

**Minister** - Rev. Angus Adamson B.D. Tel: 01770 302334  
**Parish Assistant** - Mrs Jean Hunter B.D. Tel: 01770 860380

**Session Clerk** – Bill Scott Tel: 830304  
**Church Treasurer** - Fiona Henderson Tel: 830270

**Lochranza & Pirnmill Church Elders**

Sinclair MacLeod Tel: 830319  
Wren Gentleman Tel: 830313, Kitty Milne Tel: 830352,  
Chris Knox Tel: 830618 Bill Scott Tel: 830304, Anne Coulter Tel: 830219  
Peter Emsley Tel: 850232, Neil Robertson Tel: 850224,  
Wilma Morton Tel: 850272, Elspeth MacDonald Tel: 850284,  
Christine Black Tel: 850263, John Adam Tel 850230, Louise Minter Tel: 850263

**Church Organists**

Lorna Hallyburton Tel: 830311, Lorna Buchanan Tel: 860262

**Congregational Board Members**

Rev. Angus Adamson, Christine Black (Clerk), Richard Wright,  
Fiona Henderson, Lizzie Adam, Archie Cumming

**Pastoral Care Group**

**Group Leader** - Anne Coulter Tel: 830219,  
Aileen Wright Tel: 830353, Elisabeth Mobbs Tel: 830370, Lizzie Adam Tel: 850230,  
Christine Black Tel: 850263, Robert Cumming Tel: 830302, Pam Wood Tel: 830301

**F.O.L.K.**

*(Friends Of Lochranza Kirk)*

**Chair** – Shared by the Elders – **Treasurer** – Elisabeth Mobbs

**PIRNMILL GUILD**

**Convener** - Christine Black, **Secretary** - Wilma Morton,  
**Treasurer** - Louise Minter

**Sunday Services**

**Lochranza & Pirnmill Church 10.15am**  
(alternate Sundays – see church notice board)  
Tea & coffee served after the services

**All are welcome**

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# Lochranza & Pirnmill

Scottish Charity Registration No . SC009377



## Church & Community Newsletter Feb 2017



One of the most humorous stories I heard since moving to Brodick was when in company of a good friend who was born into an old established Brodick family. On this occasion, asked by a visitor if we were locals, and born on the island at the AWMH, my companion looked at the poor lady questioner as if she had suddenly grown horns and replied: "Don't be ridiculous, my mother had the perfectly good common sense to go away to Glasgow. I was born in the Queen Mother's Maternity Hospital, to save me the stigma for the rest of my life of having been born in Lamlash". Such is the local 'rivalry' between our island's two largest villages!

I wonder what would be the reaction of my friend if it were mooted that very soon, the last mortal remains of Brodick folk will have to be laid to rest for all eternity in 'the other place' over the hill. That will be the case in as little as 6 years time if the situation of our rapidly filling up island graveyards is not resolved. Whilst at Kilbride (Lamlash) Cemetery, there are ongoing negotiations with the Church of Scotland to facilitate a grave yard extension, albeit at huge cost, at the Clachan (Shiskine, New Cemetery) and at Sannox it doesn't look as if there is much possibility of new land being purchased. NAC say that this is either because of drainage problems, or lack of available ground. But in reality, it is probably more to do with finances, or more to the point, severe lack of them. All councils are currently facing huge cut backs and savings have to be made somewhere.

Of course cremation is another option, although again, despite mutterings in the Banner, there is in reality no chance of a crematorium ever being built on the island. Realistically there simply isn't likely ever to be enough demand to make that a viable proposition.

## CHURCH DUTIES

	DOOR	READERS	COFFEE	DUTY ELDER	FLOWERS
29-Jan	Gail Scott	Douglas Coulter	Gail Scott	Bill Scott	
05-Feb	P/mill Communion				
12-Feb	Isobel Kerr	Robert Cumming	Hellen Thorburn	Chris Knox	
19-Feb	P/Mill				
26-Feb	Elisabeth Mobbs	Fiona Henderson	Fiona Henderson	Anne Coulter	
05-Mar	P/mill				
12-Mar	Richard Wright	Janette MacLeod	Aileen Wright	Sinclair MacLeod	
19-Mar	P/mill				
26-Mar	Marion Gentleman	Marion Gentleman	Marion Gentleman	Wren Gentleman	Marion Gentleman
02-Apr	Chris Siddle	Pip Siddle	Anita Ford	Chris Knox	Chris Siddle
09-Apr	Maureen Cumming	Archie Cumming	Maureen Cumming	Bill Scott	Maureen Cumming
16-Apr	Aileen Wright	Richard Wright	Gail Scott	Anne Coulter	Aileen Wright
23-Apr	Hazel Gardiner	Hazel Gardiner	Hazel Gardiner	Sinclair MacLeod	Hazel Gardiner
07-May	Communion Gail Scott	Bill Scott	Hellen Thorburn	Wren Gentleman	Gail Scott

## READERS

.....**please note if you change dates**, as well as altering the list in the church will you please inform me. Many thanks. Bill

## MAY NEWSLETTER

Please could I have all articles and reports by

22<sup>ND</sup> APRIL

[bg.ornsay@btinternet.com](mailto:bg.ornsay@btinternet.com)

## F.O.L.K. {Friends Of Lochranza Kirk}

The first FOLK meeting of the year took place on a very stormy 11<sup>th</sup> January afternoon. Consequently the attendance was poor which was a shame as the Rev Lily McKinnon gave a very interesting insight into her childhood leading up to her university days and work in the Ministry.

The next meeting will be on **15<sup>th</sup> February** at 2pm in the church when **Ken Pritchard** will give a talk on "**Careering along in law**"

Everyone is most welcome to come along.

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## PIRMILL GUILD

**Soup and Sandwich Lunches** in Pirmill Hall from **12.30 – 1.30**

**13<sup>th</sup> February, 13<sup>th</sup> March.** All proceeds to Guild Projects.

Guild Meetings take place on the same dates, in the Hall from 2.00 – 4.00

February brings the **Rev Lily McKinnon** as our speaker, and in March we have **Mrs Alison Page**.

Please join us for all or any of these meetings.

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## DATES FOR YOUR DIARY.....

5 <sup>th</sup> March	Stated Annual Meeting Pirmill 1015am
13 <sup>th</sup> April	Maundy Thursday Service Brodick 7pm
14 <sup>th</sup> April	Walk of Witness from Holy Cross Church 2pm
16 <sup>th</sup> April	Easter Sunday Family Service Lochranza 1015am (ARCO playing)
27 <sup>th</sup> April	Board & Session Meeting Lochranza 2pm
7 <sup>th</sup> May	Communion Service Lochranza 1015am

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FEB 7,21  
MAR 7,21  
APR 4,18,  
MAY 2



FEB 14,28  
MAR 14,28  
APR 11,25



### TAKE NOTE OF DEFIBRILLATOR LOCATIONS

**Distillery** - on front wall of the visitor centre  
**Cal Mac building** - on the outside wall  
**Catacol Bay Hotel** - on front wall below the kitchen window

**Pirmill Shop** - in red telephone box

All cabinets are unlocked and open to anyone who requires to take the defib. No prior experience of using one is required make sure you've called 999 to get an Ambulance & the **First Responders** on the way



Why? Well for the simple reason that most native islanders and locals much prefer to be buried - and not just anywhere, but desperately want to be laid to rest beside previous generations of loved ones and there, at peace sleep the long sleep of death, be that at Kilmory, Shiskine, Lochranza, Sannox, Brodick or Lamblash.

Many, even devout Christians, will argue that this is daft. Surely the soul of the righteous only, remains after death and will be instantaneously transported to God's nearer presence in heaven? That may be so, but it depends on where you think heaven is. For me it is very near. Doesn't the Psalmist remind us that 'there is nowhere we can flee from God's presence in the heights or depths, even were we to take the wings of the morning or dwell in the uttermost parts of the sea, there his hand shall lead us ... and holds us fast.'

God's love surrounds us at all times and in all places. It stands to reason therefore, so too must our loved ones who have gone before us into God's nearer presence also be surrounding us at all times, wherever we go. Heaven is merely somewhere close by, wherever we are. We are bound to our loved ones and they to us by the bonds of love. Love, the only thing that death cannot wither or perish or destroy. I feel that most of all here in Arran, my native island home, my family home for generations. And for me as I have oft repeated, Arran is a 'thin place' where heaven and earth do touch.

Many feel the deepest comfort in grief is found in visiting family graves. There, through that unbreakable bond of love, they feel closest to their loved ones departed, who's mortal remains lie beneath their feet - their gravestones almost literally 'touching places' between mortality and immortality. For such people there can only be one place to be laid to rest themselves, and that must be beside those dear family members who have gone before.

*Continued.....*

To that end in the past many people purchased family lairs to ensure there was no problem in being able to facilitate such a wish. However, once again financial constraints have put paid the possibility of this. It stands to reason a plot bought 30 years ago for as little as £100 isn't going to be as lucrative as one bought today at £1800. The ongoing ever increasing cost of up-keeping the graveyards rightly demands expediency.

Thus to have such a thing as a choice of being buried beside loved ones denied by the current NAC proposals, would be for many folks, myself included, a truly terrible blow. It isn't a matter of life and death, it is in many ways much more important. It is a matter of life after death.

So when the time comes for the consultation on our graveyards promised by NAC to begin, please go and have your say. No one really wants to think of their death, or the death of a loved one. Yet it is the one thing that is utterly inevitable. Please don't wait until then to face the disappointment and pain of not being able to lie where you know instinctively you want to be, or your loved one to be, as has happened all too often in the past. Do something now to prevent what will be an irreversible decision being made, not just for us, but for future generations of Arran folk to come.

*Angus*

#### **P.S. FOOD BANK NEWS.....**

Grateful thanks to all who contributed food and donations to the ACTS Foodbank. 25 families received Christmas food parcels and 28 families received extra fuel of coal, logs or electricity to help over the festive period. The demand is still great and with the worst of the winter now upon us any future donations of either food or money would be more than welcome. Currently we have a surplus of pasta, but there is always a shortage of meat products.

## **Reflections of a Reader in Training!**

As I reflect on my time spent with Angus in the north linkage churches as a Reader in Training, I would firstly like to thank everyone for their support, encouragement and love shown right from the beginning of my placement. I felt truly welcomed in each of the parishes.

It has been a time where I have been challenged and stretched, both in my faith and in my abilities, but one where I feel I have grown in both. I've enjoyed all aspects of the training, in particular, the opportunities to get to know the congregations and my involvement with the children in church and school assemblies. Of course the many social events I've attended was an added bonus.

My thanks also go to Angus for his continued support, encouragement and patience with me as an often, 'slow learner.' And finally, I give thanks to God for His calling to the Readership as without that, I wouldn't have started.

I can now look forward to a second six-month placement in Lamlash and Kilmory and no doubt to even more challenging experiences!

**Aileen Brookens**

Dear Ed,

May I through the medium of the magazine, thank, most sincerely all my friends in the villages who sent kind words of sympathy after my mother Louisa passed away recently. The messages of support and the attendance at the funeral meant a great deal to Richard and me. Thank you all.

Yours

Aileen Wright, Lochranza



## NORTH END CALENDAR 2018! GET SNAPPING!



It's that time again, so we hope you have been out taking lots of pictures since the last calendar in 2016. Remember, any pictures that are picked for the calendar will be increased in size so they need to be really sharp. You can check this on your camera after you have taken the picture by increasing the size. Smart phones, unless they are iPhone 6 or better or equivalent other makes, do not generally take sharp enough pictures. **Please do not use** any photo enhancing software such as **Photoshop** as this prevents the printer producing the calendar from sharpening up images. It also affects colour reproduction.

Try and take photographs that other people will enjoy looking at and are representative of North Arran. We would like to have photos from all the seasons obviously. So photos from past years are acceptable.

The calendar will be sold (from July) in aid of **much needed** church funds. The calendar from 2016 sold really well locally and we hope to generate the same interest for the next one!

**DEADLINE 1<sup>ST</sup> JUNE**

Please forward them to  
[bg.ornsay@btinternet.com](mailto:bg.ornsay@btinternet.com)

## THE PUPILS OF PIRNMILL PRIMARY SCHOOL SENT THE FOLLOWING:

Here are some important dates for  
Pirnmill Primary this term:

### January

Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> – P7 Sponsored Silence

### February

Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> Stay & Play (11.30-12.30)

Monday the 13<sup>th</sup> Holiday

Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> In Service Day

### March

Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> Parents Night

Monday 13<sup>th</sup> Parent Council Meeting-6pm

Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> Music Festival

Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup> Music Festival

Friday 24<sup>th</sup> Music Festival

Wednesday 29<sup>th</sup> Burns Competition

Friday 31<sup>st</sup> School closes for Easter Holidays

### April

Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup> School re-opens

## By Michael

In December we did a Christmas show called "The Very Hopeless Camel" which was a success. We would like to thank the staff and the people who came to the Christmas Show and people who bought the raffle tickets. It went **BRILLANTLY!!!**

By Daisy

Thank you to George Leslie for donating the tremendous Christmas hamper to Pirnmill Primary School. Also thank you to everybody who donated to our show raffle. The amount of money we raised from both raffles and show ticket sales was £412.01 which was **amazing!**

By Rhianon

I'm going to do a sponsored silence on Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> January 2017. I'm doing this because I need to raise money so I can go to Hexham in Kingswood. Hexham is team building. The sponsor sheets are in Catacol Bay Hotel and Pirnmill Shop. I will be very grateful if you sponsored me.

From Gordon Bloy

This was used by me in Church on New Year's Day:

### TEN COMMANDMENTS FOR 2017

1. **Speak to people** – there is nothing as nice as a cheerful word of greeting.
2. **Smile at people** – it takes 72 muscles to frown and only 14 to smile.
3. **Call people by name** – the sweetest music to anyone's ear is the sound of their name – it means it is known by you and important to you.
4. **Be friendly and helpful** – if you want to have friends, be friendly.
5. **Be cordial** – speak and act as if everything you do is a genuine pleasure.
6. **Be genuinely interested in people** – you can love everyone if you really try.
7. **Be generous** - with praise and cautious with criticism.
8. **Be considerate** of the feelings of others – it will be appreciated.
9. **Be thoughtful** of the opinions of others – there are three sides to every controversy; yours, the other person's and the right one.
10. **Be alert to give service** – what counts most in the life is what we do for others.

*Jesus said 'Love the Lord your God' (and) 'love your neighbour as yourself'.*  
(words from Mark 12: 30-31)

**Blessings to you all in 2017**

**Jean Hunter**

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### Patient Participation Group (PPG)

### INVITE to the Lochranza Meeting 27/03/17 @ 7pm

Those of you on Jean Wilkinson's email list receive regular Arran Medical Group (AMG) updates including minutes of meetings, surgery times and newsletters.

For those, not on the email list, we can provide paper version on request to Julie or Fred, contact details below.

Please be advised there is a PPG meeting at Lochranza Surgery on Monday 27th March 2017 @ 7pm, to which you are most welcome to attend. We would like as many residents from Lochranza, Catacol and Pirnmill to attend to support us and hear first hand what the attending GP and AMG Practice Manager have to say about any concerns you may have. Last year, despite advertising well, only two Lochranza residents attended!

As highlighted at our recent community meeting it is very important that you raise any concerns that you may have for this meeting with us as soon as possible so we can table them for the Lochranza meeting.

Please support, we are working on your behalf and need your input.

**Julia Graham** Tel 01770 830 247 email [julia74@btinternet.com](mailto:julia74@btinternet.com)

**Fred Shortland** Tel 01770 830 610 email [fshortland@hotmail.com](mailto:fshortland@hotmail.com)

### **Pirnmill residents please note.....**

AMG are hoping that there will be a volunteer from Pirnmill to join the PPG. If anyone is interested we can forward your name to Ruth Betley

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### **Lochranza and Catacol Sea Society cic (LCSS)**

The Sea Society pump for use by residents and boat owners is still stored in the Lochranza Church Shed. It was recently used and the petrol had deteriorated due to the pump not being used that much in 2016.

The pump now has Aspen 4 petrol in it, which has a shelf life of five years. If used please replace with Aspen 4 that is in the shed with the pump. It should not be mixed with ordinary petrol. Thank you

**Julie Graham Secretary**

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## Church Treasurer's Report.

For various reasons, **2016** Church income was **down by £5,000** as compared to **2015**. As part of the wider Church, our parish and congregation are happy and committed to contribute to the ongoing cost of mission, charity and support work undertaken by the Church of Scotland throughout the Christian community. The level of support is mandated by the Church of Scotland and is based on historical revenues, which, because these have been in the past years quite healthy for us, have now resulted in an **8% increase** in our Church of Scotland **ministry and mission allocation**. Together with the downturn in our income, this gives us a problem going forward. Our Church is a working Church and as such, will always do its utmost to meet needs. This means we use our money rather than hoard it, and as a consequence, revenue reserves have always been kept to the minimum to meet necessary ongoing expenses.

We now face the challenge that future income as forecast based on last year is **not going to meet the level of expenditure required**, and revenue reserves are not sufficient to fund the expected deficit beyond the next two or three years. The Church of Scotland has its own financial challenges, and has **a policy of closing or amalgamating Churches which cannot pay their way** and so have need of its financial support. You have seen this happen elsewhere.

Our Church therefore, to cover normal inflation plus the above inflation 8% rise in ministry and mission allocation **needs urgently** to raise its income. Various fund raising ventures are being considered, and any ideas for this are welcome. However I would make this most earnest plea, that everyone making an offering to the Church, whether by cash, envelope or bank order, gives consideration as to whether their giving can be increased in any way whatsoever, so that this Church and its mission can continue to serve this community and can continue with its outreach work as it does at present and has done for 300 plus years.

**Fiona Henderson  
Archie Cumming**

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*“By giving a little you will help out a lot”*

*Anon*

## Lochranza and Catacol Village Hall

As we move forward into 2017, we started our year with a pantomime, **Aladdin**. The support and participation of the audience made up of people from all over Arran was wonderful and so appreciated and required by our incredible little cast all of whom were under 16years old. The whole performance would have not been possible without the help of so many people who gave so much of their skills and support to make the show possible. The lady who gave the most incredible effort was of course producer, **Heather Gough**, and of course her assistant and prompts our very own **Fiona Henderson** deserve the biggest thank you of all..

This performance was a great start to what we hope to be yet another exciting and successful year at the hall. Lots of plans are being discussed to have lots of new ideas and happy events throughout the year and perhaps even the revival of the **Lochranza Sea Queen**.

I am sure you must have noticed passing the hall how much work has been done recently with all the clearing of whins and rhododendrons and the repairing and painting of the garden fence. **Thanks to everyone** who helped to start this great improvement.

We are hoping now to also **appeal** for help and support with our **Hall Community Garden** as the spring approaches, we always need **volunteers** and advice in the garden so we have a lovely community area that can be used and enjoyed by everyone. There is work needing done and we are appealing for garden equipment as our existing garden tools are in a pretty poor state now. **Meilan and Richard Henderson** very kindly have donated a new **wheelbarrow** to the hall which we are so grateful for and wonder if perhaps there may be others who feel they are not able to physically volunteer but may consider helping us with being able to help supply one of the following tools.

**Hoe, Rake, Spade, Fork, & Spring rake**

We are planning to purchase a small **garden shed** so we can keep all our new garden equipment safely.

Thank you in advance for all the assistance you may offer. Look forward to reporting all our forthcoming events in the next community newsletter.

**Kate Hartley, Chairperson**

## It's all in a hug!

The hospital was some 14 miles from my home. The journey through the pretty countryside, ever changing through the seasons a fitting introduction to whatever was in store that day. Sometimes the road would be obstructed by a crew of hard working road menders, who, in time, recognised my car and offered a grudging wave. One of the group, a young woman, worked alongside the men and seemed to have some authority.

I learned that this group was a gypsy family and that Hilda was the wife of Tom, the son of the senior member of the family.

This day Hilda was not in the group and I was surprised to find her smartly dressed alongside a younger woman waiting for an appointment with me in the ante-natal clinic. Briefly, younger sister was pregnant again and it was expected that her baby would be offered for adoption. Hilda, a woman of few words announced that the baby would not be adopted and if the girl had been allowed to keep the first child then there would not have been a second. Job done!

As the pair were leaving, Hilda looking sad told me that she had no children and this was having a worrying effect on her life with Tom, who was next in line as head of the family and lineage was important to them. I don't know why but I took her by the shoulders, gave her a hug and told her not to worry and that the next time I saw her she would be pregnant.

## Six Months Later

Walking along the ward I was approached by a patient, all smiling and a vision in blue. "There Miss you were right" she said. Hilda had a difficult pregnancy but produced a healthy little boy who was completely spoilt by his community in their delight.

## 1982 Yorkshire

We moved back to Yorkshire after marriage and I was introduced to Pauline our niece, John and their little son Peter, a boy of some six months with a big grin, sparkling eyes and golden hair. (Nothing changes). Baby talk....and I mentioned Hilda's baby, doing the hug bit to demonstrate. Four months later or so Pauline discovered she was pregnant to her surprise. John blamed me and I was not allowed to touch him for a long time!!

I have a Godson!

## 1986 Arran

The house on Arran was large and we were advised to do "a little B & B", otherwise living in such a beautiful place, we would constantly have "friends" from former times, which can become expensive. The B & B became a small Guest House and we accommodated many overseas guests. A young couple from Berlin stayed for some time, successful in business but to their regret, childless. When they left hugs all round and we told them about Hilda and not to worry. Enjoy life.

## Four Years On

We moved house and returning from a shopping trip found our guests from Berlin in the garden with a young girl, their daughter, aged about 4!

## One Year On

In the garden again two young women and a man all from Germany. In halting English, the man explained the reason for their visit. Suddenly one young woman said "we know about the gypsy!". Apparently they had met the Berliners by chance some time earlier. This is all getting ridiculous but we had a letter to say that both ladies had produced offspring!

## 2016 April

Peter and his wife came to Lochranza for 4 days and rented a charming cottage. We had a very happy few days, hugs all round.

## 2016 December

Delighted to announce the arrival of an 8lb baby boy!

Nothing to do with me.....is it?

**Doreen Swain  
Ard Shonas**

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## Community Council Information

Community Council Meetings are held on the **last Tuesday** of every month, with the exception of December. They are held at the **Ormidale Pavilion**, commencing at 6pm. Members of the public are allowed to sit in at these meetings.

If you have any concerns you would like taken forward could you contact me (Lochranza and Catacol) or Liz Evans (Pirnmill) by the preceding Wednesday.

**Minutes of the meetings** will be available to read in the **Lochranza and Catacol Village Hall**, the **Lochranza Hotel**, the **Catacol Hotel** and the **Pirnmill Shop**.

## Contact Addresses:-

**Julie Graham** -The Old Exchange, Lochranza, KA27 8HL.  
Tel 01770 830 247

**Liz Evans** - Shore Cottage, Pirnmill KA27 8HP  
Tel 01770 850 267

**Julie Graham, Liz Evans.**

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