

1560

St Brides Church - Lochranza

1918

Strong historical evidence exists to illustrate that there has been a church on this site since medieval times and certainly since before the dawn of the Reformation in Scotland in 1560. Originally known as St James's, this name did not survive the anti-catholic feelings of the seventeenth century. It finally became known as St Bride's Chapel only in 1929 when the established Church of Scotland united with the U.F.Church. The former U.F.Church in the village (now part of The Field Studies Centre.) then became known as "Lochranza East & Pirnmill". It was then that the headstone, with the skull and crossbones, was removed from the interior and mounted into the exterior wall, on the north side of the building.

In that same year The Reverent John Colville, minister of the Chapel, realised his dream and by raising an endowment fund, enabled Lochranza Chapel to become a "Quad Sacra" thereafter known as St. Bride's Church.

The names of Priests who served here, prior to the break with Rome, are unknown but from 1560, records of the reformed clergy, responsible for maintaining the ordinances of religion, are more readily available. At the Reformation, Arran was divided into two parishes Kilmory and Kilbride, the boundary between them leaving Lochranza village and the south-side of the loch in Kilmory, whilst Newton Shore and the north-side of the loch was in Kilbride. Any worship that might have been conducted in the church would therefore have been the responsibility of the Kilmory minister in whose bounds the church lay.

By the mid of 17th Century the existing structure was quoted as being "in no fit state for worship" and a decision was made by the Synod of Argyll, in 1642 *that there be a third kirk builded and erected in the said yle (Arran), situated at the head of Lochransay.* Unfortunately, due to the violent upheavals of this Civil War period none of this proposal came about at that time . However, records show that in 1654, a "Chapel of Ease" was built on the site:- *A thatched building with an earthen floor.* It was within the walls of this chapel that the dead were buried. This building fell in to disrepair and it was not until 1712, thanks to the generosity of The Good Dutchess Anne, the chapel was rebuilt.

The Duchess also provided a stipend for a catechist at Lochranza and the farm of Colliemore at a nominal rent. This licentiate of the church acted as assistant to both the parish ministers of Arran, taking charge of the northern extremities of both parishes, from the Iorsa water in the west to Corrie in the east. In the course of his duties he was responsible for the conduct of worship and assisting in the celebration of the sacraments.

The final rebuilding of the church took place in 1795 and it was further improved in 1835 to seat 300. Alas!, just seven years later at the Disruption of 1843 the Church was almost deserted by the people, in favour of the Free Church. From that point on the Church was looked after by the Kilmory minister, very often assisted, again by a number of missionaries and assistants. Gradually as the century drew to a close the Established Church began to recover its former position in the North end of the island, so much so, that the Church, which was again falling in to disrepair, was refurbished by the Duke of Hamilton, who, in 1895, granted 0.99 of an acre surrounding it, for a graveyard - "God's own acre".

Only on the 28th June 1918 Lochranza St Bride's Church became a ministerial charge of the Church of Scotland in its own right.

The adjacent roll of incumbents, lists both the Kilmory Ministers responsible for Lochranza as well as those catechists, licentiates and ordained ministerial assistants who were at Lochranza. (denoted ©)

1845

Roll of Ministers & Continued

1930

Free Church & United Free Church

AT THE DISRUPTION OF 1843, AS A RESULT OF THE INFLUENCE OF MR ANGUS MCMILLAN OF KILMORY, (PREVIOUSLY CATECHIST AT LOCHRANZA), THE CONGREGATION WENT ALMOST COMPLETELY OVER TO THE FREE CHURCH. AS A RESULT, THE ESTABLISHED CHURCH CHAPEL OF EASE, HERE, WAS FOR SOME TIME ALL BUT DESERTED, WHILST LOCHRANZA AND LENIMORE BECAME A CHARGE OF THE FREE CHURCH IN 1844.

FREE CHURCH OF SCOTLAND

John Hamilton - - - - - 1845 -1847

Congregation vacant for almost ten years

Duncan MacNicol - - - - - 1857 - 1877

Dugald McCormick - - - - - 1877 - 1887

WANT OF HARMONY BETWEEN THE TWO SECTIONS OF THE CONGREGATION LED TO FORMATION OF TWO SEPARATE FREE CHURCH CHARGES BEING ESTABLISHED IN 1887

LOCHRANZA

LENIMORE

James Johnstone - - 1888

John Kennedy - 1888

Alexander J. Grant - 1897

ON THE UNION OF 1900 BETWEEN THE FREE CHURCH AND THE UNITED PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, BOTH BECAME CONGREGATIONS OF THE UNITED FREE CHURCH OF SCOTLAND.

UNITED FREE CHURCH OF SCOTLAND

Alexander J. Grant - 1908

John Kennedy - 1910

IN 1910, LOCHRANZA U.F. CHURCH AND MANSE WERE UNITED WITH LENIMORE AND PIRNMILL, BECOMING LOCHRANZA & PIRNMILL UNITED FREE CHURCH.

John MacLellan - 1910 - 1924

Alexander Shaw, M.A., B.D. - 1924 - 1927

ON THE UNION OF 1929 BETWEEN THE UNITED FREE CHURCH OF SCOTLAND, THE PARISH CHURCH BECAME LOCHRANZA, ST. BRIDES, THE U.F. CHURCH BECAME LOCHRANZA EAST & PIRNMILL. BOTH WERE UNITED IN 1930. LOCHRANZA ST. BRIDE'S REMAINING THE PARISH CHURCH, WHILST THE FORMER U.F. CHURCH (NOW LOCHRANZA OUTDOOR CENTRE) SERVED AS THE CHURCH HALL

1931 Roll of Ministers & Continued 2007 Lochranza & Pirnmill

<i>Hugh Fitch, M.A.</i>	- - - - -	1931 - 1939
<i>Hector Munro</i>	- - - - -	1940 - 1948
<i>Robert Carmichael, M.A.</i>	- - - - -	1948 - 1957
<i>William McDougall</i>	- - - - -	1958 - 1965
<i>James Dow, M.A.</i>	- - - - -	1965 - 1977

Lochranza & Pirnmill (Linked with Shiskine)

<i>Robert Walker, M.A., B.D.</i>	- - - - -	1977 - 1984
<i>Andrew Barrie, B.Sc B.D.</i>	- - - - -	1984 - 2000

Lochranza & Pirnmill (Linked with Shiskine & Lamlash)

<i>Barry Knight, B.D.</i>	- - - - -	2002 - 2004
<i>Jean Hunter, B.D. (Attached Reader)</i>	- - - - -	2002 - 2004

Lochranza & Pirnmill (Linked with Shiskine & Brodick & Corrie)

<i>Angus Adamson, B.D.</i>	- - - - -	2004 - - - - -
<i>Jean Hunter, B.D. (Parish Assistant)</i>	- - - - -	2004 - - - - -

This information and associated frames
have been specially researched and the
display is dedicated to the fond memory of

Rev. Kenneth Fisher B.D.

Locum, Interim Moderator and
good friend of this parish

2003- 2004

1560**Lochranza Church
Roll of Ministers & Catechists****1930**

<i>Alexander McAllestar</i>	- - - - -	1560 -????
<i>Hector McAllestar</i>	- - - - -	1580 -????
<i>James McKirdie or McQuirtie</i>	- - - - -	16?? - 1648
<i>Alexander McLaine, M.A.</i>	- - - - -	1651 - ????
<i>John McLean, M.A.</i>	- - - - -	1688 - ????
<i>Dugald Bannatyne</i>	- - - - -	1701 - 1748
<i>James McLea (C)</i>	- - - - -	1708 - ????
<i>James Stewart (C) (translated to Kilbride)-</i>	- - - - -	1709 - 1723
<i>Charles Bannatyne</i>	- - - - -	1743 - 1751
<i>James Stewart (now Minister at Kilmory)-</i>	- - - - -	1752 - 1761
<i>James Stewart</i>	- - - - -	1758
<i>John Hamilton (C)</i>	- - - - -	1754 - 1760
<i>Walter McLeish (C)</i>	- - - - -	???? - 1766
<i>John Hamilton (now Minister at Kilmory)-</i>	- - - - -	1762 - 1768
<i>Daniel Hyndman (C)</i>	- - - - -	1768 - 1769
<i>Colin Lindsay (C)</i>	- - - - -	1772 - 1778
<i>John Stewart (C)-</i>	- - - - -	1780 - 1795
<i>Daniel Campbell (C)</i>	- - - - -	1796 - 1803
<i>Duncan Smith</i>	- - - - -	1799 - 1801
<i>Neil McBride</i>	- - - - -	1802 - 1814
<i>Angus McMillan (C)</i>	- - - - -	1812 - 1822
<i>Dugald Crawford</i>	- - - - -	1815 - 1821
<i>Angus McMillan (now Minister at Kilmory)-</i>	- - - - -	1822 - 1843
<i>John McMaster (C) --</i>	- - - - -	1822 - 1831
<i>Charles Stewart (C)</i>	- - - - -	1833 - 1843
<i>Charles Stewart (now Minister at Kilmory)-</i>	- - - - -	1843 - 1869
<i>Duncan Black</i>	- - - - -	1869 - 1902
<i>D. MacDonald</i>	- - - - -	1885
<i>Robert Hutcheson (C)</i>	- - - - -	1888 - 1891
<i>Dougald MacEachern, M.A., B.D. (C)</i>	- - - - -	891 - 1895
<i>John McKenzie (C)</i>	- - - - -	1896 - 1897
<i>Andrew McLean (C)-</i>	- - - - -	1898 - 1906
<i>Andrew W. Kennedy</i>	- - - - -	1902 - 1914
<i>Neil MacLeod (C)</i>	- - - - -	1907 - 1910
<i>John Colville, M.A., B.D. (C)-</i>	- - - - -	1911 - 1918
<i>Duncan Connacher, M.A.</i>	- - - - -	1914 - 1918
<i>*** John Colville, M.A., B.D.</i>	- - - - -	1918 - 1930
<i>*** (becomes the first Church of Scotland Minister at Lochranza</i>		

1560 Lochranza Church **1930**
Roll of Ministers & Catechists

Alexander MacLellan	1560-1777
Malcolm MacLellan	1672-1698
James MacLellan	1831-1777
Alexander MacLellan, M.A.	1688-1777
John MacLellan, M.A.	1701-1798
Donald MacLellan	1708-1777
James MacLellan (C)	1709-1731
James MacLellan (C) (transferred to Kilbride)	1781-1781
Charles MacLellan (C) (now Minister of Kilbride)	1758
James MacLellan	1758-1760
John MacLellan (C)	1777-1786
William MacLellan (C)	1762-1768
John MacLellan (C) (now Minister of Kilbride)	1768-1768
Donald MacLellan (C)	1772-1778
John MacLellan (C)	1780-1785
John MacLellan (C)	1786-1801
Donald MacLellan (C)	1789-1801
Thomas Smith	1802-1818
Neil MacLellan	1812-1812
Angus MacLellan (C)	1813-1813
Angus MacLellan (now Minister of Kilbride)	1812-1813
John MacLellan (C)	1813-1813
Charles MacLellan (C)	1813-1813
Charles MacLellan (now Minister of Kilbride)	1813-1813
Thomas Smith	1818-1902
Thomas Smith	1885
D. MacLellan	1888-1891
Robert MacLellan (C)	1891-1893
Donald MacLellan, M.A., B.D. (C)	1896-1897
John MacLellan (C)	1898-1906
Andrew MacLellan (C)	1902-1914
Andrew W. Kennedy	1907-1910
Neil MacLellan (C)	1911-1918
John MacLellan, M.A., B.D. (C)	1918-1918
Thomas MacLellan, M.A.	1918-1918
John MacLellan, M.A., B.D.	1918-1918

see Thomas the first Church of Scotland Minister of Lochranza

1845 Roll of Ministers & Continued **1930**
 Free Church & United Free Church

AT THE DISSOLUTION OF 1842, AS A RESULT OF THE INFLUENCE OF MR ANGUS MACLELLAN OF KILBRIDE, (PREVIOUSLY CATECHIST AT LOCHRANZA), THE CONGREGATION WENT ALMOST COMPLETELY OVER TO THE FREE CHURCH. AS A RESULT THE ESTABLISHED CHURCH CHAPEL OF KILBY HAD TO FOR SOME TIME ALL BUT DESTITUTE, WHILST LOCHRANZA AND LENINMOIR BECAME A CHARGE OF THE FREE CHURCH IN 1844.

FREE CHURCH OF SCOTLAND

John MacLellan 1845-1847

CONGREGATION VACANT FOR ALMOST TEN YEARS

Donald MacLellan 1857-1877
 Donald MacLellan 1877-1887

WANT OF HARMONY BETWEEN THE TWO SECTIONS OF THE CONGREGATION LED TO PERMANENT OF TWO SEPARATE FREE CHURCH CHARGES BEING ESTABLISHED IN 1887

LOCHRANZA

James MacLellan - 1888
 Alexander J. Grant - 1897

IN THE UNION OF 1900 BETWEEN THE FREE CHURCH AND THE UNITED PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, BOTH BECAME CONGREGATIONS OF THE UNITED FREE CHURCH OF SCOTLAND.

UNITED FREE CHURCH OF SCOTLAND

Alexander J. Grant - 1908
 John Kennedy - 1910

IN 1916, LOCHRANZA F.F. CHURCH AND KILBY WERE UNITED WITH LENINMOIR AND KILBRIDE, BECOMING LOCHRANZA & PIRNILL UNITED FREE CHURCH.

John MacLellan - 1910-1924
 Alexander Shaw, M.A., B.D. - 1924-1927

IN THE UNION OF 1929 BETWEEN THE UNITED FREE CHURCH OF SCOTLAND, THE PARISH CHURCH BECAME LOCHRANZA, F.F. CHURCH, THE F.F. CHURCH BECAME LOCHRANZA EAST & PIRNILL, BOTH WERE UNITED IN 1930. LOCHRANZA F.F. CHURCH REMAINING THE PARISH CHURCH, WHILST THE PIRNILL F.F. CHURCH (NOW LOCHRANZA OUTDOOR CENTRE) SERVED AS THE CHURCH HALL.

1931 Roll of Ministers & Continued **2007**
 Lochranza & Pirnill

Walter Fisher, M.A.	1931-1939
Malcolm MacLellan	1940-1948
Robert Cairns-MacLellan, M.A.	1948-1957
William MacLellan	1958-1965
James Dene, M.A.	1965-1977

Lochranza & Pirnill
 (Linked with Shikine)

Robert MacLellan, M.A., B.D.	1977-1984
Andrew Murray, B.Sc. B.D.	1984-2000

Lochranza & Pirnill
 (Linked with Shikine & Lamlash)

Henry Knight, B.D.	2002-2004
James Hunter, B.D. (Attached Dundee)	2002-2004

Lochranza & Pirnill
 (Linked with Shikine & Bredick & Corrie)

Angus Adamson, B.D.	2004
James Hunter, B.D. (Formerly Dundee)	2004

This information and associated images have been specially researched and the display is dedicated to the fond memory of
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 Locum, Interim Moderator and good friend of this parish
 2003-2004

1560 St Bride's Church - Lochranza **1918**

Strong historical evidence exists to illustrate that there has been a church on this site since medieval times and certainly since before the dawn of the Reformation in Scotland in 1560. Originally known as St James's, this name did not survive the anti-catholic feelings of the seventeenth century, it finally became known as St Bride's Chapel only in 1929 when the established Church of Scotland united with the U.F. Church. The former U.F. Church in the village (now part of The Hall Street Centre) then became known as 'Lochranza East & Pirnill'. It was then that the foundations, with the steeple and tower, was removed from the interior and remained in the exterior wall, on the north side of the building.

In that same year The Reverend John Cobble, minister of the Chapel, realized his dream and by taking an endowment fund, enabled Lochranza Chapel to become a 'Real Free' Church known as St. Bride's Church.

The names of Priests who served here, prior to the break with Rome, are unknown but from 1560, records of the reformed clergy, responsible for maintaining the religious life of the parish, are more readily available. At the Reformation, Arnes was divided into two parishes Kilbride and Kilbride, the boundary between them being Lochranza village and the north side of the lake in Kilbride, whilst Newton Stone and the north side of the lake was in Kilbride. Any worship that might have been conducted in the church would therefore have been the responsibility of the Kilbride minister in whose bounds the church lay.

By the end of 17th Century the existing structure was quoted as being 'in so fit state for worship' and a decision was made by the Synod of Arnes, in 1642, that there be a 'Real Free' building erected in the said site (then), situated at the head of Lochranza. Unfortunately, due to the violent uprisings of the Civil War period none of this proposal came about at that time. However, records show that in 1654, a 'Chapel of Ease' was built on the site. A detailed building will be another than it was within the walls of this chapel that the steeple was built. This building fell in to disrepair and it was not until 1712, thanks to the generosity of The Great Dutchess Anne, the chapel was rebuilt.

The Duchess also provided a stipend for a minister at Lochranza and the bene of Collierston at a nominal rate. This function of the church acted as assistant to both the parish ministers of Arnes, being charge of the northern extension of both parishes, from the time when it was in Collierston the west. In the course of his duties he was responsible for the conduct of worship and assisting in the administration of the sacraments.

The last rebuilding of the church took place in 1791 and it was further improved in 1825 to suit 300. Also, just seven years later at the Disruption of 1842 the Church was almost deserted by the people, in honor of the Free Church. From that point on the Church was looked after by the Kilbride minister, very often assisted, again by a minister of intermediate and assistance. Gradually as the century drew to a close the Established Church began to recede in favor of the Free Church, so much so, that the Church, which was again falling in to disrepair, was reformed by the Duke of Hamilton, who, in 1890, granted £1000 as an endowment for a parsonage - 'God's own care'.

Only on the 20th June 1918 Lochranza St. Bride's Church became a ministerial charge of the Church of Scotland in its own right.

The adjacent roll of ministers, lists both the Kilbride Ministers responsible for Lochranza as well as those ministers, laymen and ordained ministerial assistants who were at Lochranza. (document ©)

This illustrates the four 15" x 18" display panels which are hung in the vestibule of St. Bride's Church