

FAMILY CEILIDH



SATURDAY 24th MARCH

7PM-11PM

PIE & PEA SUPPER

BRING YOUR OWN BOTTLE

Tickets available now

Adults £7 Children £3

Saltcoats St Cuthbert's Church Magazine



Long Service Certificate Presentation

March 2018

Website: www.saltcoats-stcuthberts.org.uk

Email: stcuthberts100@btinternet.com

From the Interim Moderator

Dear members and friends of St Cuthbert's, Saltcoats,

2018 is a year of significant anniversaries. It is the centenary of the end of the Great War the effects of which were so devastating that they still cast a long dark shadow over this country and many others. Barely twenty years after it was over, conflict re-ignited and the Great War became known as the First World War. The war to end all wars hadn't done that at all!

One of the consequences of the Great War was a re-evaluation of the role of women in society. This year also marks the centenary of votes for women. There is still a way to go, but women's rights and equality have made substantial progress in the last hundred years.

2018 also marks the 50th anniversary of the ordination of women in The Church of Scotland. Celebrations are planned to mark that significant moment in the history of our church. Women have always played a vital role in the life of the church and in St Cuthbert's the women on the Kirk Session make an invaluable contribution to the life of the church. I have never been involved in a church where women elders did not play a significant role, but colleagues who have, said that the effect of bringing women into the Kirk Session was transformational. To people of my age group and younger it is a "no brainer". Apart from fairness why would one choose to exclude more than half the talent in the congregation? Ordained women have enriched the ministry of the church in so many ways.

On the 4th of February at the communion service the congregation had an opportunity to celebrate the contribution of those who have served the church faithfully for many years and to enjoy a nice lunch afterwards. My thanks to William Parker for arranging the certificates; to Rev Alan Ward for presenting them and conducting the services while Mr Bert McCool was on holiday.

The Stated Annual Meeting of the congregation will take place after the service on Sunday 25th March in the hall. I hope that you will come if you can.

Fraternally

David Watson. 01475 672370 dwatson@churchofscotland.org.uk

Weekly Calendar

Sundays: 10.45 a.m. - Morning Service,
Sunday School and Youth Group

Mondays: 2.00 p.m. – Afternoon Club
for bridge play & instruction, crafts, etc
. 1.30 p.m. – Rennie Dance Academy
7.30 p.m. – Country Dancing
(a social dancing class)

Tuesdays: 6.00 p.m. – Girls Brigade
7.00 p.m. – (fortnightly) Mens Club

Wednesdays: 10.30 a.m. – Walking Group
11.30 a.m. – Community Cafe
(2nd & 4th Wednesdays)
2.00 p.m. -(fortnightly) The Guild
6.00 p.m. - Weightwatchers

Thursdays: 9.30 a.m. – Mother and Toddler Group
6.30 p.m. – Anchor Boys

Fridays: 6.00 p.m. Boys Brigade

Scottish Charity Number: SC 002905

Long Service Presentation

At a recent special service held in Saltcoats St Cuthberts Parish Church 29 members were recognised for their long and dedicated service to the Church. They received their awards for fulfilling their roles as elders, choir members and leaders of church organisations for commitment ranging from 25 to 65 years.

Conducting the service and making the presentations, visiting preacher Rev Alan Ward said, "I am in awe of the commitment and stamina of so many people who have served the Church so faithfully for so many years. You are an example of dedication which we hope many others will follow."

Certificates were presented to Choir members - William Parker 27 years; Jean Mitchell 28; Rosslyn Lee 32; Elizabeth Barclay 32; Jessie Brown 45; Rosemary Smith 46; John Gallagher 47; Ann Turner and Ena Grove 50; Evelyn Slater 65.

Elders receiving awards were Simon Hales and Nan Smith 30 years; Joan Gordon, Sheila Hanlon and William Parker 31; Hunter Grove and Robert Hunter 35; Evelyn Slater, John Gallagher and George Hammersley 40; Robert Brown 44; William Hogarth 49; Bill Smith 51; Chris Knight 54; Peter Milne 62; John Aitken and the late John Barbour 63; finally Archie MacIntyre 64.

The service by two stalwarts of the Sunday School teaching staff Senga McCallum and Julie Fisher with 44 and 25 years respectively was also recognised.

The 40th anniversary as an officer in the 5th Saltcoats Girls' Brigade by retiring Captain Lorna Hamilton and 62 years of active

involvement at all levels in the Boys' Brigade by Chris Knight also warranted recognition.

Management of finances is a constant and hugely important commitment in any church. This year saw the 50th set of accounts prepared by Ann and the late Findlay Turner.

A remarkable total of 1436 years has been recorded by these members to the Church of Scotland with the vast majority of that service being to Saltcoats St Cuthberts. Many of the recipients and members of the congregation took the opportunity to meet afterwards in the Dalgarven House Hotel to share lunch and the fellowship that the occasion provided.

Mens Club

On the last Tuesday in January we held a Darts tournament with the winner being Bill ("Bullseye") Main. Prizes were awarded to those who actually managed to hit the board.

A Dominoes competition was arranged a fortnight later when John Gallagher came out top from the eight players attending. Thanks for the donation of biscuits.

On the 27th March we have a visit from Mr McGarrity of the Historical Society. We hope to arrange dates for a visit from The Kilwinning Archery Society and also from a member of the War Graves Commission. Possible dates 13th March and early April. More information in the next magazine.

If interested in any of the meetings please come along.

Tom Sommerville

Presbytery Report

The Rev Hilary J Beresford will be inducted to the charge of Kilwinning Mansefield Trinity on Monday 26th February.

Largs St. John's and West Kilbride Parish Church plan hall refurbishments and Kilwinning Old propose an organ overhaul.

Mr Ron Swanson, Ayrshire Hospice Fundraiser, addressed Presbytery on the annual 'Light up a Life' Concert held in Kilmarnock in November.

A "Sleep in the Park" report below was presented by Rev. Roddy Macdonald, Beith Parish Church minister who braved the elements On December 9th over 8,000 fundraisers braved temperatures of -6°C in Princes Street Gardens for the world's biggest sleepout. The amazing people sleeping out and their supporters raised an incredible £2.7m. Clydesdale Bank committed an additional £0.5m. We also received an anonymous donation of a further £0.5m bringing the **total raised so far to £3.7m!** Now in excess of £4m.

"Experiencing the bitter cold of that night was a real eye opener. There were homeless people from Shelter and the Big Issue raising money for their charities all night so there were people with the real experience of homelessness and not just those sponsored. Sitting on a bench at 2am I had a conversation with a young man who had been homeless living in the street and was now living in a room in someone's home that was offered after the event last year. He is now helping other homeless people sell the Big Issue. The stories he shared of his time being homeless were horrific. He used to sleep in the vents behind the Kings Theatre in Glasgow. He told of a night when some young drunk guys decided to relieve

themselves using him as a toilet. He then had to walk around for days stinking as there was nowhere to shower or get clean so people assumed he was just dirty.

He also told a funny story about a night a couple of young guys gave him some money and it turned out to be Monopoly money. A short while later a posh guy came along with an attractive young woman who was sympathetic saying please help the poor soul, pointing at him. The man flourishing a £20 note bent over handing it to him magnanimously for his girlfriend to see and whispered, "Can you give me change, son". No problem he said and gave him the notes in his hand. He said "I would love to have seen that posh guy's face when he realised he had walked away clutching a pile of Monopoly money."

It was difficult to sleep even with a good sleeping bag, and the continuous noise of the city and the cold interrupted any sleep I did catch, leaving me feeling quite disorientated and dazed. 6am in a temperature of -5°C I had to crack my frozen stiff roller mat before I could roll it up. (I have never seen that happen before).

The noisy rustling of the poly bags we were given to cover our sleeping bags and the screams as the ice that had formed on top fell into people's bags meant there was no need for an alarm call for anyone who did manage to sleep.

At that point it was a relief to be able to go home but realised after just one night how privileged I was to be able to do that where real homeless people would be facing the same night after night with nowhere to get warm in between."

Rev. R. Macdonald

Plant Sale

This year the plant sale will take place on Saturday 12 May. A list of plants available will be included in the April Magazine. Anyone with special requests should let me know as soon as possible.

Ann Turner

2018 Girls' Brigade Celebrates 125 Years

On Saturday 3rd February we headed off to St. Kentigern's Church in Kilmarnock to take part in the Division Competitions and what a successful morning it turned out to be. Eva and Summer representing the Explorers took 1st Place with their illustration of the story of Milly and the Mermaids. The Juniors were represented by Emma, Katie and Caitlin who participated in Potted Sports and took 2nd Place while Lesley and Amy, Brigaders, had to compile a prayer of thanksgiving incorporating 125 years of Girls' Brigade. Poster, prayer and certificates are displayed on our board in the hall. Congratulations to all winners today.

Next on the agenda is the Bible competitions in Girdle Toll on 9th March and Emma, Katie, Lesley and Amy have been given the task of learning Matthew Chapter 5 verses 1-10 (the Beatitudes). This year's competition is a completely different format to that which we are all used to and we wish them well.

I was honoured to receive a certificate for 40 years as a GB Officer during the morning service on Sunday 4th February in this my last year as a GB officer. An added surprise following the service was being given a beautiful flower arrangement and gift voucher from my fellow GB members who have supported me throughout the years.

This is a year of celebration for the Girls' Brigade when we will take part in various activities throughout the coming months but, closer to home, here at 5th Saltcoats Company we have our own celebrations.

On 27th January we celebrated the wedding of Gillian (GB Auxiliary) and Gordon (BB Captain) and any time now we look forward to celebrating the birth of their baby boy.

Watch this space for more information as it happens.

Lorna Hamilton. Captain

Church Ceilidh

Saturday 24th March 7pm. See back page for details

Graeme Sutherland

St Cuthbert's Community Cafe

Call in, catch up, fill up and relax in great company!

On the second and fourth Wednesday of the month
Starting Wed 14th March 11:30am - 1:30pm

Menu

Soup £1:50, Sandwiches £1:50, Cake 50p Tea/Coffee £1:00 (Free refill)

Over the coming months we will be looking at topics on Healthy eating, Dementia, Diabetes and there will be a book stall, magazines, games table.

Looking forward to meeting you all.

Angela Beattie Tel:01294 829612

The Guild

On St. Valentine's Day we had a Party, to which we invited all our friends in the Church. We had hearts everywhere, played games, some of which being themed to hearts. It was a very joyous afternoon, so good to see everyone thoroughly enjoying themselves. Outside the weather was quite miserable, but not so inside. The Guild may be "old in years", but we showed we are still "young at heart. The party ended with home baking. Keeping to the theme, our hearts are in the right place!

Our thanks must go to Evelyn, hostess on the day, for all the hard work she put into it. From one and all, a big Thank You.

On February 28., at 2 pm, the Guild Presbyterial Council is holding a "Songs of Praise" in our Church. Do come along and meet up with your friends in the other Guilds and support our Church.

The following meeting will be at 2 pm, Wednesday March 14., and on a more serious note. A speaker is coming from Crossreach to show us some ways in which we can help people with Dementia. If you know anyone who cares for someone with dementia, please tell them about this meeting, and bring them along, as they might find it helpful. The meeting is open to all, the talk being entitled "Play List for Life", and with a musical theme.

Our meeting on March 28., has been cancelled, due to there being a Communion Service in the Church the following afternoon, for Maundy Thursday.

Finally, we wish everyone a Happy Easter.

Sheila Sarginson.

Sunday School

As you will see from the Sunday School Board we are progressing with our story of Moses, covering many different parts of his life.

The Sunday School will be taking a break during the Easter school holidays and will be off on Sundays the 25th March and 1st April.

Sunday School Teachers

Choir

Anthems in March

- | | | |
|----|-----------------------------------|----------|
| 4 | My life flows on in endless song. | Hymn 565 |
| 11 | O love how deep, how broad. | Hymn 354 |
| 18 | There is a redeemer. | Hymn 559 |
| 25 | Shout Hosanna. | Hymn 368 |

Rosemary Smith

Flower Rota

- | | | | | | |
|-------|----|-----------------|-------|----|------------------|
| March | 4 | Sheena Love | April | 1 | Gillian Morrison |
| | 11 | Ann Turner | | 8 | Irene Hogarth |
| | 18 | Jean Parker | | 15 | Liz Sutherland |
| | 25 | Janette Mumford | | 22 | donation |
| | | | | 29 | Jessie Brown |

Annita Gillespie and Elsa Kirk, Flower Conveners

Cleaning Rota

Fri 2 March	C Saunders	S Hanlon
Fri 9 March	S Love	A Algie
Sat 17 March	A Gillespie	J Campbell
Sat 24 March	A Kerr	L Sutherland
Fri 30 March	A Turner	E Kirk
Fri 6 April	M Crilley	E Ramsay
Sat 14 April	S Cross	N Smith
Fri 20 April	S Hanlon	E Murray
Sun 29 April	G Morrison	S Turner
Fri 4 May	E Kirk	M Parker
Fri 11 May	C Saunders	S Hanlon
Fri 18 May	S Love	A Algie
Sat 26 May	A Gillespie	J Campbell

Deaths

Jan Mr. G. Morrison, Stanley Drive, Ardrossan

Feb. Mr. J. Barbour, Argyle Rd., Saltcoats

Marriage

Jan. Gillian McQuiston, Saltcoats & Gordon Cunningham, Dalry

Might be you someday!

Couple in their nineties are both having problems remembering things.

During a check-up, the doctor tells them that they're physically okay, but they might want to start writing things down to help them remember.

Later that night, while watching TV, the old man gets up from his chair. 'Want anything while I'm in the kitchen?' he asks.

'Will you get me a bowl of ice cream?'

'Sure.'

'Don't you think you should write it down so you can remember it?' she asks

'No, I can remember it.'

'Well, I'd like some strawberries on top, too. Maybe you should write it down, so as not to forget it?'

He says, 'I can remember that. You want a bowl of ice cream with strawberries.'

'I'd also like whipped cream. I'm certain you'll forget that, write it down?' she asks.

Irritated, he says, 'I don't need to write it down, I can remember it! Ice cream with strawberries and whipped cream - I got it, for goodness sake!'

Then he toddles into the kitchen. After about 20 minutes, the old man returns from the kitchen and hands his wife a plate of bacon and eggs.

She stares at the plate for a moment then says

'Where's my toast?'

Diary Dates

Feb 28 Guild "Songs of Praise" 2pm in St. Cuthbert's

Mar 2 World Day of Prayer

Mar 14 Guild Crossreach

Mar 24 Family Ceilidh

Mar 25 Annual Stated Meeting

Mar 27 Mens Club Mr. McGarrity Historical Society

Mar 29 Maundy Thursday Communion 3pm with Rev. A Ward

May 12 Plant Sale

Sept Fashion Show

Ongoing

Items for Foodbank

Sunday School pennies collection for the Childrens Hospice