

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

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

Church Organists

Lorna Buchanan-Hollingworth Tel: 840681
Aileen Wright Tel: 830353, John Clarke 860219

Congregational Board Members

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

Pastoral Care Group

Group Leader - Anne Coulter Tel: 830219
Aileen Wright Tel: 830353, Lizzie Adam Tel: 850230,
Christine Black Tel: 850263, Robert Cumming Tel: 830302

F.O.L.K.

(Friends Of Lochranza Kirk)

Chair – Shared by the Elders – **Treasurer** – Anne Coulter

Sunday Services

Lochranza & Pirnmill Church 10.15 am
(alternate Sundays, see church notice board)

Tea & coffee served after the services

All are welcome

Printed @ Ornsay, Lochranza

Lochranza & Pirnmill

Scottish Charity Registration No. SC009377



Church & Community Newsletter November 2018

www.lochranzachurch.org.uk



Brodick Manse
November 2018

Dear Folks

The busy summer round of church fetes, sales of work, concerts and auctions had just come to an end. A visitor in the queue behind me in the post office commented that having read the Banner, he realised it had been another busy time for me and for the congregations of North Arran. I agreed that it had and that people had been very generous in their support of all our events. He then commented, that in his opinion, instead of going into church funds, he wondered if surely the money raised couldn't go to a better cause, perhaps to help the young people of Arran? The church it seemed to him was always 'rattling the collecting tin' and fund-raising for itself.

At least I was able to reassure him, that through the work of Arran Youth Foundations, of which I am chair, the young people of Arran were very well catered for nowadays in comparison to a few years back, that all the congregations on the island made monthly contributions to the work of AYF and Arran Churches Together gave it its full support. Many of the volunteers who help run AYF are also church members and many others like myself serve as Trustees and office holders.

I assured him too that all congregations, through coffee mornings and collections, also worked tirelessly throughout the year to support a huge variety of charities, among them Mary's Meals, World Vision and Christian Aid, to name but a few. Indeed, I was able to say that the Shiskine door to door collection for Christian Aid had just raised almost £1000, a truly remarkable figure from a small community.

He didn't seem very convinced. Maybe some of you reading this aren't convinced either and wonder why so much of congregational energy is taken up each summer with fund raising events.

The simple answer is that it takes a huge amount of finance to keep the doors of our beautiful but ageing churches open and the roofs watertight. I guess I could add to that, not to mention the manses. But that is another story. The local church is I hope also a worthy charity to support, one that through its mission and outreach strives to serve the people of its parishes and serve them well and diligently. For me testimony to that, the wonderful support of non-church folk who not only come along, but who willingly help out at all our summer events. I always take heart that although not regular worshippers, they do appreciate and value the place of the church and it's work at the heart of our island communities. For some of the smaller congregations like Corrie, without such amazing assistance, quite simply, their summer fete could not have happened at all.

To all those who helped and supported our summer events throughout North Arran this year I would like to say a huge thank you, it is never taken for granted and it is hugely appreciated.

CHURCH DUTIES & DATES

	DOOR	READERS	COFFEE	DUTY ELDER
04-Nov	Communion Corrie 11am &Thanksgiving Service 7pm			
11-Nov	Remembrance Service P/M Hall 10am P/M War Memorial 1055			
18-Nov	Fiona Henderson	Archie Cumming	Fiona Henderson	Chris Knox
25-Nov	P/mill 10.15am			
02-Dec	Richard Wright	Richard Wright	Aileen	Anne Coulter
09-Dec	P/mill 10.15am			
16-Dec	Hazel Gardiner	Hazel Gardiner	Hazel Gardiner	Sinclair MacLeod
23-Dec	P/mill 10.15am			
25-Dec	L/R 11am Gail Scott			Bill Scott
30-Dec	P/mill 10.15am			
06-Jan	Marion Gentleman	Marion Gentleman	Marion Gentleman	Chris Knox
13-Jan	P/mill 10.15am			
20-Jan	Service of Christian Unity Brodick 12noon			
27-Jan	P/mill 10.15am			
03-Feb	Douglas Coulter	Douglas Coulter	Maureen Cumming	Anne Coulter
10-Feb	P/mill Communion 10.15am			

NB Church Services start at 10.15 in Lochranza and Pirmill unless otherwise stated above or on the page opposite

FEBRUARY NEWSLETTER!

Please could I have articles for this by **22nd January** at the latest!
bg.ornsay@btinternet.com



Marriages

28/04/18 - Kate Primrose & Tony Rea



Deaths

05/01/18 - Peggy Hunter

28/01/18 - Elisabeth Mobbs

23/04/18 - John Boyd

01/05/18 - Ellen Rankine (McMaster)

17/05/18 - Wren Gentleman

07/07/18 - Peter Marshall

10/10/18 - Isobel Kerr

13/10/18 - Norman Swain

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY.....

29 th Nov	Christingle Service -	Corrie Church 6.30pm
8 th Dec	Christmas Fayre -	Corrie Hall 12pm
8 th Dec	" " -	Brodick Church Hall 2pm
8 th Dec	Peter Wilson Concert -	Corrie Church 8pm
9 th Dec	'Light up a Life' -	Brodick Church 3.30pm
15 th Dec	Carols at the Co-op -	11am - 12noon
16 th Dec	ARCO playing -	Lochranza Church 10.15am
25 th Dec	Family Service -	Lochranza Church 11am
20 th Jan	Service of Christian Unity-	Brodick Church 12noon

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

Pirnmill 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

Nov. 6,20
Dec. 4,18
Jan. 1,15,29
Feb. 12



Nov.13,27
Dec. 11,25
Jan. 8,22
Feb. 5



I would like to hope too that like me, you enjoyed them, all the concerts and fetes and auctions and sales of work, the home baking and the tablet and the cream teas and the games for the children, the book stalls and the bric-a-brac tables, not to mention the wonderful music, provided by first-class local talent. All were happy events with lots of smiling faces and I think our communities would be the poorer without them. They also provide something for the many visitors and their families to go to and enjoy each year, part and parcel of the Arran holiday experience. The fact that is so, proved by the number of familiar faces of returning holiday-makers I meet each July and August. If they didn't enjoy these things, then they wouldn't come back, but they do.

I'm sure too in my own mind that the Lord also took great pleasure in seeing all the joy and laughter and fun and people getting on with each other and pulling together to support the work of his church.

All this proves that the church can be about more than mere money making, that at its heart it is about providing joy, joy in living and joy in serving the Lord. Paul says in 1 Corinthians 10:31 'whatever you do, whether you eat or drink, do it all for God's glory. After all, doesn't the old catechism instruct us that 'the chief end of man (humankind) is to glorify God and to enjoy Him for ever'.

Angus

Christmas with a difference!

Can you make some room for an international student to learn what true British Festive hospitality can mean? Should you like to add that international element to your Christmas, learning another countries traditions and enjoying the connection and friendship that such sharing brings?

HOST UK arranges for international students to enjoy brief homestays with UK hosts, one day, a weekend or, over the festive period-a three day visit. We need *more* hosts so that a smile such as Marine's can spread across many more faces...and across our fragile world.

If you should like to know more, please go to our website www.hostuk.org or leave us a message on

<http://visits.hostuk.org/Public/ApplyToBecomeAHost>



The church bells all over the country will ring on November 11th between 1905 - 1915

It Seemed A Good Idea at the Timesaid Richard Henderson!

It really does seem that Scots clump together wherever in the world they might be. That was certainly true in Thailand, where the annual ball of the St. Andrew's Society sometimes had more than 500 guests - Scots and others, of course. One of the real delights of the Ball for a while was the attendance of the pipes & drums of the Scots Guards. While they were in Bangkok for the Ball in 1999, they also visited an event near the site of the notorious Bridge over the River Kwai, in Kanchanaburi. Apparently it went very well.

It seemed a good idea at the time. The 1999 Kanchanaburi Festival was such a success all round that it was decided to repeat the Guards' presence in 2000, and to offer Society members the chance to come along. More than a dozen members and friends took up the offer.

The plan was simple enough. The Guards would set off immediately after an early morning performance at an international school. Members would meet at the centrally-located British Club, and board a bus in mid-morning to meet up with the others in Kanchanaburi for lunch. It is about 140km, and if you look it up on Google, you'll see it says it takes 1h 53m. Don't tell anyone who has lived in Bangkok, though, or they may die of laughter.

10:00, the scheduled time for the bus to leave from the British Club, came and went - which was more than could be said for the bus. In fact there was no sign of it, although a 'phone call established that it was "on its way". [Tentative translation: we don't actually know, and so far we don't see any need to find out.]

By 10:10 the bus company, prodded into positive action, admitted that when it tried to contact the bus driver, there was no response. Five minutes later though, reassurance: the bus had been held up by a traffic jam, caused by police checks (it being the end of the month, and therefore time for urgent bribe-farming). However, it was only five minutes away. The hapless dozen trailed out to the roadside to meet it. It seemed a good idea at the time.

At 10:25 the party slouched back to the Club, the latest news having made it clear that there was no reason to expect the bus any time soon. The talk from the bus company was now of the bus itself having been detained by the police. It was time for Plan B. The primary bus, containing the Guards, the Society Chieftain, and others wasn't making much progress either, thanks to the traffic, so it would not exactly be a disaster if it had to divert to pick up the stranded. The other possibility was to send out a replacement bus from the depot, in the hope that one or other would make it through.

A bus arrived at the British Club at 11:15. Was it the original or the replacement? We don't know - but it was a very much larger bus than had been ordered, so maybe it was the back-up rather than the original. What happened to the original? If you ever see a ghostly bus cruising central Bangkok to a background of Wagner, remember the tale of the Flying Dutchman, and hurry by.

Whatever the facts of the claim that one bus had been held up by the police, the final version certainly was, in suburban Bangkok. That delay was short as well as pointless, so after an otherwise uneventful trip, the party arrived in Kanchanaburi not all that much after 14:00. Leaving nothing to chance, the bus party had taken a detailed map, showing the rendezvous point with the Guards, and the route to get there. After a minor diversion down a dirt-track, and a couple of U-turns, the bus followed the map. It seemed a good idea at the time. Unfortunately, though, the route shown on the map was closed.

After two more attempts and two more pairs of U-turns, it turned out the dirt track was, bizarrely, the right road. It had taken all morning and a good part of the afternoon, but the two groups were reunited.

Food and beer were waiting at one of the floating restaurants by the river-bank, and the day started to feel rather better, helped by the cooling breeze on the water. The Chieftain was full of reassurance. There was no rush. According to the schedule, there was no need to be at the military cemetery (10 minutes away) until 15:20 or 15:30. It was now 15:10.

To get to the cemetery, the buses had to head the wrong way in the first instance, do a U-turn,



Lochranza Whist Drives start in Lochranza & Catacol village hall on Wednesday 2nd October, 2 - 4pm every fortnight. Please join us for an afternoon of fun, good company, challenging card games and a delicious afternoon tea.

Anyone wishing a lift to the village hall please ring Ethne Tel: 830302

Lochranza and Catacol Community Association (LCCA)

While our next meeting, which will be our Autumn open meeting will not take place until **Wednesday 14th November** I nevertheless can give you a few updates on some of the issues we discussed at our last meeting

A survey has now been completed on the Narachan bridge, timber has been ordered and a number of the philosophers have agreed to carryout the repairs.

In discussion with Matthew Johnson, Harbour Manager, Brodick, Lochranza and Claonaig has confirmed that the waiting room at the Lochranza pier will be open throughout the winter from approximately 09.00 until approximately 13.45. This dependant on whether the sailings are running late or not.

Progress has been confirmed for a revised system to assist patients returning home to Arran from hospital. This will include ambulance travel and also those who need medical supervised transport home. To commence in early October

The committee would like to hear from anyone who may wish to raise an issue as it affects the village you live in or visit. You can do this by contacting any of the committee. Names and telephone numbers are list below

Ken Thorburn 830362 Robert Cumming 830302 Chris Siddle 830386,

Dr Krystyna Gruszecka 830278, John Ford 830200, Bill Scott 830304,

Alison Stewart 830343, Jean Wilkinson 830267

Ken Thorburn

FOLK (*Friends Of Lochranza Kirk*)

Wed 14th November Speaker is Ian Quinn from PS Waverley talking about ships calling at Lochranza pier from 1960

Wed 9th January Speaker is Ian McChlery on 'Chocolate'

Wed 13th February Speaker is Ken Pritchard talking about the Suez Crisis of 1956

Wed 13th March Speaker to be announced.

Wed 17th July FOLK Fete

Meetings take place in the church at 2pm and **everyone is welcome** to come along

WREN GENTLEMAN 19th JANUARY 1935 – 17th MAY 2018

Wren will be sadly missed by not only Marion and family but also by many other people in Lochranza. The amount of people attending his funeral were testament to this. Listening to his eulogy that day was a complete eye opener, I always find it so sad that I learn so many interesting things about a person after they have died and such was the case with Wren.

Wren was a great support to me when I took over as Session Clerk, he always had an 'open door' and sound advice to give me. Albeit it took quite a time listening! Indeed not just me but he was of huge support to Gail in the early days of her producing the Newsletters, any computer problems were quickly sorted out for her no matter how busy he was he always had time to help.

Wren became an Elder of Brodick Church in 2004 and after moving to Lochranza became Treasurer of Lochranza & Pirnmill Church in 2011 until 2016. A duty he carried out most efficiently. He spent many hours wrestling with the church accounts with the introduction of OSCAR. He was a wonderful supporter of our Church both as Treasurer and as an Elder. A true friend to all.

Many of you will have read the 'history of the church' leaflets. Wren spent many hours compiling and printing these, he could always be found in his little office working at his computer either printing leaflets, composing adverts or cards for the church. He was also largely responsible for setting up our church web site. In fact Wren was constantly working behind the scenes for the good of our church.

On a personal note I will miss him as a good friend.

A true gentleman by name and nature.

Bill Scott

Community Council Information

The Community Council meet the last Tues of the month at the **Ormidale Pavillion @ 6pm** with the exception of December. The public can attend.

The minutes of the meetings are available to read in the Lochranza and Catacol Village Hall, the Lochranza Hotel, the Catacol Hotel and the Pirnmill Shop. If you have any concerns you would like taken forward, could you contact me (Lochranza and Catacol) or Liz Evans (Pirnmill). Thank you.

Contact Addresses:-

Julie Graham - The Old Exchange, Lochranza, KA27 8HL. Tel 01770 830 247 Email:- acc.lochranza.julieg@gmail.com

Liz Evans - Shore Cottage, Pirnmill, KA27 8HP Tel 01770 850 267 Email:- acc.pirnmill.liz@gmail.com

LOCHRANZA & CATACOL VILLAGE HALL AGM

Tuesday 13th November at 7pm

Please all come along your hall needs all the support we can give it!

overshoot the target, do another U-turn, and come back. It seemed a good idea at the time. If the "A" bus-driver had had as much practice with Kanchanaburi U-turns as his colleague, it might have been. Unfortunately, as he made his turn, a pick-up drove through a gap which wasn't there. [Useful rule: do not board bus before exiting other vehicle.] Not much damage was done, but the police made another appearance in the saga, and the passengers of the "A" bus transferred to join the rest of the party in the "B" bus for the rest of the afternoon.

Nothing much in Thailand is reliable. You can't even rely on things going wrong, and the next part of the programme passed off smoothly - and movingly - with a brief wreath-laying ceremony, and ample time to try the impossible leap of imagination to the Kanchanaburi of more than half a century ago, and the lives lived out - and ended - there.

Up to this point, events had had a certain logic of their own, but the next sequence of events was more baffling. The combined party made its way onto the one bus available. It seemed a good idea at the time. The journey was not a short one, and led to a delightful resort hotel, where the Guards had time to change into uniform, and the rest of the party had time to order a round of drinks. One or two also had time to drink them before having to get back on board the bus.

At least this time there was no serious risk of getting lost, as part of an Official Convoy of three or four vehicles. Time lost earlier in the day had been made up by now, and everyone made it in good order and good time to dinner. Well, actually, no. It wasn't quite like that. Two of the party had decided that they were going to stay in Kanchanaburi overnight, and therefore after the cemetery made a brief diversion to check in at their hotel. There was a tuk-tuk outside the cemetery, which was the obvious way to get there. It seemed a good idea at the time. It probably would have been, had it not been for the fact that on turning a corner one wheel decided it had had enough, and collapsed, turfing the passengers out onto the road - by great good fortune, without major damage. They, therefore, made it to dinner just about in time to leave again.

From dinner to the bridge and the performance was a matter of a very short walk, so that the Guards were in position and "warmed up" (as if they could have been anything else in full uniform on a warm Thai night) in plenty time. They marched onto the bridge itself, where they gave one of so many immaculate performances during a week and more.

After that, there was nothing left to do but board the buses (the "A" bus by now having been allowed by the police to go) and doze through the drive back to Bangkok. The party was split up, with most people being sent to the "B" bus, but some splitting off to take its colleague, to give everybody more room. It seemed a good idea at the time.

"The bus is in the coach park", they said. In other forms of pantomime, at least there are people shouting "Oh, no it isn't". Not in the Thai version. Half a dozen benighted souls therefore found themselves in an otherwise empty coach park, digesting the news that the "A" bus was nowhere to be seen, and "B" bus had already left. The immediate ex-Chieftain called the Chieftain, to ask for the "B" bus to turn round and pick up the stragglers. It seemed a good idea at the time. It would have been - but the Chieftain wasn't with the bus, but rather in her car. The ex-Chieftain had forgotten that. Never mind - there was still a mobile 'phone on the "B" bus - but it was switched off.

At this point two rather remarkable things happened. The driver of the now empty "A" bus, who had been parked somewhere else entirely, set off after, caught and overtook his colleague, to suggest that it made no sense for one bus to be full and the other empty, so why not share the load? The other, and crucial, event happened a minute or two later. Society Piper David Mason, official knight in shining armour to The Bangkok St Andrew's Society, stopped to wonder. **WHY** was the "A" bus empty? And where was Meilan? The "B" bus cell-phone was switched on again, and contact was made. One bus (and the Chieftain's car) turned back, and the stragglers were rescued. That, as it happened, was the end of the day's travails.

"You have to laugh", someone said. **Not everybody saw the necessity - or not at the time. It had all seemed a good idea at the time, but as someone once ominously said, this was Thailand.**

'Light up a Life'

For a number of years, in the Christmas season the fundraisers for the Ayrshire Hospice have held a concert in the Grand Hall Kilmarnock and in other places. There have been various groups and individuals of all ages taking part. This has been a big fundraiser for the Hospice in the past, a place that depends on donations from many sources to be able to run the Hospice and provide the various services that help and support families and individuals. This is not only a fundraising venture but a time for many folk to remember loved ones, friends and relatives that have passed away. Their 'Light up a Life' Christmas Concert this year, will be held on Sunday 25th November at 7.00pm in the Grand Hall, Kilmarnock.

The Christmas season is a busy time although within that there are many people who can be lonely or sad because they mourn the loss of a loved one, a relative, friend or neighbour. At Christmas time with all its joy and festivities, can be a difficult and painful time for many. Recognising this, many churches in Ayrshire have held 'Light up a Life' services, a service of worship for those in the church and community so that those who have lost someone have the opportunity to come together in church and remember a loved one or a friend or someone else at that time of year.

This year for our North Arran Linkage and communities, there will be a 'Light up a Life Service' in Brodick Church on the afternoon of Sunday the 9th December at 3.30pm. The service will consist of a few Hymns, Readings, Prayer and Reflection. There will also be an opportunity for those who would like to, to light a candle in memory of someone they have known. There will be a retiring offering which will be in aid of the Ayrshire Hospice. All are welcome to this service.

If you would like any more information on the 'Light up a Life' service to be held in Brodick Church please speak to me, Angus or any of the elders.

Every blessing - Jean Hunter

Lochranza Ladies Christmas Lunch

A Christmas Lunch has been organised for **Wednesday 5th December** at the **Kinloch Hotel Blackwaterfoot** for 12.30pm, leaving on the service bus from Lochranza at 11.30am (Church) returning on the service bus from Blackwaterfoot at 14.56pm. **Anyone interested please let me know by Friday 16th November.** Please telephone me for menu as I require your choice beforehand. Prices are - 2 course including tea/coffee and tip - £18.50 - 3 course including tea/coffee and tip £21.00. **Money due for meal on 1st December or before.**

Anne Coulter - Tel: 830219

Northend Bonfire & Fireworks will be on **2nd November** at Lochranza & Catacol Village Hall commencing at **7.00pm**. After the success of last years 'trial' we are happy to announce that the '**Northend Festival of Fire**' will become an annual event on the Arran calendar. The Castle will be floodlight for the evening. A traditional 'feel the heat' bonfire on the Village Green. **Bar, BBQ & Music.** Fireworks set off around the Castle. This year we will have the **Arran Pipe Band** as special guests.



Not to be missed!

Lochranza & Catacol Village Hall Report

Another year has passed, in the life of Lochranza and Catacol Village Hall, one reflects how time is flying on. It has been another great and successful year and all the hard work and fundraising has meant we have managed to complete upgrading all the lighting in the main hall and the foyer and have had the sound system rewired with new amps and microphones and the hall heating repaired.

As our hall gets older a little more work is needing done each year to keep it in a good and safe condition and generally fit for purpose for all, groups and events that happen for the pleasure, relaxation and entertainment for all our community.

In the past year or two we have been fortunate to welcome, to the committee some younger people who have brought fresh ideas, enthusiasm and energy. We need to keep hold of people like them and of course, if at all possible, to attract more young members. That will be difficult if we overwork them and depend too heavily on them.

It has become increasingly hard to get anyone to serve on the hall committee, some of the committee have worked tirelessly for many years but are unable to leave as no-one will volunteer to replace them.

To that end, we want to try and make a few small changes to the way the hall works. Rather than relying so heavily on committee members for every detail, we need to feel able to call on people beyond the committee to be around to help in various ways at functions. It has been proposed that we set up a group of '**Friends of the hall**', a group of people we could call on occasionally to support the committee. We would like to build a support group, it would ease the burden on the few. The hall belongs to the whole village so in a way we are all responsible for its upkeep to do what little we can to support it.

We need to look after our hall that previous villagers strived so hard to obtain.

Kate Hartley

Using a very powerful 25 ton press to push the petal form into the poppy leaves.
And avoid each other's fingers!
Constructing a tubular steel forming jig, then days of painstaking bending in a fly press and hydraulic press in Pirnmill.
Accuracy being paramount, or the pieces wouldn't fit together. Some strong heat required too, for shaping the ribbon joints.



All the shapes were very gradual and closely spaced creases, the guide tape being to guide and keep them all parallel. If not parallel everything is pretty much lost and would never fit properly!
The jig incorporates subtle changes in centering of the cylinders, their being stepped closer, as you ascend, to give a solid look of stability.



So all pieces assembled, ground, filed, tapped, belt sanded, orbitally sanded ready for patination acid and fitting to the wall with brass studding, forged into nail head pegs.

I hope that wasn't too technically boring for you all! (Sorry I can't help it!)
As I was asked, if I could provide some insight into construction by several people.
So maybe this has covered most of the technical points.
I haven't included the hundreds of emails between Mathias and Fiona and myself, as no one deserves that much detail.
It's been an interesting journey and well done to Fiona for doggedly pursuing her objective and to the village for placing confidence in us.

Also, I hope it is now a worthy tribute to those who laid down their own lives for their country and others.

Simon J. Horne

Our Grateful thanks

Prior to Saturday 29 September 2018 the war memorial at Pirnmill honoured the three men of Pirnmill who gave their lives in the 1939-1945 war. Until then there was no public recognition of six men of Pirnmill who gave their life during the 1914-1918 War.
One Pirnmill villager, Fiona Laing recognising this omission, set out to research the early 20th century history of Pirnmill and the lives of these six men. By much personal effort over an eight year period Fiona has raised sufficient funds to provide a permanent record of their sacrifice.
On 29 September at a dedication ceremony conducted by Rev. Adamson and attended by more than 100 residents and guests, two beautifully fabricated metallic scrolls bearing the names of these six men were added to the Pirnmill War Memorial. This extraordinarily dedicated self-generated project of Fiona Laing deserves our warm thanks and grateful acknowledgement for enabling us all to remember the nine men of Pirnmill who made the ultimate sacrifice in two world wars.

John Adam (on behalf of Pirnmill Residents)

Pirnmill Bonfire Night

Monday 5 November at 6.30 p.m.- weather permitting

Bonfire, Fireworks, Soup & Burgers

Lochranza and Catacol Sea Society cic.	Patient & Service User Group(PSUG)
The Minutes and Financial Statement from the LCSS, 2018 AGM held on 13th October are available to read in the Village Hall Folder.	Representatives..... Julie Graham : Tel 830 247, email julia74@btinternet.com Fred Shortland : Tel 830 610 email fshortland@hotmail.com Mark Harwood Tel 850 577 email doctor.jug@gmail.com
Julie Graham. Secretary	

THE MAKING OF THE PIRNMILL WW1 MEMORIAL

I think it was back in the summer of **2015**, that **Fiona Laing** first approached me.

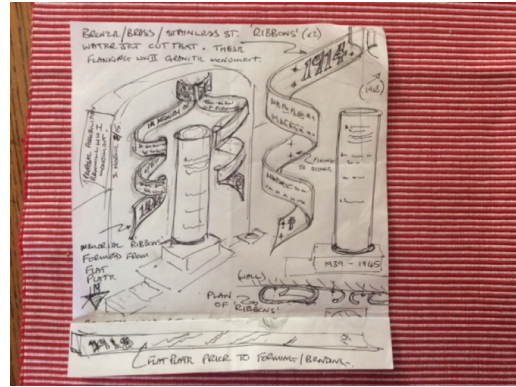
This was regarding her passionate ambitious plan, to provide a memorial to the lost young men of the village in the First World War, here on site, in the village. It seemed a tall order for me, as I felt that to create anything celebrating the lives of our servicemen, I would have to provide something dignified and deliver something worthy enough. I felt a small tremor of fear I could quite easily end up out of my depth! So I sketched 3 potential ideas, for Fiona to show to people in the village. We set ourselves a brief that the new memorial would somehow integrate with the existing WW2 granite memorial.

I proposed a pyramid of equally sized '**Penrioch stones**', each one dedicated to a person with a bronze plaque. This could have worked, I felt, but it wasn't obvious how to incorporate it into the existing site. Another idea was to have a flat and half round tube, with inscriptions mounted on the wall behind the WW2 monument. I wasn't really happy with this proposal myself, as it would have looked too 'flat' in contrast to the granite structure in front of it. Lastly, I had the idea of creating ribbons, not flat on the wall, but projecting outward to provide volume, so utilising that blank canvas of masonry.

This proposal scared me though, as I wasn't sure quite how it could be constructed.

This, I think was the first (embarrassingly shabby) sketch, dated August 2015. It would appear it was done on a moving bus, like my homework of years gone by!

But Fiona liked it and wanted to get further backing.



I obviously had the process of water jet cutting in mind at the time. This I realised, was a process to achieve all the letter and text details, within a limited budget. I had only seen a number of engineering parts cut at that time, but was impressed by the accuracy. The water jet process involves an extremely high pressure mix of water and fine sand being fired at whatever you want cut. Be it 3" steel plate, glass, stone or any metal. Also, I was resolutely assured that the cut width was only 1mm, with a 0.5mm minimum internal radius. This proved useful in creating the detailed seraphs in the small font.

Engraving chemically, manually etc or casting for that matter, are all super expensive by comparison. We were now pursuing the ribbons proposal and more detailed work was needed.

The second more detailed scale elevation, (not done on the bus, but on a kitchen table in Earls Court), showed the proposal integrated with the scale stone wall. This also providing the source of principal dimensions for transferring on to a CAD model drawing. As the water jet process requires a CAD model drawing, this meant I needed the assistance of an engineer or someone good with these space age gadgets. Thankfully, I had met him at a blacksmith's barbeque in Yorkshire the year before **Mathias Mombazet**, a very clever and patient Frenchman was enrolled to transfer my drawings and ideas on to CAD. Also, I had selected the '**Trajan**' typeface, which Mathias had to painstakingly arrange on to each ribbon section. So the form of the ribbon structure was decided, a 'squashed' helix, wrapped around two 6" diameter cylinders acting as an assembly jig. Each flank, comprising of five ribbon sections and a poppy and bud at the centre intersection. Bronze, the enduring and expensive alloy of copper and tin is nearly as hard as steel but would be tricky to bend with my equipment. Also into four figures, more expensive! Naval brass, a slightly tin rich brass alloy, mainly of copper and zinc was chosen for its malleability and cost, however, still not exactly cheap! Mathias' job was to create the shape of the ribbons in virtual reality with all letters etc 'raking' and spaced correctly. Then develop or flatten them onto a cutting 'drawing' for the company in Glasgow.

And bingo! The cut plate ready was for forming.

The poppy element I spent a happy afternoon forming with two friends, a Russian and a Ukrainian. Both sculptural blacksmiths visiting fellow blacksmiths at a convention.



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