

# St Molios Church Magazine



August 2019



From Presbytery of Ardrossan  
Prayer cycle July 2019 – March 2020

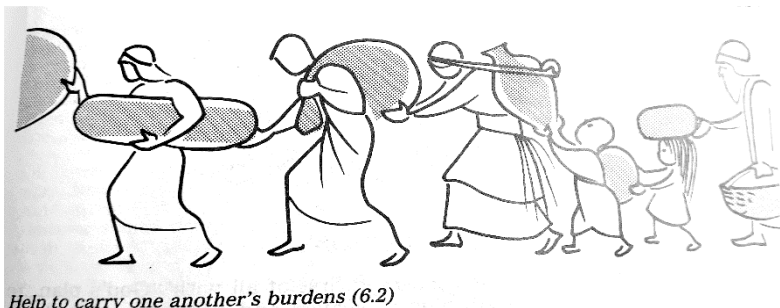
*Save us, Lord,*

*From being self-centred in our prayers  
and teach us to remember to pray for  
others.*

*May we be so caught up in love for  
those for whom we pray, that we feel  
their needs as keenly as our own, and  
pray for them with imagination,  
sensitivity, and knowledge.*

*We ask this in Christ's name,*

*Amen*



*Help to carry one another's burdens (6.2)*



Dear Folks,

Paul writes to the Church at Philippi 'In everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known unto God. And the peace of God, which passeth all understanding, shall keep your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus.' (Philippians 4: 6- 7).

Besides my own daily office to maintain my personal spiritual health and wellbeing, as parish minister part of my duty is to look after the spiritual health and wellbeing of all my parishioners both church and non-church and that means holding them and their needs in prayer before God.

Praying for others is called intercessory prayer and John Pritchard in his excellent book *The Second Intercessions Handbook* states: 'Intercession is one of the best ways we've got of loving someone. We can't do more for them than to put them in the hands of a God who cares for them even more than we do. There are a few people I know (and others I don't know of), who pray for me regularly each week and I'm more grateful for that gift than I can say'.

But all Christians are expected to pray for others and especially for those in need, the ill, the hurting and the despairing. And of course, we do that in church every Sunday in our prayers of concern for others. But above and beyond that, in the North Arran linkage we have a monthly service of prayers for health and healing, when we meet at 12 Noon in the transept at Brodick Church on the last Wednesday the month to specifically pray for those known to us who are suffering ill-health and/or grieving, not just here on the island, but elsewhere.

Although having run these services for over 10 years now they have never been popular and are very poorly attended, at most 8 and more often just 2 or 3. I know too that some of those who do come only do so out of loyalty to me. I had therefore all but resolved to discontinue them. It takes much effort for Jean to collate names on prayer lists every month, not to mention hours spent in the study in preparation and then all for a half-hour service few bother to come to. Time I wondered that might be spent better ministering in another way. However, I have never lightly nor glibly promised to pray for someone and then simply not bothered, that would be a terrible betrayal of

trust. Hence in this case I couldn't in all conscience just stop something without consultation with those who have over many years asked for prayer. As a result, I received these words written by a lady from Northern Ireland.

'I met the Reverend Angus Adamson at the Armagh Pipers' Festival, and I was very impressed when he told me that he held a healing service in Arran.

It wasn't very long after that I needed him to pray for the healing of my friend Heather when she was diagnosed with a very aggressive brain tumour and there was nothing any of us could offer. She smiled when we told her that the people on Arran were praying for her.

We were able to tell Sophie, when her twins were dangerously premature, that Arran was mindful of the seriousness of the situation.

It was the only thing we could offer to Sacha when the cancer she didn't know she had, metastasised and she was suffering horrendous rounds of chemo and radiography. 'You are being mentioned in the healing service on the island of Arran on Wednesday,' was the only spark of hope we could offer her.

'Thank you,' she said

In a world that is increasingly so given to the cult of self, it is the only magnanimous and inclusive way of saying to the very ill: 'We care, and we hope in the caring there is healing'.

On 21<sup>st</sup> September I wakened with a savage pain in my head and I was not able to speak. It was a terrifying experience. 'A haematoma – or a bleed on the brain (not a mini-stroke)' was the diagnosis. Six months have passed since then, and I am almost recovered, and part of that recovery I am sure had something to do with the healing service on Arran.

Miracles never explain themselves, but if there is no one able to reach out beyond the illness it stays locked in a very personal space. Some of mine was able to float off to Arran, unlikely as it seemed. And against all the odds I am here today, able to write this paragraph and to acknowledge my deepest gratitude.

I, and I'm sure many others, feel grateful to the Reverend Angus Adamson and those in his healing service, for raising their voices and thinking about those of us who could not speak on our own behalf. We would do well to remember that, as William Shakespeare said, 'There are more things in heaven and earth than this world dreams of.'

Needless to say, I no longer intend to discontinue our services for health and healing. So, if you wish anyone to be prayed for each month, please let us

have their names. Christian names will do, no confidences need be broken. After all God already knows each by their full name. Better still, please if you can, come along and pray. Easy to remember, 12 noon the last Wednesday of each month from September to June following the monthly Brodick Coffee morning. And I stress it isn't a Brodick health and healing service, it is a joint North Arran service for all congregations at Corrie, Lochranza, Pirnmill and Shiskine too. As John Pritchard puts it: 'the point about intercession is not to understand it, but to do it.

*Angus*

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Norway – An Eventful Journey

Earlier in the year I went on a cruise holiday to the fjords of Norway. We travelled from Avonmouth docks near Bristol and sailed up the west coast. It was a strange sensation sailing past Sanda and the west side of the Mull of Kintyre as I can see the east side of these from the manse window.

A few days into the cruise and being in the North Sea, it became very rough. We were on the MV Marco Polo a mid-sized ship, however it was still rolling from side to side and I could hardly walk about on it. Like the disciples in the boat with Jesus were afraid in the storm they had to trust him, I had to trust that the captain knew what he was doing.

Other than the rough seas the scenery sailing up the fjords was breathtaking and because of the time of year the further north we went the more snow there was. Norway is a beautiful country and spectacular part of God's creation.

As if I hadn't had enough adventure on the high seas, I went on another one in Tromso, husky sledging. I booked for the morning session and after a bus journey I arrived at the centre, the sun was glistening on the freshly fallen snow. We met the dogs and they were very friendly. There were about two hundred huskys altogether at that centre. We were led to where the sleds were. Each of the sleds were for two people and I was paired with a nice lady I had met on the bus. There were twelve dogs to each sled. The dogs pulled the sled effortlessly through the snow with the musher driving them, I had to trust the musher knew what he was doing as he was driving the dogs over the rugged white landscape. It certainly was an experience and I enjoyed the

adventure. There was a nice cup of tea and cake served in a Sami herdsman's tent when we had finished which was a bonus.

When I am on holiday, surprise surprise, I like to look in churches and take a seat in them. This time I visited three of them in three different ports and each one was unusual.

After arriving at the port of Honningsvåg, far above the Arctic Circle, I travelled by bus to the North Cape as the name suggests the most northern point in Norway. At one part of the route we had to travel in convoy behind a snow plough which I have to say didn't fill me with confidence. However we arrived at the North Cape Visitor Centre safely. After walking across the snow to the spot that marked the most northerly point, I went into the centre. Inside was a lift that took you down two floors into the depths of the mountain. On the pathway to the cave of lights I came across a little chapel which I hadn't expected to find. I went through an opening in the rock and it was there with about a dozen wooden high back chairs arranged facing a little table set into the wall with lights on it and lights from the cave wall shining down on it. I had a seat and looking around at the rock and the lights it was hard to believe I was more than sixty feet below the ground in this place of worship.

Our next port of call was Alta. I went on a tour there to the Sorrisvanna Igloo Hotel, which was entirely constructed of local ice and snow – rooms, beds, even the glasses in the Bar were ice. For those who didn't feel the cold, there was an excursion to stay overnight there. It would have been too cold for me to do that though. However, there was also a little chapel there entirely made of ice, the communion table and the chairs. The guide told us that there had been a wedding there the previous week.

The third church I visited was south of our next port of call, Kristiansund and the church was the Kavernes Stave Church. A stave church is a medieval wooden Christian church building once common in north-western Europe. The name derives from the building's structure of post and lintel construction, a type of timber framing where the load-bearing ore-pine posts are called stafr in Old Norse. No nails were used in their construction. You could sense the age of it when you were inside. No flash photos were allowed to be taken inside the church in order to preserve it. It was an experience and

nothing like any church I had been in before. During the Middle-Ages, there were more than 1,000 Stave Churches in Norway, but today, only 28 remain. From there I travelled on our return journey to Kristiansund along the Atlantic Ocean Road that is built across four islands linked together with bridges. Kristiansund is sheltered by these islands and is Norway's finest natural harbour.

Norway is known as the land of the Northern lights, however we were disappointed that we never got to see this spectacular sight as the sky was cloudy at night or snowing when we were there. Nothing else about the scenery of that beautiful country disappointed though.

Every blessing

Jean Hunter

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***In this magazine we have articles concerning the changes to our church building, which have been the topic of much in depth planning and discussion in the Deacons' Court over the past two years. This is to keep the congregation and friends in the community informed of the thoughts and proposals as they stand at present. It starts with an article from Angus Our minister and also from Alan Burnett our Property Convener, who has put a tremendous amount of time and work into getting us thus far.***

*Editor*

### **From Angus, Our Minister**

'The Church is not a building, the Church is not a steeple.  
The Church is not a resting-place, the Church is a people!'

So, run the words of Hymn 204 in CH4 and these are sentiments I agree with whole-heartedly. There has always been an understanding here in the West Highlands and Islands that 'whenever the people gather around the minister and the Word of God, there is the church'. The church is not a building of bricks or mortar, but God's people gathered to offer him worship. Hence on Arran until not so long ago, weddings and baptisms all took place, not in church, but at home, or in the manse, funerals too, as they sometimes still do

took place at home or at the graveside and even communion services were held in the open air, or in tents erected for the occasion.

In previous generations church was often reserved for Sabbath worship alone, when you went to hear a sermon preached. In St Molios, with its fixed pews and centre pulpit there is no doubt that you are in a place in which you are primarily meant to come to worship together and to hear the Word of God preached. Indeed, the only change to its interior since it opened for worship back in 1889 was the removal of the front pew and precentor's box to allow weddings more easily to take place in church.

Churches were of course also special buildings not only designed for worship to take place in out of the elements but built for the glory of God. At St Molios we have a particularly beautiful Grade A listed building in which to gather for worship be that for a baptism, for a wedding or a funeral, on an ordinary Sabbath or on a Communion Sunday. Occasions that over many, many years have imbued the folks of Shiskine with deep rooted sentiment for the 'Red Kirk'. Therein, however lies the danger that we begin to worship not God, but the building itself. In the Church of Scotland we shun idolatry, but in truth sometimes we make idols of our much-loved buildings.

Because of its beauty, because of deep rooted family associations, the prospect of current proposed changes to the interior will for be for many a painful prospect to face up to. This edition of the magazine therefore has been dedicated to explaining why the Deacons' Court has decided, after much debate and painstaking consideration, to offer proposals to make radical alterations to the interior of the sanctuary.

It is hoped that by removing the stiff-backed fixed pews in favour of comfortable chairs (something Corrie Church also built by J.J. Burnett in the 1880's has always had), installing underfloor heating (a much-needed long-overdue improvement), placing the hall inside the sanctuary (a much cheaper alternative to replacing the current John Robertson hall) and installing a new kitchen below the balcony, will all allow the building to be used, not just for an hour on a Sunday as it currently is, but most days of the week and for the benefit, not just of the few church-goers, and we are growing fewer by the year, but used by all sorts of groups, encouraging many, many more people to come inside their parish church. And I stress the word 'their' parish church,



for St Molios exists to serve the people of its surrounding community, church and non-church alike.

You will see the front chancel area with Pulpit, elder's pews, font and communion table will remain unaltered, as will the boxed balcony area at the rear, allowing the overall, beauty, integrity and symmetry of the building to remain intact. The capacity will be reduced slightly as the area under the balcony will be lost to make way for the new kitchen. Stacking chairs in the hall area however should accommodate seating for large funerals and other busy services, whilst a new entrance will make for a much less draughty church.

St Molios has served the needs of the people of Shiskine and District well for 130 years, but no longer do people flock to it on a Sunday to hear a sermon. Apart from big funerals it is seldom full. These alterations will cater for the needs of today and ensure St Molios is fit for purpose for the future, not just the immediate future, but for another 130 years. I believe that in time this will also be the catalyst that will encourage people in Shiskine to be drawn once again into the life of the congregation and as a result in time, come to faith. As your minister I whole-heartedly commend these proposals to you.

*Angus*

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**From Alan Burnett, our Property Convener**

The Deacons' Court of St Molios has for some time considered replacing the church hall which was erected in 1970. To do this various permissions from Presbytery and the General Trustees in Edinburgh have to be agreed. An additional challenge is that in 1971 the Church building was given the highest rating (Grade A) by what is now Historic Environment Scotland, and this includes the hall. Over the years such a grading has been quite restrictive in what changes could be made, however a proposal for replacement was developed in 2002 and fully approved by the General Trustees and Historic Scotland. This was not activated because the estimated cost was beyond the means of the congregation at the time.

There is universal agreement that the 129 year old building, designed by Sir James Burnett represents a privilege for the community, including non-church-going friends. However the hall is a "pre-fab" construction which requires repair work to be done. The Quinquennial Report carried out by Allied Surveyors Scotland (2018) identified an "urgent" requirement to spend

approximately £14,000 on repairs. The Court had been contemplating replacing the hall and commissioned a feasibility study for a new hall connected to the rear church premises. While feasible, the estimated cost was £275,000. On enquiring of funding sources from the Church of Scotland Offices, 121 George St., the issue of re-locating the hall function to within the church itself was raised, which was not previously considered as an option since the Court was under the impression that there was little lee-way for alteration to the body of the church due to its listed status. This option was considered sympathetically by the Court. The advantages of this approach are:

- a) this would be more affordable, and could include an upgrade of the heating system of the church itself.
- b) incorporation of a modern heating system would benefit the fabric of the Church building and remove the burden of maintaining two buildings.
- c) it would provide an opportunity for more of the community to “come to church” whatever the function.
- d) this could be achieved without irreversible changes to the current listed building.

*The Current Proposal:*

Following a second feasibility study, the current proposal has six components:

- 1) Division of the Church:** this involves installation of a glass partition about 2m high across the midpoint of the church. This would preserve the sanctuary in the front half with its architectural merit. The glass wall would concertina thus enabling the full church to be opened for large use occasions e.g. funerals, weddings, etc. The other benefit is that those attending functions in the hall during the week would become familiar with the inside of the church, which does not happen with functions in the current hall. It is hoped that over time this may result in increased attendance at Sunday worship, and would be another version of “coming to church”.

Because of the way the underfloor heating would be installed, the sanctuary pews would be replaced by individual chairs.

- 2) Modernisation of the Heating:** the current system of heating bars under some pews is barely fit for purpose. This would be replaced with a floor based system taking advantage of new products that

enable an “underfloor” circulation to be installed on the existing floor. The heating will be powered by an air source heat pump, with suitable zone and timing controls.

A new wood effect vinyl floor covering will cover the heating mat throughout the sanctuary and hall floor.

- 3) Replacement of Pews by Seats: For practical and comfort reasons the pews will not be re-installed. With the method of underfloor heating selected re-fixing the pews to the floor could endanger the underfloor heating pipes.
- 4) Relocation of the Kitchen: Given that the hall activities will be in the Church, it is logical to re-locate the kitchen to the unused area under the current balcony. The present kitchen to the rear of the building will act as a store, in particular for excess foldable/stacking chair to be used in the hall for large functions
- 5) Toilet/ Storage/Entrance re-route under the Gallery: The lay-out under the gallery can accommodate a new toilet and storage area as well as the new kitchen with service hatch into the new hall space. The main entrance will be re-routed to come in straight under the gallery rather than turning right into the church. The point of this is to reduce/eliminate drafts which happen when entering the church at present which is usually subject to the prevailing wind. There will be room to store tables and chairs for such hall functions as the weekly coffee morning.
- 6) Meeting Room: The change raises a need in the new configuration for a meeting room for meetings such the children’s Sunday Club, Session meetings or book club etc. This will entail an extension to the rear of the church building taking in the site of the current wooden hut.

It is intended that the sanctuary will have about 100 chairs, some with arms. A similar number of foldable/stacking chairs for the hall area will be available. We are aware that the pews have nostalgic and financial value and propose to have them converted into 2 or 3 seat pews available for purchase. The

replacement chairs will cost ~£8k, which will be partially offset by the sale of the pews and an offer to families to donate chairs perhaps, for example, as a memorial to a family member.

The proposal has been approved by Presbytery and was considered by the General Trustees in early July (verdict awaited), and will be reviewed in a visit from CARTA (Committee on *Church Art and Architecture*) in mid-July.

The indicative cost is about £140k. Some funds are available already, from reserves and donations already given or promised which amount to 23% and 32% of the costs respectively, so there will be “invitations” to members and friends in the Shiskine valley, and beyond, to consider helping to reach the financial target.

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#### ST. MOLIOS GUILD



**Wednesday 24 April**-Guilds Together North Ayrshire ABM in St Margaret's, Dalry This year, (as it worked so well last year) the ABM was combined with a 'Big Sing', necessary business being lightened with the pleasure of music and words. An uplifting afternoon with a good cuppa and biscuits in the hall afterwards.

**Tuesday 30 April**-Annual Business Meeting in St Molios Church Hall This was the last official meeting of 2018/19 session. Weather was rather dismal, grey and wet, but inside the hall was warmth and comfort. Outside, a ewe in the adjacent field looked in longingly at our happy gathering! A dozen Guild members were present, plus John Clarke who kindly played for our hymn. This was followed by a very interesting discussion about topics for the 2019/20 programme including 'Seema's Project (India) and possibly 'The Sailors' Society! Or 'Boys' Brigade' projects (both UK). Information was passed on about several events that are taking place during the summer, for enjoyment and to maintain fellowship, the first being a social get-together for lunch in May. The 'summer' BBQ this year will be held on Friday 30<sup>th</sup> August at 6.30p.m. Please make a note in your diary. All are welcome.

During ABM business decisions were made as to support for projects and donations to St Molios, AYF, and of course the Guild Projects. After the election of office bearers, we adjourned to the laden tables for a bountiful afternoon tea with plenty of chat, anecdotes and jokes.

**Tuesday 14 May**-Lunch at 'The Lighthouse' in Pirnmill.

We were blessed with beautiful weather for our outing, and a superb view! The extensive menu was almost too tempting and the portions were very generous. A lovely afternoon in good company!

**Monday 10<sup>th</sup> June**-The Barony Centre in West Kilbride was the venue for a get-together with members of our link Guild, St Francis in the East (Bridgeton). The weather was sunny and calm as four of us made the 9.45 ferry crossing. This early start allowed time for a visit to West Kilbride Parish Church to see the new flexible seating arrangements in the light of planned changes for our own church. Later we met with St Francis Guild members at the The Barony Centre for soup & sandwiches followed by cakes & tea/coffee. This once church, now arts centre, was a really interesting venue for our time together, but the afternoon was made most special by the connection and fellowship amongst the people present.

On **Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> September** six members of Shiskine Guild will be travelling to Dundee for the Guild National Gathering in Caird Hall. We wish them well on this journey and look forward to hearing of their experiences there-and also to 'share' in the event with the benefit of modern technology.

Dorothy Allen

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**Pentecost at the Preaching Cave** worship was celebrated on Sunday 9th June at 3.30p.m. Twenty four of us gathered there for a multi lingual service celebrating the coming of the Holy Spirit. Fortunately, although dull the rain stayed off for the journey along the shore and for most of the return journey. Thanks to Peter Wilkinson for transporting, and Elizabeth for playing the harp to accompany our singing.

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**St Molios Church Sale** A huge thanks to all who helped, donated and supported the sale on 10th July. The sum realised was £770.00

## Arran Churches Together Food Bank

Records show the following shortages. During school holidays there is more use of the bank as children need a midday meal. The following items are needed: Rice

Long life milk

### All the following items which must be tinned

Vegetables	Soups (except tomato soup)
Custard/rice pudding	Fruits
Beans	Meats
Fish	Biscuits/Treats
Toiletries	Household cleaning materials

The full food bank report can be seen in the church hall. Donations for the bank can be left in the church vestry or in the box at the checkout in the big Coop from whence it will be delivered to the bank at Brodick church.

**Christian Aid Collection** As usual this May we had a house-to-house collection for safer childbirth in Sierra Leone. £939.12 was the final amount raised. Thank you to all collectors and those who donated.

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### Baptisms

*'One Faith, One Lord, One Baptism'*

|           |                                                                                               |
|-----------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 5th May   | Magarit Bochea Chum (adult), Phnom Penh and Cambodia                                          |
| 5th May   | Matilda Sophia Davy baby daughter of Thomas and Tracy Davy                                    |
| 16th June | Alasdair Neidzwiedz Nisbet Son of Allan and Alison Nisbet of Glasgow and baptised at Braeside |

### Memorial Service

*Jesus said, 'I am the resurrection and the Life'*

|          |                         |
|----------|-------------------------|
| 10th May | Helen Gunn (Nee Lammie) |
|----------|-------------------------|



As members of a church on Arran we are all automatically members of 'Arran Churches

Together', I feel privileged to represent St. Molios on the ACT committee which meets just four times a year in order to reflect on past events and to organise the future events, making sure that they will reflect Jesus' in our communities and help us to be good witnesses to that love by working and worshipping together. To this end, at least six events are organised each year, starting appropriately with the service for Christian unity on the third Sunday of January and finishing the year with Carols at the Coop in the second Saturday in December.

On Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> July the annual **Songs of Praise** was held on the Lamlash foreshore in perfect sunny weather with just enough breeze to deter the midgies. Just under 70 attended with one or two passers by joining the gathering. This year's theme was 'Let's Celebrate God's Creation.' The offering was in aid of Christian Aid's Clean Water Project in Malawi and came to £341.40

The next event is a **social quiz evening** on Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> September in Brodick Church Hall at 7p.m. Although some say quizzes are not my thing I would suggest that by the number of pub and church quizzes held on this island it is something that many people enjoy. This event is open to all, church members folk in the community and yes, holiday makers too. It is a time for everyone to get to know each other better and to make new friends. Teams at tables is the order of the evening and you can choose to come as a team or to mix and match experience. A finger food supper at half time is enjoyed and it would be very good to see a full hall. Why not come and bring the family or friends with you!

Details of further events will appear in the next magazine – St Andrew's Night Worship followed by a Ceilidh and Carols at the Coop.

Helen Kerr ACT Rep.



With new legislation approved at the General Assembly in May the number of Presbyteries in Scotland has to be reduced from forty

three to around twelve and this by 2024. This means that Presbyteries will have to unite. Ardrossan, Ayr and Irvine & Kilmarnock presbyteries have been in discussions on uniting their presbyteries for the last two years. To this end there will be a meeting of the three presbyteries on the 10<sup>th</sup> September in Kilmarnock. A draft plan of what a united Ayrshire presbytery will look like will be presented to presbyters with plenty of time for questions and discussion. Towards the end of the year Ardrossan Presbytery will take a vote as to whether to unite with Ayr and Irvine & Kilmarnock or not. As with any change there is a lot to be considered.

Out of twenty charges in the Presbytery there are four vacant at the moment, Ardrossan and Saltcoats Kirkgate, Dalry St Margaret's, Kilbirnie Auld Kirk and Kilwinning Old.

Presbyteries have been instructed to ensure that Interim Moderators are admitted to the membership of the PVG Scheme (Protection of Vulnerable Groups) prior to the appointment of a Locum within a vacant congregation. Ministers of congregations are admitted to the Scheme but Elders trained as Interim Moderators are not automatically enrolled in the PVG Scheme.

This along with other groups and organisations within churches has to be monitored by the Safeguarding Committee to ensure a safe church for all.

Safeguarding is an important matter.

Through the Mission and Discipleship Council Presbyteries and Kirk Sessions are instructed to engage with the characteristics of discipleship and explore how they are worked out in their local context. Presbyteries as well as Kirk Sessions are encouraged in their mission



initiatives.

Mr Allan Richardson, an Elder at Beith Parish Church, is Moderator elect of the Presbytery for 2019/2020. Allan is no stranger to our congregation as he was Convener of the committee that carried out the Local Church Review in 2017 and has frequented the Coffee morning on various occasions. He has a caravan in Whiting Bay and has visited Arran with his wife Marjory and their family over many years.

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### Corner for The Young in Heart

Can you find the words? Words may be found in any direction.

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

#### Clues for word search:

Two brothers, Sons of Thunder;      This NT book comes right after Timothy.  
He betrayed Jesus;                      The season of Jesus' resurrection;  
Jesus met two of his disciples on this road; Samuel's mother - palindrome  
Jesus' mother;                              This is where they were first called Christians  
He wasn't called Paul to start with;      OT Joseph's younger brother  
In ACTS his name means 'encourager'; Jesus' father worked here.  
He was a tax collector but became a disciple; The boy had bread and ?

## **Lord, Give Me Strength!**

How many times have we uttered those words in moments of adversity and challenge and how many times has the Lord come to our aid ? All the time, twice, once , never ? At church recently we sang hymn 137, W.H.Monk's 'All Things Bright and Beautiful' and it was through this hymn that the Lord gave me strength

From the pulpit we were reminded of the sporting events taking place at this time of year: the Womens' World Cup Football, Wimbledon, the up coming Ashes series and as we sang our praise I thought of Le Tour de France and my own cycling struggles in the Pyrenees not so long ago.

I had undergone hip replacement surgery and in order to test the success of the procedure I decided to cycle across the Pyrenees on my own with a 20 kilo load of camping gear starting with Mont Ventoux and thence from Perpignan to Bayonne in the wheel tracks of the greats – Eddy Merckx, Bernard Hinault, Miguel Indurain, Jacques Anquetil and our own Bradley Wiggins. This was pure innocent abroad stuff and confronted by Mont Ventoux I struggled to reach the summit, thinking that this was only the start and how was I going to fare in the Pyrenees. I soon found out ! All the training in the world, all the miles I had put in, all the planning, all the bananas I had consumed counted for nothing when confronted with the Tour de France climbs. I slogged up the first few cols wondering how the professionals approached them and realising that although I had a certain level of fitness I had no inner plan, no self-belief in my own ability to complete the route and things looked bleak. There I was in the middle of the Pyrenees with no team car, no back up, no one but me.

Confronted by the Tourmalet climb – 21 kilometres, average 9% gradient, max 15% I managed to achieve a rhythm and to maintain that rhythm I started singing 'All Things Bright and Beautiful' and when the going got tough and my rhythm struggled I slowed the tempo of my singing to keep turning my pedals – and it worked. The Tourmalet was my nemesis but I did it and from there I was accompanied by my own personal team car with W.H.Monk and my Heavenly Father in the front seat. Vive le Tour and praise the Lord !

Brian Grindall.

*Dates for the Diary*

Sun. 11<sup>th</sup> Aug. Sacrament of **Holy Communion 12 noon**

Sun. 15<sup>th</sup> Sept Guild dedication during worship.

Sun. 29<sup>th</sup> Sept. Worship at the Clachan 3.30p.m.

Sun. 6<sup>th</sup> Oct. Harvest Thanksgiving followed by lunch hosted by the Guild.

Fri. 30<sup>th</sup> Aug. **The Guild** Community BBQ for Guild funds. 6.30 p.m.

Sept. 17<sup>th</sup> Reflections Bea Nicholson, from Guilds Together NA and Meetings 3<sup>rd</sup> Tues each month 15<sup>th</sup> Oct. and 19<sup>th</sup> Nov.

Twice monthly **Linkage Study Group** share, enquire, discuss, learn together. Starts again in August. See church notices or ask John Kerr 860498 re dates and venue.

Wednesday **Prayers for Health and Healing** 25<sup>th</sup> Sept. and 30<sup>th</sup> Oct. at 12noon in Brodick Church. Coffee/Tea in the hall from 10.30.

Thurs 12<sup>th</sup> Sept. **Arran Churches Together Social Quiz Evening** in Brodick church hall at 7 p.m. All welcome. Finger food supper.

1<sup>st</sup> Thursday **Taize worship** at 5.30 p.m. in Holy Cross Church  
Each Month



**Flower Fellowship**



August            *Jan Crawford*  
September      *Gerry Arthur*  
October          *Morag Liddell*

***Thanks to those who make our church even more beautiful.***

*If you would like to help with the church flowers please contact Gerry Arthur on 860435. She would really appreciate the assistance.*

*Some Useful Contacts*

*In St. Molios Church in the Parish of North Arran*

		Telephone no.
<b><i>The Minister</i></b>	Rev. Angus Adamson	870228
<b><i>Parish Assis. &amp; Elder</i></b>	Mrs. Jean Hunter	860380
<b><i>Elders</i></b>	Dr. Alan Burnett	860742
	Mrs. Elizabeth Clarke	860219
	Mr. John Clarke	860219
	Mrs. Evelyn Hamilton	860233
	Mrs. Helen Kerr	
860498		
<b><i>Session Clerk</i></b>	Mr. John Kerr	860498
	Mr. John Lammie	860418
	Mrs Elizabeth McCarthy	
860727		
	Mr. John McCarthy	860727
	Mr. Murray Stewart	860479
<b><i>Deacons' Court Clerk</i></b>	Mrs. Elizabeth Clarke	
860219		
<b><i>Organist</i></b>	Mr. John Clarke	860219
<b><i>Pastoral Support Team</i></b>		
<b><i>Coordinator</i></b>	Mrs. Eileen Johnston	860227
<b><i>Magazine Editor</i></b>	Mrs. Helen Kerr	860498

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Articles for the next magazine should be handed to Helen Kerr or sent to Helen Kerr [kerrjh@btinternet.com](mailto:kerrjh@btinternet.com) by Sunday 13<sup>th</sup> October 2019.