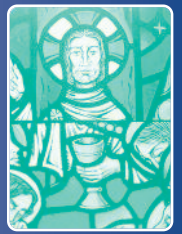




MAY 2010  
CHURCH of SCOTLAND LOCAL PARISH NEWSLETTER  
KILMORE & OBAN

*The future looks good!*



WHAT'S ON

LATEST NEWS

SERVICE TIMES

## FROM THE MINISTER'S DESK



As you will see from another article in this month's newsletter we have had an excellent response to our Step Up 2010 campaign. A big thank you now goes out to everyone who organised or took part in this initiative. Whilst it is as yet too early to work out the scale of the positive financial returns from our campaign everyone's desire to see our church move forward has been a blessing.

I just used the words, 'moving forward.' It is good to know these words can be uttered in truth about our congregation. For this is a difficult time for the church in Scotland. We are operating in a climate where there may be a significant fall in the number of ordained ministers and therefore increased numbers of church unions or closures. Further, the national church has fared badly in the recent financial crisis seeing its reserves plummet in value.

We need to respond to this new world bearing in mind Easter hope and good stewardship. We are people of the word of the living risen Christ. So we seek to follow boldly and imaginatively into new patterns of faith.

At a congregational level will be faced with new challenges – as we always have been. We need to address property issues around Corran Esplanade Church and in Glencruitten Road Church redecorate and decide on how to ensure a good organ is provided. Our office bearers, Kirk Session and Congregational Board, will be making a number of important decisions over the coming months. In all of this we will attempt to be transparent in our thinking whilst asking for your prayerful support.

Please pray especially for our Treasurers, Lachie Beaton and Betty Moncrieff, Finance Convenor Hamish May, Clerk to the Board George Seaton, Session Clerk and Assistant, Ken MacColl and Margaret McGregor, and Property Convenor Iain Hurst.

Yours in Christ  
*Rev Dugald Cameron*



## ORGANS AND CHURCH TO-DOS

As you might have heard, we have been going through a lot of queries with the condition of our organ in the Glencruitten Road Parish Church. Not only is this a Sunday organ, but an instrument and a ministry used throughout the parish. Many school services, weddings and funerals benefit from the space of the GR sanctuary and its resources. Because we want to be faithful in our call as a parish church and ministry, we continue to look at possibilities for replacing our church organ, which must be done. An ad hoc committee has worked diligently at travelling all throughout Argyll and Bute hearing area church organs and comparing prices, sound, longevity, etc. We estimate that we will need around £20-£25K to purchase a new digital organ, which would sit inside the original organ space as it were, maintaining the same aesthetic quality as we experience with the pipe organ. The digital organ is a good option because of its wonderful sound, low maintenance costs and long life. It is also far less likely to be affected by change in temperature, a natural occurrence in a well-used building. What will happen is that before we make any plans for purchase, we will have a demo organ sent for all to listen to, so that you have an idea what the instrument would sound like. Please know that we want to consider all options before a final decision, but it is imperative that we keep our music going – not just for Sundays, but for the community of Oban.

*Rev Cat*

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

## FAMILY FAITHSHARE

We had a wonderful Palm Sunday with nearly 90 children and parents/grandparents taking part in a wonderful day's worship. Particularly poignant was Joanie Garvin's fiddle playing of the Ashokan Farewell as the mood changed from Jesus' joyous entry into Jerusalem to our Lord facing the cross.

Our Easter Egg rolling and breakfast set us up for a glorious communion service in a packed Corran Esplanade.

We now look forward to two more Faithshares plus a trip to the Solas festival all to come before our summer break. For more details contact the ministers.

## STEP UP CAMPAIGN 2010



The initial results from the Campaign appear most satisfying:

- 43 New Gift Aid Donors
- 12 New Free Will Offering Envelopes
- 58 Standing Order Mandates

The financial benefits will become clearer once a few months have elapsed and will be reflected in our Bank Statements.

The increase in Gift Aid is particularly encouraging and the level of Tax Reclaims should show significant improvements in the future.

We can expect adjustments in the level of F.W.O. and Open Plate income as givings by way of Standing Orders may well have an impact on same but, again, time will tell.

Grateful thanks to all who assisted in the Campaign and to Pamela Gray who kept a close count of the contents of the "Campaign Packs" and maintained the strict confidentiality surrounding the same.

*Hamish May*

## LIFE & WORK

The May edition contains all the normal wide range of articles and features but with May being the month of General Assembly there is a full interview with the Moderator-Designate, the Rev John Christie who spent his early career in teaching, some of it as Principal Teacher of Science at Tree High School and Inverness Royal Academy before entering the ministry as he approached his 40s. Much of his ministry was at Hyndland Parish Church where he served for more than 13 years. Since he left there in 2004 he has been involved in Interim Ministry serving in various locations, working with congregations for up to two years.

Other items feature an article about this year's Lord High Commissioner, Lord Wilson of Tillyorn, a profile of the Presbytery

of our neighbours in Lochaber and Ballot Box Views, a series of observations on issues that should attract the attention of Christians as we take part in the General Election.

In Parish News I was delighted to see that my old friend and mentor Iain Hosack still takes the offering and acts as door steward at Lochgoilhead and Kilmorich where I stayed in the late 1960s. Iain was ordained as an Elder 37 years ago at the age of 68 some time after he retired to Lochgoil after a banking career in South Africa. If you have worked out the arithmetic you will note that he is still active and recently celebrated his 105th birthday!

*Kenneth MacColl*

## MAIN STREET SINGERS

A good number of congregation and friends attended the concert given by the Main Street Singers, a 34 strong mixed choir from Los Altos High School in California who visited our Glencruitten Road Church as part of their Silver Jubilee Tour of Great Britain and Ireland under their Musical Director Mark Andrew Shaull. Superbly turned out and highly professional in their approach to a widely varied repertoire of Sacred, Chamber, Madrigals and familiar Folk Music the acoustic of our old church was very well tested on the night. The choir waited on to mingle and chat with the audience. We enjoyed a truly splendid night of powerful and inspirational choral singing.

Check them out at  
[www.mainstreetsingers.com](http://www.mainstreetsingers.com)



## PRESBYTERIAN CAMPUS MINISTRIES PILGRIMAGE

The Presbyterian Campus Ministries of UNC-Greensboro (Rev. Cat's university from North Carolina) is taking students in their final year of university on a journey of pilgrimage. They will be spending time in Iona, Glasgow, and Oban, and are being supported by the Church of Scotland Mission and Discipleship Group. They will be in Oban on the nights of June 24th and 25th, and will be looking for a place to stay! We will need families to host a total of fourteen, which include the campus minister Rev. Peter Hazelrigg, as well as the students. They will need a place to sleep, as well as breakfast, and

will take meals and daytime activities as a group. Their hope is to be part of an intentional community during this trip, and to take with them the experience of the "soul friend" where they journey alongside both strangers and friends as brothers and sisters in Christ. This group of students (aged 21-22) have been preparing for this trip over the last year through bible study, readings and community projects. Please call the church office or Rev. Cat if you would like to host some of our guests. This is an important ministry that we can be involved as the congregation of Oban and Kilmore.

## THE MALAWI CORNER

Welcome to the 'Malawi Corner'.

It was wonderful to join you in worship during my short time in Oban and especially nice to have the opportunity to tell you all about some of the work that I am involved with out here with the Christian charity Joy to the World Ministries.

I returned to Malawi on 25th March and it really has been a bittersweet experience. It is certainly good to get back to The Lighthouse – it is good to pick up the reins again and to get 'stuck in' to our work here. But the last few weeks have also been extraordinarily difficult and tragedy has touched us all in a very personal way. Someone very close to us has just lost her daughter to Malaria – this little girl was just two years old. I visited the hospital the day after she died and it really was a traumatic experience. Conditions at the hospital were so poor; I thought I had seen everything that Malawi has in the way of poverty, but this just completely floored me.

The lady in question has now returned to her village and is with her family; she will not be coming back to Kasungu.

Amongst other things, the sudden death of this little girl is a reminder of just how fragile life is in Malawi - disease and death are never far away; in fact, they are a regular part of life for most people.

But amidst all that happens here are a great many good people and organisations; we see our Lord – each and every day – as He works through His people here. So we pick ourselves up and move forward in hope and in the sure knowledge that He is in control of all things. He is with us always – in good times and in bad. He will never forsake us.

As always, a big "thank you" for your support, prayers and good wishes.

*GOD BLESS – Jayne Powers*

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

## CHURCH OFFICE HOURS

The church office seems to get busier and busier with church work and the administration involved in the running of the Church Centre. The Church Centre has been particularly busy this year with lets and there is more paperwork involved now with the introduction of letting forms. To allow time for the smooth running of the office it has been suggested that the first hour in the morning – from 9.00am until 10.00am – be kept aside for just this purpose. It would be helpful if congregation members could visit

or call after this time. The office will still be open and the phone still available for enquiries and for bookings. The workload would not reduce but it would help with the office organisation. This hour would also allow the ministers to discuss the work they require to be done free of interruption.

The "quiet hour" would be extremely beneficial. Could we give it a trial run?

*Maureen Devine*

## PASTORAL VISITING

Our ministers see it as crucial to their ministries to visit around our congregation and parish. To help them in this please let Rev Dugald or Rev Cat know of anyone who you feel may need a house call. (This person may be you, yourself!) Please call the church centre, fill in one of the visiting cards in the churches, or e-mail and they will respond straight away. Remember our ministers are not telepathic and do not mind at all being told by more than one person.

## THINGS TO DO

This is a reminder that we recycle used stamps and batteries at the Church Centre as well as print cartridges for computer printers. The stamps are passed on to dealers and the cash used for mission purposes. The batteries and print cartridges are sent to specialised centres as they would contaminate our landfill if dumped with other waste. Facilities for recycling papers and magazines, cans, glassware and plastics are available throughout the town and our Eco Group encourage you to make use of these.

## ELECTION

May 6th is polling day for the General Election. The opportunity to participate in the democratic process was not lightly gained. Exercise that right and be sure to vote!

## CAR POOL

Margaret McGregor would appreciate the assistance of some volunteer drivers to help with car pool duties on a full time or even a part time basis. This would give the regular pool members the opportunity of a short break. Please advise Maureen at the Church Centre.

*1st and 2nd Oban Rainbows and their leaders attended and took part in a special service at Glencruitten Road Parish Church in February to celebrate Thinking Day in Girl Guiding's Centenary Year. During the service Rainbows handed out a gift to each member of the congregation, a special bookmark which contained a Rainbow Prayer. A presentation was also given by Mary Norris our District Commissioner.*

*Some of the participants lined up for the commemorative picture with Rev Dugald.*



# WELCOME TO WORSHIP AT KILMORE & OBAN

## Sunday 2nd May

09.15	CE	Holy Communion
10.00	CE	Morning Worship
11.30	GR	Family Worship
18.00	K	Kilmore Evening Worship

## Sunday 9th May (*Remember Lord's Larder*)

10.00	CE	Morning Worship
11.30	GR	Family Worship

## Sunday 16th May

10.00	CE	Morning Worship
11.30	GR	Family Worship

## Sunday 23rd May

10.00	CE	Morning Worship
11.30	GR	Family Worship
15.00	GR	Gaelic Service

## Sunday 30th May

10.00	CE	Morning Worship
11.15	CC	Family Faithshare
11.30	GR	Family Worship

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

## CELEBRATIONS OF LIFE

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

Jackie Young to Ian Den Heijer at Corran Esplanade Church on April 10th 2010 by Rev. Catherine Knott.

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

Mary Dairon of Lynn Court, Oban

Alison MacKenzie of Hazeldean Crescent, Oban

Stewart Cameron of Lunga Road, Oban

## EDITORIAL: Ken MacColl

*Our next edition for June 2010 will be available on Sunday 30th May.*

Material and photographs should be at the Church Office or sent direct to the editor at [kenmaccoll@btinternet.com](mailto:kenmaccoll@btinternet.com) by Monday 24th May 2010.

## A PLAGUE OF LOCUSTS DESCENDED ON KILMORE!

Kilmore church was indeed 'picked clean' but not by invading insects but rather by up to 20 people on Saturday 27th February. The church was scrubbed and cleaned, every square inch of wall was washed down with the result the church looks as if it has been newly re-painted. A great effort from everyone involved – and what a difference it has made!

