

# Schaw Kirk

DRONGAN & RANKINSTON



JUNE 2012



*Queen Elizabeth's  
Diamond Jubilee  
1952-2012*



A few years ago I was visiting an Elder who was in Ayr Hospice, When I arrived he asked me how I was feeling and wanted to know how I was coping with

the pressures of Ministry. I was quite taken aback by his questions since I was clearly there to minister to him not the other way around.

He then said something to me that I have never forgotten. He said;

"Just remember, life is like a rich tapestry, most of the threads of life are fairly mundane and dull, but now and again you will find a golden thread. Look out for them, he said, and rejoice when you find them, these are the things which make life worth living."

So what are the Golden threads in your life?

Family and friends provide me with many of my Golden threads. As does my faith and work, but occasionally the golden thread comes from the most unexpected places.

For instance, there was the lady who was recently bereaved who was very concerned about her neighbour who was unable to get to the shops. Or the lady who had just had a leg amputated who said, "there are people far worse off than me."

There is the nurse who finishes her shift and goes back to the ward to sit with a man, he's dying and he has no family,

Or the home care worker who goes back after her shift has finished to see to an old lady who is not coping,

There is the army of next door neighbours, who are

helping, nursing, running about, shopping and caring for those in need.

These are the true golden threads of life which take your breath away.

So what are the Golden threads in your life? or perhaps a better question might be, are you a Golden thread to someone ?

In the Rich tapestry of life, look out for the golden threads and rejoice when you find them.

Have a lovely Summer

*Rer Dave Whiteman*

## Coffee Morning



Although the recent Christian Aid Coffee Morning wasn't as busy as we would have hoped, those who attended enjoyed choosing from the lovely selection of home baking. Thanks go to all those who helped organise the coffee Morning and to those who took the time to attend.

*Margaret Clarke*

## Super Sunday



The Summer Outing has been arranged to visit the Heads of Ayr Farm Park on Saturday 16th June, then the children will start their summer break from Super Sunday the following day, 17th June, after the Prize-giving service.



# Friendship

The well-loved writer of children's stories, Charles Kingsley, was getting on in years when a Mrs Browning asked him. "What is the secret of your life? Tell me that I may have mine beautiful too."

Mr Kingsley replied, "I had a friend"

A 'secret' that would make any life beautiful!

*from the Friendship Book*



## Musical Evening

The recent Musical Evening when we were entertained by CAMPS group from Cumnock was a huge success and was well supported. The programme was varied with an emphasis on songs from the Musicals. The ladies of the Guild provided a delicious tea at the end of the performance.

*Margaret Clarke*



**COMBAT  
STRESS**

## Hollybush House

Members of the congregation donated underwear and socks to go to the residents of Hollybush House.

Mr Clive Fairweather came to the church to speak to the Congregation about Combat Stress and the work of Hollybush House. Mary from Hollybush House sent a lovely thank you card saying that the donations were greatly appreciated and had already been put to good use..

*Margaret Clarke*



## C6 Walk Knockroon to Dumfries House

19 people from different churches took part in the walk. All enjoyed a picnic or lunch in the Coach House Cafe and a visit to the refurbished sawmill, now a traditional skills centre. A plan showing all the other ongoing projects on the estate and further walks, was given to all walkers, so they could visit again at their leisure. The weather was dry and bright, although cold on occasion.

About 24 were there for the presentation by myself and all enjoyed tea and strawberry tarts as well as a visit to 5 unfurnished and 3 furnished homes. *Anne Hope*



### **If you were to pray for something today, what would it be?**

A recent survey found that 85% of us have things we would indeed pray for. The survey discovered that the most popular responses involved praying for other people: 26% said they would pray for 'a family member', 25% said 'peace in the world', and 20% said 'healing for another'.

The other as yet 'unprayed prayers' were: 'less stress in my life' (17%), 'an end to world poverty' (16%), 'guidance' (15%), 'thankfulness' (15%), 'my partner' (14%), 'prosperity' (14%), 'a friend' (13%), 'healing for myself' (12%), 'marriage or relationship' (11%), 'forgiveness' (10%), 'work' (8%), 'my spiritual life' (7%), 'my studies' (4%), 'my church' (4%), 'something else' (6%), 'don't know' (7%). Only 15% said 'I would never pray for anything'.



I have been heading this group for a few years as the Schaw Kirk Prayer Secretary. This title has now been changed to Prayer Promoter which seems to give it a different emphasis.

I am, apparently, supposed to try to “promote” within the congregation. This is not to say we think no-one else prays - but rather to find ways of including the congregation as we pray for those in any kind of need. We would welcome ideas!!

The Prayer Circle functions, as most will know, by the passing of names around the circle - usually by telephone - of those who are sick, anxious or bereaved, etc. While we know we are not the only ones praying, it can help those who are anxious, to know that another group are praying specifically about their particular problem. The Circle shouldn't be seen as some thing separate from the congregation, but very much a part of it.

You are urged, therefore, to make use of the prayer cards and box provided in the vestibule of the Church, to bring forward the names of those you wish prayers for.

As a point of interest, there is a Healing Service held in Kingcase Church, Prestwick, on the 3rd Sunday of every month at 7.00pm. This is conducted by the Rev Michael Dickie - a long standing friend of our congregation.

If anyone is interested in attending this service, please speak to a member of the Prayer Circle.

*Anne Robertson*

# DRONGAN MAKERS

## Session 2011/2012

A new banner and a picture were created by our group and now grace the building.

We now have banners under all wall lights, each with a musical theme. The last of which was made with help from the children of the Super Sunday

The fiftieth anniversary of the Girls' Brigade in Schaw Kirk was something which had to be commemorated.

Time was running out.

**BUT THE JOB JUST HAD TO BE DONE.**

We decided on a picture showing The Girls' Brigade Badge. Work started and was completed by the end of the session.

We enjoy what we do, that is being creative and we hope that in doing so we provide pleasure for others.

We will be back in the autumn with our batteries recharged and raring to go for another session.

Who knows what we will come up with?

Watch this space.....

*Jean Burns*



*Sorry we missed the fireworks display you organised for the church's Diamond Jubilee,*

*Dave.*

*How did it go?*



# The Girls Brigade

The Brigade is now finished until the end of summer holidays. We've had another good year in which the girls did a variety of subjects for their badges.

There was a very pleasing turn out of family and friends of the girls in attendance for the Annual Display in March

More recently, on 6th May we held our 50th Anniversary with a lovely, happy service in which the girls showed off examples of past and present uniforms.

Past and present officers and helpers were invited to our service and we were pleased to see that a past Chaplain of the company, Rev Jim Smith, was able to come down from Glasgow to be with us on our special day.

Mrs Jean Burns and Mrs Margaret Clarke had created/crafted a beautiful Banner to commemorate our 50th and it was duly dedicated during the service.

Our thanks go to everyone who helped make our day such a success.

A few photos from the service can be viewed from the Gallery page of the church's web-site - i.e.

[www.dronganschawkirk.co.uk](http://www.dronganschawkirk.co.uk)

On a more serious note however, we are desperately needing helpers to assist in our Brigade nights. This work can be so rewarding and we earnestly ask anyone interested to please let us know.

*Rena Robertson*



## THE SAINT & THE MONSTER

St Columba, whose feast day is 9th June, was born in Ireland and came to Scotland to be a 'pilgrim for Christ'. He founded a monastery on the island of Iona in 563. The monastery at Iona became a centre of learning and many missionaries were trained there. Columba carried the message of God's love throughout Scotland and monks from his monastery carried the message into England.

St Columba wrote a number of hymns and is said to have transcribed, or written out by hand, some 300 books in his lifetime.

And what has he got to do with a monster? Well, it wasn't the Loch Ness monster but a monster that was living in the River Ness. St Columba is said to have driven away this monster who was attacking a swimmer, with the sign of the cross and the words "Thou shalt go no further, nor touch the man; go back with all speed."

## MONSTER MUNCHIES

75 g (3 oz) margarine  
3 normal size Mars Bars  
(thinly sliced)  
3 large tea cups Rice Crispies  
100 g (4 oz) chocolate cake  
covering (melted)  
Grease and line a swiss roll tin.



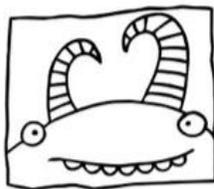
In a heavy based saucepan, gently melt the margarine. Add the Mars Bar pieces and stir until no lumps are left.

Take the pan off the heat and stir in the Rice Crispies – adding more if the mixture will take it. Spread the mixture in the tin and press it down evenly with the back of a spoon.

Cover with the melted chocolate and leave to set. Cut into 24 bars when cold – or cut into less bars if you are feeding a very greedy monster!



How does a  
monster count  
to 17?



On it's fingers.

As the nation celebrates the Queen's Diamond Jubilee, the Rev Dr Ian Bradley reflects on the spiritual influence of the Church of Scotland on the monarchy.

**A Decade of Change**

Ten years on from the publication of *Outside Verdict*, his controversial critique of the Church of Scotland, Harry Reid reflects on the church today and looks to the future.

**Twenty Years of the Glasgow Gospel**

It is 30 years since Jamie Stuart first conceived the Scots Gospel and 20 years since his Glaswegian version made him famous. Jamie and his friend Dr Donald Smith tell Thomas Baldwin how it all started.

**A Time of Crisis and Opportunity**

Michael Gunn reports on an uncertain future for Christians in Egypt.

**Changing Church**

A project in Dundee which is seeking to improve the lives of young parents and their children.

**A Majestic Structure**

John R Hume commends the 'soaring lightness' in the design of an Ayr church.

**View from the Pew**

Dr Anastasia Somerville-Wong highlights the importance of lifelong learning for congregations.

**Biblical Botanicals**

Muriel Armstrong describes the biblical connections of the humble cucumber.

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## **Worship for a New Age?**

The Rev Bryan Kerr considers the role of interaction in worship.

*Plus all the regular columnists, letters, reviews and crosswords – all for just £1.80*

## **Life and Work needs you**

Please send submissions for parish news, View from the Pew and The Big Picture to Life and Work, 121 George Street, Edinburgh EH2 4YN or [magazine@lifeandwork.org](mailto:magazine@lifeandwork.org) <<mailto:magazine@lifeandwork.org>>



## **Session Clerks Meeting**

Session clerks of all C6 churches met in the Kylestrome on Thursday 26th April for an evening of fellowship. They shared experiences and ideas and talked about the good things that were happening in their own churches. A most enjoyable evening was had by everyone.

The new minister, Rev Fiona Wilson, from Dalmellington and Patna Waterside Churches, also attended. This gave those who had not already done so the opportunity to meet her.

*Anne Hope*

## **Chicken run**

Idealistic politician: *"I dream of a better tomorrow when chickens can cross the road and not have their motives questioned."*

# Christ With Us

My dearest Lord,  
Be Thou a bright flame before me,  
Be Thou a guiding star above me,  
Be Thou a smooth path beneath me,  
Be Thou a kindly shepherd behind me,  
Today and evermore



Here's a future event to note in your diary.  
*Friday 30th November*  
On that date we will

be treated to an evening of Scottish music and song with the popular concert party of Jim Colvin & Friends.

This will be the first time Jim's party perform in the Schaw Kirk, although they are immensely popular throughout this part of the county.

Jim, himself, will be on keyboard while the rest of the company will contain an assortment of singers, musicians, and possibly dancers, will also appear. The usual Schaw Kirk fare of tea/coffee & cakes will undoubtedly also be on the menu.

We're sure it will be a happy, foot tapping occasion and urge you not to miss it.

## **NO MATTER HOW MUCH MATERIAL WE HAVE**

We are always wanting more and would be glad to include YOUR article.



*Charity No: SC 030714 (Church of Scotland)*  
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