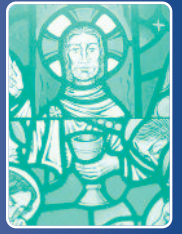




JUNE 2010  
CHURCH of SCOTLAND LOCAL PARISH NEWSLETTER  
**KILMORE & OBAN**

*The future looks good!*



WHAT'S ON

LATEST NEWS

SERVICE TIMES

## FROM THE MINISTER'S DESK



There are times in congregational life when important issues come to the fore; matters that determine the future direction of who we are as people of God.

As you will no doubt know the Church of Scotland is going through a process of discernment to find a way forward on what to do about same-sex clergy relationships. Whilst we have been told by the General Assembly not to share our opinions with the media we have concurrently been debating the issue in Presbyteries and now in Kirk Sessions, including our own.

Our discussion was open and honest, theological and, I trust, sensitive. We were asked by the General Assemblies Special Commission to answer a number of questions to ascertain the wider attitude of the Kirk Session, rather than answer a simple yes/no to one point. Without going into long detail on the questions and the background I think it is fair to say our Kirk Session voted in such a way as to affirm inclusiveness, the importance of commitment, and that there was no overwhelming wish to leave the church regardless of any result nor to see the Church of Scotland divided.

Some of us may ask why we are talking about this sort of issue when we didn't in past decades. Well, issues surrounding sexuality have always been there, but only in more recent times have we become more confident in speaking about them. Perhaps it is a positive sign of maturity in this aspect of faith that rather than hide things under the carpet we can talk openly and seek the Holy Spirit's guidance in where we should travel and how we should be as the church of the 21st century.

No matter what happens when the church comes to make decisions at next year's General Assembly I trust a greater theological maturity of discussion will prevail and that we in Kilmore and Oban will be empowered to show the unconditional love of God.



## THE SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

Will be celebrated on  
Sunday 6th June at

**10.00am at Corran Esplanade Church**  
**11.30am at Glencruitten Road Church**  
**6.00pm at Kilmore**

and on Wednesday 9th June  
**3.00pm Glencruitten Road Church**

and for residents at  
**Lynn Court 10.30am**  
**Torosay Court 11.30am**  
**Dunmar Court 4.00pm**

*All are welcome at the Lord's Table*

**A short Preparatory Service will be held at the  
Corran Esplanade Church at 7.00pm on Friday 4th June**

Minister: Rev. Dugald Cameron; Associate Minister: Rev. Cat Knott  
Administrator: Mrs Maureen Devine, The Church Office, Glencruitten Road, Oban PA34 4DH Open: Monday - Friday 9am - 1pm  
Tel: 01631 562405 E-mail: obancofs@btinternet.com Website: www.obanchurch.com

Kilmore and Oban Church of Scotland. Scottish Charity Number SC011171

## DEVELOPMENT FUND 2010/11



The Step Up 2010 campaign went very well and it is hoped to see a pick-up in our general giving. So a very big thanks again to everyone who responded. Now we have to meet the specific big expenditure commitments that are before us. To energise us a Task Group has been set up to address fund raising which will go towards redecorating Glencruitten Road and buying a new organ. Thereafter, we will address forthcoming expenditure on Corran Esplanade.

Over the summer lots of ideas will transform into projects for raising the finance, e.g. direct congregational appeals, wider community appeals, family ceilidhs, sales!, fashion shows, BBQs, and many more surprises.

A significant piece of good news to kick off the appeal is that Oban's Common Good Fund has given us £7,500 for the painting of Glencruitten Road! This is wonderful news and will allow us to go ahead with brightening the sanctuary.

Whilst we gear up with the publicity drive over the summer please keep your diaries close by to note the special dates for our events.

Our Task Group will be open to lots of ideas so please feel free to speak to anyone from Rev Dugald, Sandra Clark, Fiona Ferguson, Andy Henderson, Babs MacIntyre and Joan Tolmie.

## THE MUSIC MAKERS

The Communion Service at Glencruitten Road on 6th June will be augmented by a song, The Music Maker, from the Sunday Club. This song is undergoing intense practice at present. The Sunday Club is the suggested new name for the Sunday School from Christiana Cameron. Another novel suggestion, from Jordan MacKay this time, would have the Sunday Club members occasionally visiting the balcony. This might raise presentational problems for the Ministers so we will have to check this one out, Jordan!

## LIFE & WORK

The June edition of Life and Work is now available and those who would like to see a sample of the latest issue should contact Margaret Hurst.

This edition contains an in-depth article about the World Missionary Conference of 1910 when 1,215 official delegates gathered in the Assembly Hall of what was then the United Free Church of Scotland in Edinburgh. Many others who were not designated as delegates flocked to the capital to attend fringe and supplementary meetings and it is estimated that as many as 7,000 Christians were directly involved. In this centenary year another such conference will be held in Edinburgh in June. Numbers attending will be smaller and yet in our changing world the delegates will be far more representative of the geographical and denominational breadth of the world Christian community. Prof Brian Stanley of Edinburgh University recalls the first conference and reviews this year's event.

The magazine also contains a preview of the General Assembly, an article about the Presbytery of Inverness, an interview with Judy Ndibo, a Kenyan charity worker, and contrasting but optimistic articles about a "new charge" development on a brownfield site at Stockethill near the centre of Aberdeen and the long established St John's Church at the very heart of the "Fair City" of Perth.

A provocative item suggesting a form of congregational feedback to the Minister's weekly sermon poses some intriguing possibilities of interesting consequences. Comments about audibility and length might be much more easily addressed than would evaluations of content and of exposition. The adoption of such a process would certainly involve risk, would almost certainly require to be anonymous, but might also prove a useful means of connection and communication between the pulpit and the congregation.

## NOT A LOT OF PEOPLE KNOW THAT!

When you realise that you are short of copy just as the newsletter is about to go to press desperate measures are called for.

Last Christmas I received a book, "A Cornucopia of Lexical Delights" from which I share a couple of favourite extracts. If you already knew one, congratulations; if you knew them both – RESPECT!

**a) Serendipity;** the faculty of making fortunate or beneficial discoveries by accident.

*The word was coined in 1754 by Horace Walpole from the title of the fairy tale The Three Princes of Serendip (Serendip being a former name for Ceylon or Sri Lanka) whose heroes "were always making discoveries, by accidents and sagacity, of things they were not in quest of."*

**b) Quasimodo;** the first Sunday after Easter, Low Sunday.

*Traditionally in the Catholic Church the opening part of the mass on this day is from 1 Peter, Chapter 2, verse 2; "Quasi modo geniti infantes" meaning "as new born babies."*

*The Hunchback of Notre Dame, the central character of Victor Hugo's novel, is called Quasimodo because he was found abandoned outside the Cathedral of Notre Dame on Quasimodo Sunday.*

## THE COMFORTABLE CHAIR

A few of those chairs are dotted around the body of the Esplanade Church but it surprises me how seldom they appear to be used. In a spirit of enquiry I moved one chair to my regular place and have used it since then and can wholeheartedly recommend it for comfort – it is the arms that make the difference! As long as I am not depriving a more deserving user I will be happy to continue using this but I urge other members to avail themselves of this facility. Any Duty Elder will be pleased to arrange for a chair to be moved for you.



# WELCOME TO THE MALAWI CORNER

For further news, visit: [www.jayneandsam.co.uk](http://www.jayneandsam.co.uk) and / or [www.jtwministries.org](http://www.jtwministries.org)

After the sadness of last month's report, it is great to be able to write and to share some happier news with you all. Business here at The Lighthouse Christian Centre is really picking up now; more money is coming in and we have even taken on an extra member of staff. We have been open eight months now and whilst the ministry side of the centre has been busy for much of that period, we are still not generating enough money on the business side to be financially viable. We continue to receive monthly financial support from money donated to Joy to the World Ministries, but remain hopeful that our need for this will end very soon. We have introduced a number of new services here – we now stock gospel music CDs, stationery and soft drinks – and these are all helping to boost our monthly takings. We have set ourselves a target of the end of July; this is when we hope TLH will be financially independent.

On a personal note, I am house hunting at the moment as Sam and I have to be out of our current accommodation by the end of June. However, so far my search has yielded nothing. Kasungu was given 'municipality' status recently and has been targeted for investment and development over the coming few years; a lot of people are therefore moving into the area for business purposes. This is obviously good news for us as a fledgling business, but bad news for anyone looking for somewhere to live; housing is now very scarce.

Your prayers on these two issues would be most welcome at this time – thank you.

I very much hope that next month's report will include a picture of our new 'home'.

*GOD BLESS  
Jayne Powers*

## EXTRACT FROM A CHURCH NEWSLETTER

June Brown and John Smith were married last week, so bringing to an end a beautiful friendship that has lasted since they first met at our Sunday School more than twenty years ago.



## NEW HOSPITALITY MINISTRY

*"Do not neglect to show hospitality to strangers, for thereby some have entertained angels unawares."*

Hebrews 13:2

Last summer I took a note that there were a lot of strange sounding people in church. I say that they were strange because they had funny American accents.

Oban is a unique place to live because during the summer it is chopped full of visitors from around the world. (I know "Guten tag!" is not a Gaelic phrase.) A handful of these visitors are not here just to tour, but are on spiritual pilgrimage. They can be ministers, lay people or college students. With our living in such a town, there's a great opportunity for that age old practice of hospitality, which has been practiced in Scotland for eons: and before then, among Jews and first century Christians.

We often receive phone calls in the church office from out of town guests looking for guidance, but we decided that we wanted to be a little more official in

the way that we extend the right hand of fellowship. Our church website [www.obanchurch.com](http://www.obanchurch.com) now has a blog attached to it called Presbyterian Pilgrims ([www.presbypilgrims.blogspot.com](http://www.presbypilgrims.blogspot.com)). Presbyterian Pilgrims is an informative site to let everyone know what's out here in Oban: good walks to quiet the soul, church service times and all of the ferry info to make that trip to Iona. We get a lot of weary and worn out folks coming through, and we're in a unique position to offer them a place of the sacred, the quiet and the serene. Think about ways that you might be a part of this ministry. Maybe you can take a Saturday to go hill walking on Kerrera with a foreign Presbyterian minister and their spouse, or be certain to bring an extra cup of coffee to that stranger in the narthex. There are many ways to participate in the welcoming of a stranger – and to host angels unawares.

## PEW CARDS

Just a reminder that the minister's greatly appreciate receiving pew cards telling us of people who would appreciate a visit. By filling them in the information is not entrusted to our forgetful memories as we stand at the door after worship. Alternatively, just phone the office, or email and Rev Cat or Rev Dugald will respond immediately.

## SENSORY GARDEN

As a celebration of Volunteer Week the Oban Community Sensory Garden, situated on the sea front at our Corran Esplanade Church, is planning a tidy up session with some planting for the summer on Tuesday 8th June for any time between 12 noon and 2.30pm. Whether it is a 15 minute spell out of your lunch hour or a bit longer why not come along and enjoy the view, the location the company and the fellowship. None of the tasks will be arduous.

## RECORDER GROUP

The Recorder Groups are holding a short "Performance" in Glencruitten Road Church at 5.00pm on Tuesday, 22 June. Members of the congregation and friends are very welcome. There will be the opportunity to make a donation to the Church Development Fund.

## DATE FOR THE DIARY Coffee Morning

on behalf of **Alzheimers**  
will be held on  
**Saturday 5th June**

at the **Church Centre,**  
**Glencruitten Road,**  
**10.00am – 12 noon**

**All contributions and support  
will be welcome for this important  
fundraiser for a very worthy cause.**

## EDITOR

The next newsletter is for the months of July/August and will be available on Sunday 27th June. Copy should be handed in to the Church Office or sent directly to the editor by 20th June.

# WELCOME TO WORSHIP AT KILMORE & OBAN

## Friday 4th June

19.00 CE Preparatory Service

## Sunday 6th June

10.00 CE Holy Communion

11.30 GR Holy Communion

18.00 K Holy Communion

## Wednesday 9th June

15.00 GR Holy Communion (20 min service followed by tea and coffee).

Separate services are also held for residents in Lynn, Torosay and Dunmar Courts

## Sunday 13th June (Remember Lord's Larder)

10.00 CE Morning Worship

11.30 GR Family Worship

## Sunday 20st June

10.00 CE Morning Worship

11.30 GR Family Worship

## Sunday 27th June

10.00 CE Morning Worship

11.15 CC Family Faithshare

11.30 GR Morning Worship

15.00 GR Gaelic Service

**KEY:** CC—Church Centre, Glencruitten Road.  
K—Kilmore Kirk. CE—Corran Esplanade Church.  
GR—Glencruitten Road. Church. EG—Eadar Glinn

## CELEBRATIONS OF LIFE

### Baptisms ...*And a child shall lead them*

Abbi Mary daughter of Kenneth and Fiona Ferguson

Alexander Douglas Gregory son of Zoë Gregory

### Marriages ....*Commitments in Love*

Mhairi Cruickshank to Jamie Colewell at Corran Esplanade Church on 24th April 2010 by Rev. Dugald Cameron

Julie Buchanan to Alan MacFadyen at Corran Esplanade Church on May 15th 2010 by Rev. Dugald Cameron

### Funerals ....*Nothing can separate us from the Love of God*

Elizabeth (Rusty) Robson of Balinoe Cottage, Kilmore

John Allan of Pulpit Drive, Oban

Richard Fitch of George Street, Oban

Fraser MacQueen of Longsdale Road, Oban

## WEDNESDAY CHAT

This is a regular but informal opportunity for congregational members and friends to drop in on a Wednesday morning at the Church Centre for coffee or tea, perhaps a biscuit, and some informal chat. The round table format appears to work very well and The Gallery was fairly buzzing when I looked in last week. The kitchen was equally busy but I was told cameras are off limits there!



## EDITORIAL: Ken MacColl

*Our next edition for July / August 2010  
will be available on Sunday 27th June.*

**Material and photographs should  
be at the Church Office or  
sent direct to the editor at**

**kenmaccoll@btinternet.com**

**by Sunday 20th June 2010.**