



**THE CHURCH OF SCOTLAND  
ST COLMON (Arnshean Barrhill and Colmonell) PARISH CHURCH**

**TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT  
&  
CONGREGATIONAL ACCOUNTS**

**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31st DECEMBER 2019**

**CONGREGATION REFERENCE NUMBER: 100591  
SCOTTISH CHARITY NUMBER: SC014381**

**[www.stcolmonparishchurch.org.uk](http://www.stcolmonparishchurch.org.uk)  
[www.facebook.com/stcolmon.church](https://www.facebook.com/stcolmon.church)**

**Trustees' Annual Report  
Year ended 31<sup>st</sup> December 2019**

The trustees present the annual report and accounts for St Colmon (Arnshean Barrhill and Colmonell) Parish Church for the year ended 31<sup>st</sup> December 2019.

**Reference and Administrative Information**

**Charity Name:** St Colmon (Arnshean Barrhill and Colmonell)  
Parish Church of Scotland

**Charity Registration Number:** SC014381

**Congregation Reference No:** 100591

**Contact Address:** Mrs Claire Pirrie  
Rose Cottage  
Poundland  
Pinwherry  
Girvan  
KA26 0RU

**Trustees**

**During ministerial vacancy**

**Interim Moderator:** Dr James Anderson until 13<sup>th</sup> August 2019

**Minister:** Rev Theodore L. Corney from 13<sup>th</sup> August 2019

**Elders:** David McCutcheon

Lynne McIlwraith

Brian McIlwraith

Andy Muir

Claire Pirrie

Anne Shankland

Irene Wilson

Harriet Ellis resigned 29<sup>th</sup> October 2019

Mrs Lynne McIlwraith was paid £1,880 as St Colmon Church Organist in 2019, as recommended by the Scottish Federation of Organists.

**Principal Office-bearers**

**Minister:** Rev Theodore L. Corney

**Session Clerk:** Mrs Claire Pirrie

**Church Treasurer:** Mrs Claire Pirrie

**Independent Examiner:** Mr Mark Wickens  
Member, Institute of Certified Bookkeepers  
Lendal Lodge  
Lendalfoot  
Girvan  
KA26 0JB

**Bankers:** Bank of Scotland, Girvan Branch  
17 Dalrymple Street  
Girvan KA26 9EU

**Trustees' Annual Report (cont.)**  
**Year ended 31<sup>st</sup> December 2019**

**Structure, Governance and Management**

**Governing Document**

The Church is administered in accordance with the terms of the Deed of Constitution (Unitary Form).

**Recruitment and Appointment of Trustees**

Members of the kirk session are the charity trustees. The kirk session members are the elders of the church and are chosen by the kirk session from those church members who are considered to have the appropriate gifts and skills.

During the ministerial vacancy, the interim moderator was a Church of Scotland reader appointed by the Presbytery of Ayr to be a member of the kirk session.

The minister, who is a member of the kirk session, was called and elected by the congregation and inducted by the Presbytery of Ayr on 13<sup>th</sup> August 2019.

**Organisational Structure**

The minister is the moderator of the kirk session which met six times in the year and is responsible for the spiritual and financial affairs within the Church, supported by a fabric and a finance committee.

**Objectives and Activities**

The Church of Scotland is Trinitarian in doctrine, Reformed in tradition and Presbyterian in polity. It exists to glorify God and to work for the advancement of Christ's Kingdom throughout the world. As a national Church, it acknowledges a distinctive call and duty to bring the ordinances of religion to the people in every parish of Scotland through a territorial ministry. It co-operates with other Churches in various ecumenical bodies in Scotland and beyond.

St Colmon (Arnshean Barrhill & Colmonell) Church is linked with Ballantrae Parish Church with a manse in Ballantrae.

St Colmon kirk session administers the Campbell Trust and Templeton Bequest which were established in the 1800s to distribute benefits from the interest on investments to residents in need in St Colmon Parish. Thanks go to Irene Wilson for acting as clerk to administer the fund.

Worship is conducted every Sunday at 10am in the church at Colmonell with refreshments in the kirk hall after each service.

As the church currently has no disabled access, a monthly service is held in St Colmon kirk hall to enable those with mobility problems to join in worship.

Each month a service is held in Barrhill Memorial Hall to maintain a Church presence in the village, particularly for those who find it difficult to travel to Colmonell.

The Sacrament of Communion is celebrated four times a year in St Colmon Church and twice a year in Barrhill Memorial Hall. Non-alcoholic wine is served at Communion to ensure no one is excluded.

Children remained in church during services, with a "children's corner" holding appropriate toys, books and colouring materials until, in September, thanks to volunteer leaders, Sunday Club recommenced. After a children's address in church those aged up to 12 years go to the kirk hall for a time of Bible stories and activities.

**Trustees' Annual Report (cont.)**  
**Year ended 31<sup>st</sup> December 2019**

**Achievements and Performance**

Six members of St Colmon Church and seven members of Ballantrae Church were elected by members of their congregations to form the Nomination Committee, tasked with seeking a minister to be nominated for election and appointment by the congregations. Having followed all the prescribed Church of Scotland recruitment policies and procedures Rev. Theodore Corney was inducted on August 13<sup>th</sup>.

During the ministerial vacancy, the kirk session and congregation provided pastoral care for members and residents within the parish and where possible visited those in hospitals and care homes. The pioneer farming minister, Rev Chris Blackshaw, was very helpful in providing support for the farming community in our rural parish.

The interim moderator or pulpit supply minister officiated at eight funerals and the session clerk officiated at one committal service. There were no weddings or baptisms.

Without a locum minister during the vacancy St Colmon is very grateful to visiting ministers and readers and to the worship team who regularly led services of worship.

St Colmon is a member of South Carrick Churches Together, bringing together all denominations in South Carrick, and led in 2019 by Milestone Christian Fellowship. Joint services and events held throughout the year enabled donations to be made of £250 to the Salvation Army; £200 to Street Pastors; £200 to Quarriers (Girvan).

In Easter week daily ecumenical evening services were held in Girvan churches and on Good Friday an outdoor service was held in the centre of Girvan.

On Maundy Thursday St Colmon and Ballantrae Churches shared an Agape Supper in St Colmon Kirk Hall.

At 7am on Easter Sunday Rev. Margaret Whyte led St Colmon and Ballantrae Churches in worship at Ballantrae harbour, followed by breakfast in the manse prior to the usual Sunday services.

At the Easter Sunday service the congregation of St Colmon Church enacted The Passion of Christ according to the Gospel of Luke.

Throughout the year the interim moderator, minister and session clerk have worked to maintain the link with Colmonell and Barrhill primary schools, facilitating an Easter service in St Colmon Church and participating in school fundraising such as a Marie Curie Care coffee morning in the Kirk Hall.

The session clerk acted as presbytery elder. Throughout the year the session clerk, interim moderator and minister, together with members of the congregation, have represented St Colmon Church at Mission Focus Group meetings as the process of reviewing all charges and boundaries began.

Remembrance weekend was marked with Acts of Remembrance at Pinwherry War Memorial shared by school children; Barrhill War Memorial followed by a service in Barrhill Memorial Hall; Colmonell War Memorial with a service in St Colmon Church. The Church displayed photographs linked to all the names on the Barrhill, Pinwherry and Colmonell War Memorials.

## **Trustees' Annual Report (cont.)**

### **Year ended 31<sup>st</sup> December 2019**

The Christmas Eve Watch Night service held in St Colmon Church was led by the session clerk and members of the congregation. On Christmas Day the session clerks and members of the linked charges led a joint service in Ballantrae Church.

St Colmon welcomed two new members in 2019 and 30 to 35 people came together to worship each Sunday, enjoying a time of fellowship over coffee afterwards. Services at Barrhill saw around 20 people come to worship and enjoy tea afterwards.

Members of the congregation continued to assist with Bible readings, uplifting the offering, meeting and greeting and serving refreshments after each service.

We are very grateful to the five volunteers who enabled Sunday Club to recommence and safeguarding requirements are being met by those involved. Nine children have been attending and others joined in to enact the Nativity story at the Christmas service.

Weekly events continued alternating Bible Study, Potluck Supper, Praise and Prayer, Coffee, Cake and Chat. Messy Church for families was held 3 times.

St Colmon had a stall at Colmonell gala day with activities, sales items and Church information. Members assisted with the community's Christmas carol singing around Colmonell village and the annual Christmas concert was held in St Colmon Church with the community choir, local musicians, singers and children from local primary schools, followed by refreshments in the kirk hall.

A Christmas carol evening with refreshments was held in Barrhill Memorial Hall.

Filling Station holds local monthly meetings which bring people of all denominations together to hear excellent speakers, share in contemporary worship, enjoy fellowship and refreshments and have the opportunity for healing prayer.

Throughout the year everyone at St Colmon Church has worked hard to ensure that all aspects of the work of the Church continue. We remain strong in our faith, fellowship and commitment to look for ways to reach out to those who either have no connection, or have lost their connection, with the Church and to remind them of the Good News of Jesus.

In June Ayr Presbytery sent Rev David R Gemmell to conduct the Local Church Review for the linked charges and a joint meeting of the kirk sessions was held. His report included:

“St Colmon / Ballantrae is a shining light in the Presbytery of Ayr and many other congregations, both town and country, could learn a great deal from this small but enthusiastic and dedicated band. I have no recommendations to make other than that they should be commended for their efforts and that their hard work should be highlighted on the floor of Presbytery.”

### **Fundraising and Fellowship**

St Colmon Church communicates with members and the wider community through a bi-monthly joint churches newsletter; website; Facebook; community magazine; local press; posters and fliers in schools and on public noticeboards.

## **Trustees' Annual Report (cont.)**

### **Year ended 31<sup>st</sup> December 2019**

Colmonell Circle, which is affiliated to St Colmon Church, meets monthly from September to March with speakers and entertainment evenings raising funds for the charities supplying the speakers and for St Colmon Church.

St Colmon Church continued to support others through special collections for

- Crossreach
- Church of Scotland World Mission Stamp Appeal
- Poppy Scotland
- Presbytery of Ayr Malawi Partnership
- Marie Curie Cancer Care
- Blytheswood Shoe Box Appeal
- Girvan Food Bank.

The kirk hall has a collection of Christian and general books to be purchased or borrowed. Cards and books illustrating the stained glass are also for sale.

- The Annual Kirk Fair was held in Colmonell Community Centre
- Fundraising Auctions were held in the kirk hall
- Colmonell Baby and Toddler Group meets every Friday in the kirk hall
- Each Wednesday morning all are welcome to “Coffee @ Kirk” in the hall
- Two podiatrists hold a clinic in the kirk hall every seven weeks
- Fishing rights for the glebe water were rented by Colmonell Angling Club
- The local Beaver and Scout troops enjoyed sleep overs in the kirk hall
- The kirk hall has been hired for meetings and social events e.g. family parties, club meetings, exhibitions and lectures.

As part of the Scottish Pilgrim Routes Forum St Colmon Church is represented on the Whithorn Way Steering Group and hosts pilgrims' groups who visit the kirk hall.

Walkers have also established a geocaching point at the church and the Biosphere PLACE project have held consultation and information meetings in the kirk hall.

People continue to visit St Colmon Church's renowned stained glass and woodwork and the grade 1 listed pipe organ. Others, often from other countries, visit or contact the Church to research their family history.

### **Maintenance and Repairs**

Some monumental stones in the churchyard remain cordoned off until South Ayrshire Council Bereavement Services make them safe.

The “B” listed church, like any historic stone building, suffers recurrent water ingress and stone deterioration which are an ongoing financial challenge.

Funding is being sought to undertake repairs to the church roof, following which internal wall repairs will be undertaken.

Our thanks go to the group of volunteers who spent a day undertaking minor maintenance, repairs and cleaning. There are several other issues to be addressed, including the surface and lighting of Manse Road, church heating and lighting, kirk

**Trustees' Annual Report (cont.)**  
**Year ended 31<sup>st</sup> December 2019**

hall power supply, church basement clearance, organ restoration, stained glass repairs and cleaning, disabled access to the church.

**Financial Review**

The treasurer is assisted by a gift aid convener and weekly freewill offering convener and we are grateful to Mark Wickens, a certified bookkeeper, who voluntarily compiles the annual accounts to be presented to Church of Scotland finance committee and the Office of the Scottish Charity Regulator (OSCR).

St Colmon Church pays the organist and supply organists who cover holidays. Part time cleaners are paid, and volunteers undertake maintenance and care of the church and hall that do not require specialist skills.

Copies of the annual accounts are available from the treasurer, Claire Pirrie.

Pulpit supply fees were £60 per service and £30 for each additional service in the linked charge. The recommended mileage rate is 45p per mile. The worship team is made up of volunteers at no expense.

The Gift Aid Scheme continues to make a significant contribution to fundraising for the work of the Church. Those who sign up for gift aid should ensure that they are paying enough tax to cover the amount they are gift aiding. We are grateful to Anne Shankland for reclaiming the gift aid and who can supply more information.

St Colmon Church is also grateful to those who shop online and raise funds through [easyfundraising.org.uk](http://easyfundraising.org.uk).

Rental of the kirk hall and donations received at events held there bring in a small but regular income which covers overheads such as power, cost of supplies and basic maintenance.

Items such as illustrated booklets about the stained-glass windows and mugs and bags with images of the church are also sold to raise funds and publicize the church.

The church and churchyard remain on a waiting list to be registered by the National Association of Decorative and Fine Arts Societies as a National Treasure.

The church flower fund comprises donations made by those who wish to commemorate a date in the year, and we are grateful to Harriet Ellis for ensuring the church is always graced with flowers.

**Thank You**

Sincere thanks go to all who gave of their time, talents and money contributing to worship, music, flowers, refreshments, cleaning, events, activities, fundraising etc.

Thanks go to organist, Lynne McIlwraith; cleaners Heather Shuckburgh and Rebekah Donn; musicians Alan and Barbara Bretherton and Gina Gathercole (Spearhead), George Bain and Maggie McNeill. Also, to Gordon Hyslop for filling the recurrent potholes in Manse Road.

This year we give thanks that God called Rev Theo Corney to be our minister and we welcome him and his family.

**Trustees' Annual Report (cont.)  
Year ended 31<sup>st</sup> December 2019**

**Reserves Policy**

The trustees consider it prudent to hold reserves (including designated funds) to cover twelve months of normal expenditure. In addition, as the place of worship is a listed building, the trustees seek to hold additional funds in the consolidated fabric fund for unexpected expenditure thereon.

**Statement of Trustees' Responsibilities**

Members of the kirk session have prepared financial statements which give sufficient detail to enable an appreciation of the transactions of the Church during the financial year. The members of the kirk session are responsible for keeping proper accounting records which reflect the financial position of the Church at that time. This has been done to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Charities and Trustee Investment (Scotland) Act 2005, the Charities Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2006 and the Regulations Anent Congregational Finance approved by the General Assembly of the Church of Scotland in 2007. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the Church and must take reasonable steps for the prevention and/or detection of fraud and other irregularities.

Approved by the Trustees and signed on their behalf,

Mrs Claire Pirrie  
Session Clerk

Date: