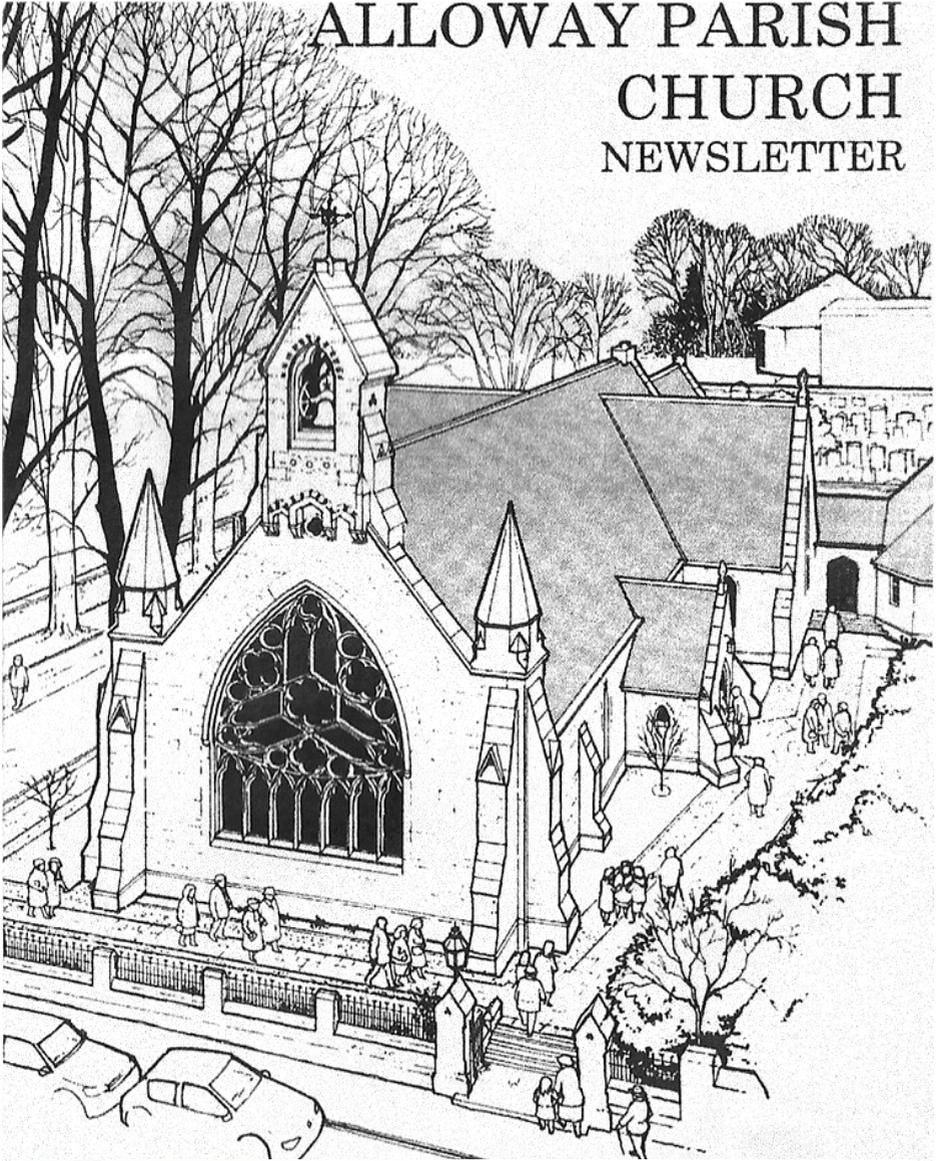


ALLOWAY PARISH CHURCH NEWSLETTER



April
2022



Dear Friends

There are many symbols we place on our Lenten cross in church running up to Easter.

The basin and towel are for me two of the most poignant.

The symbols take us back to one of the last acts of service which Jesus shared with his disciples in the Upper Room.

Of course, it was the role of the servant to wash the disciples' tired and dirty feet. The disciples would not forget what happened next.

In a revolutionary act of service Jesus washed the disciples' feet!

He called his disciples to follow his example.

Easter calls us once more to celebrate again the power of love!

However, often the best way we can show love is through dedicated and selfless service to others.

As we join the renewing celebrations of Easter let us not forget to take the basin and towel and look for new ways to be of service to others and to God.

A joyous Easter when it comes!

Rev Neil McNaught



A note from Rev. David...

The March Messy Church was another busy event when we spent time thinking about the Old Testament story of Daniel in the Lions' Den - and Daniel's dedication of praying to God. An amazing selection of craft activities was on offer (huge thanks to Jenny!) including cakes, hats, door hangers and jewellery - all of course with a lion theme. We also heard the story of Daniel in the Lions' Den, sang 'My God Is So Big' and ended the session with a delicious meal together. We now look forward to the April Messy Church on 9th April (4-6pm) when we of course will be thinking about Easter - please invite children and their parents to Messy Church at Alloway!!



Alpha @ Alloway got off to a great start on Tuesday 15th March and by the end of our second session on 22nd March we had 31 participants 'signed up'. The response has been very positive and there is an open invitation if you would like to attend - it does not matter if you have missed any sessions - you can join at any time.

As highlighted before, the Alpha Course provides an opportunity for everyone (of long standing faith, new faith, or no faith) to engage in discussions about the principles of the Christian faith in the hope that they will be transformed by the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

Alpha @ Alloway continues on Tuesday evenings (7.00-8.45pm) in the church halls and each session includes a video presentation, small group discussions and the opportunity to enjoy hospitality (tea/coffee and cake!).

Please consider coming along to Alpha @ Alloway - and/or extending the invitation to others. Further information is available from Rev. Neil, Karin Stewart or Rev. David.

SCHOOLS

Although I was appointed as your Church Family and Schools Worker more than two years ago, it is only now that I am able to visit schools, participate in classroom activities and assist with assemblies (I have however been busy doing other things!). I am so excited that I am finally able to go along to Alloway Primary School, Doonfoot Primary School and Belmont Academy to meet and share with the pupils and teachers.

God's richest blessings, David.

Litter Pick

There is another planned Litter Pick scheduled for Sunday 24th April 2022, weather permitting, meeting at the Church Halls at 2.00pm, followed by tea/coffee at 3.00pm. Pickers and bags will be provided. For further information please contact Donald Kemp 01292 440700.



Easter Services

- | | |
|----------------------|---|
| 10th April - 10.30am | Palm Sunday |
| 14th April - 7.30pm | Maundy Thursday Communion |
| 15th April - 10am | Pilgrim Walk around village
(Meet outside church) |
| 7.30pm | Good Friday Service |
| 17th April - 10.30am | Family Easter Service
(Followed by hot cross buns in the hall) |
| 20th April - 10.30am | Wednesday Worship (Octagonal Hall) |



Prayer for Ukraine



Living God,
Creator and giver of life to all people:
We ask that you would hear our prayer for peace amongst the nations
and for ending of conflict in Ukraine.
Lord, in your mercy,
Hear our prayer.

Living God,
Who shall judge between the nations:
We ask that that you would lead the nations in the paths of peace
and that the dividing wall of hostility would be broken down.

Living God,
Who has inspired faith across the ages:
Grant peace in the midst of war
and bring harmony to the commonwealth of nations.

Living God,
Who gave his only Son that we might have life:
We ask that you would pour out your Holy Spirit
and inspire in us hope that peace will be renewed.
Lord, in your mercy,
Hear our prayer.

Signed by

Lord Wallace, Moderator of the General Assembly, Church of
Scotland

Kiltwalk Sunday 24th April 2022

Once again Neil and David with a few friends are walking in their kilts. This year they have decided to take on the Big Stroll (a walk of some 14.37 miles)

Their chosen charity is the Christian Aid Global Hunger Appeal.

The Global Hunger Appeal raises funds for Ethiopia, South Sudan and Burkina Faso.

Their partners work with communities to prevent famine and build resilience by delivering life-saving food and support to people who need them most!

Every penny raised will be topped up by 50% thanks to the generosity of Sir Tom Hunter and the Hunter Foundation.

This is a huge opportunity for Christian Aid supporters to increase their charity gift at no cost to themselves!

Please click on the link to meet the team and offer your Kiltwalk kindness and support.

www.justgiving.com/GlasgowKiltwalk2022-NeilMcNaught

Your support will provide food and hope for many. Thank you!



MUSICAL MEMORIES

Thursday 14th April 2022

And every second Thursday each month

2.30pm till 3.30pm

Alloway Church Large Hall

Come and enjoy the music of your youth.

A relaxed afternoon which includes

Community singing

A cup of tea

A warm welcome to all

Because it may take a few sessions for numbers to return to pre-Covid levels, this would be an excellent time for new attenders to come along and join us.



Full Circle?

Back in the early 1980s I was an Elder in the United Reformed Church in Farnham. The minister, the late Arthur Nagle, of whom I have the warmest memories, was very persuasive and I think at the time I was having to redeem myself having missed an Elders' meeting to travel to Hyde Park for a firework celebration ahead of Charles' and Diana's wedding. So I was "volunteered" to represent the Church on a group that was forming called "Farnham Aid to Poland". It was largely an initiative of the Baptist Church and their energy, enthusiasm and generosity was overwhelming. I was asked to act as treasurer (!?) and at each of the weekly meetings I was handed large amounts of cash to take to bank and keep track of. At times the enthusiasm of the Baptist Church showed signs of running away with them and I found myself acting to try and moderate it to some extent. It was agreed that I would make a presentation to the Farnham Council of Churches, who were a somewhat conservative group, and so I explained to them that whilst the Baptist Church was engine for the project I was acting as the brakes. That seemed to reassure the Farnham Council of Churches who came on board to support the project. It also put me back in my minister's good books!

At the time Poland was suffering great deprivation particularly in the South East of the country close to the Ukraine border. So we agreed to send two lorry loads of aid with four members of the Baptist Church as drivers. In addition to their enthusiasm, energy and generosity the members of the Baptist Church were very resourceful and managed to get the use of the two lorries from Ryder Trucks paying only for fuel and insurance - I think that this was through the good offices of Sue Ryder who had a soft spot for Poland and indeed the drivers met with her on their travels. They also managed to secure a considerable amount of very much needed medical supplies from Médecins Sans Frontières. The rest of the load was either purchased from the very generous cash donations from the Church community and from direct gifts of goods (including some bottles of whisky to lubricate the passage through East Germany and which the treasurer wasn't supposed to know about!). I followed all this with amazed admiration, apart from keeping a check on the cash my other main contribution was to get a talented artistic member of our Church Youth Group to design a rather

Alloway Parish Church Newsletter—April

evocative poster featuring a single candle in a holder.

Very quickly all the arrangements were made and the lorries were filled and went on their way. There were no real mobile phones in those days and so plotting their journey was a bit haphazard. Eventually they arrived in Przemysl (pronounced something like "shamish"), where no one spoke English and most spoke either Russian or Polish, but they found a German Catholic Priest who also spoke a little French and were able to communicate through that language. The amazing reaction of the Polish folk in Przemysl was that they said that Romania was suffering even worse deprivation and so part of the aid was forwarded to Romania. Such is the generosity of the Poles, as I was to find out many years later when I was sent by Auchincruive, ironically as part of a project to help the Polish Dairy industry to meet the standards necessary to join the European Common Market.

So when I read on the Church Facebook page that the goods that were recently collected by Alloway Church for delivery courtesy of Peacock Salt had arrived at a warehouse in Przemysl it evoked a whole lot of memories for me. Incidentally Farnham Aid to Poland has continued in spirit and is now known as Farnham Help for Refugees, with a rather wider remit.

David Lewis



Coffee & Chat

The next Wednesday morning Coffee & Chat will take place on the 6th April from 10.30am. So far we have raised £157 from the £3.00 suggested donation, which will go to our chosen charity Trees for Life. I am still looking for volunteers to help with this venture. If you are interested in committing to 2 hours to serve, please contact Sheena Kemp 01292 440700.



April Leisurely Lunch

Our Spring Lunch will be held on Thursday 28th April from 12 noon until 1.30pm in the church hall.

We look forward to good food and good company, all to help our good friends in Bandawe.

The menu is shown on the poster on the next page.



Spring Lunch



Alloway Church Hall

Thursday 28th April 2022

12.00 noon until 1.30 pm

Spring Veg. Soup



or

Carrot and Orange Soup



to follow

Apple Pie



or

Rhubarb Crumble

(both with ice cream or custard)



Cost £5.00 per person includes tea/coffee and biscuits.

Plant Sale for Christian Aid - Sunday 22 May 10.00am - 1.00pm

We currently have lots of plug plants coming on in the greenhouse, mostly plants for pots and baskets such as petunias, lobelias, bacopa, verbena, gazania etc. I hope also to have tomatoes, peppers, courgettes, pak choi. Hopefully there will also be some herbaceous perennials and pots of lilies and dahlias.

It would be great if you could bring along any spare plants you may have to widen the choice?

We are hoping you will all come and support the stall, which we are thinking will probably be our last, and help raise lots of funds for Christian Aid's work in the many trouble spots across the world.





Christian Aid Week

The dates for Christian Aid week this year are 15th to 22nd May.

There are various ways in which you can donate to this very worthy cause.

One is by sponsoring those walking for Christian Aid in the Kilt Walk on 24th April.

Another is by attending our Book Sale and Coffee Morning in the church hall on Saturday 21st May from 10am until 12 noon. Books and plants will also be available after the service on the following day.

Finally, if you wish to donate via the Christian Aid envelopes, they will be available in the pews and at the Foodbank point.

As each one has received a special gift,
employ it in serving one another as
good stewards of the
manifold grace
of God.



1 Peter 4:10

Knowing-Jesus.com

Riding for Disabled

Riding for Disabled is an amazing organisation, quietly getting on with very valuable work amongst some of the most disadvantaged young people within our communities. Volunteering with this organisation is very rewarding, not only do you get the chance to work with the very patient and majestic horses, you are rewarded by being instrumental in bringing absolute delight to some of the young riders who get so much out of their weekly sessions.

However, this work can only be done with the commitment of the volunteers who support it. It takes three volunteers to enable one young person to ride safely, and at the moment the Carrick branch of RDA could really use more help.

Sessions are offered on Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday mornings and on Tuesday evenings (5.30-6.30).

If this is something you think you would like to help with we would love to hear from you. You don't have to be 'horsey' but you do have to have an empathy with the young riders who come along. Regular training sessions are available.

If you think this is something you could help with and you would like to find out more, please contact Carol George on 01292 500231





by 3rd Alloway Brownies Brown Owl Lise Whittle

Five girls from 3rd Alloway Brownies recently made their Brownie Promise. The Brownie Promise means that the girls are making a commitment to do their best. Although their Promise Badge is one of the smallest badges they will receive at Brownies, it is their most important one. And once they have made their Promise, they get to sign our Brownie toadstool! After making their Promises, the girls played a game mime-acting out parts of the Promise, and the other Brownies had to guess which part of the Promise it was.

We have continued with our 'Know Myself' theme badge by thinking about places in our local area. The Brownies were asked to think of local places nearby where they could do the following - rest; have fun; enjoy a story; be noisy; think quietly; practise their religion; learn; go to feel better; let off energy; see friends; and find help. Can you think of local places where you could do these things? They came up with lots of interesting answers including school, the local park, the pharmacy, the Church; the library, and the shops, and they found out that there was often more than one answer. We then played a game pretending we were on a bus and the 'driver' called out 'Stop!' and acted out which local place we were at, and the other Brownies had to try and guess. Then another Brownie had a go at being the 'driver', and so on.

On another night we completed a 'Know Myself' badge activity called 'Why? Why? Why?' - which as you can probably guess was all about asking questions! The Brownies had to put their thinking hats on when we asked them questions like 'Why are satsumas round?' 'Why are trees tall?' 'Why do bubbles float?', 'Why is flour and water sticky when it's mixed together?', and 'Why can't animals walk with two legs like humans?'. We found out that cheetahs are the fastest land animal, capable of reaching speeds of up to 70 miles per hour. The fastest anyone has run on 2 legs is about $27\frac{1}{2}$ miles per hour, a speed reached (briefly) by Jamaican sprinter Usain Bolt just after the midpoint of his world-record 100-metre dash in 2009.

Alloway Parish Church Newsletter—April

After that we played 'Animal, Vegetable, Mineral' (also known as '20 Questions') which the Brownies thoroughly enjoyed, and hopefully will play again at home with their families.

One week we carried out another 'Know Myself' badge activity called 'Celebrate' which included planning our Easter Party. We asked the Brownies what they would like to do at their Party, and then each Six group was given one part of the party to prepare - making an Easter quiz, thinking of a dance and/or a game, coming up with an Easter craft for everyone to make, and what to put in the party goodie bags to take home. They came up with some exciting ideas and we're looking forward to celebrating our party soon.



THE BOYS' BRIGADE

1st Alloway Company



The Anchor Boys Section has been running smoothly and growing weekly, since reforming in September. Lt Heather Doa, has one leader and two Queensmen assisting. The section is a fun filled hour for 24 boys consisting of fall in, opening Prayer, Bible story, crafts (different every week!), 2 or 3 different games, Display rehearsal, closing prayer - that is just a quiet week.

Halloween Party was filled with many costumes, several games (yes, including doukin for apples - Covid rules were in place!) and individual party food.

Christmas party, was joint with the Junior Section as the Company were out around Alloway with Santa and the Sleigh. As if by magic, Santa appeared to hand out pressies to all the "good " boys and a sister that was included.

The Anchors received a complete set of hockey sticks and team bibs as part of the Woman's Guild/Brigade Grant - these are in regular use.

Parents Night was held on Friday 25th March, with a bump-up night for the boys promoted to the Junior Section in April.

At a recent presentation in Alloway Parish Church, Lord Lt. Depute Nigel Martin presented four Queen'smen (2021) with their Queens Badge. Certificates and bibles were presented by Mr & Mrs W Duncan who officiated at the Annual Youth Service. Pictured are the proud mothers and Queensmen. Two of the lads have completed their Duke of Edinburgh Silver Award and another the GOLD.

Next time you take a walk in the parks , Belleisle Conservatory will be worth a visit. The 12 large flower beds have been prepared for the next planting spree. (The gardener has ordered new stock!). A squad of 1st year candidates turned over, filled with six inches of compost and raked in. They then moved the marquee from the front to the rear of the Conservatory. The gardener, had estimated it was a week's work. The team finished in a day - so impressed was the gardener that they all stopped for hot chocolate and cake curtesy of the gardener.

During the Easter holidays the Company and Junior Section will be

Alloway Parish Church Newsletter—April

participating in a Challenge Games night and BBQ. Two Senior Staff will "manage" their half company . Pete's Pirates reckon they will beat McPhail's Fails : at archery, volleyball, baseball & footie. Deliberations are in place whether "bring a friend" or "bring your dad" would be appropriate. The Warrant Officers will be referees, enabling the Staffies to join in before they are too old. As this will be an early evening till 9.30pm, hot dogs, burgers and cakes will be in abundance.

The Joint Junior and Company Parents Night will be on Friday 27th May in Alloway School Halls. at 7.30pm.



Bible Bite

A short story from the Bible

It can be read in the Bible in
Mark 16:1-8, John 20:1-18

Jesus' tomb had been sealed with a large stone.
Very early Sunday morning, some of Jesus' friends went to put spices on his body.

How will we move the stone from the entrance?



But when they got there...

the stone had been moved and the tomb was empty... except for an angel.



Don't be afraid! God raised Jesus to life and he isn't here. Go and tell the disciples.



They fled to tell the others...



but they didn't believe them.

Peter and John ran to the tomb to look.



They saw the tomb was empty and only the cloths that Jesus' body had been wrapped in lying there. So they went back to the others.

Mary Magdalene stayed by the tomb, crying. She didn't understand that Jesus was no longer dead. When she looked in the tomb there were 2 angels.

Why are you crying?



I don't know where his body is!

Someone behind her asked
Who are you looking for?



Have you taken his body?

Mary



Then she recognised Jesus!

Teacher!

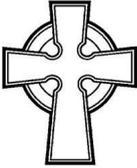


Don't cling on to me- I can't stay now. Go and tell my disciples I am alive.

So Mary went back and told the others the amazing news!



Parish Record



"Blessed are those who mourn they shall be comforted "

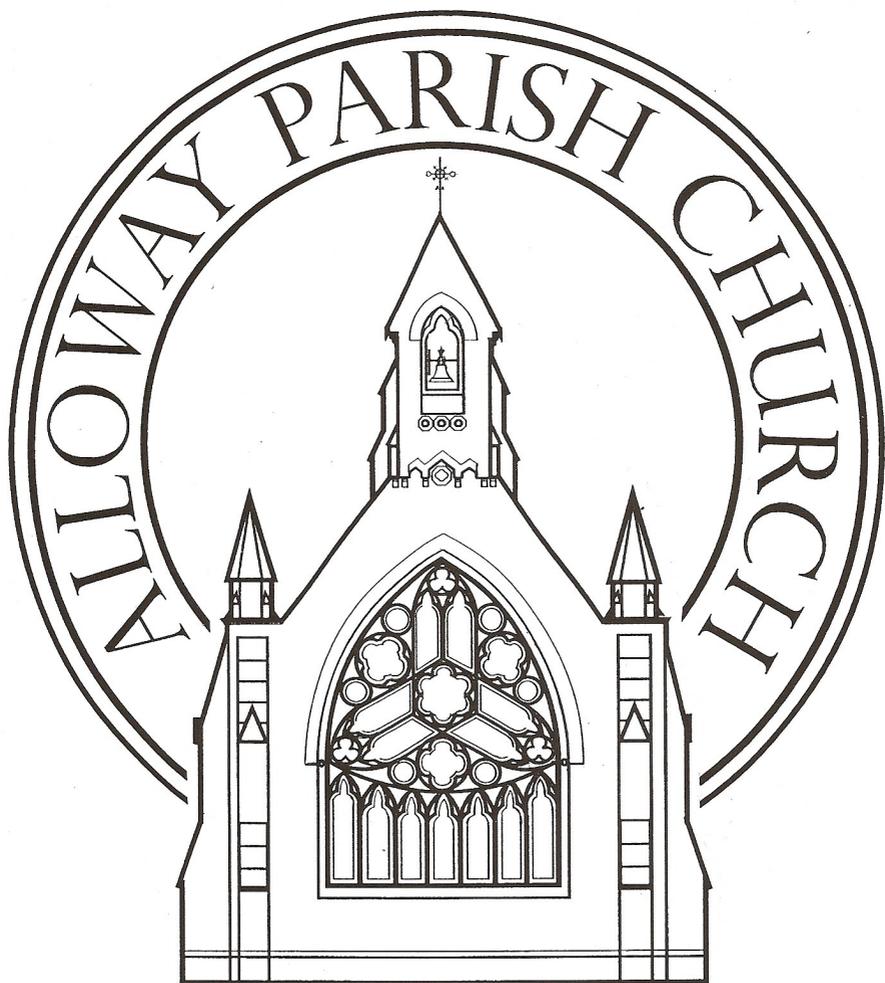
25.2.22	Mr Rodger Alexander	Prestwick
25.2.22	Mr Jack Taylor	Newark Crescent

Deadline for May Newsletter—Tuesday 19 April—12 noon

Contributions should be sent to:

allowaychurch.newsletter@gmail.com

Please visit our website www.allowaychurch.org or our Facebook page



Alloway Parish Church of Scotland
No. 100538

Scottish Registered Charity
No. SC012456