

# Parish Voice

Autumn 2021

*Our Mission Statement: To be a place of Christian worship and outreach and a hub for the community enabling people to connect with Jesus and one another.*

## FROM THE MANSE

On a beautiful warm summer afternoon at the beginning of June, I left the house enroute to the front lawn to help my son cut the grass. The sky was blue and all was well. However, as many of you know I never quite managed to reach the lawn in one piece. In fact, when I eventually arrived, I was in several pieces – at the elbow! I had fallen from the front doorstep of the manse on to the driveway and it later transpired that I had



fractured the radius-head. Nine weeks' later I underwent surgery and now am on the road to recovery and yes, before you ask, I *am* doing all the physio exercises! I am very thankful to all the nurses, doctors, radiographers, physios and other members of the NHS staff for the excellent care I received but little did I know at that time just how much this fall was going to impinge on my life for the next few months.

Throughout this period, I became dependent on others in a way that I have never been before. I needed help with most things. For a start I was unable to drive. This had knock-on consequences for my wife and son who now became my chauffeurs. I was unable to enjoy my hobby of sailing and, for a second year, experienced the frustration seeing my boat never touching the water. There were other things too. I needed help with showering and getting dried, fastening shirts, zipping my trousers, fastening my belt and so on. Then there were other times when I had to listen to loved ones instructing me to stop and sit down because I was trying to do too much. To be honest, I wasn't always as gracious as I should have been.



As healing continues, I am now able to do a lot more for myself. However, as I reflect on these early weeks I remember that for many people, what I have just described is what they experience daily. It's all quite humbling. At such times what makes a big difference is knowing that we are not alone and help is available but sometimes it requires us to be open enough to receive the help being offered. Up to this summer my son has never needed to fasten my top button in either my trousers or shirt but I needed him to do it this year. I am also grateful to those in our church family who stepped in at short notice and enabled me to take some time off from preparing Sunday services such as Gillian and Philip and also to Anne Larg, Christian, the Rev Stan Kennon and many others who showed great care over these weeks.

For many of us it can be hard to receive from others. Most of us have grown up with a belief that it's always better to give than to receive. We know the reasons why. It prevents us from becoming self-centred and self-obsessed, but the problem with such a mindset is that we become less good at receiving. How many of us feel embarrassed or squirm when someone offers us a kind word or a gift including their time. How good are we in receiving gifts of love and kindness from others? What might be the real reasons why we find it difficult? One possible reason is that we like to remain in control of things all of the time. Yet, if we are to receive from another person, we must embark on a journey that recognises and embraces our own needs and develops a trust in others. Jesus knew this only too well and had something to say about it. In the final hours with his disciples, Jesus sets an example to serve one another by washing their feet and gives them a new commandment:

*How good are we in receiving gifts of love and kindness from others?*

<sup>34</sup> *I give you a new commandment, that you love one another. Just as I have loved you, you also should love one another.* <sup>35</sup> *By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another.'* (John 13: 34-35 - NRSV)

The early church took Jesus' teaching to heart. Followers of Christ met together in their homes to break bread, teach and worship, but they also shared freely with those in need (Acts 2:45 and Acts 4:35)

I have received so much from so many people over these last few weeks and for all of this I am most grateful. Furthermore, at the start of the Communion Service on 5 September, Kirsty presented me with a beautiful prayer shawl and some lovely gracious words were expressed. It was very special indeed.



The church is meant to be a community, united in love, that openly blesses one another when a need arises. Being able to receive a gift with gratitude is a sign of a healthy, humble spirit, which is also pleasing to God. If we can't receive from others, how can we possibly receive everything that God wants to offer us including his gifts of love, mercy and peace? At a time when so much discussion is taking place about how the local church should be organised with less ministry resources, it is so important that we remain a Christ-connected and Christ-centred community that gives and receives from one another and from God. It is this that is at the heart of our mission statement which states: *To be a place of Christian worship and outreach and a hub for the community enabling people to connect with Jesus and one another.*

How has this experienced changed me? I'm not sure! Humans are peculiar, aren't we? When things go back to normal, we seem to forget some truths too quickly. Perhaps every so often we need to stop, take stock, and understand that we are not always in control of what comes our way in life but when these times come (as they surely will) to receive the gifts that God and others want to give us and with gratitude.



The next few months will be challenging but also opportunistic as we navigate our way out of the lockdown regulations and begin to open up a little more. At the same time there will be discussions taking place with our neighbouring churches about how we can be the church in the area. At such a time let us be open to one another and commit to one another in prayerful support. I think we need each other more than ever! It is essential that as we journey into the future together that we seek to model all that Christ has commanded and be open to receive all that he offers so that we can be empowered and emboldened by the power of the Holy Spirit. As one terrific hymn puts it:

*Look forward in faith, all time is in God's hand  
Walk humbly with him, and trust his future plan  
God has wisely led, His people by his power  
Look forward in hope, He gives us each new hour*

With all good wishes and every blessing,  
Your minister and friend  
Allan

## CHURCH REGISTER

### DEATHS - *Left this world, but not forgotten*

04/06/21 - Margaret Gibson, aged 73 years  
23/06/21 - Ronald (Ron) Alan Milne, aged 57 years  
13/07/21 - Linda Jean Hendry, aged 95 years  
17/07/21 - Karen Joan Smith, aged 60 years  
01/09/21 - Elizabeth Jane Gibson, aged 62 years  
07/09/21 - Bob Arthurs, aged 89 years



### WEDDINGS

19/06/21 - Sara Caves & Connor MacLeod, Forgandenny Church  
17/07/21 - Caroline Jeffrey & Michael Kirkman Thorpe AND  
Kathleen Louise Farmer & Shaun Alexander Jeffrey - Preston Park, nr. Auchterarder  
24/07/21 - Katherine Church & Jamie Pugh, Forgandenny Church  
29/08/21 - Anna Hilary Angela Taylor & David Robert Barclay, Holy Trinity Church, St Andrews

## PHONE BROADCAST SERVICE

To listen to a recording of a Sunday Service, please dial **01738 239392**. This is updated at about 1.00pm every Sunday after morning service.



## FROM THE SESSION CLERK

Isn't it lovely to see both Sanctuaries being used on a Sunday and being able to sing even though it is currently still behind our masks! Soon we will be able to enjoy a cuppa and a socially distanced blether after worship too (Dunbarney only perhaps), or maybe you would prefer to do that beforehand...let me know your thoughts.

The FB Live and telephone number will continue for those who find that an easier way to be part of Worship. It is also heartening to see activities starting up again in Dunbarney Church Hall and the Laird's Loft at Forgandenny. If anyone wishes to enquire about availability for a let, please contact me and go to the website to see what a let costs and our Terms and Conditions.

Christmas...109 days away as I write this...last year the church led an Advent Window event in the community which also included both primaries. Window number 24 was in Dunbarney Church Garden at our stable with baby Jesus. It would be great to do something along a similar theme - but different so.... I am looking for ideas, please get in touch soon as it takes a wee bit of organisation.

CrossReach News is available in both Sanctuaries, please help yourself to a free copy and visit their online shop at [shop.crossreach.org.uk](http://shop.crossreach.org.uk) to order your Christmas cards and other small gifts. Many thanks,

Anne Larg. Session Clerk  
[e.anne.larg@gmail.com](mailto:e.anne.larg@gmail.com)

## A GENTLE WALK



The next "Gentle Walk and time together in Dunbarney Church Garden" is being held on Saturday 25<sup>th</sup> September from 2pm to 4pm. The walk this time will be up the Moncreiffe Estate and you can walk as far as you feel able. If you do not feel like walking you can stay behind in the garden until the walkers come back to join you for a blether. If the weather is a bit chilly we can use the hall. Those coming along should meet at Dunbarney Church at 2pm. You can bring your own snack and drink but there will be refreshments available too. We look forward to seeing you and getting a chance to catch up.

## FINANCE: FROM THE TREASURER

It is so hard to believe that autumn is upon us already! So much has changed in the past few months, and it is very encouraging to see that the donations we have received to date are slightly up on where we were this time last year. The fact that so many of the congregation are now making their offerings electronically by regular giving, either through Standing Orders or through Donorbox on the Church website, is a really positive move and will stand us in such good stead for the future, so I would like to thank everyone again for their support with this. Thank you also to those of you who continue to send cheques or cash to cover your weekly offerings. Whether you have now returned to worship in the Church buildings or are more comfortable still joining in from home, your continued offerings are very much appreciated.

Earlier this year, we applied for funding from different sources, to help with the purchase of new streaming equipment. Sadly, we were unsuccessful but are still forging ahead to ensure that Sunday services can continue to be watched from home, hopefully now with better quality and from both Churches. The cost of this equipment will be borne from our general income, so any additional donations we can generate will really help with this.



It is worth remembering that there are other ways to support the Church, without it actually costing you any more than you are already giving! If you are a UK taxpayer, your offering could be worth 25% more to the Church and I would urge you to consider Gift Aid if you do not already have this set up. Please contact either Frank Stewart or myself if you would like a Gift Aid declaration, or if you'd like more information.

If (like me!) you shop online, there are a couple of ways to support the Church without it costing you an extra penny.

Our easyfundraising account provides a FREE fundraising service when you shop online. When you shop using the links on the site, up to 15% from every purchase you make is donated to the Church. To register simply follow these steps:

1. Go to [www.easyfundraising.org.uk](http://www.easyfundraising.org.uk)
2. Click on the 'Support a good cause'
3. Enter Dunbarney & Forgandenny Parish Church
4. Click 'support this cause'
5. Create an account
6. Activate the donation reminder (this will then remind you every time you shop online to use Easy Fundraising)
7. Start shopping and raising money!

Smile Amazon is similar to easyfundraising in that donations are made directly to the Church when you order eligible products through the site. Please follow these steps:

1. Go to [smile.amazon.co.uk](http://smile.amazon.co.uk) (rather than searching for the 'usual' Amazon web address)
2. When prompted to select a good cause, please enter Dunbarney & Forgandenny Parish Church
4. Click 'support this cause'
5. Smile Amazon will automatically remember your chosen charity and will make a donation to the Church each time you purchase through the site
6. Start shopping and raising money – and remember to use Smile Amazon if you're ordering from Amazon!

Thank you for considering different ways to continue supporting the work of the Church.

Alison Jolliffe  
Treasurer – 07809 293045

## SUNDAY WORSHIP

The Kirk Session has decided that Sunday worship for the time being will take place alternately between the buildings at Dunbarney and Forgandenny. These services will take place at 10.30am with occasional services at 2.00pm. There is now WIFI installed in Forgandenny Church which means that the Live Streaming of services will continue regardless of the building used. The dates of the services are as follows:

<b>September</b> <b>05</b> Dunbarney at 10.30am (Communion) Forgandenny at 2.00pm (Communion) <b>12</b> Forgandenny at 10.30am <b>19</b> Dunbarney at 10.30am <b>26</b> Forgandenny at 10.30am	<b>October</b> <b>3</b> Dunbarney at 10.30am <b>10</b> Forgandenny at 10.30am (Harvest Thanksgiving) <b>17</b> Dunbarney at 10.30am <b>24</b> Forgandenny at 10.30am <b>31</b> Dunbarney at 10.30am
<b>November</b> <b>7</b> Forgandenny at 10.30am <b>14</b> Dunbarney at 10.30am (Remembrance Sunday) Forgandenny at 2.00pm (Remembrance Sunday) <b>21</b> Forgandenny at 10.30am <b>28</b> Dunbarney at 10.30am	<b>December</b> <b>5</b> Forgandenny at 10.30am <b>12</b> Dunbarney at 10.30am <b>19</b> Forgandenny at 10.30am <b>24</b> Christmas Eve Service - Dunbarney at 11.15pm* <b>25</b> Christmas Day service - Forgandenny at 10.30am* <b>26</b> Dunbarney at 10.30am

(\* still to be approved by the Kirk Session)



## HARVEST THANKSGIVING SERVICE

*"Come, ye thankful people, come, raise the song of harvest home"*

The Harvest Thanksgiving Service will take place on **Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> October** at 10.30am in Forgandenny. All are warmly invited to attend the service as we remember God's goodness to us in all that God provides. As with every year, we are keen to support CATH Kitchen and Perth and Kinross Foodbank. We would be grateful if you could drop off fresh produce and tinned products at the church office on Friday 8<sup>th</sup> October. Thank you.



## MESSY CHURCH

Hurrah, we can meet again Face to Face! We are so looking forward to seeing you in person for HARVEST FESTIVAL fun at MESSY CHURCH on **Sunday 3rd October 2021 at 3pm** in Dunbarney Church Hall.



We have safety practices in place to keep you COVID secure and although some things might be a bit different from before there will still be lots of fun for everyone to enjoy.

Messy Church is where we get to know about God and learn about how he wants us to live our lives. It is suitable for families of all ages to enjoy, from babes in arms to great grannies in chairs so please think about coming along to experience church in a different way.

Let Messy Margaret know you are coming, by emailing [deputysessionclerk@outlook.com](mailto:deputysessionclerk@outlook.com) or by phoning 07732 375038, so we can be best prepared to greet you.

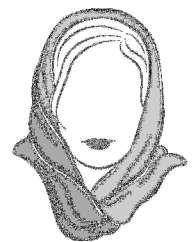
It was lovely to see you online but face to face will be just brilliant.

Messy Margaret x

## SNOODS FOR BLYTHSWOOD

This year Blythswood are collecting snoods as well as the usual shoeboxes. Less bulky than scarves, more snoods than scarves can be transported to where they are needed for the same volume of space in the charity's vehicles. If you would like to help bless a stranger by knitting them a little something to keep them warm this winter, then read on....

Start with a 100g ball of a soft, comfortable double knitting yarn. Cast on 41 stitches using 4mm/size 8 needles. Knit (garter stitch) every row until the snood measures 38cm/15in (for a child) or 43cm/17in (for an adult). Cast off and sew the beginning and end edges together. This might seem rather snug but keeping it a shorter length means the snood is tight enough to be cosy but also allows it to double up as a face mask if necessary. If you make it longer (say up to 64cm/25in), then you can twist it before sewing up, which can be attractive. (Avoid making a very long snood though, as the object is to deliver as many as possible to where they are needed.)



If all you have at home is chunky wool (or aran) then try 19 stitches (or 29 stitches) using larger needles. If you are a confident knitter, moss stitch looks good, but feel free to experiment - stripes, cables, whatever! - but please remember to choose yarns which will be comfortable to wear next to the skin.

If you need yarn, then help yourself to a pack and pattern from the big black boxes in the Session House at Dunbarney and in the church at Forgandenny. Please return completed snoods to these same boxes by the end of October.

Happy knitting!

## EARN COMMUNITY COUNCIL NEWS

*RWE Lochelbank Wind Farm Community Benefit Fund  
Community Councils support local COVID recovery*

The Glenfarg and Earn Community Councils have been awarded funds from the Lochelbank Wind Farm to support the recovery of community groups and organisations in the area.



A total of £10,000 is being ringfenced for the new **COVID Recovery Fund** that will assist groups with costs associated with resuming activities following lockdown restrictions. Costs might relate to additional cleaning or PPE costs, increases in running costs following lockdown or in running 're-opening activities'. The fund can also help compensate for shortfalls arising from the cancellation of normal fundraising activities.

Grants of up to £500 are available to community groups based in and benefiting residents in the Earn and Glenfarg Community Council areas. Application forms are available from each community council and can be submitted at any time. The fund is expected to run until 31 December 2021 but may be closed earlier if all money is allocated.

For further information about grants for your group/organisation take look at [www-foundationscotland.org.uk-lochelbank](http://www-foundationscotland.org.uk-lochelbank) or email [secretaryearncc@gmail.com](mailto:secretaryearncc@gmail.com)

#### *Royal Voluntary Service:*



The Royal Voluntary Service provide a social transport service designed to take older and vulnerable people to and from medical, health or social appointments. The service is delivered by friendly and trained volunteer drivers who will transport you to your appointment, and if it is short, will wait for you and take you home when finished. The service is charged at £4.20 for the first 3 miles and 65p per mile thereafter with payments made through an invoicing process with no money changing hands during the journey.

If you would like to register as a client with the Royal Voluntary Service and take advantage of our transport service and easy booking system, then please call the office on 01738 633975 or call the transport coordinator mobile number 07880026305.

If you have your own car and some time on your hands and you would like to enquire a little more about being a Royal Voluntary Service volunteer driver, we would love to hear from you; all expenses paid. Please call Geoff Bird (Service Manager) on 07834482364.

#### *Care & Treatment Room (refurbished Nurses Cottage)*

Now operational with more clinics to be offered to local residents via their GP Surgeries going forward. Outdoor Bench – With thanks to Perth Men Shed (Colin Hunter) and J Thomson, ECC a wonderful bench has been resuscitated for patients/carers/staff to use at this facility. A real community effort.

For more ECC news take a look at the webpage [earncommunity.co.uk/](http://earncommunity.co.uk/) or ECC Facebook page where you can view Agendas & Minutes. Contact us at [secretaryearncc@gmail.com](mailto:secretaryearncc@gmail.com)

### **DUNBARNEY & FORGANDENNY WOMEN'S GROUP**

#### **Syllabus Sept 2021 - April 2022**

#### **WELCOME BACK!!**

All meetings will be in the church hall starting at 7.30pm unless otherwise stated.

#### **2021**

**Sept 22** - Cala Contemporary Jewellery by Lesley Bruce

**Oct 20** - Talk / Presentation on Climate Change by John Ferguson (Binn Eco Park)

**Nov 17** - Belated 30th Anniversary Celebration Evening - Meal followed by entertainment - 7pm start

**Dec 8** - Christmas Tree decoration with festive drinks and nibbles

#### **2022**

**Jan 19** - Reflexology by Karen Wilson

**Feb 16** - Talk / presentation on Mental Health by Colin Hunter

**Mar 16** - AGM followed by speaker Allan Wilson

**April 20** - Film Night

\*There will be a charge of £2 per evening

\*Annual membership - £12??



## ECO CHURCH NEWS AND UPDATE

We are delighted to say that all the church recycling has once again started and here is an update on how you can help.

### *Books*

Books are available again on a Sunday morning at Dunbarney before or after worship - 3 for £1. This money is used for buying plants and bird food for the garden. We also welcome donations of books, please leave in the black bin marked 'books'.

Books are now also available in Forgandenny Church - 3 for £1. Please take a look after worship[ one Sunday. Thank you



### *Stamps*

We are still collecting used stamps, both British and foreign - please remember to leave a margin around the stamp. These are now going to Church of Scotland.

### *Starter Packs*

Staffed entirely by volunteers, this very worthwhile charity helps individuals and families on low income who have been given the tenancy of a house or flat but who don't have access to basic household goods.

You can help people in need to rebuild their lives again by donating clean items in reusable condition e.g.

Crockery, Cutlery, Pots and Pans, Cooking utensils, Bed linen, Towels and Curtains.

Where? - Unit 22, Riverview Business Park, Friarton Road, Perth. Open to receive your donations on

**Tuesdays and Fridays from 10-12.** Tel:07732 478 213 or 01738 440 158

### *Recycling*

**Crisp packets and other soft plastics** can now be handed in to our local Co-op.

**Toothpaste tubes and plastic toothbrushes** can still be recycled in the blue lidded bin outside the session house.

We are continuing to recycle **Batteries and Ink cartridges** - receptacles in church hall.

### *Church Grounds*



Many people, of all ages, are enjoying using the Prayer Path, Labyrinth, Gardens and seating areas which is wonderful to see.

Sincere thanks to Ali Hunter who keeps the gardens and grass beautifully, rewilding some areas which encourages the wildlife, providing food and habitats.

Many thanks for all your support

Eco Group

## REFURBISHMENT PROJECT

Yes, COVID did get in the way and has caused a delay in our progress towards refurbishing the Dunbarney Church premises. However much has been achieved before and during the COVID shutdowns with ten online meetings held. We are very pleased that the Architect drawings have been accepted by the Kirk Session and are now with P&K Council Planning Department for comment and guidance. We are very hopeful that as working practices get back to something resembling 'normal' that we will soon hear back from the Council and be ready to move onto the next stage of planning. Sharing the drawings and getting your feedback will be a priority once we are able to proceed.

Margaret Bell

## LIVE STREAMING

From the beginning of Lockdown in March 2020, Dunbarney and Forgandenny Church has had a Sunday service live-streamed to Facebook every week. This has helped to keep the congregation together. Following the success of this (and the phone broadcast service) we have decided to invest in a more permanent set up and have secured the services of Toasty Audio to install permanent cameras in Dunbarney Church. Not only will this provide a much better experience for people who watch services at home, but it will be beneficial at other times too, such as at baptisms, weddings and funerals when those people who are unable to attend for one reason or another will be able to watch at home. We now need some help with this and require some



volunteers. If you are interested in learning how to use this equipment and then help at Sunday services, please speak to Allan Wilson. It is straightforward equipment to use ... honestly!

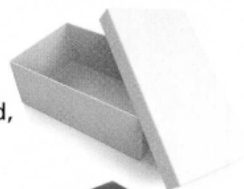
## **BLYTHSWOOD CARE SHOE BOX APPEAL 2021**

Leaflets are now available for the 2021 appeal and can be found in the Church vestibules. Despite the restrictions, last year saw a tremendous response from the church and community. Let's see if we can equal it this year.

### **6 steps to bring happiness**

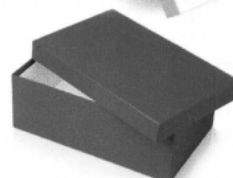
**1**

**Find:** Find an average-size shoebox. Decide who to fill it for; a child, a teenager, a man or a woman.



**2**

**Wrap:** your box and lid separately so that the lid can be removed without tearing the paper.



**3**

**Pack:** Gather the items, remove all plastic and cardboard packaging and pack into the box. Please choose items that will last rather than those with a short life and can't be recycled.



**4**

**Check:** On the checklist, tick the items you have put in your shoebox and note any that are not on the list.



**5**

**Donate:** Secure the ticked checklist to the outside of the shoebox lid using sticky tape. Detach the donation envelope as instructed and place with your donation inside your box.



**6**

**Deliver:** Secure the lid with rubber bands. (Custom regulations require Blythswood Care to check the contents of your box.) Deliver your box to your local collection point.

**For Christmas delivery your shoebox should be at your church, school or other collection point during the last week of October/ beginning of November**



#### **USEFUL CONTACT DETAILS**

<b>Parish Minister</b>	Rev. Allan J. Wilson	812463
<b>Session Clerk</b>	Anne Larg	812805
<b>Dep Session Clerk</b>	Margaret Bell	815910
<b>Secretary</b>	Anne Rodgie	812463
<b>Pastoral Group</b>	Christian Macdonald	07739 311630
<b>Safeguarding</b>	Steve Fulton	813516
<b>Treasurer</b>	Alison Jolliffe	07809 293045