

ST. MOLIOS CHURCH

MAGAZINE



MAY 2016



Are you at Wits End Corner?

'Are you standing at "Wits End Corner" Christian with troubled brow?
Are you thinking of what is before you and all you are bearing now?
Does all the world see against you and you in the battle alone?
Remember at Wits End Corner is where God's power is shown.

Are you at "Wits End Corner", blinded with wearying pain?
Feeling you cannot endure it. You cannot bear the strain.
Bruised through the constant suffering, dizzy and dazed and numb.
Remember at Wits End Corner is where Jesus loves to come.

Are you standing at "Wits End Corner" your work before you spread,
Or lying begun, unfinished and pressing on heart and head.
Longing for strength to do it, stretching out trembling hands.
Remember at Wits End Corner the burden bearer stands.

Are you standing at "Wits End Corner"? Yearning for those you love.
Longing and praying and watching, pleading their cause above,
Trying to lead them to Jesus. Wondering if you've been true,
He whispers at "Wits End Corner" "I'll win them as I won you.

Are you standing at "Wits End Corner"? Then you're just in the very spot
To learn the wondrous resources of Him who faileth not!
No doubt to a brighter pathway your footsteps will soon be moved
But only at Wits End Corner is the God who is able, proved.

Antoinette



Brodick Manse
May 2016

Dear Folks,

'Six days shalt thou labour and do all thy work: but the seventh day is the Sabbath of the Lord thy God; in it thou shalt not do any work' (Exodus 20: 8- 9).


So runs the fourth commandment, one I always tried very hard to keep all my working life, that is, until I became a minister. Now Sunday, albeit my favourite day of the week still, when I joy to lead worship three times, is not exactly a day of rest. So when does the minister take his one day off a week? I once had a discussion on this topic with the late Douglas Fulton, minister at Kilmory and Lamash and he rather humorously pointed out, that if he was seen out in his garden on a weekday when the members of his congregation were engaged in their daily toil, instead of out and about ministering in his parish, or in his study – 'all right for some' – was considered lazy, but if he worked all the days of the week and in the process neglected his garden, was considered even lazier still!

Compounding the problem is the fear, that being responsible 24/7 for the well fare of every soul in the parish, or in our case 5 parishes, if a day is taken off someone might be left uncared for at a time of need.

Perhaps for that reason in the previous ten years, apart from annual leave I have neglected to take a regular day off at all, and even then the phone is still checked several times daily. In the process, I have neglected both my family and my health. All work and no play makes Angus a very dull boy indeed! Jean too, despite being contracted and paid to work only 33 and a half hours a week, finds herself in a similar situation.

However, in our position, there really is no need for this to be the case. There are two of us on the ground. Always, if one is on holiday, the other covers. At such times, apart from having to conduct a funeral on the mainland, or be away engaged in Presbytery business elsewhere, one of us is on hand at any given time. The same could easily apply to time off. Thus we have decided that I will now take a Monday off each week, when Jean will cover for me and Jean will take a Saturday off, allowing her to get over to the mainland on a Friday evening to be more involved in her grand children's weekend activities.

Of course when either of us is on holiday, the other will not entirely be able to completely take a day off and will still be 'on call'. There will still be the odd week too, when something serious or extra problematic crops up. But at least for the rest of the time, we might just get a chance to recharge our batteries. And I can't help thinking, instead of often being run down and run ragged, we will be much more able to serve you all the better, which is ever first and foremost our primary concern.



Scottish Church Census

We have been asked to participate in a census which will cover all churches in Scotland. For those attending on the 8th of May the census involves answering 4 questions. You will be given a slip with the four questions. Please answer the questions by ticking the appropriate box. **This is completely anonymous.** The completed slips will be collected as you leave the church. There are pens at the end of each pew should you need one.

John Kerr
Session Clerk

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**STATED ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF ST MOLIOS' CHURCH OF SCOTLAND, SHISKINE HELD ON 31 MARCH 2016 IN THE JOHN ROBERTSON HALL.**

The minister, Rev Angus Adamson, opened the meeting with reading and prayer. There were 16 people in attendance.

**1. Apologies**

Apologies were received from Alan Burnett, Alison Burnett, Eleanor Kinnaird, Elizabeth McCarthy and XXXXXXXXXX

**2. Minutes of the meeting of 5 March 2015**

The minutes were read to the meeting and approved as a true record by J Stewart, seconded by E Hamilton.

**3. Matters Arising**

There would be a Linkage meeting for all the church officer bearers on Wednesday 1 June at Brodick.

**4. Treasurer's Report**

In the absence of the Treasurer, Alison Burnett, John McCarthy gave a report: There was a deficit of £4000 this year compared to a surplus of £3000 last year. This was attributed to a one-off donation last year of £5000 and improvements to the infrastructure in the current year.

The church is paying its full quota to Mission and Ministry and so it should be looking at supporting the wider work of the Church of Scotland.

### **5. Fabric Fund Report**

In the absence of Alan Burnett, John Kerr gave a report:

There were no unexpected issues in the last year. Work had been carried out for the kitchen, subsidiary glazing, St Molios carving, the manse and the grounds. Still to be addressed were some areas of damp in church and hall.

### **6. Kirk Session Report**

The Kirk Session Clerk, John Kerr, gave his report.

A number of new Elders and Deacons had been appointed. All office bearers were thanked with special acknowledgement to Eileen Johnson and [REDACTED] for their many years of service.

Membership remains in the high sixties although active membership is reducing as age takes its toll.

Data Protection Forms had been returned by about three quarters of the congregation.

Recordings of most services are available on CDs for anyone who wishes a copy.

J Kerr thanked Angus and Jean and those in attendance for their support over the past year.

### **6. Sunday Club and Kids Club Report**

E Hamilton reported:

Kids Club meets once a month on the last Friday of the month. It is well attended especially by the younger children. Thanks to all the helpers especially Heather Munro.

Sunday Club has a regular attendance of 8-10. Scripture Union "Xstream" material now being used.

The World Vision sponsor child is Sentayahu who is 12 years old. The Sunday Club helps with his schooling and send him birthday and Christmas cards.

The proposed outing did not take place last year but will be considered again this year.

The children are enjoying being more involved on the service on Sundays.

Angus Adamson stressed the importance of the school visits made by himself and Jean Hunter.

### **7. Safeguarding Vulnerable Groups Report**

PVG training is required for all those working with children. The new appointees would be required to undertake this training.

### **8. Christian Aid Report**

£1106 had been collected. J Stewart thanked the collectors and the community and also the Guild for the quiz night which raised £60. Christian Aid week this year is 15-21 May and volunteers are needed once again.

### **9. Guild Report**

H Kerr reported on several fund raising events and on the speakers who addressed the monthly meetings. The theme this year is "Go in peace".

### **10. Coffee Morning**

The coffee morning continues to flourish and has become a key area of outreach in the community.

### **11. Deacon's Court Report**

Much of the work of the Court had been covered elsewhere.

Thanks to all the "unsung heroes" – To those who are on the rotas for door duty, flowers, teas, and readings and also to the cleaner and gardener.

The church web site is being updated. The clerk reported that there had been 46649 visits since 2011, quite a significant figure although this does include scans from search engines.

### **12. Minister's Report**

The minister thanked everyone for their work – Alan Burnett, Alison Burnett, John Clarke, Evelyn Hamilton, John Kerr, Helen Kerr, [REDACTED] and Joan Stewart.

A. Adamson underlined the importance of the church magazine - more contributions were required.

A. Adamson thanked everyone on behalf of Jean and himself for the support they had received.

### **13. AOCB**

A Adamson asked for additional comments from the meeting.

It was point out that during the question and answer session Angus sometimes held at the end of a service, those speaking from the congregation could not be heard.

The use of microphones was discussed.

The Sale of Work would be held on Wednesday 13 July at 7.30pm in Shiskine Hall. It was suggested that work towards the sale should be started now and that more people were needed to help.

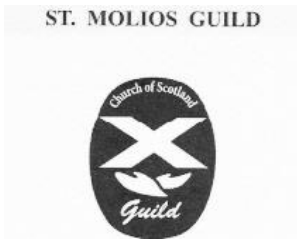
E Johnson requested that she be informed if anyone was ill.

On 15 May (Pentecost) the annual Preaching Cave service would be held and in September the Clachan service would take place as usual.

There being no other business the meeting closed with those present saying the benediction.

There was a presentation from Jean Hunter about her recent trip to Antarctica followed by supper.

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ST. MOLIOS GUILD

Guild News

In February, in spite of stormy weather, our speaker from Street Pastors, Inverclyde sailed from Gourock with his toothbrush! WE had invited others from Brodick St. Bride's Ladies, the Baptist church, and Pirnmill Guild and were happy to have 22 there to hear Mr Chris Jewell

give a most informative talk about the work of one of the Guild supported project. In March a very small Guild enjoyed Jean Hunter's power point on her visit to Jordan and Israel in 2015.

Our Annual Business meeting was held on Tuesday 19th April and the speaker was Rev. Sheila Mitchel, a member of the NHS non--medical policy group gave a most challenging presentation on the current developments in NHS policy and practice in the support and enhancement spirituality for those serving and being served within the NHS..

Dates coming up: Some of us will be going to Larges for the Ardrossan Presbyterial Council summer rally of the Guild's, the annual fund raising BBQ will be held at 7p.m. on Friday 24th June when we hope readers will buy a ticket and come and enjoy time together.

Helen Kerr Secretary

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## South American Adventure (Part 1)

*"The earth is the Lord's, and everything in it, the world and all who live in it, for he founded it upon the seas and established it upon the waters".*

For those of you who have travelled, you will know how vast God's earth is. In February I travelled to South America with Elizabeth Watson. After the journey to Buenos Aires in Argentina via London then Paris, we boarded the cruise ship Zaandam in Buenos Aires harbour. As this was my first time on a cruise ship I didn't know what to expect, except what others had told me. However I have to say that I wasn't disappointed. To me the ship was huge and I was told it was a medium sized one. The whole cruise was an amazing adventure though, one I mistakenly thought I could only dream of.

In the evening we went on a tour to one of the most iconic tango theatres in Buenos Aires for a spectacular presentation of the acclaimed, popular dance. Professionals took us on a journey through the ages of Argentina's most celebrated dance. I for one was glad they didn't ask the audience to join in. The first night was spent on the ship in the harbour then next day we took a 'Panoramic Highlights tour of Buenos Aires'. We began by visiting San Telmo and La Boca two lively and colourful areas. As Argentinians are passionate about their football we were taken by a stadium, the home of their most famous football team, Boca Juniors. As my grandsons are football fanatics too I had to get them football tops.

We then travelled along the city's widest Boulevard, 9 de Julio (9th July Avenue). It was called after the date they gained their independence. It is the widest Avenue in South America. We passed by the Presidential Palace or Pink Palace (called that because of its pink colour) where Eva Peron one of their history's most famous women gave a speech from the balcony there. Another place we passed was a garden area where a clock made in the image of London's Big Ben stood. The clock was gifted by the U.K. but its name was changed after the Falklands War and is not now spoken about except by tour guides.

At night we sailed down the River Plate to find ourselves waking up in the morning in Montevideo harbour, Uruguay. Our shore Excursion this day was the 'Montevideo Highlights and Uruguayan Carnival'. There was a tour of the city sights and then to a Carnival Museum. Carnival in South America is



primarily associated with Rio de Janeiro, but Uruguay the second smallest country of South America, celebrates the longest Carnival competition in the world. At the museum we learned that Carnival in Uruguay is a mix of European and African traditions. We saw displays of colourful costumes and were treated to a display of Candombe and Murga. With Candombe drummers and dancers played and danced to a drum-based rhythm which originated from Angola and the Congo. Murga was a mixture of song, theatre and comedy and had its origins in Cadiz in Spain. Some of our group were asked to join in and so they did, dressing up and dancing round the tables. You will be glad to know I wasn't one of the volunteers.

After leaving Montevideo we spent the next two days at sea, enjoying the cruise and relaxing in the sunshine.

On Friday 26th February the ship arrived at the Falkland Islands. The ship anchored out in the Bay and we had to get into a small tender for the journey into Port Stanley. On the way there some folk saw the dolphins jumping out of the water but I managed to miss them. On shore we got into a coach for our tour of Stanley which is home to more than 80% of the entire population of the Falkland Islands. It was quite a moving experience being in that place. It wasn't raining but was quite cold and damp. It reminded me of Mull although without the high hills and the forests.

There are some hills there though and the guide told us that was where some of the battles were fought during the war with Argentina in 1982 like on Mount Tumbledown. We drove past the memorial from that war with many names on it and then outside Stanley past the local airport and Surf Bay to see the beach and minefields from that time. There are still unexploded bombs there today. A drive past Government House was next. Building work began on the house in 1845 but it was 1859 before the first Governor took up residence. A visit to the Falkland Islands Museum was very interesting with its history and exhibits before travelling along the road to the Anglican Cathedral the southernmost Cathedral in the world, featuring an arch constructed from the jawbones of two blue whales. A visit to the souvenir shop was a must, however I didn't get time to send postcards before getting back on to the tender to get back to the ship. On looking back at Port Stanley I had to pinch myself to believe that I had been there in the Falkland Islands but I have the photos to look at and prove I was there.

On leaving the islands we sailed on towards the Magellan Straits a natural passage between the Atlantic and Pacific oceans and to more wonderful places to view more of the beauty of God's creation. I will let you know about that in the next instalment.

Jean Hunter



**The World Day of Prayer** for Molios on Friday 4<sup>th</sup> March when 45 attended and joined in solidarity with the people of

Cuba. Those taking part in the leadership team ranged from aged nine years to 80+. And although the number attending was down from previous years it was good for men and women from all the churches on the island. meet together The offering came to £200.0 and this goes The World Day of Prayer Committee and to charities in Cuba

**Good Friday Walk of Witness** Once more the walk started with a short worship service at Holy Cross Catholic church at the pier led by Rev. Noel Colford when just under 50 attended. Following a quiet walk through Brodick behind the rough wooden cross a fair number of the less nibble joined in the worship in Brodick church. Some visitors joined the walk along the way while others were reminded of the real meaning of the Good Friday 'holy-day'.

**Songs of Praise on Arran** Now we look forward to the churches getting together on Lamdash shore front opposite Lamdash church on 26<sup>th</sup> June at the earlier time of 3p.m. which will hopefully allow more folk to attend the good sing of praise.

Helen Kerr ACT Representative

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Flower Fellowship



May Gerry Arthur

June Gerry Arthur

July



Thank you for making our church even more beautiful

'The Great Plastic Bottle Top Collection Challenge!' from Sheila Mitchell

'Interwaste' is a company based in South Africa, and currently is running a project whereby plastic bottle tops are recycled and the proceeds used to purchase wheelchairs for donation to charities already working in developing countries. At the present moment, staff members in our Glasgow office at NHS Education for Scotland are collecting plastic bottle tops for this cause.

Throughout the month of May, if you are in a position to donate your plastic bottle tops to this project (e.g. tops from milk cartons, fruit juice cartons and soft drinks bottles), there will be a bucket made available for their collection in the vestibule of the church. Then, at the end of the month, I will add the contents of our collection bucket to the colourful and growing collection in our office. It's all in a good cause; thank you for your support!

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### FROM OUR TREASURER

| INCOME                            |  |              |  | JANUARY     | FEBRUARY      | MARCH         |
|-----------------------------------|--|--------------|--|-------------|---------------|---------------|
| AMOUNTS PAID DIRECTLY INTO BANK   |  |              |  | 752         | 507           | 787           |
| FREEWILL ENVELOPES                |  |              |  | 84          | 233           | 318           |
| GIFT AID ENVELOPES                |  |              |  |             | 30            | 310           |
| PLATE COLLECTION                  |  |              |  | 656         | 703.9         | 1212.4        |
| <b>TOTALS</b>                     |  |              |  | <b>1492</b> | <b>1473.9</b> | <b>2627.4</b> |
| <b>NOTE main monthly payments</b> |  |              |  |             |               |               |
| Ministry & Mission                |  | 1,700        |  |             |               |               |
| Insurance                         |  | 300          |  |             |               |               |
| Electricity                       |  | 144          |  |             |               |               |
| D/D                               |  |              |  |             |               |               |
| AYF                               |  | 25           |  |             |               |               |
| World Vision                      |  | 23           |  |             |               |               |
| <b>TOTAL</b>                      |  | <b>2,192</b> |  |             |               |               |

## HOW TO ENHANCE YOUR GIVING TO THE CHURCH

The Government has two schemes which allows individuals to increase their givings at no extra cost to the individuals. St Molios is a charity registered with Scottish Charities Commission.

### OPTION ONE                      GIFT AID SCHEME

|                         |                                 |                                                                                               |
|-------------------------|---------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| What is the first step? | Fill in a gift aid form         | Available the Treasurer your Elder and return to the church                                   |
| How do I give?          | Direct Debit/<br>Standing Order | Standing Order form available from Treasurer or your Elder.<br>Direct Debit contact your bank |
|                         | By Cheque                       | Place it in the offering at church                                                            |
|                         | Freewill Envelopes              | Contact the Treasurer                                                                         |
|                         | Gift Aid Envelope               | Contact the treasurer                                                                         |

There is no limit to the amount that our church can claim back with this method.

### OPTION TWO                      GIFT AID SMALL DONATIONS SCHEME

This is a government scheme where by the church can claim Gift Aid from the offering given in the 'open plate'. This is not claimed against an individual name but there is a limit to the total amount of Gift Aid that any church can claim. Up to March this year this total amount was £5,000 which gained £1,250 from the scheme but the total the church may claim is going up to £8,000 from April 2016 and this will gain a further £2,000 back to St Molios.

The church receives more than £5,000 (and even more than £8,000). To allow us to make the best return I would like to encourage anyone who is currently giving their offering through the open plate and is a UK tax payer to consider switching to Option One above where there is no limit to the amount of Gift Aid St Molios can claim from the Government scheme.

## ST. MOLIOS HAS TALENTS – MANY TALENTS!

Please give this appeal your earnest consideration. Fill in the form below and tear out and return it to church. Even if you are already offering some of the mentioned talents and skills service, register them here. We all have gifts to offer.

*‘There are different kinds of spiritual gifts but the same Spirit gives them. There are different ways of serving but the same Lord is served. There are different abilities to perform service but the same God gives ability to all for their particular service.’*      1 Corinthians vs 4-6

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Please tick as appropriate.

| <b>Areas of Service</b> | <b>Talents/Gifts/Skills to Offer</b>                                                                           | <b>Yes I will</b> |
|-------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------|
| <b>Sunday Worship</b>   | Reading the Bible at Sunday worship                                                                            |                   |
|                         | Be part of the worship group                                                                                   |                   |
|                         | Sometimes lead in prayer                                                                                       |                   |
|                         | Be a children’s Sunday club leader                                                                             |                   |
|                         | Contribute to the music in the church                                                                          |                   |
|                         | Provide and /or arrange the Flowers                                                                            |                   |
|                         | Help decorate the church at special festivals –Christmas, Easter, Harvest                                      |                   |
| <b>Pastoral Care</b>    | Join the small Pastoral Group reporting to Coordinator or Ministers names of people who are sick or in trouble |                   |

| <b>Areas of Service</b>         | <b>Talents/Gifts/Skills to Offer</b>                               | <b>Yes I will</b> |
|---------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------|
|                                 | Make home visits to sick or housebound                             |                   |
|                                 | Give regular or occasional lifts to church for those without a car |                   |
| <b>Spiritual Growth</b>         | Be part of a Bible study or prayer group                           |                   |
| <b>The Guild</b>                | Participate in Guild Activities                                    |                   |
| <b>Hospitality</b>              | Bake regularly for the Thursday coffee morning                     |                   |
|                                 | Help setting up for the coffee morning                             |                   |
|                                 | Enlist for preparing teas/coffees after Sunday worship             |                   |
| <b>Calligraphy!</b>             | Write up the cradle roll                                           |                   |
| <b>Administration Computing</b> | Prepare Oder of Service (even at times)                            |                   |
|                                 | Receive / edit /format quarterly magazine                          |                   |
|                                 | Type up occasional documents                                       |                   |
| <b>Money Matters</b>            | Assist the church treasurer                                        |                   |
| <b>Maintenance</b>              | Assist the property convener with repairs and care                 |                   |
|                                 | Do some gardening around the church and manse garden               |                   |

‘Giving need not be confined to money or material things but I would like more people to give their hands to serve and their hearts to love....’ Mother Theresa.

## *Dates for the Diary*

|                                  |                                                                                 |
|----------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Sun. 08 May                      | <b>Holy Communion</b> 12 noon                                                   |
| Sun 15 May                       | Pentecost at the Preaching Cave at 3,00 p.m.                                    |
| Sun 26 Jun                       | Song of Praise at Lamdash foreshore 3.p.m.                                      |
| Sun 31 July                      | The Sacrament of Baptism 12 noon                                                |
| Sun 14 Aug                       | <b>Holy Communion</b> 12 noon                                                   |
| Sun 25 Sep                       | Service at the Clachan at 3.30p.m.                                              |
| Sun 30 Oct                       | Harvest Thanksgiving 12 noon followed by lunch.                                 |
| Sun 06 Nov                       | <b>Joint Holy Communion</b> Lochranza vill. hall 11am                           |
| Sun 27 Nov                       | Come to church Sunday 1 <sup>st</sup> Sun in Advent 12 noon                     |
| Wed 01 Jun                       | Joint Boards/Deacons' Court and Kirk Sessions<br>7.30p.m.                       |
| Fri 24 Jun                       | The Guild BBQ in the manse garden at 7.00p.m.                                   |
| Wed 13 Jul                       | Church Sale in the Community Hall open 7.30pm                                   |
| Sat. 30 Jul                      | Our garden Party in the church grounds 2-4 p.m.                                 |
| Wed 07 Sep                       | Brodick Church St Molios Saxophone Quartet<br>7.30pm                            |
| Thu 08 Sep                       | St Molios Saxophone Quartet in the church 7.30pm                                |
| Thu 08 Sep                       | Arran Churches Together social night quiz in<br>Brodick church hall at 7.30p.m. |
| Wed 27 April                     | Prayers for Health and Healing Brodick at 12 noon                               |
| Thu 26 May                       | Prayers for Health and Healing Shiskine at 12noon                               |
| Wed 29 Jun                       | Prayers for Health and Healing Brodick at 12 noon                               |
| First Thu every<br>month         | Taize worship in St Molios at 7.30pm                                            |
| Wed 4 May and<br>every two weeks | Coffee morning in Brodick church hall                                           |
| Sat 16 Jul                       | Brodick summer fete at 2pm                                                      |
| Thu 21 Jul                       | Auction Brodick Club House at 8pm                                               |

Some Useful Contacts

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

Telephone no.

|                                       |                                 |        |
|---------------------------------------|---------------------------------|--------|
| <b><i>The Minister</i></b>            | Rev. Angus Adamson              | 302334 |
| <b><i>Parish Assist.</i></b>          | Mrs. Jean Hunter, also an elder | 860380 |
| <b><i>Elders</i></b>                  | Dr. Alan Burnett                | 860742 |
|                                       | Mrs. Eliz. 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. Eliz. McCarthy             | 860727 |
|                                       | Mr John McCarthy                | 860727 |
|                                       | Mr. Murray Stewart              | 860479 |
|                                       | Mr. D.G. Weir                   | 860232 |
| <b><i>Clerk to Deacon's Court</i></b> |                                 |        |
|                                       | Mrs. Eliz. Clarke               | 860219 |
| <b><i>Organist</i></b>                | Mr. John Clarke                 | 860219 |
| <b><i>Pastoral Support Team</i></b>   |                                 |        |
| Convenor                              | Mrs. Eileen Johnston            | 860227 |
| <b><i>Church Magazine</i></b>         |                                 |        |
| Editor                                | Mrs. Helen Kerr                 | 860498 |

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Articles for the next magazine should be handed to Helen Kerr or sent to kerrjh@btinternet.com by 10thJuly 2016.

CCL No. 192209 SC0 05323

Follow church events and news on www.StMolioShiskine.org.uk