

Locum Minister – Mrs Elizabeth Clarke

Tel: 01770 860219 Mob: 07833251486

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

Neil Robertson, Wilma Morton Tel: 850272,

Elsbeth MacDonald Tel: 850284,

Christine Black Tel: 850263, John Adam Tel 850230

Hazel Gardiner Tel: 830635

Church Organist

John Clarke 860219

Congregational Board Members

Christine Black (Clerk),

Richard Wright (Property Manager),

Fiona Henderson, Lizzie Adam

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. & Pirnmill

(Friends Of Lochranza Kirk)

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

Sunday Service

10.15am St Bride's Church, Lochranza

Last Sunday in the month 10.15am Pirnmill Church only

Also

**At present a shortened service can be found every week on the
church web site**

www.lochranzachurch.org.uk

Lochranza & Pirnmill

Scottish Charity Registration No. SC009377



Church & Community Newsletter

February 2022

www.lochranzachurch.org.uk



Hello Everyone

Are you a “glass half full” or a “glass half empty” sort of a person?

We human beings are great creatures of habit, so every weeknight John and I sit down at 6pm to watch the BBC news and Reporting Scotland. We don't take a newspaper, so this is how we keep up with what is going on in the world. Since the start of this pandemic our attention to events has become more focused as we attempt to follow the changes in the lock down rules and advice – changes that seem to happen at least once a day and vary depending upon each country.

And then there are the natural disasters which seem to be growing in number and magnitude every week.

And what about wars, conflict, political tensions, racism, murder etc, etc, etc!

I like to think I'm a “glass half full” person but it can be hard sometimes to find a positive comment to make or to keep an upbeat mental attitude.

However, I have noticed that at the end of the news there is usually a wee cameo story with a happy ending or perhaps a photo of eg, a young polar bear – a short but sweet “cheer up” item.

It is easy to be negative these days, but it only needs a small thing to cheer us up. John and I walk along Blackwaterfoot beach as often as we can – just before sunset when there aren't many people about. The sound of the waves and the wind blowing away the cobwebs is all we need to bring a smile to our faces.

And speaking of smiles – just greeting someone you bump into by chance with a smile is enough to lift the spirits. And, yes, it is possible to tell from the eyes even if we can't see behind the mask, that the person is smiling at you.

A kind word, a word of encouragement goes a long way to cheering someone up.

Church News/Dates

Please note that on the last Sunday of the following months the church service will be held at 10.15 in **Pirnmill Church** i.e. **January 30th, February 27th & March 27th, April 24th**. **There will be no service in Lochranza Church on these Sundays.**

February 6th 10.15am Communion (St Bride's Church, Lochranza)

April 14th 7pm Maundy Thursday, Communion (St Molio's Church, Shiskine)

April 15th 2pm Walk of Witness (starting at Holy Cross Church, Brodick)

April 17th 10.15am Easter Sunday Family Service (St Bride's Church, Lochranza)

TAKE NOTE OF DEFIBRILLATOR LOCATIONS

Distillery - on front wall of the visitor centre
Cal Mac building - on the outside wall
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

BLUE BIN

FEB 8, 22
 MAR 8, 22
 APR 5, 19
 MAY 3



BLACK BIN

FEB 1, 15
 MAR 1, 15, 29
 APR 12, 26
 MAY 10



MAY NEWSLETTER!

Please could I have articles for this by **22nd APRIL**
 at the latest!

bg.ornsay@btinternet.com

KINDNESS

As the world fights to figure everything out I'll be.....

holding doors for strangers,
letting people cut in front of me in traffic,
saying good morning,
keeping babies entertained in grocery lines,
stopping to talk to someone who is lonely,
tipping generously,
waving at police,
sharing food,
giving children a thumbs up,
being patient with sales clerks,
smiling at passers by,
and buying a stranger a cup of coffee.

WHY? Because I will not stand to live in a world love is invisible.

Join me in showing kindness, understanding, and judging less.

Be kind to a stranger, give grace to friends who are having a bad day, be forgiving with yourself.

If you can't find kindness, BE kindness.

How many of us seek out the company of a person who is always moaning and negative?

There is the story of a member of a congregation who always had a complaint about the service when they shook hands with the minister at the end. Eventually the minister asked that he try to find something positive to say each Sunday. The person took this to heart and the comments became much easier to listen to. However, one Sunday, the person was really struggling to find anything positive to say and when he got the minister, the words that came out were "I liked the amen!"

Who remembers the Morecambe and Wise theme tune?

Bring me sunshine
In your smile
Bring me laughter
All the while
In this world where we live
There should be more happiness
So much joy you can give
To each brand-new bright tomorrow
Make me happy
Through the years
Never bring me
Any tears
Let your arms be as warm
As the sun from up above
Bring me fun
Bring me sunshine
Bring me Love
So let's all keep being "glass half full" folk because that is spreading God's love in the world.

Every blessing,

Liz

Postings from Pirnmill Village Association (PVA)

SCAA Coffee Morning

Many thanks to bakers, helpers and all those who came to support us on 29 November. We managed to raise an amazing £645.25 for a very worthy cause.

Pirnmill Over 60's Christmas Lunch

It was wonderful to see so many of our VIP's turnout for the 2021 event. Many thanks to Val and Rino at Stags for providing a lovely Christmas lunch. A great time was had by all.

Local playparks

If you haven't already done so, please take a moment to complete the short North Ayrshire Council survey on improving our playparks <http://bit.ly/NAPPlayParkSurvey>

PVA working with Eco Savvy

Pirnmill will be part of an island-wide funding application to install e bike charging points across the island. We are also discussing electric car charging services for the village and exploring the potential for Pirnmill to get involved in the Eco Savvy Zero Waste Café project.

Pioneer Project – Pirnmill Plot

The plot is progressing well thanks to our fabulous group of volunteers. Want to get involved? Join the weekly Sunday morning work group, 11am on site or come along to Tree Planting Day early February. Contact Greg Moreland on 07505 461920 for further details or to join the 'Pirnmill Plotters' WhatsApp group.

Pirnmill Gardening Group Calendar

Our volunteers tend the Memorial Garden every 2nd Monday from 10:00am to 12:00pm. All welcome whether green fingered or not, no experience needed.

February	March	April
14	14	11
28	28	25

Pirnmill Church Re-opens

Sunday Services will recommence on 30th January. Thereafter, Pirnmill Church will host a monthly service on the last Sunday of each month.
All the best.

Hazel PVA Chair

Lochranza and Catacol Community Association

Since last reported in the November issue, the Lochranza and Catacol Community Association (LCCA) have met on one occasion, and that was prior to the public meeting held in the village hall on the 20th November

At the public meeting approximately 75 residents, MSP, and councillors attended. After introductory remarks, followed by a question and answer session , the LCCA were given a strong mandate to progress the community buyout of the village hotel

Without going into too much detail at this stage, a small steering group was set up and to date a significant amount of progress has been made

A number of meetings have already taken place and together with the continuing support of the hotel owner, we are hopeful that in the early part of January we will be able to inform the wider public and all supporters of this initiative what progress has been made to date

Returning to the main business of the LCCA. We are pleased that the appeal by the fish farm has again been rejected by North Ayrshire

The committee continue to lobby for economic housing in Lochranza. A number of new initiatives are currently being look at on which I will report on at a later date

While we currently have a limited winter return service from Lochranza to Claonaig/ Tarbert, the committee would like to see this winter return service as an annual fixture in the timetable

Contact has been made with Historic Scotland regarding the mess of old boats and trailers on the castle spit. The committee are hopeful that together with Historic Scotland progress can be made in this area

Due to the continuing problems surrounding covid, the committee have decided to postpone the AGM TO EARLY spring.

Ken Thorburn - Chair

Lochranza & Catacol Village Hall Report

In the last report we had reopened the Hall and activities were restarting, then along came Omicron! Regrettably we had to cancel a number of activities and also our plans for Xmas and New Year had to be abandoned. We managed a successful AGM and have said farewell to a number of long serving committee members and welcomed some new ones.

One of the proposals from the AGM was the need for a more usable social space in the Hall which is essentially a sports hall. The Committee have taken this forward and are actively pursuing grant funding sources to enable a conservatory extension to be added to the front of the building. And, as I write, the front door and windows of the Hall are being replaced having been badly in need of replacement for some time.

As many of you will have seen in a recent edition of the Banner, Scottish Opera are coming to Lochranza on 3rd March (Covid permitting!). We hope that this will be a successful evening and more details are in the advert elsewhere in this magazine. We hope to be able to provide a bar at the event and that it will be well supported locally as well as across the island. The Hall committee have not yet met this year, we await further guidance on social gatherings etc before making plans for further events.

Ros Lyall - Secretary

The hall committee:

Lorna Logan	– Chairperson
David Henderson	– Treasurer & Trustee (in attendance)
Jess Fearon	– Trustee (in attendance)
Margaret Kerr	– Trustee (in attendance)
Fiona Henderson	– Bookings Contact
Kate Hartley	
Vicki Milne	
Pauline Kemp	
Val Coutts	
Don Grant	
Emma Fox	
Kev Fearon	

Community Council

Contact Number for Lochranza and Catacol.

Julie Graham 830 247 Email: acc.lochranzajulieg@gmail.com

EATING IN THE FIFTIES!

Pasta had not been invented. It was macaroni or spaghetti.

Curry was a surname.

A take-away was a mathematical problem.

Pizza? Sounds like a leaning tower somewhere.

Bananas and oranges only appeared at Christmas time.

All chips were plain.

Oil was for lubricating, fat was for cooking.

Tea was made in a teapot using tea leaves and never green!

Cubed sugar was regarded as posh.

Chickens didn't have fingers in those days.

None of us had ever heard of yogurt.

Healthy food consisted of anything edible.

Cooking outside was called camping.

Seaweed was not a recognised food.

'Kebab' was not even a word, never mind a food.

Sugar enjoyed good press in those days, and was regarded as white gold.

Prunes were medicinal.

Surprisingly muesli was readily available, it was called cattle feed.

Pineapples came in chunks in a tin; we had only ever seen a picture of a real one.

Water came out of a tap, if someone had suggested bottling it and charging more than gasoline for it, they would have become a laughing stock.

The one thing that we never ever had on/at our table in the fifties.....was

Elbows, hats and cell phones!

Happy New Year to you all! (even if it's a bit late!)

In my last charge, I was phoning an elderly lady in the parish to arrange to go and visit her. 'You can come any time except Wednesday morning', she said. 'I always have to get up early that day to tidy round before the carer comes.'

It's a bit like cutting your toenails before going to the chiropodist'

Why do we have this compulsion to put our house in order before accepting help? It is probably something to do with the pride that will not let us admit that we do not always measure up to our own or other people's expectations of us.

Like adults who suffer agonies of embarrassment rather than admit they have never learned to read, when attending a literacy class would transform their lives. Or people who are afraid to show love for fear of rejection.

There are those who draw back from becoming involved in the church and church-life, because they feel they won't 'measure up'. I remember attending a Church of Scotland Communion Service while we were on holiday on the Isle of Skye many years ago now. I was surprised that only a handful of people out of a congregation of about 30, sat at the linen covered pews at the front. Everyone else sat at the back.

When I later asked the lady who owned our rented cottage why this was, she said 'We are not 'good enough' to sit at the Lord's table.' This saddened me and I have always wondered who told them they weren't good enough, and who told the **few** that they **were** good enough!

There are also those within the church who hang back from volunteering, or getting really involved, for the same reason. There are many who are afraid to call themselves 'Christians' because they fear their lives can never match the pattern set by Jesus himself. And so we wait until we feel ready for commitment - and sometimes it can be a very long wait indeed.,,,or even too late.

Cont.....

We all must be ready to venture into the unknown, to become involved in changing society for the better, to go where the need is greatest and to 'rekindle the flames of love where the fire has gone cold'. Faced with the changes that are about to come in our churches this would be a good place to start. Winning people for Christ begins with reaching out to wherever people hang out. I am sure there are people of goodwill in the communities around Arran who may feel drawn to help the mission of the church.

In the life of the church, and in the life of faith, *all* are welcome, and especially *beginners*! God does not expect us to move mountains by ourselves, but he does offer us the use of his fork-lift truck!

And so, before we begin to re-arrange the dust, maybe we should just open the door and let God in - to turn our lives around.

Tom Macintyre, Interim Moderator

SCOTTISH OPERA

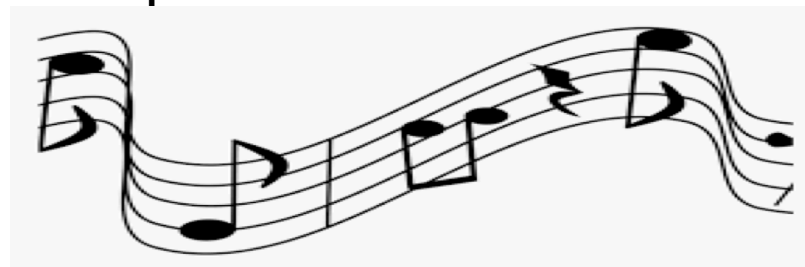
will be performing

in

Lochranza & Catacol Village Hall

on

7.30pm THURSDAY 3RD MARCH 2022



Tickets £15

Available from

www.scottishopera.org.uk

Also from Book & Card Shop, Brodick