

# St Molios Church Magazine



November 2019



. 'We will Remember Them'



## Better Far to Pass Away

My share of four score years and ten  
I'll gladly yield to any man,  
And take to thought of 'where' or 'when'  
Contented with my shortened span  
For I have learned what love may bring  
And found a heart that understands  
And known a comrade's constancy  
And felt the grip of friendly hands

Come when it may, the strong decree  
For me to leave the cheery throng  
And quit the sturdy company  
of brothers that I work among  
No need for me to look askance  
Since no regret my prospect mars  
My day was happy and perchance  
The coming night is full of stars.

A poem by a soldier in WWI Submitted by Jenny Harper



Corriecravie

Nov. 2019

Dear Folks,

‘Should we stay or should we go? Should we look east or look west, which is best?’

In the face of the decision made at this year’s General Assembly to streamline the Kirk by drastically reducing the number of Presbyteries in Scotland from 43 down to just 12, these are the big questions our Church of Scotland Kirk Sessions on Arran are currently grappling with.

At present we are in the Presbytery of Ardrossan, which looks set to unite with the Presbytery of Irvine & Kilmarnock and the Presbytery of Ayr. To the minds of many, being a rural island, Arran might not fare too well in a predominantly urban, mainland presbytery. The alternative would be to petition to become part of the Presbytery of Argyll, made up as it is of predominantly rural and island congregations, not unlike ourselves. Indeed, that is what happened some 9 years ago when we felt we were not getting a fair deal in Ardrossan Presbytery. In the end we were not given leave to make that move, but following the setting up of a committee to look into our grievances and to Ardrossan Presbytery’s credit, certain recommendations being put into place, Arran was content to remain and we are currently very happy with arrangements at presbytery level. To the minds of some, staying in the same Local Authority and Health Board area in many ways makes sense, and of course the main link to the mainland is via Ardrossan. It may be that we would therefore be content to enter into the new Super Presbytery of Ayrshire and currently on-going talks will hopefully reveal how that might work for us. To that end all three Ayrshire Presbyteries met on Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> September in Kilmarnock and under the guidance of Rev George White the Principle Clerk of the General Assembly, discussions began.

Ardrossan however, is not the only link to the mainland. To the west of us the Presbytery of Argyll meet quarterly, twice a year in Tarbert, once per annum in Portavdie and on the other occasion the church of the incoming moderator. We now have an all-year round ferry link to Kintyre, albeit a reduced one in winter. Plenty folk on Arran feel that instead of becoming part of Cunningham District Council area, now North Ayrshire, the island might have been better served by remaining in Argyll and Bute local authority area. To help us make a comparison in which Presbytery area might be the best for the future, the Presbytery of Argyll helpfully approached us and invited our congregations to send representatives to their Presbytery Conference held at Portavadie Marina

on the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> of September, entitled 'Argyll Presbytery – Shaping the Future'.

This was an excellent conference with the key note speaker being former Moderator and Principle Clerk of the General Assembly, the Very Reverend John Chalmers, the person entrusted with leading the task group, also appointed at this year's Assembly with the remit of streamlining the structures of the church to meet the challenging demands of the present times. Besides during the day and over dinner having the chance to meet with our presbytery counterparts from Argyll, we also had the opportunity over lunch to meet with senior presbytery figures to discuss how Arran might fit into the Argyll structure. The following day we attended the presbytery meeting. It was very comforting to listen to the way Argyll Presbytery conducts its business and understands not only island life, but the issues faced trying to resource and minister to the needs of multiple rural linked charges. And in many regards Argyll, having formed some 15 years ago with the union of the Presbyteries of South Argyll, Lorn & Mull and Dunoon is already ahead of the game. I was impressed that having grasped the nettle and having already made the leap of faith, many of the presbyters at that meeting were genuinely excited by the opportunities to be grasped in the midst of change.

In stark comparison, at the meeting of the three Ayrshire Presbyteries in Kilmarnock the following week, I was very strongly struck by the way the other representatives from the Ayrshire congregations, despite many of them seeing the island in the distance daily, had absolutely no conception of island life, or of the workings of multiple rural linkages. Indeed, they didn't even realise that I would not be able to get home to Arran that night. The new Presbytery of Ayrshire now has many teething problems to overcome in its formation and has a long way to go before it is in the same position as Argyll, who are up and running and working hard and well to serve the congregations within its bounds.

At least now in any future decisions we have something to compare what life might look like in Ayrshire, as opposed to Argyll. Historically Arran has previously been in both. In the 18<sup>th</sup> century we were in the Presbytery of Irvine and then in the Presbytery of Kintyre, until at the 1929 union with the United Free Church most Arran congregations entered the Presbytery of Ardrossan with the exception of the North End congregations, which remained in Kintyre Presbytery until the mid-nineteen-fifties, when they too entered Ardrossan Presbytery.

So east or west, which is best? That remains to be seen and for sure there are uncertain and challenging times ahead. But not in one very important regard. For one thing remains ever sure. In the words of the Psalmist 'were we to flee beyond the east or dwell in the farthest place in the west, our God will be there to lead us.' (Psalm 139: 9-10).

Angus

## Count Your Blessings

*'Blessed are those whose help is the God of Jacob, whose hope is in the Lord their God' (Psalm 46:5)*

We have just come through another Harvest season with our Harvest Thanksgiving services in our churches in the linkage. Our thanksgiving doesn't need to stop there though now the Harvest services are over.

You may be someone who prefers warm, sunny days to gloomy, rainy ones. However, we know that rain nourishes the earth and brings forth green plants and beautiful flowers. Cloudy days also help you appreciate the days when you can bask in the sun. The biography of Johnson Oatman Jr. does not mention many gloomy days but he certainly encouraged others to take their cares to God when life becomes difficult for them. As a Methodist minister Johnson wrote more than five thousand hymns, including "Count Your Blessings." The lyrics of the chorus—

Count your blessings, name them one by one,

Count your blessings, see what God has done.

The words remind us that when we take our concerns to God, who is Lord over all, we do not have to be worried.

If you are feeling low or are experiencing many gloomy days, it may be time to stop and count your blessings. Remember the people who love you, the steps you have already taken toward a goal, and the beauty that surrounds you in this world. Be thankful for lessons learned from past frustrations . Thank God who sends blessings and is always with you. Trust that God will be with you as you continue on your way with him.

Jean Hunter

## ST. MOLIOS GUILD



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On Friday 6 September three of us set off the day before the annual national Gathering of the Church of Scotland Guild. For the past four years a few of us have made an extra event by travelling to Dundee the day before enjoying the journey and meals together but always in anticipation of the

fellowship and buzz of almost 2000 men and women learning more of this church Guild with around 19,000 members; uplifted with the inspiring singing and challenged by the key speakers, the Moderator of the Church of Scotland and Mrs. Carolyn Boyd Tomasovic, from Croatia and working with the Ecumenical Women's Initiative in that country, hearing about the six fantastic projects the Guild is supporting, visiting the book stalls and with their wide range of resources not to mention the fellowship and eating together with new and old friends. A great day and another one to look forward to on Sat. 7 September 2020.



Helen Kerr

On Tuesday 17th September, our Guild started a new session on the theme "Companions on the Way", the second theme of our ongoing "One Journey, Many Roads" strategy. The first meeting in the church hall began at 1pm with a light lunch in the company of ten members of Lamlash Guild, who kindly provided the sandwiches. Mrs Bea Nicholson, Resource Coordinator of Guilds Together North Ayrshire, and Patricia Robertson, National Convenor 2018-19, had travelled from the mainland to join us.

After lunch, Patricia said a few informal words about her time as convener, then Helen Kerr introduced Bea who was to lead the meeting and give a

presentation based on her photos matched with music. She took us on a journey to the Kingdom of Northumbria where she had lived for 15 years, then to Shetland which had strong connections with her father. The personal links to family continued when we 'travelled' to Torridon by means of photos taken by her brother. The mood was reflective and peaceful. It was both interesting and a pleasure to be 'companions on the way' to these beautiful, timeless places.

Our next Guild event was the Harvest Lunch on Sunday 6 October. On this sunny autumn afternoon, members and friends, young and old, enjoyed a delicious homemade meal and happy chat. Donations from the Lunch go towards Guild Projects, and information was provided about these and about the new Gift Card scheme which allows you to choose a specific project. The one downside was the number of empty seats in the hall, so please spread the word next year! All are welcome.

The next two Guild meetings are on 15 October and 19 November starting at 2pm in the church hall and finishing with afternoon tea. Jean Hunter will give a Travelogue talk at the latter. The final meeting of this year is on Tuesday 17 December for Carols and a Christmas Tea. Not to be missed!

**Other Guild Events to which all are invited**

23 October - Autumn Rally in Kilwinning

29 October - Lamlash Guild, Malawi Fruits Project

4 December - National Convener from Shetland, in St Cuthbert's Church, Saltcoats

6 December – National Christmas big Sing, St George's Tron at 3pm 4.30p.m. or 7p.m.

11 December – Alternative Christmas in Ardeer Church Stevenston

Dorothy Alan

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Since the last magazine ACT has only had one event – the annual social evening in the form of a quiz night and supper. It was a cheerful evening with 27 enjoying the hilarity of showing our team's general knowledge or ignorance.

Twenty seven people from all the church folks their friends and visitors seems



a very small number and so ACT committee may be considering what other form the social evening should take in the future.

### **Events coming up**

St. Andrew's worship and Ceilidh 28th November in Lamlash church at 6.30 p.m. followed by finger food supper and a ceilidh in the hall.

Carols at the Co-op Saturday 14th December 11-12noon

Service for Christian Unity Sunday 19th december at 12 noon.

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### **CHANGE OR MANAGE DECLINE?**

Since 2003 the St Molios membership has lost 54 members and gained 45 a nets loss of 9. Seven of the 45 were by "Profession of Faith" the remainder by "Transfer Certificate" or by "resolution of the Kirk Session". These statistics show that the vast majority of new members are mature adults most of whom are retired or close to it.

A study of our congregation shows that of a membership of 60. Ten rarely if ever attended. Four no longer live in the community, eight have health issues which makes it impossible to attend and nine are very frail but attend when they can. In essence only 30 are available for active service in the church.

About 15 members contribute financially by direct debit and nine by freewill offering. About 15 put their offering in the plate. So regular monetary support comes from around 40 members. We do get support from visitors and events such as the annual sale and coffee morning both of which are well supported by the local community. It is imperative therefore if the church building is to be retained as the place where we gather to worship it has to be configured in a way which serves us best and with affordable running expenses. At this moment in time the hall is no longer fit for purpose and must be replaced or undergo extensive repair. we have an opportunity to make internal changes to the church which will enable us to continue worshiping there whilst, at the same time incorporating a hall space to the rear of the church with a kitchen area under the balcony. This area would be available for community functions as well as church events similar to that of the present hall but with a much



improved environment. It would also be important to provide a facility which is attractive for new uses, to encourage folks “to come to church”. Without major changes to the way we use our church building we will be managing its decline over the next 10 -15 years. Carpe Deum

Our hall has passed its “sell by date”. The floor is collapsing and there is asbestos in the roof structure. We need to replace it with a space that provides slightly more capacity. In the period 2002-2005 a decision was made to replace the hall and attach it to the church but as the appearance was required to match that of the church the cost was prohibitive and the project abandoned.

In October 2016 a proposal that the Hall be replaced was presented to the Deacons’ Court and in January 2017 it was agreed in principal to replace the hall. From previous experience, it was considered that the hall could not be attached to the church. In April 2017 full approval of the Deacons’ Court was given and an architect was engaged to prepare a feasibility report.

In July 2017 NAC Planning Services commented ..... “Regarding the church hall, provided that the proposals don’t affect the historical character of the listed building, the options here would appear to be wider given the less prominent siting behind the church itself “.

In July 2018 the feasibility study for the hall replacement was proposed but at a projected cost of £256,000

In the process of acquiring permission and informing the various bodies of our desire to replace the hall the word came from the trustees “Have you considered the use of the church?”. As we were under the impression that making changes to a listed building was a “No No” no thought had been given to this possibility. We then embarked on a new round of planning and came up with a second feasibility proposal which we thought would meet our objectives which among others included:-

- Reconfigure the church to have a sanctuary at the front and a hall to the rear
- Comfortable seating, some with armrests, to make it easier for the infirm to stand and sit.
- A warm draught free environment well lit
- A sanctuary suited to the size of the present congregation 30-40
- The ability to enlarge the seating area to accommodate weddings and funerals
- A heating system that was eco-friendly and economical
- Sound video and lighting Technology suited for the next 25 years

- A kitchen suited for producing light meals and snacks
- Toilets accessible
- Front door access for all

The plan to reconfigure the church was submitted, resulting in a visit by CARTA whose report submitted to the trustees largely negated all the features we wished to incorporate. Their opinion will be contested and may result in an acceptable compromise, but it will be the General Trustees who will make the final decision.

Meanwhile, the message from the General Assembly is that there is a need for radical change and that new ways of doing church should be considered. This was at the heart of our plan for the church to make it a place used and enjoyed by the whole community and through our interaction and participation with them to encourage their closer involvement with the church.

Helen, Alan and I attended a Workshop in Kilmaronock arranged by the general trustees of the Church of Scotland "Well equipped spaces in the right places" where we were encouraged to plan for our buildings for the next generation "future proofing" is what we were being asked to do. We are told that "Church buildings should be managed, changed and developed in such a way that they are not a distraction from the call 'Follow me'"

The Chairman of the General trustees of the Church of Scotland Mr Raymond Young said "we need to get real about our buildings. There are some really good spaces in the Church, but there are too many, and many are not fit for purpose. Nor is the Church a building preservation organisation".

Jean in a recent service was making the point that the church is the people not the building and on another occasion told us that we are fishers of men not keepers of an aquarium.

CARTA's report to the general trustees of the Church of Scotland on our proposal states "we have serious concerns about some aspects of these proposals" and continue "Our view is that it would be better to retain and refurbish the hall perhaps extending to include a small servery area". If their recommendations are adopted, (and the final proposal has not been agreed as yet), we may be forced to fall back on the original plan to renew the hall at much greater expense both in outlay and in running. We will still be burdened with a cold draughty and uncomfortable church which is more expensive than it needs to be, to maintain and with the current trend in congregation numbers and finances will we be able to afford a new hall and

at the same time upgrade the church and keep it in a condition acceptable to the trustees and CARTA and will we have the resources and skills to see it to completion?

Personally I feel that it would not be in the direction that the General Assembly are promoting and that it would be retrograde to miss this opportunity. Should there be a revival in the church which we would hope and pray for resulting in a demand for the whole of the church space a new hall could be constructed and the church restored to its 18th century layout if desired.

I am all for change but am not prepared to be the one who oversees the decline.

John Kerr, Session Clerk

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*From the editor: As we approach remembrance Sunday it is very timely to receive this article from the Harpers.*

### **A Voice from the Past**

#### **Diary of Private R G Vincent**

A few months ago a diary, written in the First World war trenches, came into the possession of the veterans group who meet from time to time on the Island. We passed it around among the group and we were all amazed by the very ordinariness of some of the entries.

The first entry, Sunday 21st January 1917.....'Left (illegible) this morning and arrived at Hesdin at 11am. We were quartered in the attic of a large chateau which is being used as a hospital. Received a parcel from Dunlop work party last night which was greatly appreciated'

and later Monday May 7th 1917.....While taking a walk tonight with a pal, we heard the cuckoo for the first time in France. It is wonderful to see the larks up near the firing line singing while the artillery are pouring their shells into Fritz's lines.

There are not entries for every day, but Peter Harper decided that it would be good to transpose it and make it easier to read. He also looked up all the French locations, showing how the group moved around. This was a really interesting exercise and he followed it up by trying to find out more about

Private Vincent. He tried to get his service record but this proved impossible, but Peter being Peter was not deterred and instead investigated some of the contact details in the diary of RGV, choosing a Charles Cathro who was with the Canadian Medical Corps. He managed to obtain his full service record which referred to regular payments to someone in Canada, so Peter decided that the next step would be to have a look at the home in Winnipeg Manitoba, sure enough Google Earth showed that the house was still there! So how to continue? Peter wrote a letter to the 'current occupier' of the house with little hope of anything coming of it.

A few days later he received an email from Jane Orion Smith (I like to be called 'Orion') saying that although she was not of the original family she was very interested in what Peter had written although it was about the war and she is a Quaker!

She posted info. around her neighbourhood and as there was more than one local address involved, ended up being interviewed by both the local newspaper and CBC TV.

She and Peter have emailed each other a number of times and Peter found it a very interesting research project.

At this time of year we tend to remember the sacrifices made by these men in very difficult circumstances.

We are happy to lend the archive material to anyone who is interested.

Jenny Harper.

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### Christmas Letter from the Moderator of Ardrossan Presbytery

Dear Friends,

A few days before being installed as Moderator I visited the readers conference and joined them for lunch. After lunch I was asked to introduce myself, this I did, and said I had only three more sleeps before my installation as Moderator, one person remarked that as Christmas approached, when he was young, he counted the sleeps before Santa arrived with presents. Children throughout the world look forward to Christmas morning when they waken early like my daughter as a child, she was always up first about 5.00am

in the morning she would waken her brothers, my wife and myself, we always went together to see if Santa had called with presents.

This I am sure is what happens in a lot of homes with the excitement of Christmas morning. We are fortunate many in this country and elsewhere are not so fortunate as we are. Some children will waken and have no presents to open and the family no food for Christmas dinner. During advent we have Christmas gift services bringing gifts for children less fortunate than ours. We have people organising collections for the food bank so that some may after all be able to sit as a family on Christmas day enjoying some food and fellowship together. Christmas is not just a day of giving and receiving presents and enjoying dinner with family and friends. We should never forget the real meaning of Christmas. We should take time to remember the real reason why we celebrate - it is the birth of Jesus born in a humble stable in Bethlehem to Mary and Joseph. As the Christmas story tells us there was no room for them at the inn so Jesus was born in a stable in Bethlehem. He was wrapped in a swaddling cloth and placed in a feeding trough. Mary and Joseph had little and after the birth a bright star appeared in the sky above the stable and guided the three wise men who brought gifts of Gold, Frankincense and Myrrh for the new Messiah. Jesus is the greatest gift given to the world some two thousand years ago and we must never forget this gift.

I never tire when we sing Hymn 306, after midnight at our Watchnight service, of the words of the last verse:

Yea Lord we greet thee,  
Born this happy morning;  
Jesus, to thee be glory given;  
Word of the father,  
Now in flesh appearing.

This is the greatest gift. May God's Blessings be with you all at this Christmas time and let us never forget as we celebrate with family and friends the real meaning of Christmas.

Allan Richardson

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## **A Personal Reflection**

When I read Brian Grindall's account of overcoming adversity by singing "All things bright & beautiful" while cycling in the Pyrenees (August Church magazine), I was reminded of the importance that "Will your anchor hold in the storms of life" has for me. I have always found the words and music uplifting but it came to have even stronger significance for me.

A few years ago, when a combination of poor health and difficult circumstances were wearing me down, I took to singing this hymn as I walked along the road or when I couldn't sleep at night. In fact, I even kept a printed copy of the words in my bag! In July 2016, I spent a few days on Islay, staying at Bowmore. I found a warm welcome in the Round Church and great solace in the view it commanded from the top of the hill across island and sea. As I walked down the hill and onto the harbour wall, I was singing very quietly to myself, but was overhead by a couple already there who spoke to me about the hymn. They had a big involvement in their church in Northern Island and the husband took a special interest in the Boys' Brigade. While we talked, I shared my hope of moving from Glasgow to a new home where I would feel safe and regain my health, and of how strongly I felt that Blackwaterfoot was 'home' for me after just two short visits. The wife asked if I would like her husband to say a blessing for me and I accepted gratefully. There at Bowmore harbour, in beautiful sunshine, with a glorious view of Jura, the presence of God was immensely powerful.

Next day the weather changed and I sheltered from the heavy rain in a gift shop with upstairs tea room. While waiting for a free table, I had a look at a single rail of clothes along one wall. I don't like clothes shopping so, if I can find something by chance, I'm happy. Not only did I find a waterproof, windproof, breathable summer coat in a lovely fabric, but also the metal press-studs were imprinted with little anchors. I no longer mind if it rains in the summer because I can wear my protective coat which reminds me of the blessing at the harbour.

It took a bit more time, more visits to the Kinloch, support and encouragement from new friends in the locality, and many prayers, until in September the following year, I had my new home beside the sea in Blackwaterfoot, for which I thank God every day.

With thanks to Dorothy Alan

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## **Eco Savvy Foodshare at Shiskine Hall : Sundays 9pm.**

Shiskine Hall has been hosting an Eco Savvy Foodshare since September. The Foodshare is an initiative with the Co-op where short life food that would be going in the bin is given to Arran Eco savvy volunteers to redistribute free of charge. The Foodshare is about reducing food waste and open to everyone. So far we have had a great response in Shiskine and already saved over £1000 worth of food going to waste. In total the Foodshares across the island have saved over 4 tonnes of food going to landfill. It has become quite a social event and we are happy to consider including a cup of tea if there is sufficient interest! Those attending are often picking up items for those unable to manage along, to try and reach as many as possible. We have volunteers who drive over each Sunday to collect the food at 8pm so if anyone is interested in volunteering please contact Diana (860 427), Ellen (860 423) or Jess at the Eco Savvy team at Home Farm (303026).

from Diana Turbett

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## **Funerals**

*Jesus said 'I am the Resurrection'*

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|-----------|---|
| 19 July   | Janet Gilmour of Lochranza and Blackwaterfoot,<br>held in Lochranza |
| 26 July   | John Anderson of Machrie, held at home                              |
| 28 August | Martha G. Currie of Balmichael in St Molios                         |

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**Help needed...can you put a smile**

**on Mariam's face?**

Can you offer an international student some Festive hospitality?

Hosting an international student will bring a whole new dimension to your Christmas, with a chance to learn about another country's traditions and enjoy the connection and friendship that such sharing brings.



HOST UK arranges for international students to enjoy brief visits-one day, a weekend or, over the festive period, a three-day visit, with UK hosts.

We warmly welcome new volunteer hosts to join us.

To learn more, go to our website [www.hostuk.org](http://www.hostuk.org) or leave us a message on <http://visits.hostuk.org/Public/ApplyToBecomeAHost>

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World Mission from Very. Rev. Dr Susan Brown, World Mission Convener shares her thoughts on having faith like a mustard seed and finding encouragement on our Christian journey.

With nothing more than a little water added, a tree has sprouted! I used an avocado as an illustration at a recent baptism. Jesus had a much better illustration. He talked of faith even as tiny as a mustard seed being able to produce a bush big enough and robust enough for birds to be able to perch in it.



The emphasis is on the humblest of beginnings enabling something so much greater to come to fruition – and that growth happening almost against the odds; quietly, perhaps even unseen, producing in the end, an impact that can't be missed.

For us in our congregations, there are many ways in which our faith as individuals and as Christian communities, can be encouraged to grow and the Church's World Mission Council would humbly suggest that one such way is to involve ourselves in partnerships and relationships with the wider Christian body throughout the world. It offers opportunities for people of all ages to make connections, and through those connections to find inspiration and encouragement in our Christian journey and it offers us the opportunity to help others to do the same.

PRAYER FOCUS:

*Mustard seed faith, Lord Jesus  
is faith your quiet presence  
and unseen Spirit can grow  
until it is big enough for all to see  
and strong enough to move mountains.*

*Give us the courage we pray,  
to let the faith we have increase  
in us. Let its roots deepen as we find  
the goodness we need for growth in  
our relationship with you, Lord:  
with your word and through You,  
with your people – wherever they may be.*

*Water us well through our  
Involvement with our sisters  
and brothers so that we and they,  
may bear fruit for all to see  
that points to Your love and goodness.  
In Jesus' name we pray.*

*Amen.*

## Seenagers You have to smile!

I have **JUST** discovered my age group! I am a **SEENAGER** (senior teenager).

I have everything I wanted as a teenager, only 55-60 years later. I don't have to go to school. I get an allowance every month. I have my own pad. I don't have a curfew. I have a driving licence and my own car.

I have an ID and can enter bars and the wine store. The people I hang around with are not scared of getting pregnant, they aren't scared of anything! They have been blessed with living this long, why be scared? And I don't have acne. Life is good!

Also, you will feel much more intelligent after reading this, if you are a Seenager. Brains of older people are slow because they know so much. People do not decline mentally with age, it just takes them longer to recall the facts because they have more information in their brains. Scientists believe this also makes you hard of hearing as it puts pressure on your inner ear.

Also, older people often go to another room to get something and when they get there, they stand there wondering what they came for. It is **NOT** a problem, it is nature's way of making older people do more exercise.

**SO THERE!**

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On Sunday morning 27 October the clocks go back one hour!

Please Note On 3 November the parish Joint Holy Communion will be in Brodick Church at **11a.m**

### ***Dates for the Diary***

- Sun. 3<sup>rd</sup> Nov. Joint service of Holy Communion in Brodick Church at 11a.m.
- Sun. 10<sup>th</sup> Nov. Remembrance Sunday at the war memorial 12 noon followed by worship at 12:15
- Thurs. 24<sup>th</sup> Dec Watchnight Service in St Molios. 11:30p.m.
- Wed. 25<sup>th</sup> Dec Christmas morning worship in Lochranza at 11a.m.
- Tues. 19<sup>th</sup> Nov **The Guild**
- 17 Dec. & 21 Jan. Meetings 3<sup>rd</sup> Tues each month at 2p.m. in the church hall.
- Twice monthly **Linkage Study Group** share, enquire, discuss, learn together. Starts again in October. Ask John Kerr 860498 re dates and venue.
- Wednesday **Prayers for Health and Healing** 27<sup>th</sup> Nov. and 29<sup>th</sup> Jan. at 12noon in Brodick Church. Coffee/Tea in the hall from 10.30.
- Thurs 28<sup>th</sup> Nov. **Arran Churches Together**
- St Andrew's family service & ceilidh in Lamlash Church 6.30p
- Carols at the Co-op 11-12noon Sat. 14 December
- Christian Unity Service 12 noon Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> Jan in St Molios.
- 1<sup>st</sup> Thur. Nov and Feb. **Taize worship** at 5.30 p.m. in Holy Cross Church

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### **Flower Fellowship**



*November Pat Adamson*

*December Church flower Team*

*January Gerry Arthur*

***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>     |                        |               |
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Articles for the next magazine should be handed to Helen Kerr or sent to Helen Kerr [kerrih@btinternet.com](mailto:kerrih@btinternet.com) by Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> January 2020..