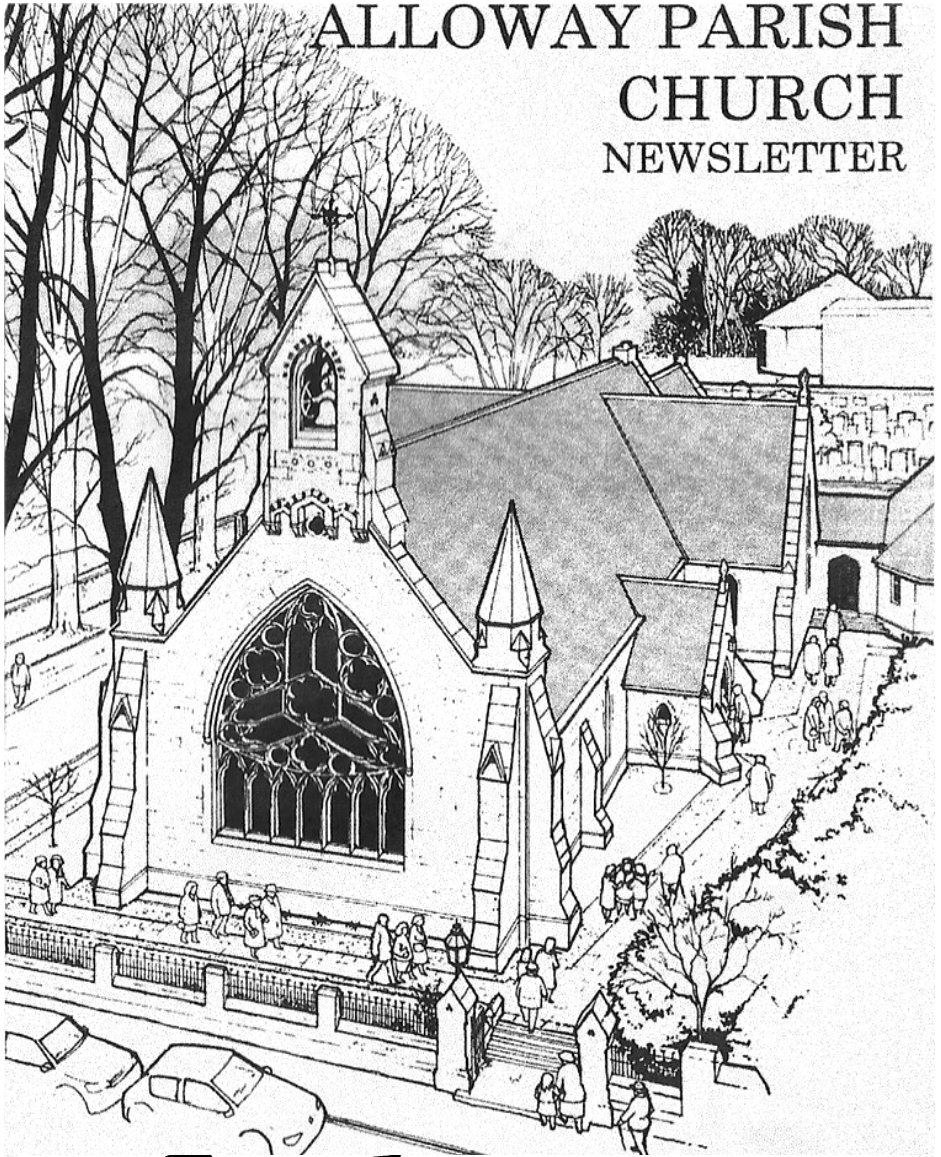


ALLOWAY PARISH CHURCH NEWSLETTER



September



2023



Dear Friends

Welcome to our new session 2023-24. I trust you had a good summer!

Be assured with the children back to school, I feel confident that the sunshine will return!

This year we are designating session 2023-24 as the "Year of Fellowship!"

It is one of the key holy habits of the early church.

"They devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and fellowship, to the breaking of bread and the prayers"
Acts 2 42

Already we have in place so much which promotes fellowship in the life of our church.

Our weekly mid week worship, our regular Leisurely Lunches our Musical Memories are all opportunities to meet and share with each other.

Next year, when the union takes place, our fellowship will be increased by our friends joining from Fisherton Church.

We recall, of course, that our faith can never just be a private personal affair.

The early church grew because they met regularly together and worked out what it meant to be the church.

Faith unites us with one another through Christ, himself part of the Trinitarian Fellowship of God the Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

What better place to launch our year's journey than at the communion table on 10th Sept?

The symbols of bread and wine shared around His table remind us of our place as his disciples.

Of course, true fellowship is not limited to Church sacraments and the four walls of the church!

It was Andrew Murray (not the tennis player) who wrote:

"Our love to God is measured by our everyday fellowship with others and the love it displays."

Therefore, as we embark on this new session may I solicit your prayers and thank you also for your continued support of the church.

I trust people will see something of God's love in our midst.

Yours in Him

Neil McNaught





Wednesday Worship

Sept 13th / 20th / 27th

10.30am - 11am (short service - long cup of tea!)

Mid Week Coffee Break

Sept 6th / Oct 4th

Some notes from Rev. David...

It looks as though the new session is going to be busy - it is so exciting bringing the Good News to the folks of Alloway, Doonfoot... and further afield! Here are some of the highlights:

From the beginning of September, Scripture Union groups will be running in both Alloway Primary School and Doonfoot

SCHOOLS

Primary School. These groups will run at lunchtime - Wednesdays at Alloway and Friday at Doonfoot. I also look forward to contributing to school assemblies, and providing input to various classroom sessions. We will also welcome the children from the Early Years Centre at Alloway Primary for 'Stay and Play' sessions in the church halls. The first session will take place on Wednesday 26th September.



The new session of Messy Church will 'kick-off' on Saturday 9th of September (4.00-6.00pm) with future sessions on: 14th October; 11th November; 13th January; 17th February; 9th March; 11th May and 8th June - please let parents and grandparents with young children/grandchildren know about these dates. This year, we will be following the theme of 'Animals From The Bible' - and our September session will focus on The Creation Story - Day 5 and Day 6.

What fun we had at the 2023 Summer Holiday Club!!

We had 21 excited children attending the Holiday Club where we focused on five of 'The Parables of Jesus'. The children were in four teams for the



week, and competed for 'stars' to add to their team's charts. Stars were awarded for winning races, bravery, kindness, helpfulness and effort in arts and crafts. The Red Team won and each member was rewarded with a set of scented pens! Each day we played games, watched a video, sang our Holiday Club song, had snack (themed to the parable!!) and enjoyed a huge range of craft activities. Perhaps the highlight for some of the children was a 'didi-car' race between Rev. Neil and Rev. David - following a look at VAR, it was decided that it was a 'dead-heat'. I am hugely indebted to each of the volunteers who made the Holiday Club a great success. I wonder what we can plan for 2024?

Stepping Stones

Preparation has begun for a new session of our bereavement support programme, Stepping Stones. Full details will be provided in the October Newsletter, but the proposed dates are Friday 27th October - Friday 24th November (5 weeks), each week meeting from 2.00-3.30pm. Please pass on this information, and put the dates in your diary if you feel that Stepping Stones may be beneficial to you.

As highlighted in earlier editions of the Newsletter, we are introducing a new initiative at Alloway Parish Church - The Men's Breakfast. The first breakfast will be on Saturday 30th September from 10.00-11.15am.



We will join together for a breakfast of hot filled rolls and hear from an invited speaker.

For our first meeting, the speaker will be Mark Walker (Mervyn's son!). Mark worked as a Latin link missionary in Peru for over 12 years, high up in the Andes. His main ministry involved teaching the Bible to the Quechua Indians in their own communities (Theological Education by Extension). He had some amazing experiences including one into the jungle and a chance encounter with a BBC film crew! Originally from Northern Ireland, Mark has been based in Ayr since 1988 running a successful gift shop as well. He is married to Violeta and they have one son called Greg.

I do hope that you will be able to join us, and to help with catering, it would be useful if you could add your name to the sign-up sheets in church - or just let me know. At our first meeting, we will discuss the desired frequency of these meetings.

Look out in the next newsletter for news of more exciting developments at Alloway Parish Church!!

God bless, David.

WEDNESDAY COFFEE & CHAT

The monthly Wednesday Coffee & Chat recommences on Wednesday 6th September within the Fellowship Lounge from 10.30am until midday. The cost is £3.00 and all monies raised goes towards the charity Trees for Life - for each £3.00 raised a tree is planted in Scotland. The dates for the remainder of 2023 are as follows:

Wednesday 6th September

Wednesday 4th October

Wednesday 1st November

Wednesday 6th December

Sunday Hospitality - Fellowship Lounge

We continue to supplement the Social Committee in providing tea/coffee/biscuits following the Sunday morning Service. This Fellowship opportunity is an important part of Church Life. Thank you to all those who attend and to those who donate. The money raised is split equally between the Church to cover the cost of tea/coffee and our designated Charity Trees for Life.

Sheena Kemp on behalf of Worship & Development



HOLIDAY CLUB

As the school summer holidays draw to a close, I wish to say a HUGE thank you to all the volunteers who provide play sessions for the young attenders at church on the Sundays when the Sunday School does not meet. We have provided stories, crafts, puzzles and games and physical play with varied numbers and ages.

Looking forward, I would like to make a request for NEW volunteers to ease the workload and provide extra cover when we expect greater numbers eg. at baptisms. Lots of ideas and equipment are available, as well as a very warm welcome from our "merry band". If you think you can help out with this very worthwhile service for our young children, please contact me: Rosalie Millar on 443425 or 07974759674.

Come and join in the fun!



Jolly Gardeners Report Summer 2023.

Why not step out of normal life and into somewhere more colourful, relaxing and balanced. Our beautiful proportioned gardens are alive with fresh blooms, scented borders and manicured lawns, the perfect place to wander and lose yourself in peaceful harmony.

Through our decorated wrought iron gates (both church and carpark) the gardens open up a variety of colourful fragrant flowers and shrubs which complete the picture of a cultivated calm.

There are wooden benches dotted throughout both gardens, allowing you to sit, enjoy and take a breather!!

The team's efforts are rewarded by the many kind words from visitors and you our friends, not forgetting some of our local funeral directors - quote "beautiful, peaceful surroundings".

On behalf of myself and the team, please continue to enjoy our hard efforts.

Kind Regards The Gaffer (David)



Scottish Bible Society



I should like to thank all who have collected stamps over many years for the charitable work of the Scottish Bible Society. After 30 years with the Kyle Branch, I shall not be collecting stamps after 25 August.

We, with other local churches, have raised funds through coffee mornings, book sales, concerts and choirs.

"The joy of giving goes on"!!

Ukraine - The sum of £16,249 has been raised over 9 months for food, water, clothing, Bibles and printing.

Kenya - Sending audio Bibles - £695.

Angola - New Testament in own language.

The Scottish Bible Society sends help to Africa and across much of the Middle East.

If anyone would like to take over this charitable work within Alloway Parish Church, Please contact me.

Isabel Smith

Leisurely Lunches

The Committee has arranged the Leisurely Lunch dates for the session 2023/24. They are as follows and begin with a Harvest Supper; -

Sunday October 8th - Harvest Supper

Thursday October 26th - Italian Lunch

Thursday January 25th - Burns Lunch

Thursday February 29th - Valentine Lunch

Thursday March 21st - Easter Lunch

Thursday April 25th - Spring Lunch

The cost remains at £5.00 for two courses plus Tea/Coffee and biscuits.

Proceeds will again be used for our work in Bandawe.

Christmas Fair

Our Christmas Fair this year will be held on Saturday 9th December from 10.00am until 12.00noon. Please start making and collecting goods for all our usual stalls.

Further details will follow in subsequent newsletters.

Christmas Craft Afternoons

If you would like to make simple Christmas decorations, then please come to the Fellowship Lounge on Wednesdays at 2.00pm starting on Wednesday 13th September. These can be made for your own use but hopefully you will also make some which we can sell at our Christmas Fair on 9th December.

Encouragement Corner



If I was to ask you to name some men called Joseph from the Bible you might list the following:

Joseph whose brothers sold him into slavery in Egypt.

Joseph the husband of Mary the mother of Jesus.

Joseph of Arimathea whose tomb was used to bury Jesus following the crucifixion.

But if I was to ask you about Joseph a wealthy Cypriot Jew, would you know him?

You might be surprised to know that you know him under another name - Barnabas.

Joseph the Cypriot Jew was given this name by the early leaders of the church.

It was a "nickname", and it means Son of Consolation or Son of Encouragement. Perhaps telling something about this man's character and the effect he had on those around him.

There are several times recorded in Scripture when his warm heartedness and spiritual insight had momentous results.

It was Barnabas who defended John Mark, even although he had deserted them on a previous occasion. Ignoring Paul's reservations, he took Mark with him on his next missionary journey. Some good can come out of disputes! There were now 2 teams to spread the gospel not just one.

Thanks to his encouragement, we have access to a great deal of the New Testament written by these men. Twelve possibly thirteen letters written by Paul and the gospel according to Mark.

Are you a Barnabas? Do you have the ability to encourage?

Is there a potential David Livingstone, a Billy Graham, a future First Minister or a Nicola Benedetti among your circle of friends and acquaintances waiting on a word of encouragement from you?

If so, go on be a Barnabas today!

Recycling Saturday

Recycling Saturday is an initiative that champions repurposing and reusing. They are hosting their monthly collection event on the 2nd of September, from 11am to noon at Newton Primary School. These collection events occur on the first Saturday of every month. This month, they've broadened their collection list to include items such as coat hangers suitable for both children and adults, Lego bricks, and craft materials for the Creative Escapes Group run by local Occupational Therapists. In addition, through a partnership with the Gillette Recycling Scheme, they're now accepting all brands of blades, razors, and certain plastic packaging. Alloway Church supports this initiative and encourages our members to participate by donating. For a comprehensive view of accepted items, visit

<https://tinyurl.com/Recycling-Saturday-Ayr> and see how you can contribute to making a positive impact.





1st Alloway Company News

The boys were again heavily involved in Prestwick Dog Agility Weekend - ensuring a successful show. They will be involved in the next Ayr Show in September.

The Company was awarded a Certificate of "Special Appreciation" by VASA at the start of Volunteer week. This along with a Crystal Trophy was presented by Provost Ian Campbell.

In Early July the whole 1st Alloway Company staff were guests at the Royal Coronation Garden Party held in Holyrood Palace grounds. Despite torrential rain, a superb day was enjoyed by all. As a large group we met many other Brigade representatives and several friends from all over the country. Lovely to see the King, Queen and Princess Royal.

Two of our lads were down at Buckingham Palace in June to collect their DoE Gold, accompanied by very proud parents. Another couple of lads have just completed their Duke of Edinburgh Gold Award and will either attend Holyrood / Buckingham Palace next.

During August - Adventure Camp to Lochranza for 5 days - 18 attending plus staff.

Sports - Archery, Crystal Soft, Recreational Activities, Abseiling, Gorge walk, Canoeing - Not for the faint hearted - but the Alloway boys love it.

Then back on our Event Management - setting up and running stalls, tuck and tearoom at both Benfest Music Extravaganza and the Scottish Bee Society Show.

ENROLMENT NIGHT - FRIDAY 25th August

All three Sections, Anchors, Juniors & Company Room @ Library 6.30pm to 7.30pm.

We DO accept late joiners usually as "Recruited By" a current member of the Company.

This is the 140th year of the Boys' Brigade - the First Youth Organisation.

Alloway Company is expected to grow and compete in more National Competitions.

1st Alloway Company News



CAMP - Lochranza - 10th - 14th August

Superb, One of the Best Camps the Captain has attended.

Typical Scottish weather with Rain, Showers, Sunshine and Glorious heat all in the same day.

The weather did not stop activities with canoeing in the Lochranza Basin on Thursday after unpacking.

The same on Friday afternoon, after having spent the morning doing recreational leadership tasks.

Saturday's torrential rain prompted an indoor, 24 event Athletics Competition, which was highly competitive between the teams and individuals. After lunch, back out on the water. This included Alloway's version of Nessie while the sun was "belting" down!

On Sunday, professional Lochranza Outdoor Centre had all boys, parents and junior staff abseiling down a 75ft Cliff.

Senior staff had lunch ready before they were back out, kitted up for the Gorge walk.

The teams competed in 16 different games. The winners were Squad 3 - team boss Kris was surprised.

Boys put a lot of work into Kit Inspection, ensuring their gear was tidy, present and dishes cleaned.

The boy with the worst kit was awarded the Wooden Spoon Award. At the end, there were 3 contenders!

All the Squads assisted before meals and cleared up afterwards (new skills learned by all).

Any breach of rules meant FATIGUES. Not surprisingly this year was the lowest count, but surprisingly more boys volunteered to do chores.

So parents and guardians, there is no excuse now for the boys not helping with the housework!

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Is Camp value for money?

Ferry	£200	
Site	£450	
T-shirts/ gear /sports etc	£400	
Food & catering	£650	
Minibus	£300	
Outdoor Centre	£560	
Total	= £2560	ppp = £142.22
Boys paid £30 each		
Subscription	-£540	
Donations	-£220	
Special BB Funding	-£1800	

The Answer - ask any person that attended Camp 2023.

Two Parents attending camp were given the Warrant Officer rank - not a usual occurrence, but it has proven very successful. One joining the Staff in Sept the other will be on the Reserve.

Membership for NEXT year's Camp will not be announced till October 2023.

What is the Magic of Camp? Fun, laughs, sports, new activities, great friends, plenty of good food, exercise, Christian fellowship and great memories for life.

Lesley Moore (Mrs)
Officer In-charge Junior Section
1st Alloway Boys Brigade





thirdallowaybrownies@hotmail.com

by Brown Owl Lise Whittle



Brownies Pack Holiday 2023

3rd Alloway Brownies had a great time at their annual Brownies Pack Holiday just before the summer holidays. They went to Nether Auchendrane which is a purpose built Activity Centre set in rural countryside near Alloway. It was a joint holiday with 1st Dalmilling Brownies, and there were some Guides camping in the field outside. The girls experienced a full programme of games, activities, campfire sing-songs, crafts, rest periods, and working towards badges. For many it was their first experience staying away from home, and everyone was aware of caring for each other.

The theme this year was 'Brownies Rocketing Into Space!' The Leaders did plenty of planning well in advance, and came up with a full and active programme. The Leaders decorated the hall before the girls arrived with space posters and star banners, flags, a glittery space walk-through door, a display of telescopes, books and other items, and even a blow-up alien! The rooms and dormitories were given names like The Universe (main hall), Io and Callisto (dorms), Venus (kitchen), Planet Earth (Leader's dorm), and The Black Hole (bathroom)!

Unfortunately Brown Owl wasn't feeling well and had to miss the first part, but there were plenty of other Owls on the team including Little Owl Lara, Barn Owl Karen from Asda, Snowy Owl Lisa, and our Cook Owls Louise and Connie from Ayr Brownies, as well as our young leaders Bex Owl and Leah Owl. When the Brownies arrived they chose their bunkbed in their dorms, put their kit away, made their

beds, and gave goodbye hugs to their parents - the only tears were from the parents! Then after a welcome pow-wow, we sat in a circle and signed everyone's placemats by passing them round the circle, these were then laminated and used at each meal. After that, the Brownies did some crafts making a keyring, a space-themed charm brooch, a 'My Wish Upon A Star' magnet, and a star scene picture to use later made using an old toothbrush to spray white and gold paint onto black paper! After a tasty Martian Morning Snack of cakes and fruit, it was time for games outside - the girls took turns on the playpark, drew a space mural in chalk on the paving stones, and had a treasure hunt around the camping field and grounds.

The Brownies were divided into 3 work party groups - the Moon Walkers, the Saturn Surfers and the Venus Voyagers, and they took turns doing duties like setting and clearing the tables and sweeping the floor after meals, learning how to clean the windows, and checking that the dorms and bathroom were clean and tidy.

After a group photograph, singing songs, and a yummy Lunar Lunch of filled wraps, crisps, fruit and cakes, it was time for a rest period quietly in their dorms.

Unfortunately the weather wasn't very kind to us over the weekend and we weren't able to use the zip line because of the rain or use the planetarium and telescope. But there were plenty of other games to play indoors and on the covered veranda - giant dominoes, hopscotch mats, giant Connect 4, and more crafts including jump-up astronauts, decorating plant pots and planting 'Planet Mars' seeds (tomato plants!). Afternoon Saturn Snack consisted of taking bites out of Oreo biscuits to make the different phases of the moon!

After a delicious Moondust Dinner of pasta Bolognese, ice cream and jelly (with The Clangers tablecloths - remember them?) and a quiet dorm-time rest, we had a space quiz and filled in diaries, before going out to join the Guides (who were camping) at the camp fire for a singsong and a Stardust Snack. When we came in it was time for a calm game of Bingo and then into PJs, into bed, and the leaders read bed-time stories before sleep time.

Not a great deal of sleep took place though!

In the morning everyone went outside for T'ai Chi wake-up exercises

Alloway Parish Church Newsletter—September

before Venus Breakfast, and then everyone started packing up their kit and tidying the dorms. After that it was time for some games - space skittle bowling using decorated bottles, and a selection of board games - and a chance to buy some souvenirs from the Centre's gift shop trolley. After snack there were more crafts using the star scene spray-painted pictures we'd made the previous day and turning them into light-up star jars, by piercing holes in a strip of the paper and wrapping it around a glass jar, and putting mini fairy lights inside to shine through the holes. And we also stuck stars onto the paper to make a glittery framed picture of the Plough constellation.

After hot dogs and ice cream for Neptune Lunch, everyone finished writing their diaries, and we had a Reflection Time talking about what we had done over the weekend and found out what everyone liked doing best and least - it was good to hear that most of the girls couldn't think of anything they hadn't enjoyed! Everyone received a certificate and lots of badges, and prizes for the tidiest dorm! We finished by singing the farewell song 'Goodbye my friend Brownie, We've had a great weekend, Let's dance in our circle, We're waving goodbye' and then it was time to go outside to the waiting parents for lots of cuddles and chat. It was a great weekend for all, and huge thanks are due to all the volunteer Leaders for their time, effort and energy.

A huge thank you to all the volunteers who help at Brownies, and for the support from everyone at the Church.





Parish Record

"Of such is the kingdom of heaven"

- 28.5.23 Hermione Audrey Rene Ross daughter of Douglas and Elizabeth, Acton, London
- 20.8.23 Zara Anna Marlow son of Cameron and Louise, Kings Park Prestwick

"Blessed are they who die in the Lord"

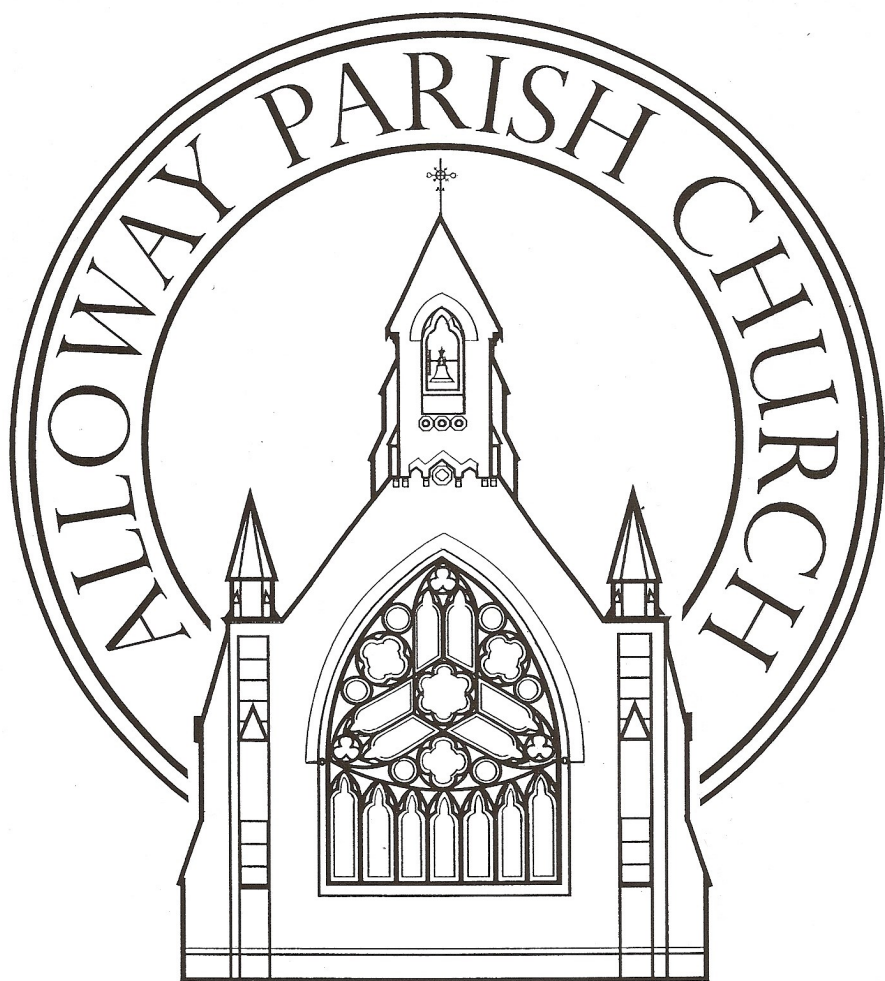
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|---------|---|----------------------------|
| 9.6.23 | Mrs Elizabeth MacVean | Monkwood Place |
| 14.6.23 | Mr Rodger McGaw | Kilbrandon Crescent |
| 22.6.22 | Mr Thomas Hughes | Canniesburn Road, Bearsden |
| 25.6.23 | Mrs Bunty Graham | Chalmers Road |
| 30.6.23 | Mrs Jean Stewart | Sunningdale Avenue |
| 2.7.23 | Mr Henry Cooke | Cregganbahn Nursing Home |
| 10.7.23 | Baby John Ashley Bothwell (born sleeping)
Smithston Farm, Patna | |
| 18.7.23 | Mrs Mollie Macrae | Greenfield Avenue |
| 25.7.23 | Mr Jim Richens | Dalblair Court, Ayr |
| 26.7.23 | Mrs Dorothy Herd | Shalloch Park |
| 27.7.23 | Mrs Sharon Ryan | Bathurst Drive |
| 31.7.23 | Mrs Betty Bell | Carrick Nursing Home |
| 10.8.23 | Mrs Sandra Brown | Bennane, Lendalfoot |
| 10.8.23 | Mr Gordon Thomson | Gearholm Road |
| 20.8.23 | Mrs Allison Bell | Auchendoon |

Deadline for October Newsletter—Tuesday 19 September—12 noon

Contributions should be sent to:

secretary.allowaypc@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