



The Church of Scotland In North Kintyre



Mid Kintyre and Gigha
Linked with
Tarbert Loch Fyne and Kilberry

Church Chat



**Remembrance
Services**

Sunday 10th November

Skipness at 9.50am

Tarbert at 11.30am

Gigha 11am

**Clachan Church Gates
10.45am**

**Glenbarr War
Memorial 10.50am**

All Welcome

**Monday 11th November
in Clachan at 10.45am with Clachan School**

CC 96 October 2024

From the Minister: Lest we forget

It was the war that was supposed to end all wars! Yet here we are in 2024 with numerous countries at war, though many go unreported; there are many new and much more dangerous weapons of mass destruction being used on a daily basis; there are also signs of rising fascism and reports and suggestions of ethnic cleansing, which is frighteningly reminiscent of the holocaust.

Lord, have mercy, when will it stop! Jesus came to teach us the way of peace and self-sacrifice. Remembrance is vital for all people and that remembrance must also spur us on to be bold peacemakers. The German theologian Dietrich Bonhoeffer said this: "Silence in the face of evil is itself evil: God will not hold us guiltless. Not to speak is to speak." I confess I am afraid to speak up and speak out about all that I see happening in the world and I feel helpless to act in any way that would help. I am not alone in this. So, what do we do? We turn to God and pour out our fears and anxieties and then wait patiently for God to guide and support us, which God does on a daily basis, thankfully.

In the meantime, our country will gather on the 10th and 11th of November in many different places and at different times and hold a 2-minute silence to remember and honour the fallen then and now.

I recently read *The Coffin Roads* by Ian Bradley which reminded me that the old traditions were for a small number of people to walk many miles to a graveside for a funeral. It seems modern day life is looking for that simplicity once again as more and more people are choosing to forgo a church service and have a shorter graveside or cremation service for their loved ones. Many churches now offer an annual service to allow people to gather in their grief and spend time remembering their loved one in a short act of worship. Our linked charge is offering this service on Saturday 23rd November in Tarbert at 1pm, all are welcome.

May the Peace of the Risen Christ be with you all.

Lyn Peden

Minister: Rev Lyn Peden

Mobile: 07973 130 023 Email: lpeden@churchofscotland.org.uk

Website: www.northkintyrechurchofscotland.org

Local Parish Team Contacts

A'Chleit: Jessie McDougall

Tel: 01583 421 221

Clachan: Elizabeth Ball (Session Clerk of Mid Kintyre and Gigha)

Tel: 01880 740 650 Email: johnball56@btinternet.com

Gigha: Susan Allan

Tel: 01583 505 215 Email: susanallan@live.co.uk

Skipness: Josephine Blount

Tel: 01880 760277 or 07748 728794

Tarbert and Kilberry: Janne Leckie (Session Clerk and Treasurer)

Tel: 07388 589071 Email: janne8@btinternet.com

Mid Kintyre and Gigha Treasurer: Margaret Graham

Email: margaret@barlea.abelgratis.co.uk

Safeguarding Co-Ordinators

Mid Kintyre and Gigha: Melissa James

Tel: 07791310908 Email: melissa95james@btinternet.com

Tarbert Loch Fyne and Kilberry: Elma MacDonald

Tel: 07507093239 Email: elma.macdonald123@btinternet.com

Kirk Session Meetings

Tarbert Loch Fyne and Kilberry:

Wednesday 20th November at 7pm in the Church hall

Mid Kintyre and Gigha: Sunday 1st December A'Chleit Hall at 1pm

Worship Rotas

Worship Rota November 2024

Sunday Worship	10am Skipness	11.30am Tarbert	10am Clachan	11.30am A'Chleit	12pm Gigha
3rd November	James McLellan	James McLellan	Rev Lyn Peden	Rev Lyn Peden	No service
10th November Remembrance	Rev Lyn Peden 9.50am	Rev Lyn Peden	No service	No service	Led by Elders 11am
17th November	Rev Lyn Peden	Rev Lyn Peden	Marion MacDonald	Marion MacDonald	No service
24th November	Jim Malcolm	Jim Malcolm	No service	No service	Rev Lyn Peden 12pm

Worship Rota December 2024

Sunday Worship	10am Skipness	11.30am Tarbert	10am Clachan	11.30am A'Chleit	12pm Gigha
1st December	Jim Malcolm	Jim Malcolm	Rev Lyn Peden	Rev Lyn Peden	No service
8th December	Rev Lyn Peden	Rev Lyn Peden	No service	No service	Marion MacDonald
15th December	Rev Lyn Peden	Rev Lyn Peden	Jim Malcolm	Jim Malcolm	No service
22nd December	James McLellan	James McLellan	No service	No service	Rev Lyn Peden
29th December Lyn on holiday	Joint Service A'Chleit	Carol Service	Joint Service A'Chleit	Carol Service	Joint Service A'Chleit

Worship going forward into 2025

The 5 churches in our linkage and union have enjoyed almost 2 years with weekly or twice monthly services. We are well served by the people who can cover these services and grateful to them for leading our worship. However, I would like to propose a small change to the times, I would like to ask both Tarbert and A'Chleit to change their time to 12 noon from January 2025 this will allow more time to be with the churches having the earlier service and still allow ample time to travel to the next church.

Also, in the last Church Chat, you heard that our finances are not good and we are using reserves to meet our costs. One of these costs is pulpit supply, which is £150 pounds for 2 services plus transport costs. As we need 5 services covered each month this is an expense that we need to review.

I am proposing to discuss how we might do the worship rota differently with each congregation. Over the next month I hope we can spend some time after worship to talk openly about what we would like and what we might do.

There are many options, continue as we are, change the number of Sunday's each church has for worship; invest in technology to allow services to be live via zoom in churches and people's homes; there are many other options that I am sure you can come up with and the more the better.

Please email me or speak to me directly when I am in your area and I will collate the responses and take them to the Kirk Session, who have the final decision regarding worship.

Our neighbours in Mid Kintyre and Inverurie have gone down the route of reducing the number of services in each of their multiple buildings to 2 a month but they do not have an island! Some churches are using a TV to allow the Minister to be in each place each week. There are endless possibilities and we may need to try a few to see which works best for us. So please get your thinking caps on.

Bible Study

Wednesday 27th November on zoom at 7pm.
Please email Lyn if you would like the link to this meeting.

The Guild

Meet at 2.30pm in Tarbert Church Hall
4th November Jo Cowan, Age Scotland
18th November Kate Phillips, Scotland, Jamaica & Slavery

C3 (Not the Guild!)

Meet at 2pm in A'Chleit Church Hall
Wednesday 6th November
Pat Rawson will be Remembering Remembrance

All welcome.



Inspection of Records

Each year Presbytery inspects several records held by a congregation. As we are part of the wider Church of Scotland organisation and a charity there are documents we must keep and share with relevant groups. The Kirk Session are responsible for keeping the records and rolls and producing a statement of financial accounts. This year Presbytery have asked each congregation to meet with a neighbour to check that all our paperwork is in order. We are grateful to the people who keep our records and rolls and finances in good order.

C3 (not The Guild!)

Our dedication meeting, held on Wednesday 2nd October, enabled us to do several things, likely the most important being regularising our group within the Church, agreeing about subscriptions and accepting the rough programme of activities.

We then moved on to the important part of the meeting, the labyrinth. Lyn discussed the thinking behind labyrinths, explaining the difference between a labyrinth and a maze, and then encouraged us to trace our individual ways through the labyrinth she had brought with her. This was a fairly new concept to most of us, but one we found interesting, so we look forward to the labyrinth being created later at Clachan.

Wednesday 6 November Remembrance

Pat will talk about her visits to Normandy this summer. One, as a guest at The National Normandy Memorial Commemoration on 6 June: and the second retracing the steps of her father as he fought and died in the Battle of Normandy, in July.

Wednesday 4 December A Dive Through the Archive

Prompted by a collection of photographs belonging to Pat McMillan, we plan a nostalgic afternoon reminding ourselves that we are the trustees of a long and proud heritage. If you have A'Chleit memorabilia, or find it as fascinating as we do, why not come along.

Used stamps for RNIB

“Christmas time is coming, And the geese are getting fat.
Soon there'll be Christmas cards, Landing on the mat.”

All right, so there's no need for the Makar to feel threatened, but it may remind you to save your used stamps and put them in the box at A'Chleit. They will then be sent off to RNIB and sold to assist their funds.

Spiritual Practice

I hope last month's page gave you some food for thought. This month I want to introduce the Labyrinth. The Labyrinth has been around for millennia, it is a walk along a path with no dead ends, unlike a Maze. It has been used by Christians and other spiritual people in many ways and a variety of shapes and sizes are found all over the world.

I first came across it at The Bield, Retreat Centre near Perth. There is no right or wrong way to walk a Labyrinth. Last month I introduced the one in the picture below to the C3 Not the Guild Group. You can use it on the paper with your finger.

Simply place your finger at the opening at the bottom and slowly trace the path to the centre and then back out. As you enter let your mind empty of worries and be open to receive whatever God has for you. In the centre stop and listen or speak to God. As you retrace your path back to the start give thanks for this time with God. You can do this as often as you wish. Each time is different.

It is hoped to have a grass Labyrinth at the Old Clachan Hall at some point over the winter for people to walk. Watch this space for an update!



Harvest

A wonderful evening was had at the Harvest Supper, by over 40 people in Tayinloan Hall eating wonderful food and listening to Helen Steel on her accordion and the Dunskeig Singers who led us in song and encouraged us to join in, the highlight being when we sang Old MacDonald's Farm, and each table took turns at an animal noise – the table acting as dogs won by a mile! The sum of £666 was raised, which is split between the church and Clachan Village Hall.



Our joint Harvest Service in Skipness was wonderful too.



Many thanks to Ann MacFadzean for the beautiful decorations in the church and to all who donated to Gigha's foodbank (John's car was filled to capacity) and to all who generously gave £100 to the Campbeltown Foodbank. A big

thank you also to Clachan School and Liz Ball for the wonderful bread, which was served at communion and was delicious.

North Kintyre Church of Scotland

Invite you to a special service to



Remember a Loved One

on

**Saturday 23rd November at 1pm
in Tarbert Parish Church**

Please join us for refreshments in the hall after the service.

**St Brendan's Church, Skipness
Open Afternoon
Sunday 15th December 2024
2pm until 5pm**



**Please call in to see our beautiful decorated
Church all ready for Christmas.**

**Tea, coffee, hot chocolate with cream and marshmallows
and cakes will be available for a donation
towards the repair of the stained glass windows**

Property Report October 2024

Muasdale Manse

Good News! The General Trustees have accepted one of the offers for the Manse. There are no conditions attached to this offer and an entry date of 31st October has been agreed.

A'Chleit Church and Hall

McKinven and Colville have completed the necessary repairs to the electrics in the Church and Hall and 'satisfactory' certificates have been issued.

Duncan McGregor has carried out an inspection of the roof space above the main sanctuary and we await his report and quote for the work.

Gigha Church

Final costings are awaited and the work is not likely to start until the New Year.

Recent electric bills have shown that the air source heating is very expensive so we will not put that in to Gigha at the moment. This will allow more money to go to urgent repairs.

Skipness Church

The Kirk Session approved a tender for window repairs. The cost of these would be funded externally.

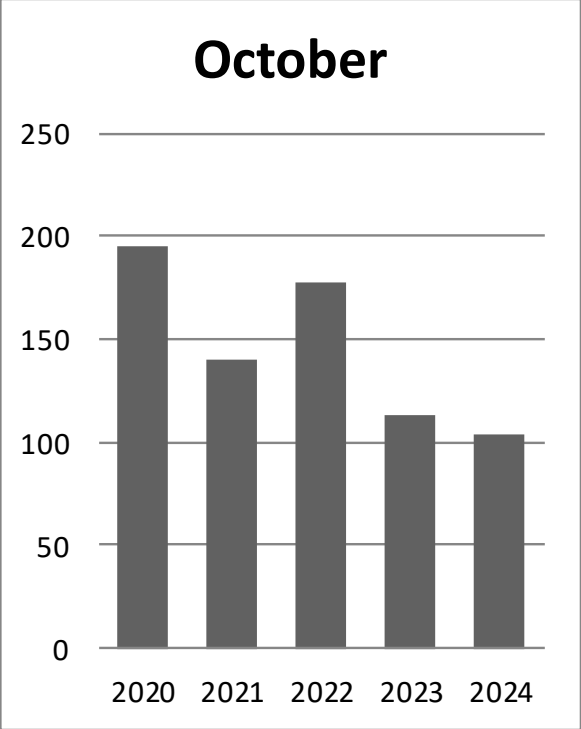
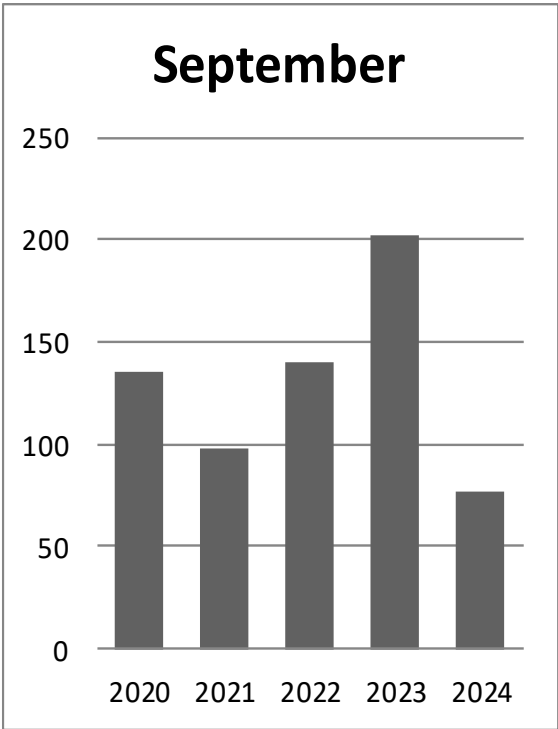
School Holidays

Autumn Term (Long w/e) Closed Monday 25th November

RAINFALL FIGURES: *from Peter Simson, Ronachan*

**Grief is not in vain
It's for our completeness.
If the fates ordain
Love to bring life's sweetness
Welcome too its pain.**

**Oodgeroo of the Noonuccal
(Australian aboriginal poet d.1993)**



Est'd

If you wish to place an article or diary event in **Church Chat**
please contact **Peter Simson on 01880 740255**
or, preferably, email petersimson@btinternet.com

Copy to me by Tuesday 26th November 2024
Next issue due: Sunday, 1st December 2024