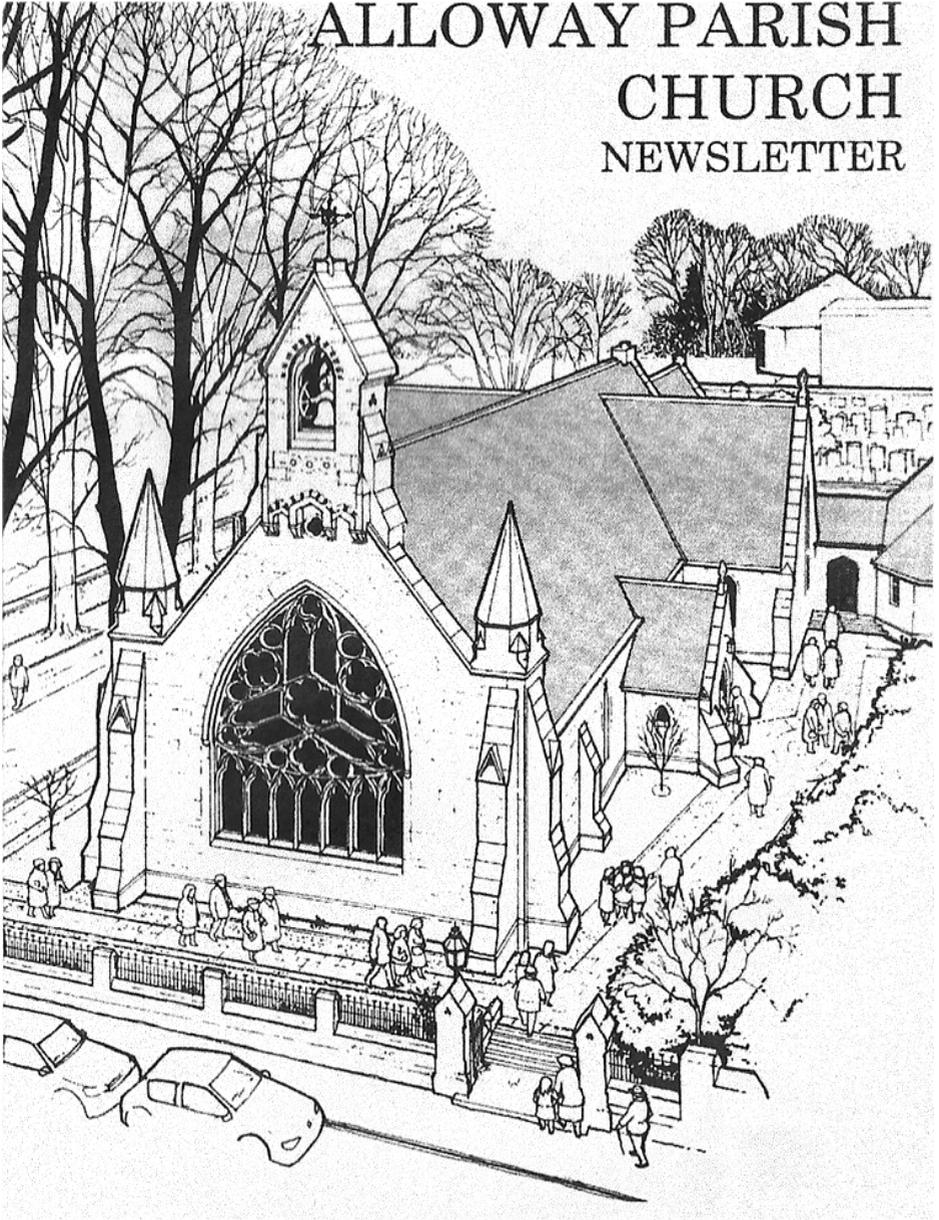


ALLOWAY PARISH CHURCH NEWSLETTER



**October
2022**



Dear Friends

On Friday 9th Sept 2022 at 12 noon the bell of Alloway Church tolled slowly throughout our Parish. The previous day the nation had lost her longest serving and much-loved Queen.

On Sunday 11th Sept at our morning service, we shared pictures of the Queen throughout her distinguished seventy year long reign.

Many of the children in attendance would only have recognised pictures of the Queen as a distinguished older lady.

In her earlier life the queen appeared in Vogue magazine.

However, as I explained, the Queen was not loved because of the person she was on the outside.

She was loved because of who she was inside and the values she embodied faithfully for so many years.

Her late Majesty was generous, kind and dedicated to the nation who loved her. Her late Majesty was once quoted as saying

"Grief is the price we pay for love "

I for one count it as a huge privilege to have lived in the Elizabethan age.

We shall all continue to remember our late Queen with great fondness.

However, we would all do well to reflect on her source of inspiration.

A quiet Christian faith.

A faith which was frequently and eloquently revealed in her Christmas addresses to the nation.

In 2008 her Majesty declared

"I hope that, like me, you will be comforted by the example of Jesus of Nazareth who, often in circumstances of great adversity, managed to live an outgoing, unselfish and sacrificial life. Countless millions of people around the world continue to celebrate his birthday at Christmas, inspired by his teaching. He makes it clear that genuine human happiness and satisfaction lie more in giving than receiving; more in serving than in being served.

We can surely be grateful that, two thousand years after the birth of Jesus, so many of us are able to draw inspiration from his life and message, and to find in him a source of strength and courage."

As we continue now to live through restless and tumultuous times in our world, may God's strength and courage enrich our lives and living.

Every blessing

Rev Neil McNaught

David's Diary...

In this newsletter article, I thought that you might be interested in a wee insight in the sort of activities that I am involved with each month. In addition to assisting Rev. Neil with worship, the following activities appear in my diary...

Be Still

The 'Be Still' Course will start on Tuesday 11th October and will run until Tuesday 5th November in the church halls. The five main sessions will be from 7.00-8.30pm and will include a short time of worship, a video presentation, small group discussions and the opportunity to enjoy hospitality. To conclude the course, we are also having a 'movie night' on Tuesday 25th November (7.00-9.15pm) to watch the Christian film 'War Room'.

The 'Be Still' Course is designed to help develop Christian fellowships, explore together how to grow and develop a regular 'Quiet Time' with God. The course is suitable for anyone who is interested in exploring what a personal 'Quiet Time' with God looks like and the course is suitable for those who are new, or interested in Christian faith, and for those who have been Christians for a while. As well as covering the basics of a 'Quiet Time', the 'Be Still' Course goes deeper into themes like perseverance, imagination and how to step out into the world in mission. The course is part of the 24-7 Prayer Movement.

It would be great to see you there - please consider joining us - and let others know!

For a number of reasons, the September Messy Church was postponed, so the new session will now 'kick-off' on Saturday 8th October, 4.00-6.00pm where the theme will be Creation/Climate Change. It would be great to have a good turnout of parents/carers and children at Messy Church - please share the news about the start of the new session.



Future dates are:

19th November, 14th January, 11th February, 11th March, 13th May and 10th June.

**GREENAN
MANOR**

On the first Wednesday of the month, we now hold a short service of worship in Greenan Manor Care Home. The residents are really enthusiastic about this time of worship and like to request their favourite hymns for the next month. The staff at Greenan Manor are keen to develop links with Alloway Parish Church and we look forward to exploring a range of possibilities in the months ahead.

SCHOOLS

For the first time since I was appointed as your Church Family and Schools Worker (2½ years ago!), it looks as though we might at last have a 'normal' session with Doonfoot and Alloway Primary Schools. Planning has taken place for the full school year and involves activities such as:

Doonfoot PS - termly collections for The Foodbank; weekly Scripture Union sessions with P7; end of term services; fund raising for Bandawe Primary School toilet block; input to school curriculum.

Alloway PS - 'Stay and Play' visits of the early years' children to Alloway Church halls; input to assemblies; input to school curriculum; fund raising for Bandawe Primary school toilet block; end of term services, Christmas Nativity; input to 'Scottish Afternoon'.

I look forward to all of these activities - though just looking at them, I need a lie down.



A new initiative for Alloway Parish Church is the development of a link with Heads of Ayr Nursery. I recently visited the nursery and had a tour of the facilities. I look forward to working with the Manager and the Administrator and having an input to some nursery sessions.

**Stepping
Stones**

We had planned to run a programme of Stepping Stones earlier in the year, but despite all the plans being in place, this was cancelled as a result of COVID. I am pleased to report that a 'Stepping Stones' bereavement programme will now run later in the year - on Friday afternoons, 2.00-3.30, from 11th November - 2nd December, with our Quiet Service taking place on Sunday 4th December. Full details will be available in the next newsletter.

Each week I aim to visit members of the congregation and of the parish. Most often this is in their home, but sometimes in hospital or care home. If you know anyone who would benefit from, or appreciate a visit, please let me know.



God's richest blessings, David.



Welcome to Mr David Donaldson

Dear Friends

Strange but true we welcome another David from Kilmarnock into our midst.

I've asked David to tell us a little about himself. This should appear in the next newsletter.

Rev Neil McNaught

Oberammergau trip Sept 2022



In September twenty-six Alloway Pilgrims made their way to see the Oberammergau Passion Play.

Our adventure started in Austria. Blessed with wonderful weather we enjoyed some spectacular lake and mountain alpine scenery.

We walked part of the pilgrim route of St James. Blessed by traditional Scottish weather our visit to Salzburg was most enjoyable. This is a city with great history. This was Mozart's home. It truly was sound of music country. (We learned quickly that our Austrian friends are not quite as besotted as we are with the musical!!)

Then onto the enchanting Bavarian village. Since 1634 the village has, every ten years (almost), staged a world-famous passion play. The villagers in so doing fulfil their vow to God made in thanksgiving for deliverance from the plague that was then ravaging Europe.

The 2022 Passion play was a long but unforgettable six-hour event (with an enjoyable meal served in the middle).

The fact that we were dining in the house of one of the villagers who played Pilate added to the occasion.

It seemed to me that the Jesus portrayed in the 2022 play was both gritty and combative.

As Jesus picked up the stone and confronts his audience who were so quick to condemn the adulterous woman, you could feel the tension in the audience and the play.

Here truly was a revolutionary in action. Here was a gospel that challenged the injustices of its day! Here is a gospel which challenges the injustices of our day!

The parts of Mary of Magdala and Mary the mother of Jesus were very sensitively and movingly presented. All their interventions seemed to be gracious and positive.

Alloway Parish Church Newsletter—October

In the Passion Play the Jewish authorities are portrayed as being conflicted as to what to do with Jesus.

On expedience grounds, Jesus' fate is sealed.

Jesus' removal from the cross and the wrapping of his body was graciously portrayed. A loud poignant silence enveloped the theatre.

Some of our pilgrims would like to have seen more time given to the resurrection accounts of scripture!

However, the symbolism of a lit candle being passed among his followers spoke eloquently. As the darkness of the September night fell on this little Bavarian village, once again its players were celebrating the Christian hope.

A hope which continues to move believers of today!

All our pilgrims felt blessed to have seen such a wonderful and moving portrayal of the greatest story ever told.

Ironically, our party was not untouched by Covid! However, eventually we all made it home.

Our challenge now is to play the part of Jesus in our own lives amidst a very restless unsettled and unfair world.

A world which still looks for hope amidst despair!

My personal thanks to all who journeyed with us.

A special thanks to Jill for all invaluable logistic support.

Rev Neil McNaught



Pre-Worship

As we move on in our worship, we would like to revisit some of the more modern hymns which we were learning pre Covid.

We will choose 2 songs per month to focus on and on 2 Sundays each month prior to the service we will re-learn a few of these songs. Starting on 9 and 16 October 5 minutes before the service starts, we will sing through 2 songs which you can join in with or simply listen to.

I hope you will enjoy this opportunity to extend our worship repertoire.

Karin Stewart



Alloway Church Harvest Appeal

Many thanks to all those who contributed to our Harvest Appeal this year

Once again, our charity was Amazon Hope. By the end of the month, we can let you know our appeal total.

Thanks also to the ladies who prepared over 100 posies for distribution in the parish.



ALLOWAY'S ACT OF REMEMBRANCE



This year, in addition to our usual Church Service and parade, it is proposed to create a temporary Garden of Remembrance on the patch of grass behind the wayside pulpit, between the Church and the benches dedicated to Mr Howie and Mr Lamont.



Although traditionally a time to reflect upon and remember military personnel we would like to open this up to all who feel they would like to record the name of someone dear to them. Pens will be available to add your own message to the crosses.

Donations would be welcome to cover costs but are not necessary. If it should be that donations exceed monies spent then the balance will be added to the Church's Poppy Scotland Appeal.

Thank you



Harvest Supper

As intimated in the September newsletter, our first Leisurely Lunch takes the form of a "Harvest Supper", on Sunday 9th October at 6.00pm.

Even if you have not already added your name to the list at the church entrances please come along anyway - you will still be welcome.

Cost is £5.00 and all profit will go to our work in Malawi.

Mission Committee



Leisurely Lunch

Our next lunch is on Thursday 27th October from 12.00 noon until 1.30pm.

This lunch will have an Italian theme (see menu on poster in this newsletter).

We welcome everyone back to our lunches especially those coming for the first time.

Cost is £5.00 with all profit to our work in Malawi where we would love to begin work building toilets for the primary school, where at present there are no facilities.

Mission Committee

Italian Lunch

Alloway Church Hall

Thursday 27th October 2022

12.00 noon until 1.30 pm



Menu

Tomato Soup or Bolognaise Pasta Bake

Plus

Ice cream, fruit and jelly mousse

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

Wednesday Worship Schedule

Please note the adjusted calendar for Wednesday Worship and Wednesday Break. This will allow more 3 dimensional fellowship.

Wed 5 October	Coffee and Chat in the Fellowship Lounge
Wed 12 October	Wednesday Worship in the Octagonal Hall
Wed 19 October	Wednesday Break via Zoom
Wed 26 October	Wednesday Worship in the Octagonal Hall
Wed 2 November	Coffee and Chat in the Fellowship Lounge

Christmas Shoebox Appeal

Once again, it's come round to that time of year when I shall be seeking your wonderful support again. As in previous years, we will be collecting filled shoeboxes for Blythswood who will be distributing them to Albania, Bulgaria, Hungary, Kosovo, Moldova, Romania, Serbia and Ukraine.

Empty shoeboxes are increasingly difficult to obtain from local retailers so if you have any gathering dust at home, they would be much appreciated (preferably the ones with separate lids).

There is a quantity of wrapped shoeboxes containing instruction leaflets available for uplift from the vestibule at the rear entrance to the church or from the Foodbank collection point on a Sunday from 10am - 12noon. Please return your filled shoeboxes to either of these drop off points by Sunday 30th October.

Many thanks.
Lynda Mary (lyndamary07@gmail.com)



1st Alloway Company, The Boys' Brigade

Anchor Boys 5yrs - 7yrs 6pm to 7.15pm

Junior Section 8yrs - 10yrs 6.45pm to 8.15pm

The Company P7 - S6 7.30pm to 10pm



ALL SECTIONS MEET IN ALLOWAY SCHOOL HALLS

Summer Events

Community Service - 5 Events Management were successfully carried out by the boys.

Two Dog Agility Shows - where they acted as hustlers, car parkers, litter sweepers and tidy up squads. Both shows are Cruft & Kennel Club approved.

Another Squad helped at the Bee Society Show, setting up, running Tearoom, Games, Tuck and ensuring site left tidy.

At Various Belleisle Conservatory Musical events - doing as required

Arran Highland Games - "the tidy up" Squad

5 Day Adventure Camp @ Lochranza, Arran

With nearly the whole company in attendance the camp was a major success

1. 18 sports played very competitively - always with a laugh
2. Every meal was a 3-course affair - very little waste (don't mention pancakes)
3. Recreational leadership and team building - hilarious (one event saw them crawl around a lawn for an hour blindfolded)
4. Gorge walk & abseiling by professionals of Lochranza Outdoor Centre - day flew in.
5. Attended Arran Highland Games - Paraded behind the pipe bands from Harbour to the showground. Boys all competed in Games 12 prizes won. Last event was relay,

Alloway Parish Church Newsletter—October

We had 2.5 teams out of 8. The crowd of 6,000 cheered the Alloway Boys to victory, first, third and the mixed team was fourth. The organisers have invited the Company to participate next year. "If you can't get accommodation - we will arrange something"

THE FUTURE

Over 43 years the Company has presented 115 Queens Badges to lads, who afterwards move on to Universities (90%) all over the country. Five of our junior staff this year are "Uni Bound". As always, we wish them well. Most still keep in touch.

After our special presentation at Queens Jubilee Weekend, the work continues, all be it the next generation will be King's Men.

STAFFING

We will have four young Officers attending the Officer Training (YLT), confirming their commitment to the Company. The company is very fortunate to have such dedicated young leaders. As a Company, we are always on the search for adults to train as Officers.

It's not for the glory but commitment, laughs and seeing the boys develop the true habits of obedience, reverence, discipline and all that tends towards a true Christian Manliness.

ENROLLMENT

Has started, Company back to work already, Juniors on uniform and squads with the Anchors, games and routines. We Do NOT - have waiting lists. All boys are welcome, encouraged and made to feel it is THEIR Company.

Stewart Robertson

Captain, 1st Alloway Coy. The Boys' Brigade





BROWNIES PACK HOLIDAY

by Brown Owl Lise Whittle



Third Alloway Brownies joined 1st Dalmilling Brownies and had their joint Pack Holiday at Nether Auchendrane Girlguide Centre recently - this had been postponed from March 2020 - and I'm sure we can all recall what happened in March 2020!

The theme for the holiday was 'Alice in Wonderland'. We had lots of fun - games, singing, crafts, and not much sleep! Everyone decorated their own working clock so, just like the White Rabbit, we could try to keep track of time in Wonderland. Then we all made an Alice in Wonderland charm brooch, decorated porcelain bells, and made a key ring. We sang lots of old favourite songs around the campfire circle including 'Alice the (Wonderland) Camel', 'Crazy Moose' 'She'll Be Coming Round The Mountain', 'Kookaburra', 'Hot Skis', and of course 'Campfire's Burning'. We played games of croquet, bunny hops, and 'Down The Rabbit Hole'. Everyone enjoyed planting a pansy in a pot, and making a paper rose while singing 'We're painting the roses red, Not pink, Not green, Not aquamarine, We're painting the roses red!'. Outside the Brownies drew characters from the story in chalks on the pavement, and acted out skits from the story and the other Brownies had to guess which part it was. We enjoyed a Wonderland Treasure Hunt in the field with an alphabet of clues to answer.

Of course, there wasn't a great deal of sleeping had at night, and in the morning we had wake-up exercises with 'Wonderland Tai Chi', and in the evening we had a game of Royal Bingo. But the highlight of the weekend was, of course, the Mad Hatter's Tea Party with real china plates, cups and saucers and 'Teapot Juice', Wonderland Nuggets and Chips, marshmallows, baked beans, tea party jelly, garlic bread, ice cream, salad, strawberry sauce, sweetcorn and fairy cakes - and well done if you spotted that it was not always served in the order you might expect!

Lots of fun, badges and happy memories for all, and special thanks are due to all the volunteer Owls for making a Wonderful Wonderland holiday possible.

Parish Record



Marriage - "to love and to cherish "

7.09.22 Josh Jackson Clair Mowbray



"Blessed are those who mourn they shall be comforted "

30.8.22 Mr Lawrence Maine Limonds Court, Ayr

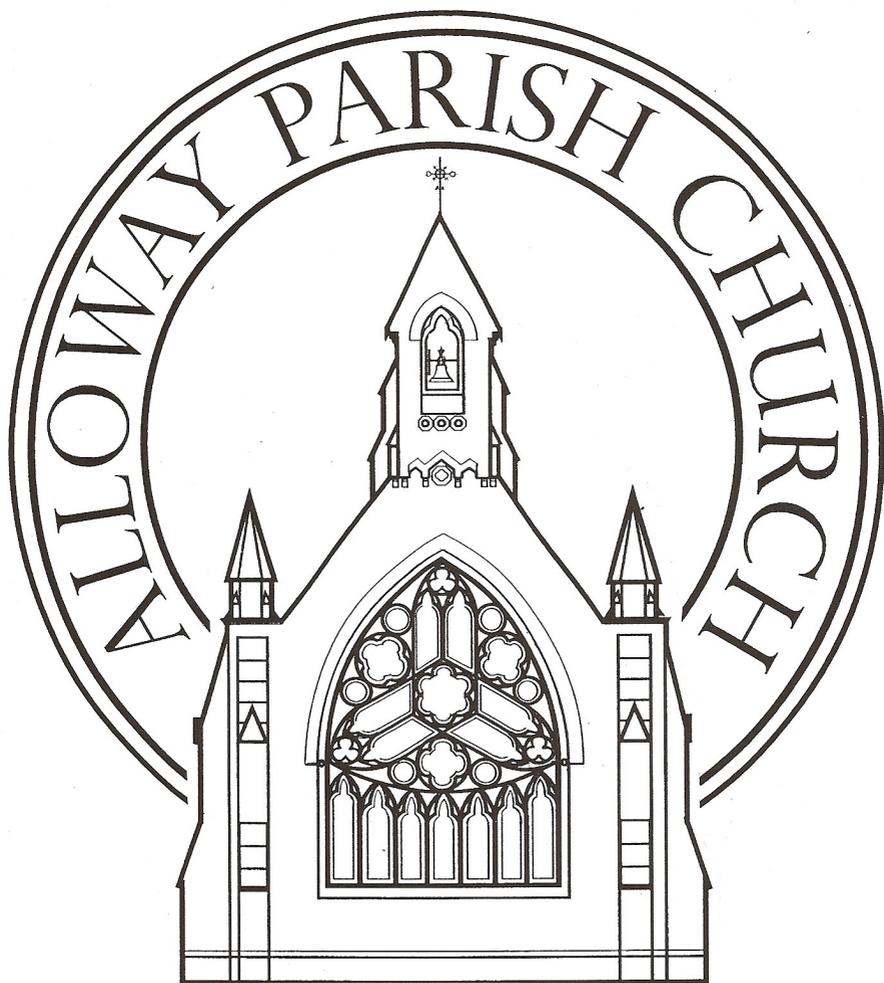
4.9.22 Mrs Mary Nicoll Swallow Place, Kilmarnock

Deadline for November Newsletter—Tuesday 25 October—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