by the Presbytery Property Convener, and it was a very informative and constructive meeting. Thanks to Vicki at ACVS who sent out a survey on our behalf to obtain feedback from the many Arran groups and organisations.

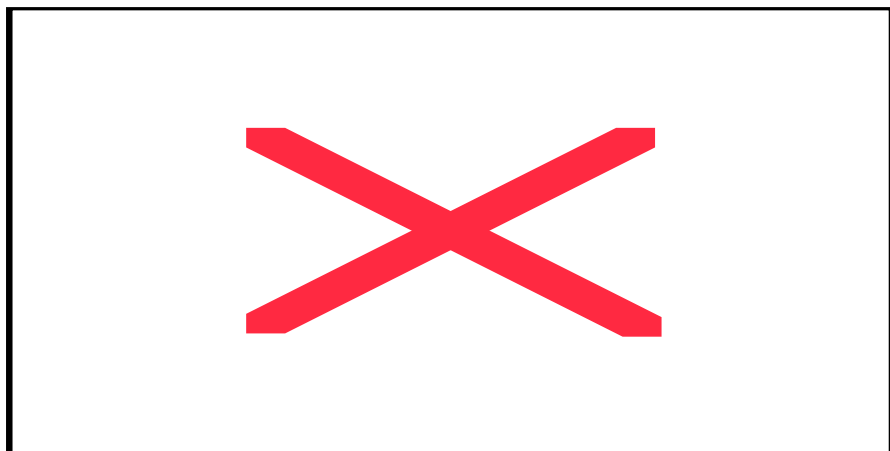
The responses have been very positive. The next stage is for us to collate and write up sound information from the survey and from others. This will be part of the strategy for applying for grants.

Peter was very frank but also encouraging about possibilities and he is looking into making some drawings (not fully fledged architectural plans) to give us an idea of what our proposals might look like in the flesh. The main idea is to link the church and hall so that we can provide better toilet and kitchen facilities.

As re-development can take several years to fruition, Peter suggested interim measures to install some new heating before the winter. This will be very welcome to all of us who suffer the cold Sunday by Sunday.

Please continue your prayers and rest assured that you will be kept updated at every stage before anything is tackled.

*Lily*



## **Church Coffee Mornings**

**EVERY WEDNESDAY**

**10:15 – 12 NOON**

**LAMLASH CHURCH HALL**



Come and join us for a cuppa and blether any Wednesday morning. You'll be able to enjoy some lovely home baking and have the opportunity to browse round our stalls with books, jewellery, cards, baking and plants on sale.

Huge thanks to Maureen Oakes for organising the Coffee Mornings for so many years, with David in support. A very hard act to follow!!!

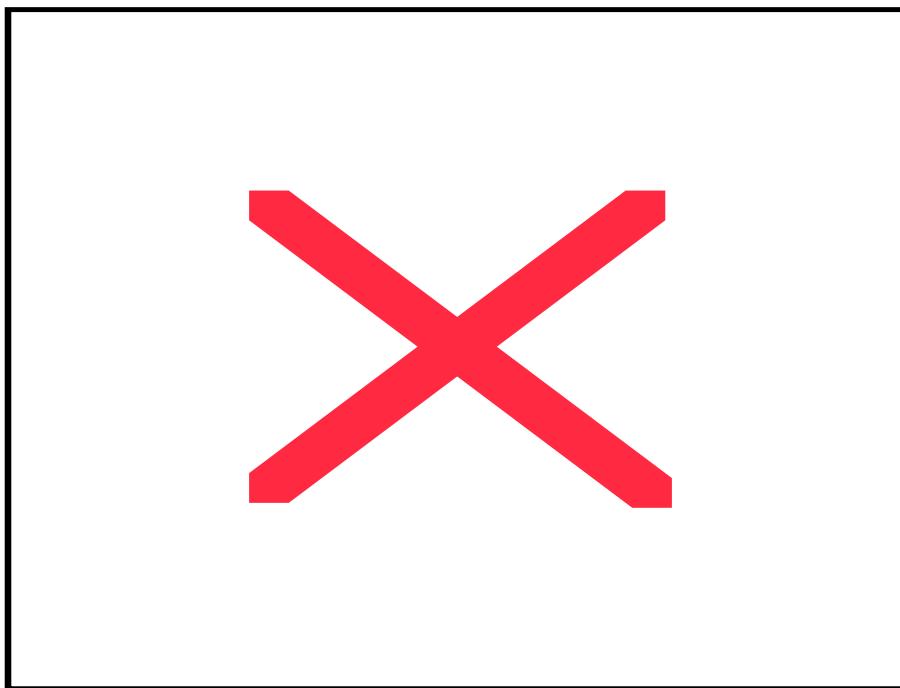
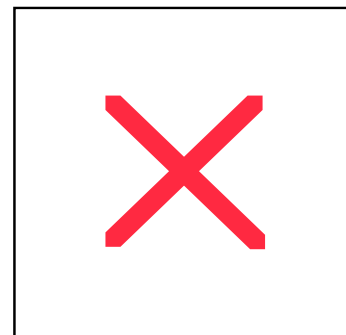


Photo of Team Leader Patricia Trewby with her helpers  
L-R Patricia, Sheila, Betty, Diane, Alison & Beverley



## World Mission



We have received a letter of thanks to all the people who have collected their used postage stamps over the year. Those we sent went towards the appeal which ended at Easter and raised £2194 for the Giffen Institute of Theology in South Sudan. Thank you all and please keep up the good work!

The new appeal is to raise money for the Hungarian reformed Church in Transcarpathia (Ukraine), who help to run a number of day care centres.

These centres provide educational, emotional and physical support for children and young people with disabilities, allowing them to enjoy participating in society and family life. The church is relied upon to provide these services, as the Ukrainian Government does not provide support for people with disabilities.

Although it seems quite a long time ago, the last World Mission (WM) magazine gave the Easter story from the perspective of women from different countries, which was both interesting and inspiring. When you read of some of the difficulties they face it makes one realise how lucky we are in the UK.

The General Assembly is coming soon, when delegates from all over the world will attend. There will be a report produced on interfaith, a subject which affects us all. Doubtless the next WM magazine will have a lot to tell us, so make sure you get one!

Monica Tweeddale

Thanks to Monica!

Anyone with access to the internet can keep up to date on WM via this link [http://www.churchofscotland.org.uk/serve/world\\_mission/world\\_mission\\_news](http://www.churchofscotland.org.uk/serve/world_mission/world_mission_news) Ed

## Mary's Meals

The Arran Skinnymalinks "Roll away a Stone for Easter" was a huge success with many people meeting their target weight. Well done and thank you to everyone involved!!! The donations received from Lamlash, Shiskine, Corrie and the two groups in Brodick totalled £670 before any Gift Aid.

A tremendous amount which will provide 9,571 meals to starving children in a place of education. Thanks to our churches for use of their premises to weigh in.



Alison



We are in Christian Aid week as we go to print. There is a prayer diary available on the Christian Aid website for April- July– follow this link.

<https://www.christianaid.org.uk/sites/default/files/2018-04/prayer-diary-april-july-2018.pdf>

**Extract for those without internet access**

**Week beginning 3 June** - Sunday after Pentecost

## The blessing of service

**Treasure in clay jars. Read: 2 Corinthians 4:5-12**

This Volunteers' Week, give thanks for all those who contributed their time to make Christian Aid Week a success – as collectors, church reps, event organisers, helpers, and speakers.

Give thanks and pray that all who help out in our offices will be blessed by their service.

***God of all,***

***Thank you for all those who choose to give freely and generously the treasure of their talents and gifts to build your kingdom across the world.***

*This has kindly been submitted by Jim Henderson as a follow up to Sandy McDougall's article about the church organ in our Spring 2018 newsletter.*

### ***Parish of Kilbride.***

At one stage in the Island history there was only one parish, prior to 1350 there is an absence of any church or religious records. Around 1400 the island was divided in two - Parish of Kilmory (Gaelic for Mary's Church) on the west side of the island and Parish of Kilbride on the East side taking in all areas from Lochranza to Kildonan.

There were two St Bride's parish churches on the east side, St James church dedicated to St Bride's in Lochranza built with the backing of Duchess Anne in 1712, replacing an earlier construction in the same location, dating from 1550.

St Bride's chapel in Lamlash was granted by Sir John of Menteith 1325 - 1382, Lord of Arran and Knapdale around 1357. He was married to a niece of Robert Bruce hence his Arran connection and gave the rights to the monks of Kilwinning for all the Island churches. [His father Sir John 1275 -1329 was involved with the capture of Sir William Wallace in 1305 and was treated as a traitor. This changed later when he elected to support Robert de Bruce. Who granted him lands in Knapdale and Kintyre for his service]

The religious status was confirmed by David 11 (1324-1371) King of Scotland and son of Robert de Bruce, in 1364 also Robert 111 (1337-1406) and by Pope Benedict X111 in 1408.

Antipope Benedict (1328-1423) was born Pedro Martinez de Luna in Spain. He was a professor of canon law and was made a cardinal in 1375. As Antipope he reigned in the Avignon province of France, [seat of the catholic popes from 1309-1377] there were many divisions about his authority, but Scotland recognized him as the Pope of the Catholic faith.

St Bride's chapel located in the walled grounds of Lamlash cemetery may date from early 13<sup>th</sup> century (1201-1300) [a time in history known as the middle ages] but was first mentioned in writings of the 1337 period and it probably followed an earlier place of worship at the same location.



James IV of Scotland 1437 -1513, a fluent Gaelic speaker who was killed in battle at Flodden is recorded as having attended mass in the Lamlash St Brides chapel around 1498. In 1493 James ended the influence of John McDonald 11 Lord of the Isles; he directed Royal control over and governed the Western Isles. The chapel continued in use after the reformation (1560) until it became too small and inconvenient for the parish. During the years leading up to 1560 Scotland was predominantly Catholic with religion leading areas of education and morality.

Language was another factor as the spoken word was mainly Gaelic and in Arran at this time very few folks spoke or even understood English.

[The reformation of Scotland was led by John Knox and shaped the Church of Scotland and all other Presbyterian churches worldwide]

Around the period of 1773 a simple 2-storey plain building to accommodate 500 persons was erected by the roadside adjacent to Tigh-an-air to replace the small chapel. The stone built walls had a slated roof and the floor was just a mix of sand and gravel with timber slatted walkways to accommodate the flooding caused by the high tides.

In spite of the spartan interior the building was in use for about 100 years, serving the entire East coast of Arran. At the annual sacrament of the Lord's Supper a large tent had to be erected on the village green to accommodate all of the worshippers.



The Duke of Hamilton at this time was Alexander the 10<sup>th</sup> duke 1767-1852, who was head of the estate, responsible for the introduction of Burrell 1767 and Bauchope 1800's to Arran, which led to the Arran clearances 1829. \*

He was also a collector of fine Art, some of his art work, which adorned the walls of Brodick Castle were sold in 1882 for the sum of £397,562.00 by William the 12<sup>th</sup> Duke (1845-1895) who died in Algiers.

Perhaps this was what funded the building of the churches – coincidence?

St George's united free church was also funded by William the 12<sup>th</sup> Duke of Hamilton in 1885-1892. The manse next door was built in 1898 by another. In use by the Lamlash Free Church from 1892 until 1900 when they amalgamated with the union of free and united Presbyterian church until 1929, when it became the united free church.

The two congregations of Lamlash existed until they amalgamated in 1947 and St Bride's became known as the Lamlash Parish Church.

Around 1884 the simple building was demolished to make way for the new church and hall, funded by the Duke of Hamilton for the sum of £4,000 and the new church was opened for use in the early part of 1886.

The location of the previous church building was instrumental in the building of a new school house in 1805. Education continued there until 1850 when a new schoolhouse was erected, this is now the North Ayrshire Council offices.

The school building by the church is now a private home called 'Belhaven', at one time home to the church organist and choirmaster James Toole who was also the village postmaster.

The church organ, built by William Hill, Norman & Beard of London, donated by Mrs Agnes Fairlie in memory of the Rev Peter Robertson (1883-1913) was originally located directly in front of the pulpit at a higher level and was removed to its present location because of dry rot around 1979/80.

\* Arran to Canada one way published 2012

### ***Church bells connection to the Fairlie's***

The campanile tower of the Gothic-style red sandstone building hosts the finest feature of the church -the peal of the nine bells, one of only fifteen in Scotland. When the church was built there were originally only 8 bells in scale of 'C'.

The Duke provided three bells and James Auld Jamieson, commissioner to the Duke donated the other 5.

In 1913 Mr Fairlie donated the 9<sup>th</sup> bell in honour of his wife Agnes. John Wilson & Co in the Gorbals Brass and Bell foundry cast all of the bells. They are nationally unique; they have the largest chime cast in a Scottish foundry for a Scottish church. Their total weight exceeds 42 cwts.

*Wonderful to read all this local history, thank you so much for sharing all your research and knowledge Jim! - Ed*

# THE POOR WILL NEVER CEASE OUT OF THE LAND

## Deuteronomy 15 : 11

It's worth quoting the rest of the verse, as it was embraced to a greater or lesser extent by the parishes of the Church of Scotland. ***"You shall open wide your hand to your brother, to the needy and to the poor, in the land."*** The fact is that, before state intervention, poor relief was largely regarded as a church matter, although some landowners might provide for their own pensioners.

In the Statistical Accounts of Scotland, the Ministers of Kilbride and Kilmory were requested to record the involvement of their parishes. In 1793 Kilbride's Gershom Stuart was typically brief - *"There are only 12 on the poor's roll. Quarterly collections are made for their support, and distributed according to their age and necessities. And certain pensioners of the Duke of Hamilton are supplied with meal by his Factor."*

John Hamilton, his counterpart in Kilmory, was more forthcoming. *"The number of poor on the parish roll is 40, who are supplied by the weekly collections as often as the fund admits; but which is quite inadequate to their needs. Such therefore of them as can go about, receive alms from the country people; and those who are decrepit or confined to bed, are, in addition to the surplus received from the Session, supported by country charity sent to them; for the people, according to their abilities, are very charitable, and attentive to real indigence."*

In 1793 Kilbride had a population of 2545, Kilmory one of 3259. The small number on poor relief speaks volumes for the family care which must have existed among such a tight-knit community. Of course, the higher mortality rates and shorter expectation of life meant that proportionally fewer people survived to require poor relief.

The 18<sup>th</sup> century was one of widespread poverty and destitution, but the fact that Arran is an island saved it from the hordes of *"sturdy beggars, Egyptians, sorners, cairds, tinkers, gypsies and thiggers"*, described by Andrew Fletcher of Saltoun.

Nor are there any Arran records of the beggars, or gaberlunzies who were licensed by Kirk Sessions to ply their trade, wearing their blue gowns and carrying little lead badges bearing the name of the parish within which they were permitted to operate. Other beggars who were maimed or deformed were known as 'objects', and in many parts of rural Scotland were carried on barrows or 'hurdles' from house to house. The householder on whose doorstep the mendicant (who was frequently an imposter) was deposited, was obliged to provide food and lodging, and next day to transport the hurdle and its passenger to another house. According to **Glasgow Past and Present**, *"Servants had great pleasure in laying the cripples at the door of anyone whom they wished especially to annoy"*.

Poor relief largely depended on money raised by church collections and other forms of church income, of which more later. The Minister's stipend was paid by the 'heritors' or landowners. The sums raised were extremely small, not because of the miserliness of the people, but as a result of general poverty and a shortage of legal tender.

At the time of the Union of 1707, Scottish silver coinage was called in and reminted as standard English currency, and new English copper coins introduced – the promise in the Treaty that there should be a Mint in Scotland was never delivered. Obsolete Scottish copper coins like the doit, bodle, plack and bawbee, remained in circulation for those who would accept them, and, as they became devalued, ended up in church collection plates. (As Scots money had been valued at 1/12<sup>th</sup> of sterling, a doit was worth 1/12<sup>th</sup> of a penny, a bodle 1/6<sup>th</sup>, and a bawbee a halfpenny. A Scots pound had been valued at 1s.8d.)

In some churches there were two bad coins in the collection out of every five ones. It was even alleged that in some parishes in Aberdeenshire, people would put bad halfpence into the plate, and take out good ones. And most annoying of all, the kirk elders who attempted to sell off the valueless donations as scrap metal discovered that the dealers who bought the coins then sold them on to thrifty parishioners who recycled them through their collection plates!

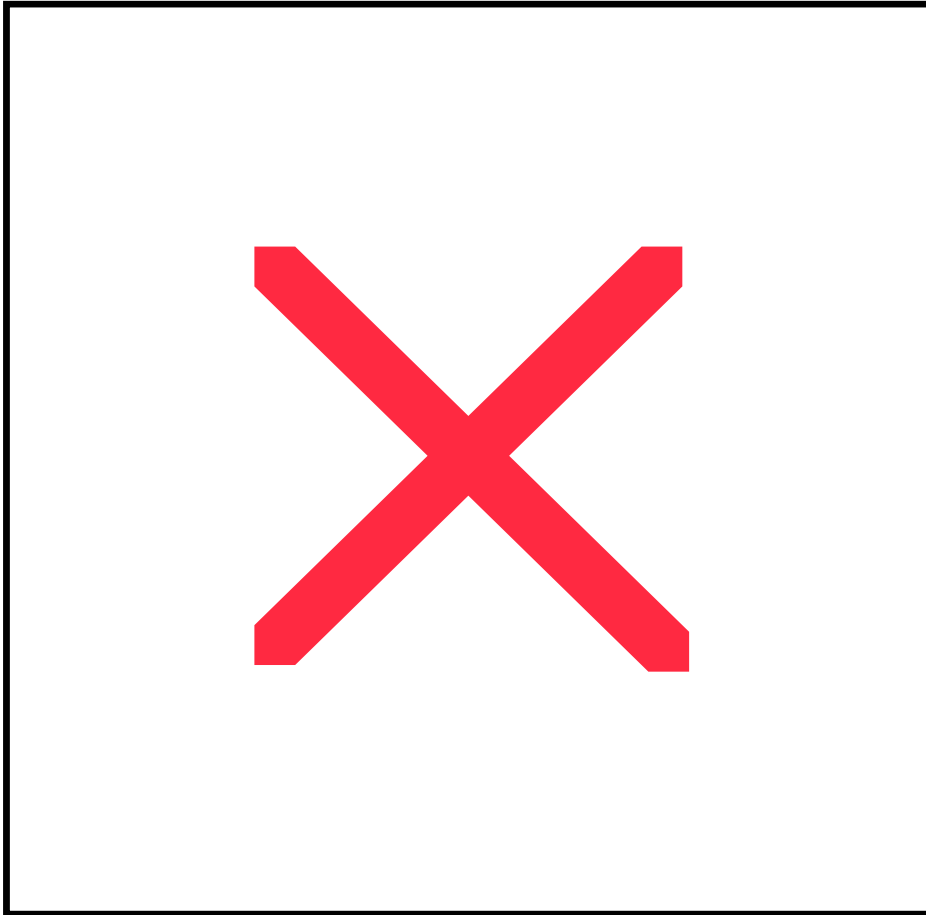
Although Arran seems to have escaped the worst effects of such practices, by 1840 the Rev. Allan McNaughton was reporting that the annual average number of paupers receiving parochial aid in Kilbride was 50. His colleague, Angus Macmillan in Kilmory reports a similar increase to an average of 75 over the previous ten years. He also has a couple of interesting thoughts on the situation. *"Application for parochial aid is considered degrading, and none but such as are paupers in the strictest sense of the term apply for it. So long as the funds for the support of the poor are furnished by the congregation, the provision is regarded as a public charity, but if it were levied by assessment it would no longer be viewed in this light."* And in a comment which seems to echo clearly some current political views regarding those in receipt of state benefits – *"The love of idleness would speedily overcome the pride of independence, and there would be as much avidity to seize upon it, as there is now aversion to accept of it."*

Plus ça change!

(*caird* = vagrant; *sorner* = scrounger, with violence; *thigger* = beggar for food/lodging)

*to be continued*

**IAIN AULD**



### **Crossword Puzzle – NIV version**

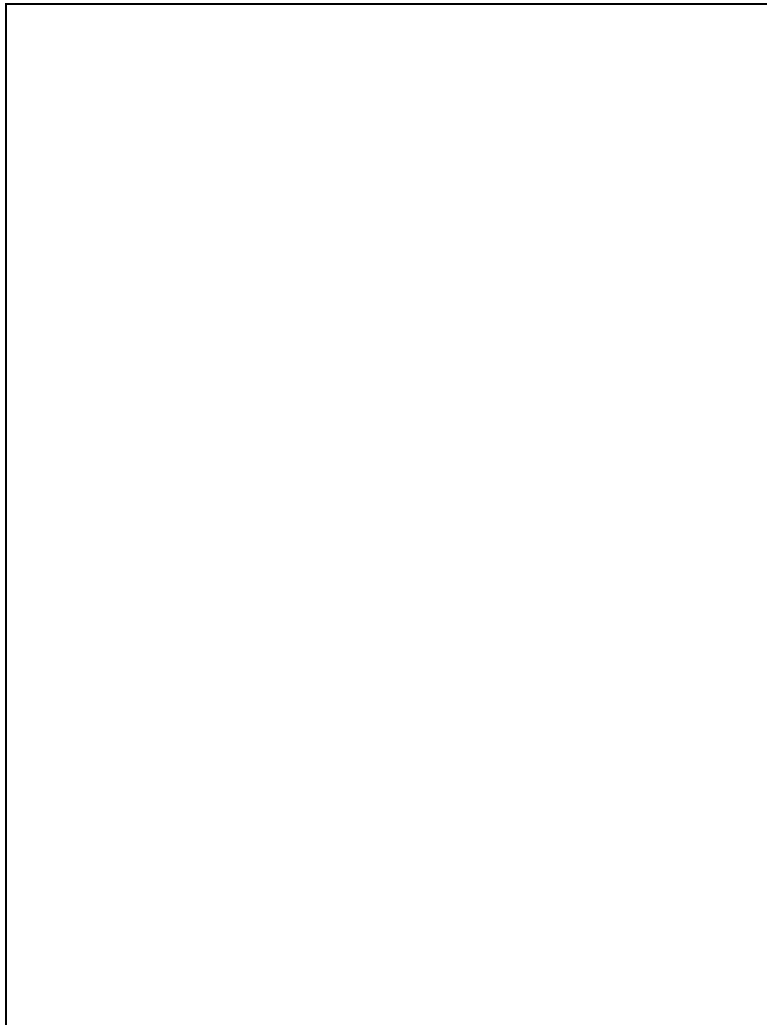
#### **Clues Across**

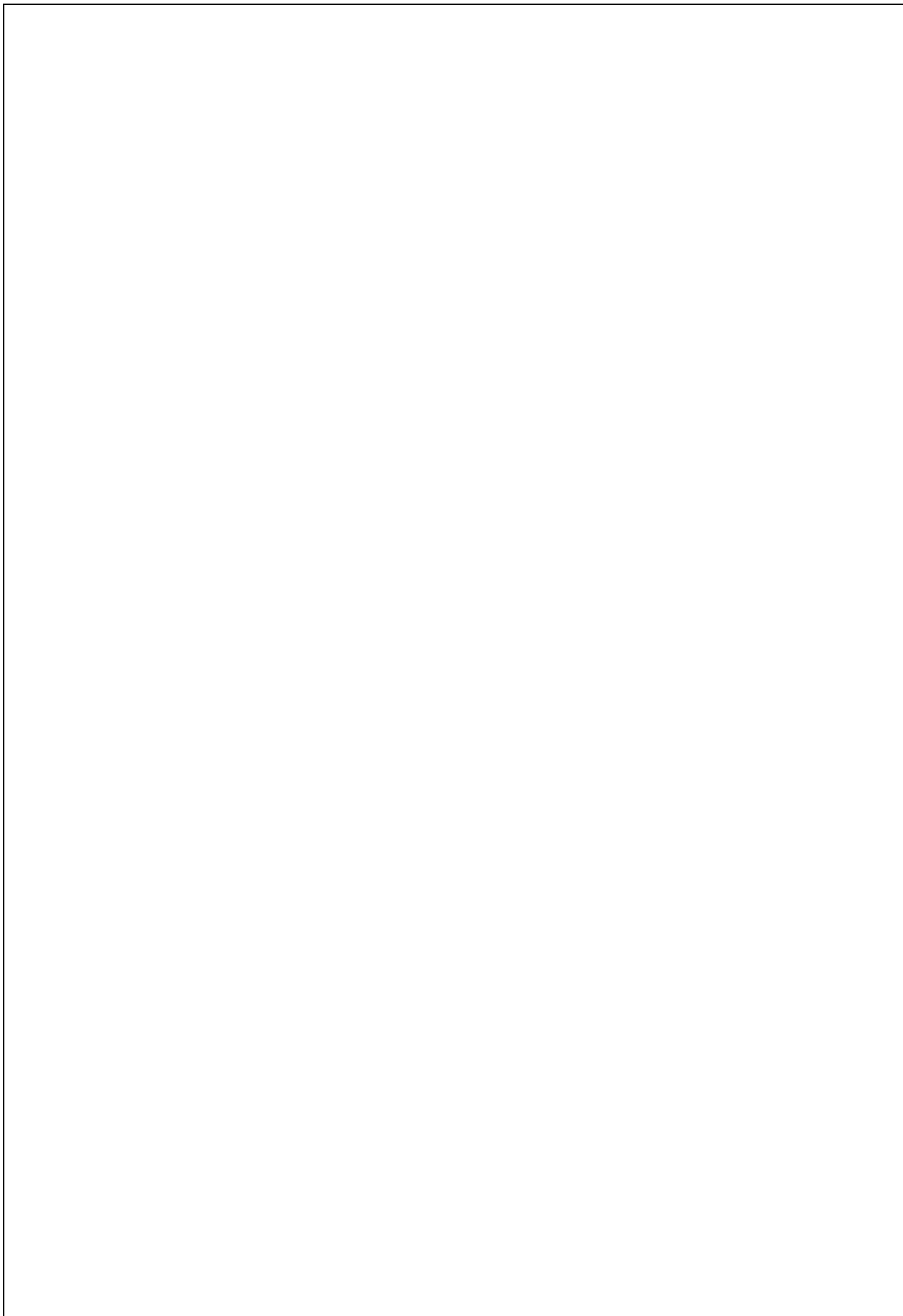
- 1 Evil (Genesis 6:5) (10)
- 7 Musician called for by Elisha when he met the kings of Israel, Judah and Edom (2 Kings 3:15) (7)
- 8 The request that led to the institution of the Lord's Prayer: 'Lord, — us to pray' (Luke 11:1) (5)
- 10 'We are hard pressed on every—'(2Corinthians4:8)(4)
- 11 Fraud (2Corinthians6:8)(8)
- 13 'His troops advance in force;they build a siege ramp against me and — around my tent' (Job 19:12) (6)
- 15 Where Rachel hid Laban's household gods when he searched his daughter's tent (Genesis 31:34) (6)
- 17 'Now about spiritual gifts,brothers,I do not want you to be—' (1 Corinthians 12:1) (8)
- 18 Nomadic dwelling(Genesis26:25)(4)
- 21 'As for man,his days are like—,he flourishes like a flower of the field' (Psalm 103:15) (5)
- 22 Or I live (anag.)(7)
- 23 Those guilty of 1 Across(Romans13:4)(10)

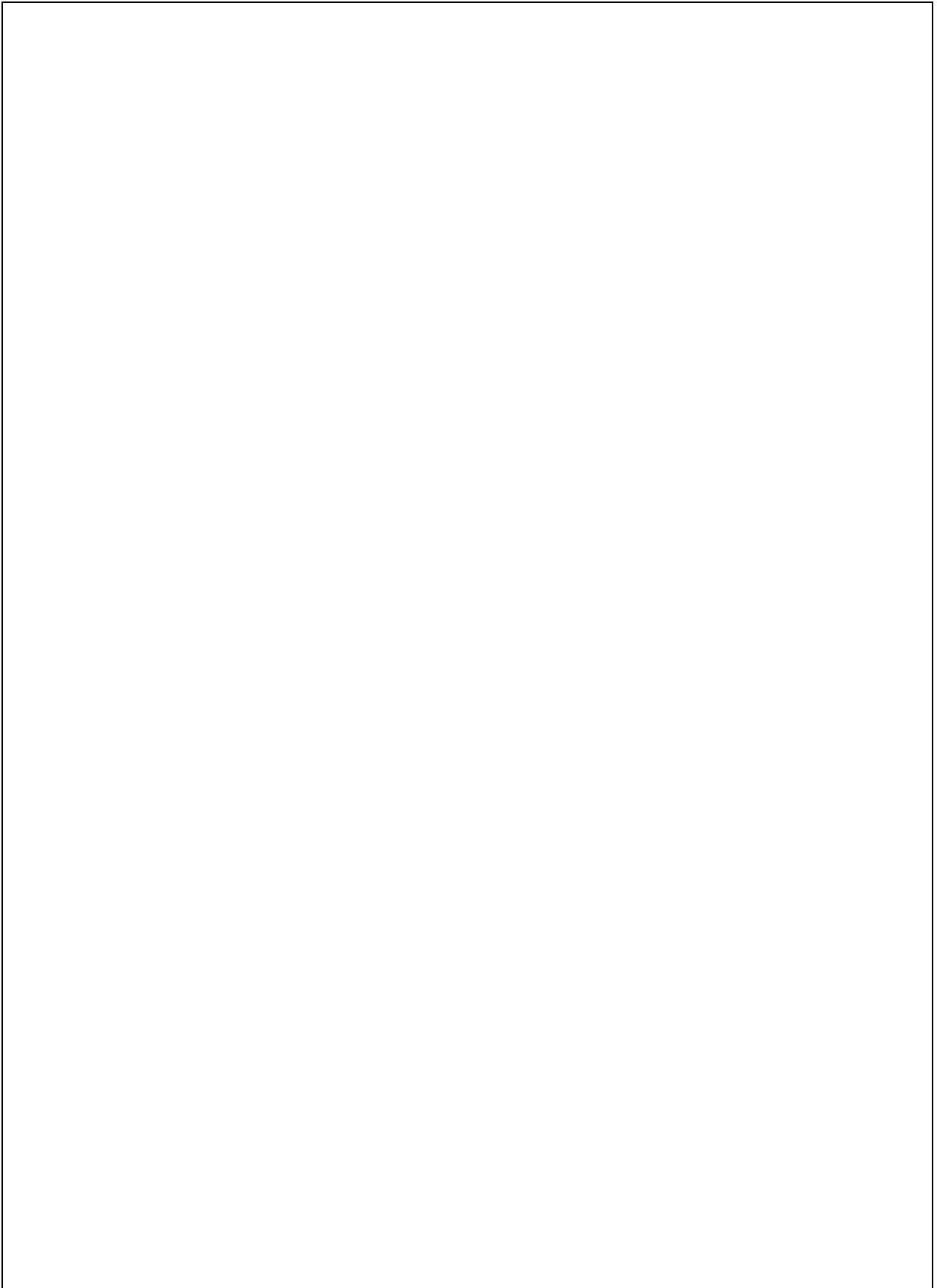
## Crossword Clues Down

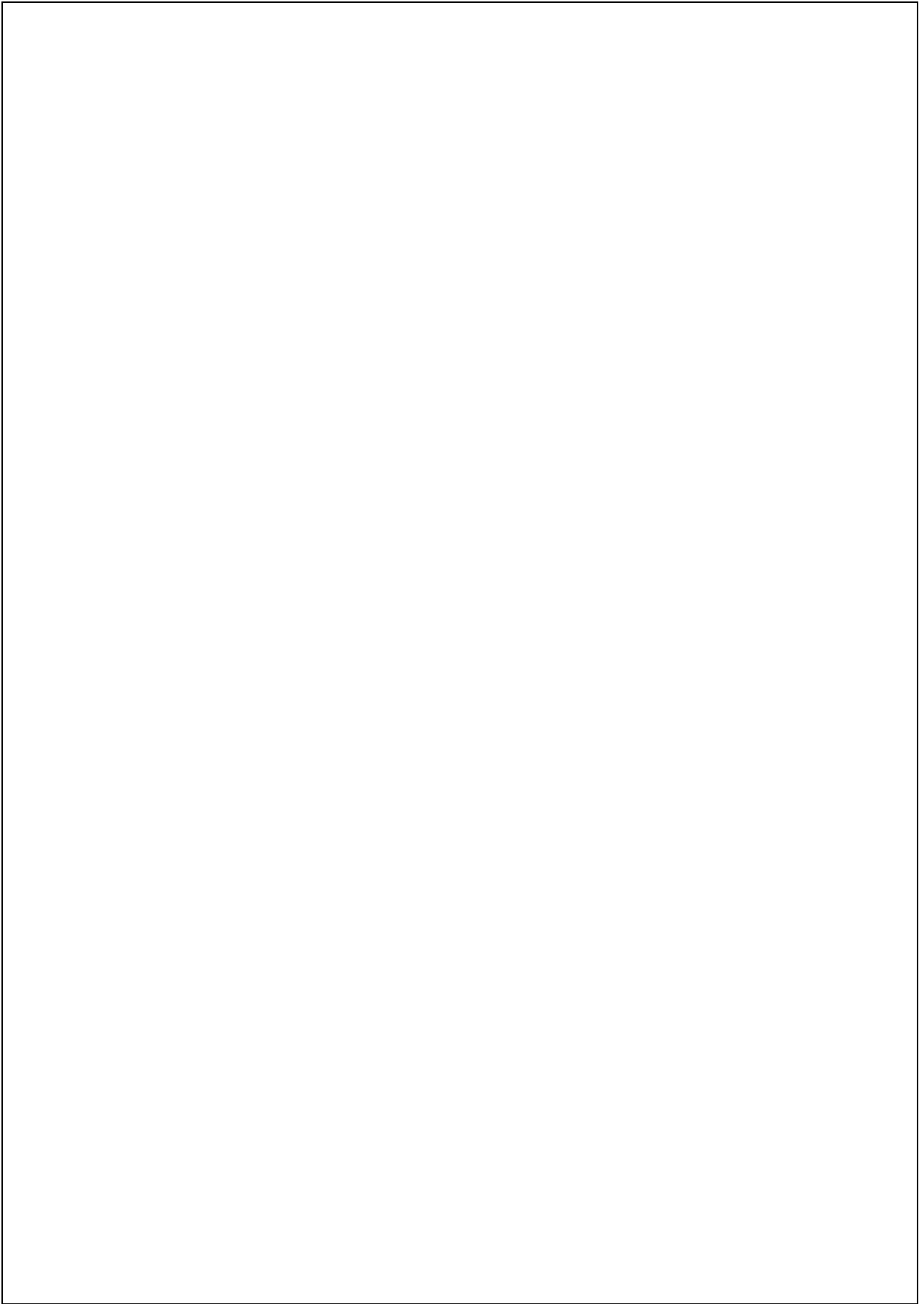
- 1 'God so loved the — that he gave his one and only Son' (John 3:16) (5)
- 2 'Away in a manger, no — for a bed' (4)
- 3 Mob ten (anag.) (6)
- 4 'Each — group made its own gods in several towns where they settled' (2 Kings 17:29) (8)
- 5 Began (Luke 9:46) (7)
- 6 Speaking very softly (John 7:32) (10)
- 9 Workers Ruth joined when she arrived in Bethlehem with her mother-in-law Naomi (Ruth 2:3) (10) 12 Put in jail(Acts22:19)(8)
- 14 Aceturn(anag.)(7)
- 16 Discharge(Acts21:3)(6)
- 19 'All these—come from inside and make a man "unclean"' (Mark 7:23) (5)
- 20 'Let us rejoice and be glad and — him glory!'(Revelation19:7)(4)

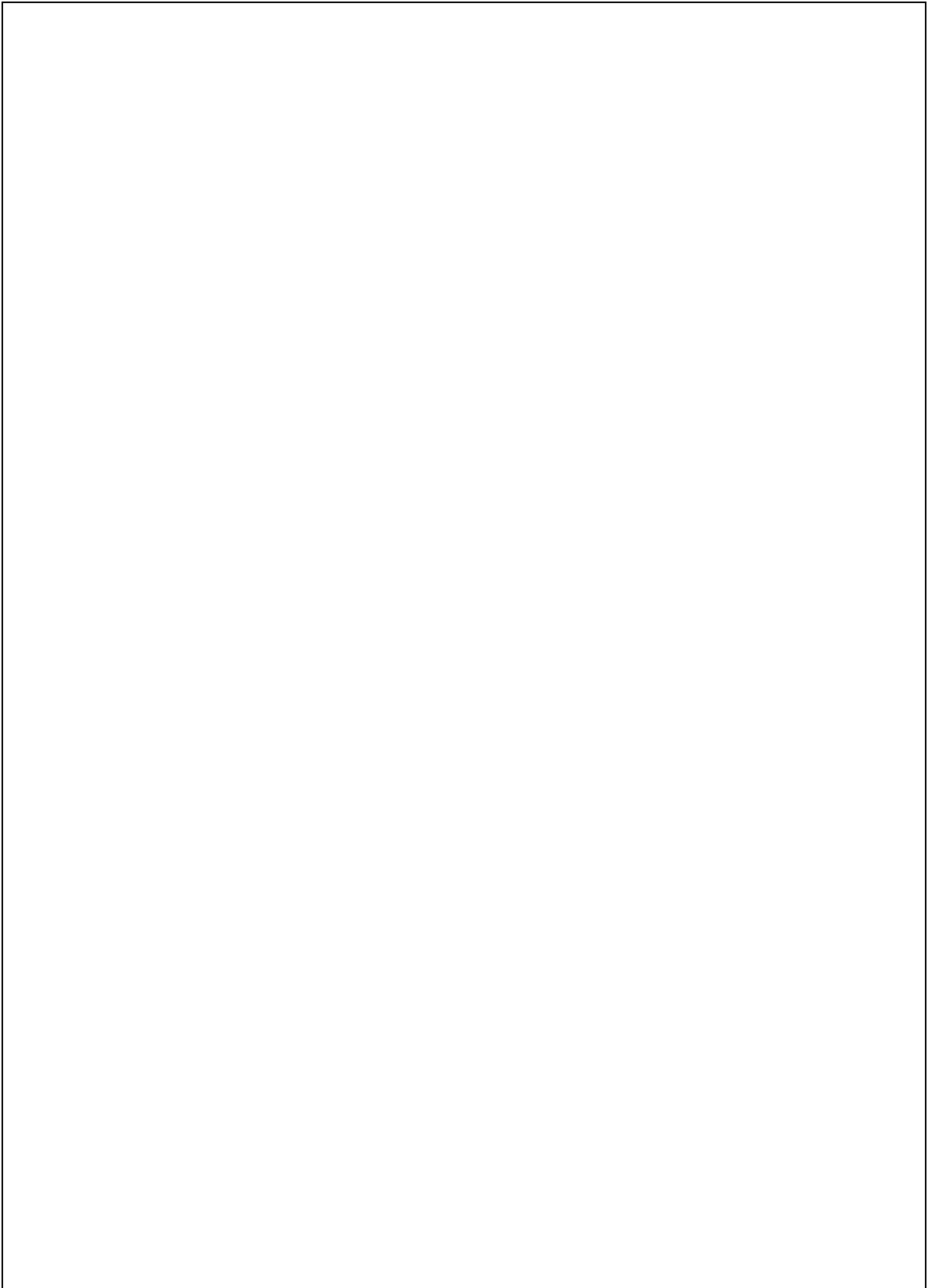
## Maze











## A note from Alison

Thanks to everyone for their contributions to this edition of our Newsletter, especially to Iain Auld and Jim Henderson for their super articles on Arran history linking to our church and former ministers – fascinating! Turning to the history of the Church of Scotland...

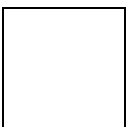
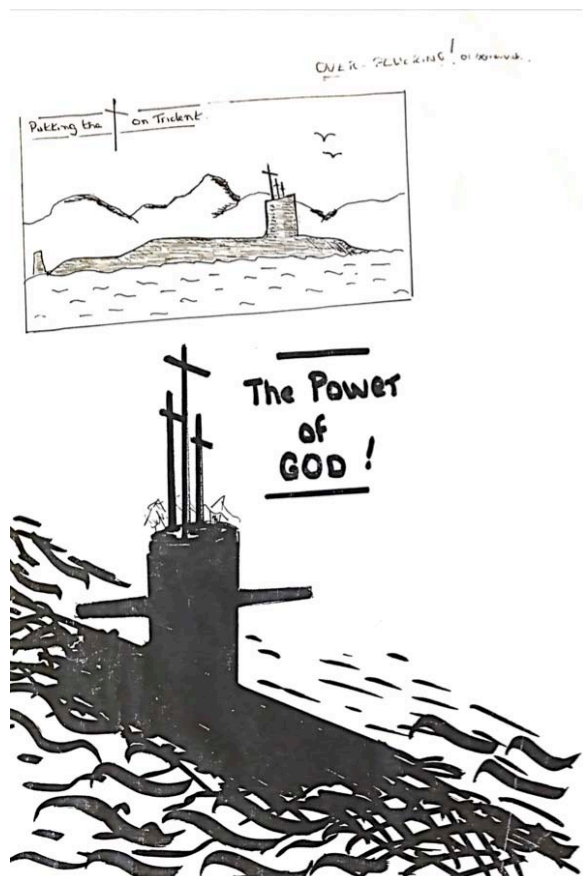
The first General Assembly was held in December 1560, which was the year of the Scottish Reformation and marks the beginning of the Church of Scotland as we now know it. The General Assembly is the Church of Scotland's decision-making body, bringing together

Commissioners drawn from every congregation annually to make and refine church laws. 'Peace Be With You' is the 2018 theme and I have the privilege of attending as a Commissioner from Lamlash Parish Church, alongside 5 other Elders from Ardrossan Presbytery.

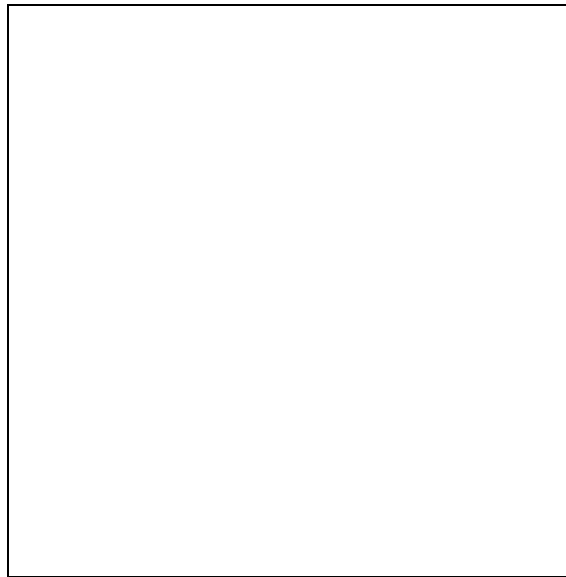
Continuing with our theme of Peace - **Arran Women in Black** meet at 1pm on the last Saturday of every month in Brodick. You'll find us at the start of the Arran Coastal Way, opposite the Douglas Hotel. Please come and join this group of women from all faiths, and none.

Scottish Christians Against Nuclear Arms. SCANA plan to hold their annual peace vigil at North Gate, Faslane Royal Naval base on the 26<sup>th</sup> of May. They will be joined by the Very Rev Susan M Brown, Moderator of the General Assembly. The vigil aims to bear witness to peaceful alternatives to the violence of weapons of mass destruction.

Commemorate Hiroshima with us in Lamlash on Sunday, 5th of August 2pm – 4pm.



## Crossword Solution



### Smile lines

When you mix children and religion...You get some unexpected gems.

*The following are extracts from religious exam papers...*

In the first book of the Bible, Guinness, God got tired of creating the world, so he took the Sabbath off.

Adam and Eve were created from an apple tree. Noah's wife was Joan of Ark, because Noah built an ark. The animals came on in pears.

Moses led the Jews to the Red Sea, where they made unleavened bread which is bread without any ingredients.

The people who followed the Lord were called the twelve decibels.

~~~

A bride's mother tells how the bride and groom posed for the usual photographs outside the church after their wedding.

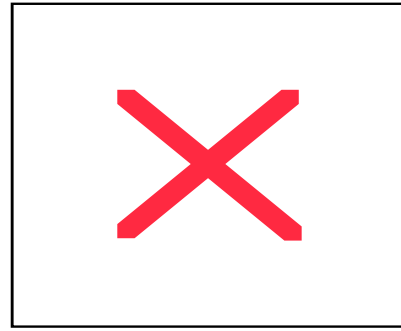
When the photographer brought the proofs, there was much laughter.

In many of the pictures, the "Wayside Pulpit" on the side of the church was clearly shown. It's message was.....

"Forgive them, for they know not what they do".

Thanks to Mary Chambers - Ed ☺

## Diary Dates



### June

- 3<sup>rd</sup> June Communion Sunday
- 6<sup>th</sup> June Church Coffee Morning (10:15 – 12 noon)
- 10<sup>th</sup> June Organ Recital by Douglas Bruce (3pm – 4pm)
- 13<sup>th</sup> June Church Coffee Morning (10:15 – 12 noon)
- 20<sup>th</sup> June Church Coffee Morning (10:15 – 12 noon)
- 23<sup>rd</sup> June Church Fête (2pm – 4pm)
- 24<sup>th</sup> June ACT Songs of Praise (3pm)
- 27<sup>th</sup> June Church Coffee Morning (10:15 – 12 noon)
- 28<sup>th</sup> June Music Matters (2pm – 3:30pm)

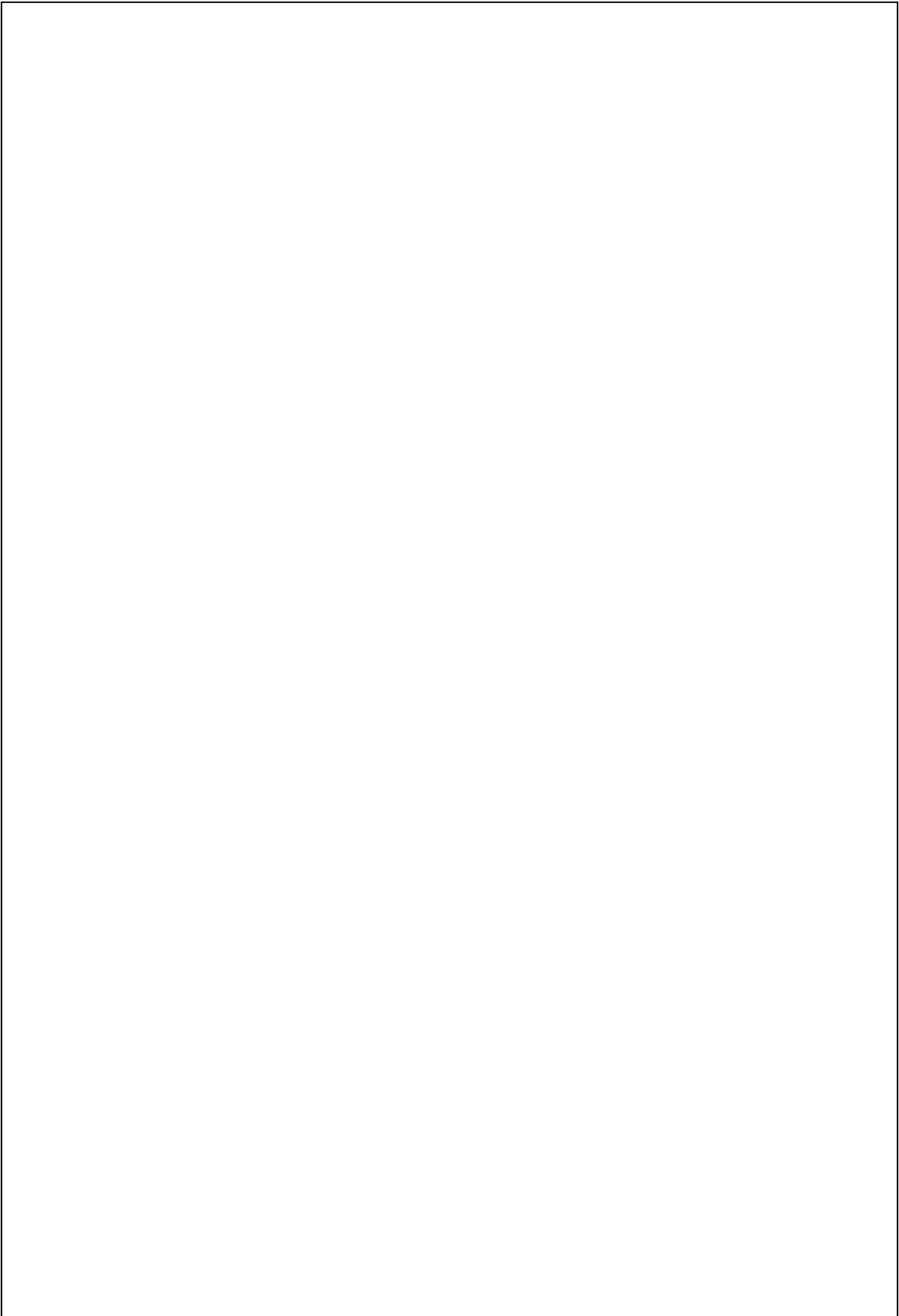
### July

- Open Church Monday – Friday (10am -12 noon)
- 4<sup>th</sup> July Church Coffee Morning (10:15 – 12 noon)
- 11<sup>th</sup> July Church Coffee Morning (10:15 – 12 noon)
- 18<sup>th</sup> July Church Coffee Morning (10:15 – 12 noon)
- 25<sup>th</sup> July Church Coffee Morning (10:15 – 12 noon)
- 26<sup>th</sup> July Music Matters (2pm – 3:30pm)

### August

- Open Church Monday – Friday (10am - 12 noon)
- 5<sup>th</sup> Aug Hiroshima Memorial (2pm- 4pm)
- 8<sup>th</sup> Aug Coffee Morning for Music Matters (10:15 -12 noon)
- 15<sup>th</sup> Aug Church Coffee Morning (10:15 – 12 noon)
- 22<sup>nd</sup> Aug Church Coffee Morning (10:15 – 12 noon)
- 29<sup>th</sup> Aug Church Coffee Morning (10:15 – 12 noon)
- 30<sup>th</sup> Aug Music Matters (2pm – 3:30pm)

**SCO15072**  
**CCL 85594**



Artist Jean Bowden