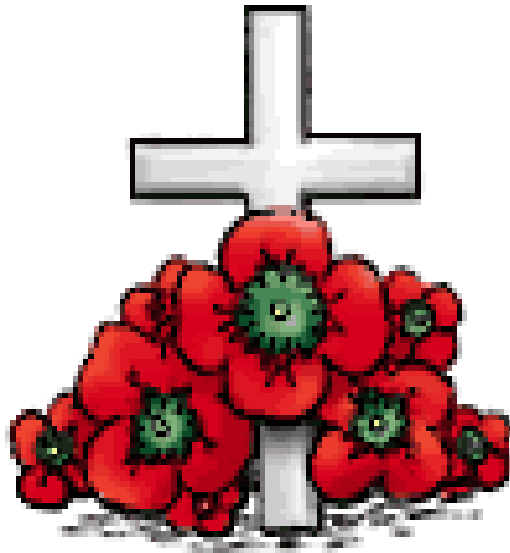


Saltcoats St Cuthbert's Church Magazine



Lest we forget

November 2017

www.saltcoats-stcuthberts.org.uk

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In Flanders Fields by John McCrae, May 1915



In Flanders fields the poppies blow
Between the crosses, row on row,
That mark our place; and in the sky
The larks, still bravely singing, fly
Scarce heard amid the guns below.

We are the Dead. Short days ago
We lived, felt dawn, saw sunset glow,
Loved and were loved, and now we lie
In Flanders fields.

Take up our quarrel with the foe:
To you from failing hands we throw
The torch; be yours to hold it high.
If ye break faith with us who die
We shall not sleep, though poppies grow
In Flanders fields.

During the early days of the Second Battle of Ypres a young Canadian artillery officer, Lieutenant Alexis Helmer, was killed on 2nd May, 1915 in the gun positions near Ypres. An exploding German artillery shell landed near him. He was serving in the same Canadian artillery unit as a friend of his, the Canadian military doctor and artillery commander **Major John McCrae**.

As the brigade doctor, John McCrae was asked to conduct the burial service for Alexis because the chaplain had been called away somewhere else on duty that evening. It is believed that later that evening, after the burial, John began the draft for his now famous poem "In Flanders Fields".

From the Interim Moderator

Dear Members and Friends of Saltcoats St Cuthbert's,

We are approaching the season of Remembrance. The whole point of Remembrance, it seems to me, is to honour those who have made the ultimate sacrifice and to learn the lessons of the past. Here is a sobering fact: there have only been two years that British servicemen and women have not been killed in action since the end of World War Two, and these were 1967 and 2016.

Remembering really matters. It has been said, "It is not the things we don't know which impoverish us but the things that we have forgotten." Remembering is not just for the old or for those who lived through the war. The whole community needs to remember its collective past and learn lessons for the future. At all costs we need to avoid collective amnesia.

Today we live in the Information Age. We have information coming at us from everywhere. How do we process it all? It used to be when driving the car you knew what speed you were doing and that was all. Now I know what speed; how much fuel I am using; what my arrival time will be; temperature inside and outside the vehicle; what road I am on and much else. Information may also come from the radio and from my wife, all at the same time. So much information and how do we process it all? How do we remember it all? The answer is: we don't but we must decide what is important to remember.

There are things that we need to remember but how do we decide what to remember? The danger is that we don't see the wood for the trees and lose sight of what really matters. Moses told the people of Israel to focus on what matters; to remember what is important:

"The Lord and the Lord alone is our God. Love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul and with all your strength."

Only if we never forget what is really important will everything else make sense.

Fraternally

David Watson

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Afternoon Club

Members of the Afternoon Club were extremely saddened to learn of the death of Minnie Chalmers.

Minnie was a long and faithful member of our beautiful church and a founder member of the Afternoon Club where for many years she served as President; a role she fulfilled with pride and commitment.

Over the years Minnie was an inspiration to us all. No matter the situation she always had a lovely smile, a kind word and never a complaint.

Minnie will be greatly missed and lovingly remembered by us all. Our thoughts and prayers are with Robbie and all the family.

Nan Smith President

Shoe Box Appeal

Blythswood shoe boxes and/or suitable items for inclusion should be returned by 5 November.

Christmas Fair

The Christmas Fair will be held on Saturday 25th November in the church halls from 10.00 – 12.30.

There will be a variety of stalls as well as a visit from Santa.

Admission tickets are £3. This includes tea, coffee and home baking. Children are admitted free.

Donations of home baking, bottles, Santa gifts and red and green items will be greatly appreciated.

Fundraising Team

Mens Club

A meeting of the "Mens Club" took place on Tues 17th Oct., with 7 "Gentlemen" attending.

A short quiz was held and the result was..... well perhaps a veil should be drawn over that!!!

Tom showed a large collection of arrow heads, tools and fossilised wood, estimated to be approx. 3000 years old, which he had found in his back garden - well actually they were found in the Sahara Desert.(Libya).

Bill brought along a book entitled "Doon the Watter" featuring some old photographs of Saltcoats from 1950s/1960s which brought back memories. (Nostalgia is not what it used to be).

There was of course the usual coffee and biscuits (The Deans shortbread didn't last long ??) An enjoyable evening was had by all. The next meeting will be on Tuesday 31st October.

Tom Sommerville

The Guild

Recently we had a most interesting talk about Nursery Rhymes, and the history behind them. It was quite an eye-opener, as we teach our children these rhymes, but we may not realise the gruesome tales behind them.

We are looking forward to our next meeting on November 1., when William and Muriel will be taking us on Travels with their camera.

On Wednesday November 15., to celebrate Guild Week, we are having a Musical Afternoon with "George and Michael", followed by a fish supper tea.

On November 29., we will be going on a tour of Old Saltcoats, courtesy of Robert Brown. We are looking forward to seeing how it used to be. Feel free to come along and join us at any of our meetings. You will be made most welcome.

Sheila Sarginson.

Sunday School

This month we have been learning about the prophet Elijah and for one story we used modelling clay to make birds and a bowl and figures of people. The children had great fun doing this.

We have also made an autumn scene which is on our board in the hall and we hope you will see it when you are next in the hall.

Sunday school teachers

Flower Rota



NOVEMBER

5th Christine Saunders
12th Lesley Boyle
19th Adele Kerr
26th Lynn Fraser

DECEMBER

3rd Jenny Horwood
10th Margaret Sommerville
17th Janette Smith
24th Mary McGonigle
31st John Gray

Many thanks to all who have donated flowers for the church.

We would like to place poinsettias again on the church windowsills during the festive period. Any small donation towards the purchase of the plants would be much appreciated and can be given to Elsa or Annita.

Annita Gillespie (tel 468101) and Elsa Kirk. Flower Conveners

Parkers Preserves



A shocking season resulted in a poorer bramble harvest (only picked 120 lbs this year!). However, I am grateful to everyone who purchased the various jams, jellies and chutneys enabling £600 to be added to our church funds. Thanks also to those who contributed sugar, surplus fruit and jelly jars. Keep saving the jars and hope for a better summer next year.

Muriel Parker

Church Register

Oct. Mrs. M. Chalmers, Jacks Road, Saltcoats



Evening Outing?

A Winter Concert entitled "Glow" by the Kilmarnock based choir A Choired Taste will be held in the Grand Hall Kilmarnock on Saturday 9th December. Dalmellington Brass Band will be guests and tickets priced £8 can be obtained from William (471207) or Ena (464437). A bus (£8) will be arranged if a minimum of 16 passengers are guaranteed.

Boys Brigade

1st Saltcoats Boys Brigade Company has been entered for an Aviva Community award with the possibility of gaining up to £1,000 for the company. However, it relies on votes from the general public for us to stand a chance of gaining this. Voting is carried out on the Aviva website with our own project being at the following address <https://community-fund.aviva.co.uk/voting/project/view/17-619>

Voting opened on October 24th and runs for a month.

Gordon Cunningham Captain

It is hoped that as many people as possible will support our BB Company by voting. I find that by typing Aviva Community Fund into Google and following the instructions may be easier than trying to type the above address. Whatever works for you! Editor

Articles for the December magazine should be with William Parker william.parker1@outlook.com by Monday 20th November.

Cleaning Rota

Fri 3 Nov	A Turner	E Kirk
Fri 10 Nov	M Crilley	E Ramsay
Sat 18 Nov	S Cross	N Smith
Fri 24 Nov	S Hanlon	E Murray
Sun 3 Dec	G Morrison	S Turner
Fri 8 Dec	E Kirk	M Parker
Fri 15 Dec	C Saunders	S Hanlon
Fri 22 Dec	S Love	A Algie
Fri 29 Dec	volunteers	
Sat 6 Jan	A Gillespie	J Campbell
Sat 13 Jan	A Kerr	Liz Sutherland
Fri 19 Jan	A Turner	E Kirk
Fri 26 Jan	M Crilley	E Ramsay

Religious Humour

A minister got up one Sunday and announced to his congregation:
"I have good news and bad news. The good news is, we have enough money to pay for our new building programme. The bad news is, it's still out there in your pockets."

A Sunday School teacher began her lesson with a question.

"Boys and girls, what do we know about God?"

A hand shot up in the air. "He is an artist!" said one little boy.

"Really? How do you know?" the teacher asked.

"You know - Our Father, who does art in Heaven."

People want the front of the bus, the back of the church, and the centre of attention.

Weekly Calendar

Sundays:	10.45 a.m. - Morning Service, Sunday School and Youth Group
Mondays:	2.00 p.m. – Afternoon Club for beginners' & improvers' bridge, crafts, etc 4.00 p.m. – Rennie Dance Academy 7.30 p.m. – Country Dancing (a social dancing class)
Tuesdays:	10.30 a.m. – Informal mid-week service 6.00 p.m. – Girls Brigade
Wednesdays:	10.30 a.m. – Keep Fit Class 2.00 p.m. (fortnightly) The Guild
Thursdays:	9.30 a.m. – Mother and Toddler Group 3.30 p.m. – Rennie Dance Academy 6.30 p.m. – Anchor Boys
Fridays:	6.00 p.m. Boys Brigade

