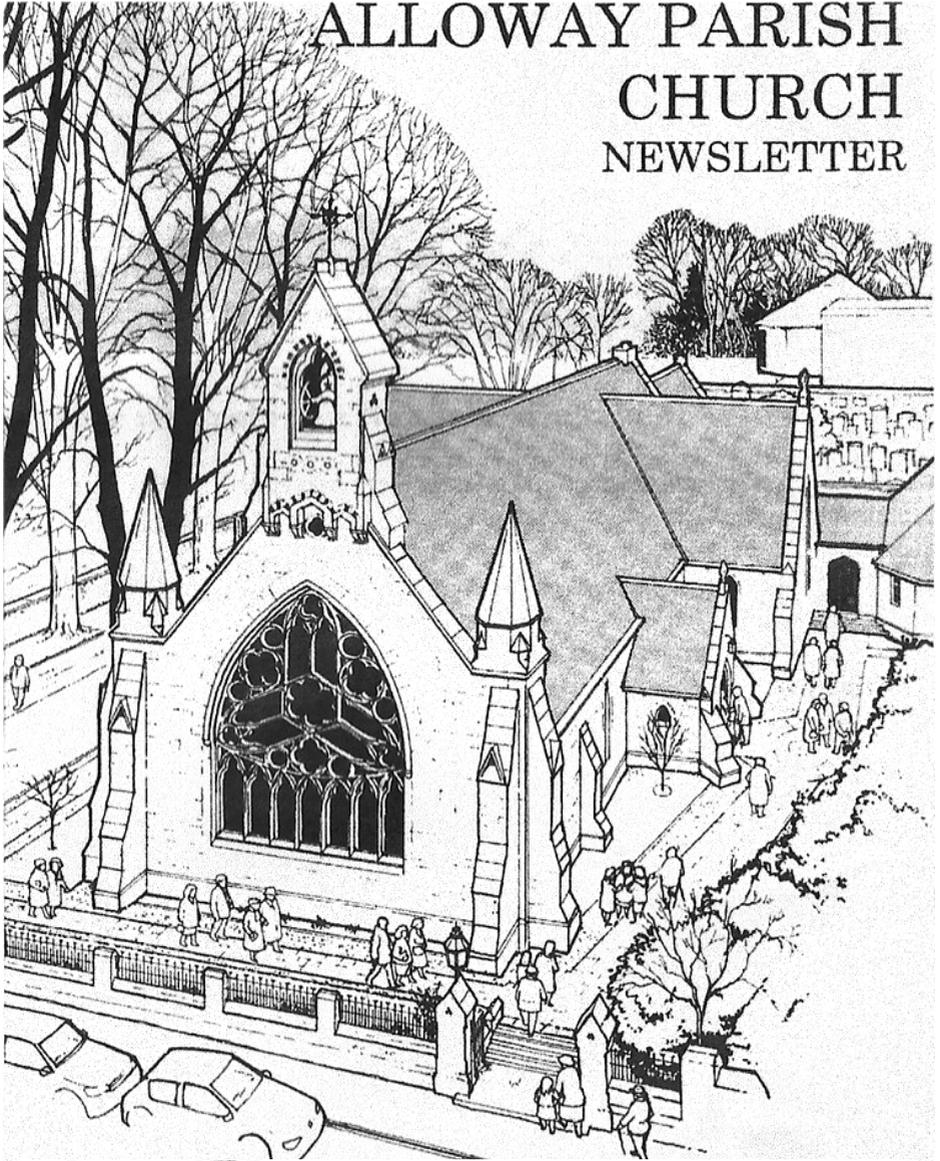


# ALLOWAY PARISH CHURCH NEWSLETTER



March  
2022





Dear Friends

The morning after the tanks rolled into Ukraine, I listened carefully to the broadcast given by Archbishop Justin Welby.

He talked of how awful it was to wake up to the news of war!

He talked of how awful it would be for many in Ukraine waking up to the cruel realities and horrors!

He talked of prayers for those on the front line paying the greatest cost.

He talked of the desperate need in this world to find peace and justice.

I listened intently and endorsed every word he said.

I noted too how he quoted Shakespeare who declared war to be "chaos" - and a "loosening of the dogs".

The last things the world already suffering from pandemic needs are more dogs of war to be loosened!

Personally, I thought of the words of an Ayrshire ploughman

"man's inhumanity to man makes countless thousands mourn "

I fear there will be millions who will come to mourn the events in Ukraine.

*Alloway Parish Church Newsletter—March*

As one wise political commentator said, "dictators may win in the short term but often democracy wins in the long term".

We enter in March the season of Lent.

It is a time of testing and a time of hard choices.

These weeks lead up to the tragedy of Good Friday but also to the glory of Resurrection Sunday.

At this dark time, I still passionately believe that humanity's best hope is to seek to follow more closely the teachings of our master and draw strength from his presence daily.

May God grant wisdom to us as we struggle for His peace and justice in the world.

Let us pray that we may yet see the best of humanity in us all.

Every blessing

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Rev. M. Leary", with a long horizontal flourish underneath.

## **A prayer for Ukraine**

"Lord God,  
We ask you to hold the people of Ukraine deep in your  
heart.

Protect them, we pray;  
from violence,  
from political gamesmanship,  
from being used and abused.

Give, we pray,  
the nations of the world the courage  
and the wisdom  
to stand up for justice  
and the courage too,  
to dare to care - generously.

Lord in your mercy,  
take from us all,  
the tendencies in us  
that seek to lord it over others:  
Take from us those traits  
that see us pursuing our own needs and wants  
before those of others.

Teach us how to live in love  
and dignity  
and respect - following your example.

In your name and for your sake"

Amen

(Website Church of Scotland )

## **A note from Rev. David...**

The start of the year has been very busy, and much is planned for the rest of 2022.!

The theme of the February Messy Church was 'LOVE' and we remembered that God loves us and that in return we should love God and also love those around us - family, friends and neighbours. We were delighted to welcome 25 children to Messy Church, and they enjoyed (as did the adults!) an amazing variety of craft activities, a treasure hunt, and a lovely meal together. We now look forward to the March Messy Church on 12th March (4-6pm) when we will be thinking about Daniel in the Lion's Den - please invite children and their parents to Messy Church at Alloway!!



We are so excited to be running an Alpha Course at Alloway Parish Church.

The Alpha Course outlines the core principles of the Christian faith that all denominations agree on. It is an effective form of evangelism run by local churches across the world. By focusing on the fundamentals of Christianity, it provides an opportunity for everyone (of long-standing faith, new faith, or no faith) to engage in discussions and to be transformed by the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

Alpha began in Holy Trinity Brompton Church in London in 1977 and came under the leadership of Nicky Gumbel in 1990. The number of people attending Alpha grew quickly and now, all over the world, millions of people have attended Alpha and it has been translated into 112 different languages.

## ***Alloway Parish Church Newsletter—March***

Alpha @ Alloway commences on Tuesday 15th March in the Alloway Church Halls. The course will run for 11 weeks - 10 Tuesday evenings (7.00-8.45pm) and one Saturday (23rd April from 9.30am-4.30pm). Each session will include 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.

God's richest blessings, David.

### **A Note of Thanks**

In February the Board with a heavy heart received the resignation letter of Mrs Mortlock who has been our part time youth worker for several years.

Among many other things, Rhona has organised the Toddler Group, led Scripture Union in schools, and helped liaise with the uniformed organisations.

She was instrumental in organising our first successful Eco Fayre and remains involved in our Sunday School.

Rhona's enthusiasm and caring nature lit up and still lights up so much of what she does!

She will be a much missed member of staff.

However we are pleased to note that Rhona will continue to be an active member in the congregation.

The Minister, Board and Session thank Rhona for all her sterling work and wish her every blessing in her future employment.

## **St David**

1st of March is St David's Day, and it's a time for the Welsh to wear daffodils or leeks.

Shakespeare called this custom 'an honourable tradition begun upon an honourable request' - but nobody knows the reason. Why should anyone have ever 'requested' that the Welsh wear leeks or daffodils to honour their patron saint? It's a mystery!

We do know that David - or Dafydd - of Pembrokeshire was a monk and bishop of the 6th century.

In the 12th century he was made patron of Wales, and he has the honour of being the only Welsh saint to be canonised and culted in the Western Church.

Tradition has it that he was austere with himself, and generous with others - living on water and vegetables (leeks, perhaps?!) and devoting himself to works of mercy. He was much loved.

In art, St David is usually depicted in Episcopal vestments, standing on a mound with a dove at his shoulder, in memory of his share at an important Synod for the Welsh Church, the Synod of Brevi.

His last encouragement "to do the little things" remains a wonderful encouragement to us all in our Christian faith.





## Musical Memories

A meeting of volunteers for a resurrected Musical Memories, will take place at 2pm on Thursday 10 March. It is hoped that we will recommence on Thursday 14 April.

If you have an interest in helping with this initiative please feel free to come along. We envisage these will be smaller, more simplified but more intimate gatherings than previously as we will be without the presence, initially, of nursing home residents.

I expect the meeting to last about an hour and look forward to seeing you then.

Madge Irving 442963

## Alloway Brownies – Urgent Vacancy

In order to reopen the 1st Alloway Brownies, 2/3 ladies willing to work on their leadership qualification are urgently needed. Full support will be given and a unit leader helps each week. This unit used to meet on a Thursday evening from 6.00 - 7.15pm in Alloway Church Halls. If you think you can help, you can find out more information about volunteering on the Girlguiding website, which includes information on how to "Join Us". If you wish to chat about any role, please phone Linda Bamford, District Commissioner on 07812744470.



## **Daffodil Lunch**



We will hold the second of this year's Leisurely Lunches in the church hall on Thursday 31st March from 12.00 noon until 1.30pm. We look forward to welcoming returning customers, but we are always pleased to see new faces. All details can be seen on the Poster within this newsletter.

Mission Committee.



## **Produce Stall**

The Produce Stall started in 2021 and raised money for The Foodbank, Christian Aid - via our Church team participating in the Kilt Walk and Malawi. It is so kind of everyone who has helped by donating produce or purchasing goods. We will continue with the stall on the first Sunday of each month. Donations of jams, chutneys, home baking, garden plants, fruits and vegetables, crafts or cards are very welcome on the stall.

The March stall revenue will sponsor our Kilt Walk Team raising funds for Christian Aid.

## **Wednesday Coffee & Chat**

Our first Wednesday morning Coffee & Chat went down well with a good attendance and the sum of £75 was raised. The next dates for the Coffee and Chat are Wednesday, 2nd March, Wednesday 6th April and Wednesday 4th May at 10.30am with a suggested donation of £3.00, which will go to our chosen charity Trees for Life.

Sheena Kemp

Telephone 440700



# Daffodil Lunch



## Alloway Church Hall

Thursday 31<sup>st</sup> March

**12.00 noon until 1.30 pm**

Carrot & Sweet Potato Soup or



Quiche and Salad



Dumpling & Custard or



Sticky Toffee Pudding  
and Ice Cream



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

# Brownies\*

## by 3rd Alloway Brownies Brown Owl Lise Whittle

The Brownies celebrated Burns Night by singing 'Happy Birthday' to Rabbie, and making little haggis models out of clay.

Kind-hearted Brownie Riona made shortbread for all her Brownie friends to take home on Burns night. She asked them to bring in a donation for the little girl called Deytenat that the Brownies sponsor in Ethiopia through the charity PLAN. The magnificent sum of £29.10 was raised - enough to sponsor Deytenat for almost 2 months. Well done Riona!



We celebrated the RSPB Great Garden Birdwatch, and many of the Brownies took part with their families over the weekend - and earned themselves a badge too! We had a singalong to Michael Jackson's 'Rockin' Robin' and played a fun stand-up-sit-down bird game called 'Flap Flap Tweet Tweet' which wore us all out! Another night we did some badge work about our emotions and feelings, and the girls acted out different emotions and we all had to guess what they were.



In February the Brownies designed their own individual flags about things that are important to them - and they had the opportunity to sew the hem of their flag on a genuine 98 year-old hand-cranked Singer sewing machine. It had originally belonged to Brown Owl's Granny Eliza, who had it as an engagement gift when she got engaged to Bertie in 1924. The purchase receipt inside is dated 8th April 1924!

The sewing machine still works perfectly, and has a lovely rhythmic sound as the handle is turned. None of the Brownies had ever used one before and they all managed to sew a perfectly straight(ish) hemline! (Photos of Brownie Charlotte concentrating hard on sewing a straight line, and of Granny Eliza on her wedding day in 1925).



## DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

<b>Sunday Services</b>		
Sunday 6 March (First Sunday in Lent)	10.30am	Morning Worship Sunday School & Bible Class Tea/coffee following the service.
Sunday 13 March	10.30am	Service of Holy Communion Sunday School & Bible Class
Sunday 20 March	9.45am 11.15am	Morning Worship Youth Service and Parade
Sunday 27 March	10.30am	Morning Worship Sunday School and Bible Class
Sunday 3 April	10.30am	Morning Worship Holiday Club
<b>Parent and Toddlers</b>		
Tuesdays during term time	9.45-11.15am	Large Hall
<b>Wednesday Break</b>		
9 and 23 March	10.30am	Zoom codes from the Secretary
<b>Wednesday Worship</b>		
16 March	10.30am	Octagonal Hall
<b>Coffee and Chat</b>		
First Wednesday of the month	10.30am	Fellowship Lounge
<b>Quiet Time of Prayer</b>		
Thursdays	10.30am	Fellowship Lounge
<b>Alpha @ Alloway</b>		
Tuesdays beginning 15 March	7pm	Fellowship Lounge
<b>Messy Church</b>		
Saturday 12 March	4.00 – 6.00pm	Church Halls

## Parish Record



**"Blessed are those who mourn they shall be comforted "**

<b>23.1.22</b>	<b>Mrs Iris Nicolson</b>	<b>Bathurst Drive</b>
<b>29.1.22</b>	<b>Mrs Karole Campbell</b>	<b>Cloverhill</b>
<b>11.2.22</b>	<b>Mrs Jean Stevenson</b>	<b>Drumsuie Farm Drongan</b>

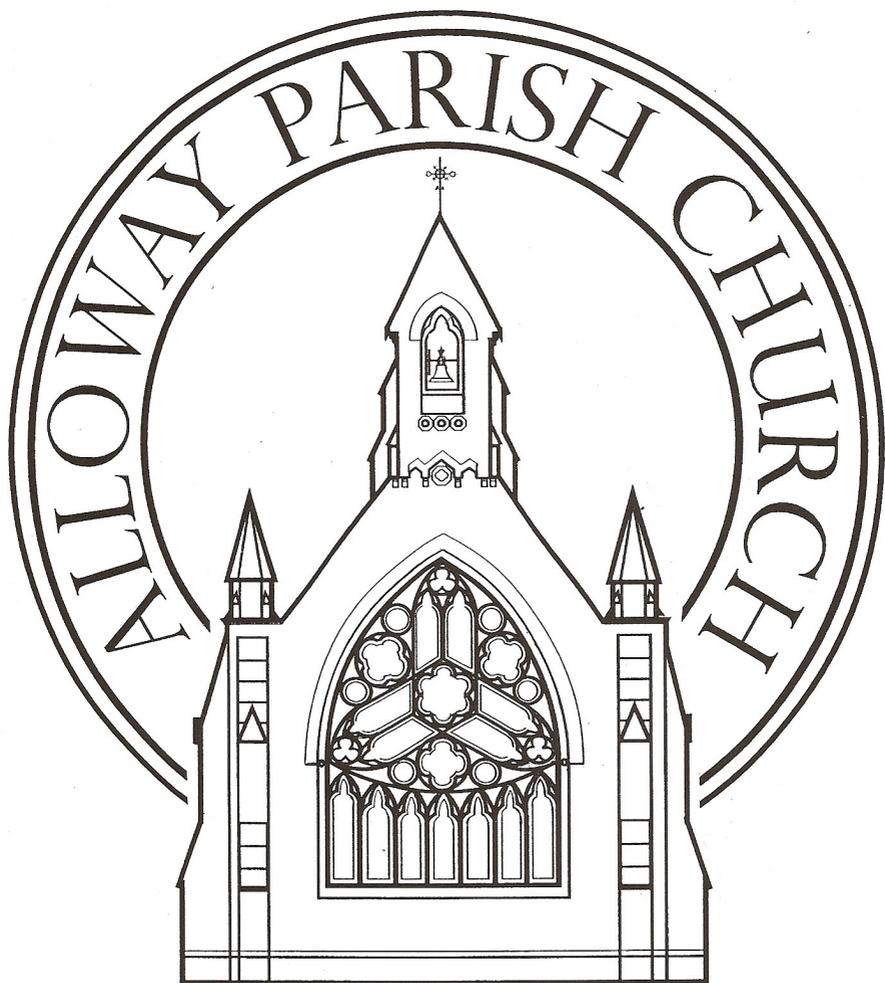
**Deadline for April Newsletter—Tuesday 22 March—12 noon**

**Contributions should be sent to:**

**[allowaychurch.newsletter@gmail.com](mailto:allowaychurch.newsletter@gmail.com)**

**Please visit our website [www.allowaychurch.org](http://www.allowaychurch.org) or our Facebook page**





Alloway Parish Church of Scotland  
No. 100538

Scottish Registered Charity  
No. SC012456