

**Ballantrae Parish Church  
linked with  
St Colmon Parish Church**



**Newsletter  
Autumn 2022**

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# CHURCH SERVICES



## **Ballantrae Parish Church**

**We meet every Sunday at 11:30am in Ballantrae Church.**

**A service is held in Glenapp Church at 3pm on the third Wednesday of each month.**

## **St Colmon (Arnsheen Barrhill and Colmonell) Parish Church**

**We meet on Sundays at 10am in Colmonell Church. All Sunday morning services are followed by refreshments in the Kirk Hall.**

**On the 4th Sunday of each month our service is held in the Kirk Hall which has easy access for those with mobility problems.**

**On the 3rd Sunday of each month a service is held at 3pm in Barrhill Memorial Hall.**

**On the first Tuesday of each month an informal café-style church service is held in the Kirk Hall at 7:30pm.**

## From Your Minister

Dear Friends,

There has been a lot of change in the air since our last newsletter. We have recently had a change of Prime Minister. Sadly, we have seen the death of Queen Elizabeth the second; and we now have a new King Charles the Third. The Church of Scotland is also going through a time of transition and change as the "Radical Action Plan" is enacted. The Presbytery of Ayr no longer exists and we are now part of the much larger newly formed Presbytery of the South West. It is right that we pray for those in authority, that they will seek God's direction and leading in the days ahead. It is also good to remember that God never changes and he is there with us as we travel into uncharted territory. He is worthy of praise in all situations.

Over the coming months there are a number of activities that our churches will be putting on. We look forward to welcoming you to some or all of these (you will find out more in this newsletter).

Every blessing,

Rev'd Theo Corney

**A Prayer for today from Saint Anselm:**

O Lord, my God

Teach my heart this day where and how to see you,

Where and how to find you

You have made me and remade me

And you have bestowed on me all the good things I possess,

And still I do not know you.

I have not yet done that for which I was made.

Teach me to seek you

For I cannot seek you unless you teach me

Or find you unless you show yourself to me.

Let me seek you in my desire and let me desire you in my seeking.

Let me find you by loving you and let me love you when I find you.

Pat Guthrie

## **Congratulations!**

Congratulations to Irene Stewart who celebrated her 80<sup>th</sup> birthday in July.

Congratulations to James and Jessie Strain who had their Diamond Wedding Anniversary on 31<sup>st</sup> July. They got married 60 years ago at Ballantrae Church then a reception at Glen Tachur Hotel, Barrhill.

### **Rev. Ian McLachlan**

It is with sadness that we acknowledge the death of Rev Ian McLachlan. He was Interim Moderator for Ballantrae linked with St Colmon before Theo became minister. Ian will be remembered with fondness and his thoroughness at helping us during our vacancy.

### **Blythswood Shoebox Appeal**



It's that time of year again and our annual appeal for Christmas presents to go to Eastern Europe. Ballantrae church are collecting filled shoeboxes to be sent out to Ukraine and neighbouring countries who are supporting Ukrainian refugees in time for Christmas. Look out for posters on the church and village noticeboards or contact Claire Strain (831246) for further information. Thank you!

### **Ballantrae Church Fair**

Ballantrae Church fair was held at the end of July and we had a very successful day. Thank you to everyone who came along, who organised stalls and games, who donated goods and their time. Everyone enjoyed the lovely afternoon tea too! A total of £1660 was raised. Congratulations to our prize winners : P Savage won Afternoon Tea at Glenapp Castle, J Dunlop won a Kings Arms Hotel voucher, S McCulloch and J Livingstone won hampers and Ella won Humpty Dumpty.

## **Line Dancing Night**

Ballantrae church had a successful and fun night of line dancing in September. Thank you to Mary for organising it and making it an enjoyable evening. £155 was raised for church funds and 35 people took part. We plan to have more line dancing in the coming months – listen out for the announcements.

## **Harvest Thanksgiving Services**

This year's Harvest Thanksgiving services will be on Sunday 9<sup>th</sup> October in both churches. Food donations will be made to Girvan Food Bank and monetary donations will be sent to Christian Aid.

## **Christmas Craft Fair**

A Christmas Craft Fair will be held on Saturday 19<sup>th</sup> November in Ballantrae Village Hall from 10am-2pm. A great selection of craft work will be available to buy along with soup, teas and coffee. Come and get some inspiration for your Christmas shopping!

## **Coffee Mornings**

**Ballantrae Church** coffee mornings take place every Tuesday in the BRICC House at 10:30am.

**St Colmon Church** coffee mornings take place every Wednesday in the Kirk Hall between 10am and 12pm.



## Malawi News

It is with great happiness that we can share the news that our linked church in Malawi, Lwambasa, has a new minister. His name is Rev Robson Banda, who is married with one child. He will remain under the supervision of Alex Mwafulirwa, Interim Moderator, until his formal ordination.



The Malawi committee met recently and have decided to collect items which are needed in Lwambasa. These will be distributed via the Banana Box Trust. After discussion it was suggested that we target the following items:

- Sports kits
- Footballs
- Baby blankets
- Wool, knitting needles, thread & sewing needles
- Mobile phones

We will be collecting these items until the end of November, then they will be packed and shipped to depart in the spring. Thank you!

## Malawi Coffee Morning

To raise funds to send our donations out to Malawi, we are having a coffee morning on Saturday 8<sup>th</sup> October from 10am in the Ballantrae Village Hall. Maybe it is time to have a good clear out and let others make use of things you don't need. Thank you!



## St Colmon Church 250th Anniversary Exhibition

In order to celebrate the 250th anniversary of the St Colmon Church building there will be an exhibition in the church on Saturday 29th October between 2 and 4pm. We plan to display artefacts from the church such as communion silver and linen, and photographs of church events such as special services and Sunday school outings. If you have any items or photographs which you would like to be included in the exhibition the Kirk Session will be delighted to hear from you. The organ will be played during the exhibition and the event will be accompanied by tea/coffee and cake in the Kirk Hall for the price of a donation.

The service on Sunday 30th will be a special 'songs of praise' style service of thanksgiving to mark the occasion.



### Men's Prayer Breakfasts

Theo is hoping to start a regular men's prayer breakfast in St Colmon's Kirk Hall and it is anticipated that these will begin in December or early next year. Please contact Theo if you are interested in taking part or have any suggestions as to how you might like these to work.



## Holy Communion



Soon it will be our autumn Communion Season, when in the taking of bread and wine we remember again the great sacrifice our Lord Jesus Christ made on our behalf. He died that we might live; the Bible tells us. There are, of course, many examples of self-sacrifice for the sake of others. I came across one the other day which I thought was particularly appropriate for our thoughts at communion.

It took place in South Wales, in the 19<sup>th</sup> Century, in a snowstorm. It concerns a young mother who was making her way across the hills when she was caught in a blizzard. She was carrying her young baby boy in her arms and as the storm worsened she soon realised that she was never going to survive. Later that day her body was found beneath a mound of snow but it was clear that, before she had died she had taken off what clothes she could and wrapped them round her baby. When they unwrapped the child, to their amazement they found that he was still alive. She had sacrificed her life for her son; showing the great love she had for him. That child grew up to be none other than David Lloyd George who became one of Britain's greatest Prime Ministers, during one of the most troublesome times in our history.

God loves us so much that he gives His only beloved Son that we might be saved from sin and its consequences. I never cease to be amazed at the length, breadth, height and depth of God's love, which as the hymn says, "Saved a wretch like me." Is it in forgetting this great truth that we have lost something precious in our church? Let us, therefore, as we take eat and drink at communion, give thanks with a grateful heart.

Contributed by Rev. Jim Guthrie

## Andy's Ordination

Congratulations to our much loved friend and brother in Christ, Andy Muir, whose Ordination and Induction took place on Thursday 29th September 2022 at Stranraer Parish Church. The church was filled to capacity and the Rev. Edward Lyons of Penninghame Church, Newton Stewart was Moderator. The address was given by the Rev. Alexander Currie. The church was filled with friends, family, church members and members of Presbytery. It was wonderful to be part of such a large gathering of people singing and praising God. A wonderful spread of tea and cakes was laid on in the church hall afterwards and we rejoice with the people of Stranraer on this appointment which we believe will be a huge blessing to the church and the whole community. Andy, it has been an honour and privilege to walk on this journey with you and we look forward to seeing what this new chapter brings.



Contributed by Maggie McNeill

## **Presbytery of Ayr: Final Meeting**

The last meeting of Ayr Presbytery took place on Tuesday 27<sup>th</sup> September at St Leonard's Church in Ayr. There were presentations made to the Presbytery Clerk, Rev Kenneth Elliot, his wife, and the Presbytery office secretary, Mrs Sharon Caldwell. Sharon will continue in her office role for the new Presbytery of South West Scotland whilst Rev Brian Hendrie, Moderator of Ayr Presbytery, will take on the new role as Moderator of the new Presbytery. The first meeting of the South West Presbytery took place on Saturday 1<sup>st</sup> October 2022.



## **Stamp Collection for Scripture Union Scotland**

Each year, SU Scotland connects with between 10,000 and 20,000 children and young people across Scotland. Running outdoor education, creative and active SU Holidays and supporting schools with SU Groups and resources - your contribution to this scheme can help them build positive relationships, enhance life skills and explore the world they live in.

St Colmon Church is currently collecting stamps to raise funds for Scripture Union Scotland. Used stamps can be put in the box marked 'stamps' in the church vestry or given to Ruth Murray. Stamps must have a one centimetre border of envelope left around them and not be torn or damaged.

## **What's On: October & November 2022**

### **Saturday 8th October: Malawi Coffee Morning**

10am Ballantrae Village Hall

### **Sunday 9th October: Harvest Thanksgiving Service**

10am St Colmon Church

11:30am Ballantrae Church

### **Wednesday 26th October (TBC): St Colmon Kirk Session Meeting**

7:30pm St Colmon Kirk Hall

### **Saturday 29th October: St Colmon Church 250th Anniversary Exhibition**

2-4pm St Colmon Church and Kirk Hall

### **Sunday 30th October: Special Service of Thanksgiving to mark St Colmon Church's 250th anniversary**

10am St Colmon Church

### **Sunday 6th November: Communion Service**

10am St Colmon Church

11:30am Ballantrae Church

### **Wednesday 9th November: Ballantrae Kirk Session and Congregational Board Meeting**

7:30pm Ballantrae Church

### **Friday 11th November: Act of Remembrance in Heronsford (with Ballantrae Primary School)**

2pm Heronsford War Memorial

### **Sunday 13th November: Remembrance Sunday Service**

9:30am Act of Remembrance at Colmonell War Memorial

10am St Colmon Church

11:30am Ballantrae Church followed by Act of Remembrance at Ballantrae War Memorial

3pm Act of Remembrance at Barrhill War Memorial

### **Saturday 19th November: Christmas Craft Fair**

10am-2pm Ballantrae Village Hall