

## CHURCH ROTAS

### FLOWER ROTA

Apr 3 Mrs Batty  
10 Mrs Moore  
17 Mrs J Fisher  
24 (Easter) Mrs I Flint )  
Mr & Mrs J Leckie )  
May 1 Mrs S Millier  
8 Mr & Mrs J McCarron

### FRIDAY TEA & COFFEE

Apr 1 Mrs A Brown & Miss D Thomas  
8 Mrs M Stevenson & Mrs J MacFarlane  
15 Miss J Morrison & Mrs E Wilson  
22 Mrs H Algie & Mrs E Paterson  
29 Mrs M McFarlane & Mrs J Whyte  
May 6 Mrs W Monteith & ?  
13 Mrs A Brown & Miss D Thomas

### ORDERS OF SERVICE PHOTOCOPYING

Apr 1 Joan Ellis  
8 Dorothy Thomas  
15 Frances Lynn  
22 Evelyn Wilson  
29 Jean Robison  
May 6 Joan Ellis  
13 Dorothy Thomas

### FRONTIER PHOTOCOPYING (Last week of previous month)

April Evelyn Wilson  
May Dorothy Thomas  
June Jean Robison  
July/Aug Evelyn Wilson

### Fund raising: Friday 6<sup>th</sup> May

We are planning a fish and chip tea followed by a game of Beetle.



Tickets will be available from **Sunday 27<sup>th</sup>**

**March**, hoping you will buy early to help with the ordering of the tea! Last day for ticket sales will be **May 1<sup>st</sup>** or sooner depending on demand!

### Smarties Appeal

The funds now stand at **£1700.00**. Thank you to all who have returned the Smarties tubes....and taken another!



FRONTIER

THE CHURCH MAGAZINE

KIRN PARISH CHURCH

Number 187

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## KIRN PARISH CHURCH

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**DEACON:** Mrs Glenda Wilson DCS  
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**SESSION CLERK:** Mr Alex Hunter  
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**FRONTIER EDITOR:** Mrs Marion Fyfe  
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*Any items for the May edition of Frontier to be with the Editor by **Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> May**, publication will be **Sunday 8<sup>th</sup> May**. Apologies that this will be a week later than normal due to holidays. Contributions can be e-mailed to: [marion.fyfe@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:marion.fyfe@yahoo.co.uk) - thank you*

### Parish and Church Register

#### Deaths

*“In my Father’s house are many mansions....”*

21 February Adrian Lynn, brother of Frances

8 March Mr Ian Hamilton, husband of Betty, brother-in-law of Anne Carnegie

We remember their families in our prayers

#### **COWAL FOR CHRIST PRAYER MEETINGS:**

Held on first Sunday of each month at 8.00 pm as follows, everyone welcome:

Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> April St John’s Church

Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> May Dunoon Baptist Church

## COG NEWS

COG's final meetings for 2010/2011 in March began on 2<sup>nd</sup> when Sandie Cooksley spoke about reflexology, which brought lots of laughter as every member joined with her in hand massage! On 9<sup>th</sup> March Ann Shaw told us about her time in TV production and some of the famous people she had met in the course of her work. We learned that when we watch a TV programme we do not realise the hours of work put into these shows.

On 16<sup>th</sup> March, Graham Thomas spoke about conservation and especially about the pond in his garden that is home to some wild ducks. His power point presentation brought admiration from the ladies in the audience. Our final guests of the season were members of Dunoon Speakers Club.

COG ends with our AGM and 'Pot Luck' Supper on 30<sup>th</sup> March, when a new committee will be formed for the next session. After this, it will be holiday time with hopefully some good weather.



Many thanks to all the interesting speakers we have heard this season and for the continued support from those who come along on Wednesday evenings.

### LORNA'S 'NUMBER QUIZ'

Thank you to everyone who has supported the Roof Fund Quiz.

The winner is: ALISON IRELAND

For those still puzzling for the answers, here they are: 24, 22, 76, 744, 007, 121, 84, 27, 1314, 720, 88, 3, 13, 57, 12, 77, 20, 8, 1837, 4, 12, 0141, 2004, 144, 64, 52, 32, 64, 10, 1471, 7.

Look out for Quiz No 3 ..... very soon!

Many things will continue as they are, but each congregation will need to be open to some changes in their congregational life. St. John's and Sandbank are saying 'Farewell' to their minister of some 22 years. Vacancies can be helpful times to go through the 'grieving' process of the ending of an old pastoral relationship, and to prepare for a new pastoral relationship. No such 'Vacancy period' is theirs or mine to help us through this time of change, but we are not complete strangers to each other. Kirn will also have to go through a 'losing' process, for you will no longer have my full time and energy, but will need to 'share' me with your brothers and sisters in Sandbank and St. John's. All three congregations have, of course, been used to 'sharing' our deacon's time and energy.

As we begin the linkage Sunday worship will continue in each church at the same time as at present: 10.15am for St. John's, 10.30am for Kirn, 11.45am for Sandbank. With these timings it will be impossible for the minister to conduct worship in each church each Sunday. I am in process of working out a preaching rota in which the minister and deacon will alternate in leading worship in the different churches! The general pattern will be the minister conducting worship in St. John's and Sandbank one Sunday while the deacon conducts worship in Kirn. The following Sunday the minister will conduct worship in Kirn while the deacon conducts worship in the other two churches. This pattern will have some variations, for example where services include communion, baptism, ordination of elders and admission of new communicants. Occasionally, we will hold united services, moving around the three churches. The monthly rota will be intimated in Frontier.

At the beginning of the linkage, time will need to be spent on new administrative work and 'getting to know you' opportunities in Sandbank and St. John's. It will be a great help to me to know that Glenda Wilson is available to support me in the pastoral care of all our members and parishioners, and I shall be asking her to take special care of our Kirn Church 'family' in the first month or two of the linkage. If you would like a pastoral visit please do not hesitate to get in touch with either myself or Glenda.

The Liaison Committee will continue to meet to share and discuss matters of mutual interest and responsibility, and will report to the three Kirk Sessions. They in turn will make sure that three congregations are kept informed of different activities going on across Central Cowal.

*With every blessing, Sarah Nicol.*

## MINISTER'S LETTER FOR April, 2011

Since the last edition of the church magazine we have progressed a few books through the Bible and have reached the letter 'J' in the Bible alphabet quest. However, we enjoyed a 'wee change' for our family service at the end of February, with the children interviewing some of the more mature members of the church about their memories of Sunday School and Youth Fellowship days. We heard about a donkey brought to the church door on Palm Sunday, about picnics and boat trips, about breakfast for the youth group, about dressing up for Sunday (one girl even had blue shoes!), about good friendships made. I know there are a lot more stories out there, and the Sunday School are hoping to collect some of these to put on the church web-site and to display when the church is open for the Kirn Gala in August.

In the midst of the 'historical' books of the first part of the Old Testament, we found the lovely book of Ruth. Her story encouraged us with its love and loyalty between a daughter-in-law and a mother-in-law, with the comfort and strength the bereaved can give each other, with the hope that joy can come again even after great loss and hardship.

Samuel, Kings and Chronicles brought us many familiar stories. There was young Samuel hearing a voice in the middle of the night and not realising at first that God was speaking to him. There was Saul chosen to be the first king of the people of Israel. There was young David, the shepherd boy, youngest son of Jesse, being quietly anointed to succeed Saul, but in the meantime keeping himself busy fighting the giant, Goliath, playing his harp to soothe troubled Saul and composing some of his psalms. David was the most popular of kings, but he had his political battles to fight and he had times when he needed the mercy of God in his sinfulness. There was Solomon, the king famous for his wisdom and wealth who built the first temple in Jerusalem. There were a great succession of kings, only a few of whom are described as 'good' in the Biblical record. Over and over again, they needed the prophets to rebuke them, to recall them to God's way. Two of the earlier prophets were Elijah and Elisha, challenging the people of Israel to stop their idolatry and become focussed once more on the Lord alone. One of the good kings mentioned was Josiah, whose reforming zeal was important in bringing the historical record and the spiritual law of God back to the attention of the people of Israel.

Throughout the human story there is a constant need for reformation – whether Before Christ or After Christ. That need is one of the things recognised in the season of Lent. It is a period in which Christians are challenged to reflect on their commitment to Christ, to discipline themselves through prayer and fasting (of some sort!), to show repentance and to seek God's forgiveness and renewal.

A Lenten Calendar produced by Christian Aid was given out in church on the Sunday before Ash Wednesday. Some of you may be using it to reflect on the blessings we enjoy in our part of the world and to commit yourselves to particular acts of Christian compassion during Lent.

The season of Lent leads us towards Holy Week, the Churches' remembering of the last week of Jesus' life, beginning with Palm Sunday, moving through Maundy Thursday, Good Friday and Dark Saturday, to the light and joy of another Easter Dawn of Resurrection.

You will find details of some of the worship opportunities in Cowal in Holy Week. In our busy lives, let us make some extra time to remember the suffering sorrow of our Lord, to wait with Him in His hour of crucifixion, to meet Him alive again in the Garden around the Tomb.

*With every blessing,  
Sarah Nicol.*

### **Holy Week Services in Cowal**

**In addition to our own regular services we are invited to gather together as brothers and sisters in Christ for any or all of the following services:**

Monday 18 April – Friday 22 April 11am Informal Service in High Kirk

Monday 18 April 7pm St John's Church

Tuesday 19 April 7pm High Kirk

Wednesday 20 April 7pm St. Mun's Church

Thursday 21 April 7pm Maundy Thursday Communion Service in Kirm

All churches have their own services.

Friday 22 April Vigil in St. Mun's and in Kilmun from 12noon – 3pm

2.30pm Dunoon Baptist Church

7pm Good Friday Service in Kirm Church

Saturday 23 April 2pm Easter Walk of Witness begins with a short service in the garden of St. John's and closes with a short service in Argyll Gardens

Saturday 23 April 8pm St. Mun's Church

8pm Holy Trinity Church

Sunday 24 April 6.30am Dawn Service on Castle Hill

All churches have their own Easter Morning Services

10.30am Family Service for Easter Day in Kirn Church

7pm Songs of Praise in the High Kirk

### £5 CHALLENGE

You've done it!! We have passed the **£1,000** point and have reached **£1,026.50**. All sorts of money raising ventures were enjoyed: quizzes, baking, tablet making, reike, knitted dishcloths, strawberry tea, hand made cards, art work, magnets, hand made jewellery, guess the doll's birthday, and wood working – to name a few. In fact we are a very talented bunch and should be very proud of what we have achieved – give yourselves a pat on the back!

At this point perhaps we should formally close the challenge – however if any of you have unfulfilled money-raising schemes please let us know.

*Maureen Robinson*

### News about the Linkage

How time flies! It is nearly two years since Presbytery held the induction service in Kirn Parish Church. You all know, though, that the Charge was not Kirn on its own, but was Kirn in deferred linking with Dunoon: St. John's linked with Sandbank, together forming the Charge of Central Cowal.

Rev. Joe Stewart will be retiring on 2<sup>nd</sup> May, 2011, so from that date I will be minister to the three churches and congregations that form the one Charge of Central Cowal.

**The three Kirk Sessions have agreed that the service on 8<sup>th</sup> May will be a united service to be held in St. Johns' Church. At a later date (still to be confirmed) a formal Presbytery service will be held in Sandbank Church to mark the linkage.**

The three churches have known about this linkage for some time, but since the date of the linkage has been uncertain, it has seemed somewhat 'distant' and 'unreal'. Now it is near and people are asking questions about how this will affect each congregation.

*(continued on page 6)*

